

A Crucial Step

It goes without saying that all of this should go without saying
But us saying it shows the balance scales of justice are still swaying
And not swaying over this way, something we've always felt we knew
But this report provides the data that supports that it is true.
This report, that gives us evidence of rich and local data
That we're expected to be alpha while we're treated like we're beta.
This review, so packed, but so important that you read,
To understand that this system has not taken notice of our needs,
Please, we are flowers do not treat us like we're weeds,
We are humans, if you cut us then like you we surely bleed,
And they've been cutting, ignoring how some ended up on top,
Our whole experience is shaped by our historical backdrop,
We've seen oppression, discrimination and racism,
And we see through the lies when you say today's different,
It isn't. Regardless of the dressing up of policies,
We live the proof every day of the existing inequalities
It's got to be, time for real action to be taken,
This review's a crucial step, now we need you to awaken,
To the fact that we need change, need to take these opportunities,
To see equality for African and Caribbean communities
We need fairness, trust, respect and inclusion,
Transparency, better data and early interventions,
Health checks and campaigns, healthier behaviours
and health literacy so we can be our own saviours.
This review is not reason to sit and hang our heads,
It outlines a clear focus that we need for our next steps
With all the data that's been processed and all that has been seen,
This review offers suggestions of our focus on key themes,
Racism and discrimination, should no longer holder us back,
Maternity, parenthood and early years starting on the right track,
Children and young people need our guidance and our shelter,
Ageing well, we know we have to look after our elders,
Mental health and wellbeing we're need improvement in provision
Healthier behaviours, because we need to work towards this vision
Emergency care, preventable mortality and long-term conditions
Wider determinants, consider culture when making your decisions
Listen, this is now a reason to have hope,
A review that's put the systems right under the scope,
So keep looking because this is an important forward step,
Now let's keep up the momentum for what we do next.