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**Runnymede comments on Nick Clegg speech on race equality**

Following Nick Clegg's speech on race equality this morning, Rob Berkeley, director of race equality think tank the Runnymede Trust, said:

"Runnymede welcomes the Deputy PM's speech and appreciates the leadership that he is showing on tackling persistent racial inequality in the UK. We particularly welcome the emphasis on tackling economic inequality as well as discrimination".

He added: "We look forward to working with government and banks to addressing the barriers faced by people from minority ethnic groups in accessing bank loans and starting businesses. While racial injustice still blights our society, we believe it is crucial that government develops a strategy to address it across education, criminal justice, employment and health - without a plan for action we are unlikely to build the concerted action it will take to rid our society of racism".

**Notes to editors**

1. For press inquiries and to arrange interviews, please contact Vicki Butler at [vicki@runnymedetrust.org](mailto:vicki@runnymedetrust.org) or 020 7377 9222.
2. Full details of the Deputy Prime Minister's speech is here: <http://www.dpm.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/news/dpm-economic-opportunity-next-frontier-race-equality-scarman-lecture-0>
3. The Runnymede Trust is a social policy research organisation focused on race equality and race relations. We work by:
  - Identifying barriers to race equality and good race relations
  - Enabling effective action for social change
  - Influencing policy at all levels through providing thought leadership and robust evidence

Further information is available on the Runnymede website:  
[www.runnymedetrust.org](http://www.runnymedetrust.org)