



**London, UK, 16 November 2021**

**Cindy Butts, Chair of the Independent Commission for Equity in Cricket (ICEC) said:**

“Listening to Azeem’s powerful testimony about his experiences can leave no one in any doubt that cricket must change, and it must change now. Many of the issues raised today get to the heart of what the Commission is committed to exploring including: the culture of the game, the lack of progression of Black & Asian players across the talent pathway and in the professional game as well as the governance and leadership of the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) on matters related to equity.

“Since launching part one of our Call for Evidence last week over one thousand people have already come forward to share their experiences with us. It is crucial people across the game, many likely inspired by Azeem’s bravery, have the chance to be heard. As an independent body established to examine the state of equity in cricket we will go where the evidence takes us. We continue to urge anyone who has experienced discrimination to respond to our Call for Evidence.”