

Conference Programme June 2008

## Equality and Human Rights in the Public Sector: Tying the strands

**Diverse City Services**  
in partnership with  
**Rights and Equality West Midlands**



Thursday 5th June 2008  
Aston Villa Football Club, Villa Park, Trinity Lounge  
Birmingham B6 6HE



# Equality and Human Rights in the Public Sector: Tying the strands

**Thursday 5th June 2008**  
**9.30am - 16.30pm**

**Aston Villa Football Club**  
**Villa Park**  
**Trinity Lounge**  
**Birmingham B6 6HE**

## Introduction

The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) was established under the Equality Act 2006. It opened for business in October 2007. The EHRC has duties in relation to social groups classed by age, disability, gender, gender reassignment, race, religion and belief, and sexual orientation. The new commission is required to promote good relations between these groups and to eliminate prejudice, discrimination and hatred expressed towards them, so that they can fully participate in society. It must also monitor the effectiveness of equality and human rights law and measure the progress being made towards equality.

It is assisted in its promotional work by the duties placed on public authorities not only to eliminate unlawful discrimination, but positively to promote equality of opportunity and good relations in respect of disability, gender and race. Many authorities are required to publish equality schemes, or policies, to make clear the practical measures they are taking. Some authorities are demonstrating their commitment in this field by extending their policy initiatives beyond the legal minimum required of them to other strands of equality: age, religion and belief, sexual orientation, and transgender.

## Aims

Conference aims are:

- To learn from the Head of Public Sector Duties at the Equality and Human Rights Commission about its most recent thinking, planning, and monitoring and enforcement arrangements in regard to public sector equality duties.
- To highlight ways in which public authorities are tackling their multiple equality duties in the field of recruitment /employment, service delivery and improvement, procurement, and community development.
- To explore emerging management approaches and frameworks that are enabling public authorities to deliver equality outcomes and monitor their progress.
- To tease out the strengths and weaknesses of multi-strand approaches to promoting equality and community cohesion, and what might be done to accentuate the positive.
- To provide the opportunity to explore best practice across the region.

## Who should attend

This event will be of special interest to:

- Senior policy and planning officers
- Equality and diversity officers
- Human resource officers
- Those engaged in performance management
- All those involved in providing access to and improving services to social groups mentioned in the Equality Act 2006.
- Area and neighbourhood managers.
- Voluntary and community sector leaders and workers keen to improve services to their communities.

## Programme

### 9.30 Arrival, registration and refreshments

### 10.00 Welcome and scene setting

Dr Mashuq Ally, Head of Equality and Diversity, Birmingham City Council, who will also chair the conference.



### 10.10 Promoting equality in the public sector: the responsibility and role of the Equality and Human Rights Commission.

Phil McCarvill, Head of Public Sector Duties, Equality and Human Rights Commission.



### 10.50 The significance of partnerships in delivering public service equality outcomes.

Carmel Kerr, Equality and Diversity Director, West Midlands Regional Assembly.



### 11.10 The practical reality of promoting multi-strand equality in local authorities: issues for debate and resolution.

Clare Gough, Head of Equality and Diversity Services, Wolverhampton City Children's Services, and Chair of the West Midlands Local Authority Equality Network.



### 11.30 Questions to a panel of the morning's speakers, chaired by Dr Mashuq Ally.

### 11.45 Refreshment break

### 12.00 First workshop session



Tejay De Kretser



Chris Eade



Lorna White



Marion Jacobs



Ian Angus



Waqar Ahmed



Zahid Nawaz

## Workshop 1

### Performance management of multi-strand equality activity and outcomes.

Tejay De Kretser, Corporate Equalities and Diversity Team Leader, Warwickshire County Council, assisted by Clare Gough.

## Workshop 2

### The role of Local Area Agreements in promoting equality.

Chris Eade, Assistant Director, Communities and Regeneration, Place Directorate, Government Office for the West Midlands.

## Workshop 3

### The importance of procurement disability, gender, race and other strands of equality.

Lorna White, Birmingham City Council  
Marion Jacobs, Birmingham City Council

## Workshop 4

### The role of public authorities in preventing violent extremism.

Ian Angus CONTEST (Prevent) Advisor, Government Office for the West Midlands.  
Waqar Ahmed, CONTEST (Prevent) Advisor, Government Office for the West Midlands.

## Workshop 5

### Scoping regional inequality and the public policies needed to address it.

Zahid Nawaz, Regional Manager, West Midlands Region, Equality and Human Rights Commission.

### 1.00 Lunch and networking

### 2.00 Second workshop session

#### Public service family discussions.

Conference participants are expected to divide into workshop groups based on public authority family or service type. The following workshops are planned, but others can be formed on the day by popular demand.

### **Workshop 6**

**Generic equality and diversity promotion in multi-purpose local authorities.**

### **Workshop 7**

**Children, young people and education**

### **Workshop 8**

**Health, social care and older people**

### **Workshop 9**

**Police, crime prevention and community safety.**

### **Workshop 10**

**Economic development.**

**Workshops will focus on the following issues in relationship to particular public authority family or service type.**

- Progress in developing multi-strand equality schemes and policies particular to Public Authority family or service type.
- Major equality concerns.
- The added value of partnership approaches.
- Importance of links to robust performance management processes.
- Importance of monitoring and of evidence-based interventions.
- The extra leverage provided by enlightened procurement policy.
- Relationship between equality promotion and community cohesion.
- Sub-regional patterns and variations, and the actions needed to address them.
- Methods of participation and consultation with communities and the voluntary sector.

### **3.15 Feedback to panel**

by leaders from the second workshop session, chaired by Dr Mashuq Ally.





# BOOKING FORM



Diverse City Services in partnership with  
Rights and Equality West Midlands

## Equality and Human Rights in the Public Sector: Tying the strands

### Conference Rates

**Early bird rate** ..... **£199 inc VAT**

(Full fee paid by 23 May 2008)

**Supported rate** ..... **£149 inc VAT**

(For voluntary / community organisations)

**Full rate** ..... **£250 inc VAT**

\* Fees include all day access to the event, any conference papers or documentations, a buffet lunch and refreshments.

**The organisers reserve the right to change the programme content, speakers and/or timing at short notice.**

Name of attendee ..... Job Title .....

Organisation Address .....

.....

Contact Address, if different .....

.....

..... Postcode .....

Telephone ..... Mobile .....

Fax ..... E-mail .....

Any special needs (e.g. mobility). The venue offers disability access but by informing us in advance we may be able to make further adjustments.

.....

Dietary/access or special requirements

.....

Tick the workshops you wish to attend, (see previous details for each seminar) one per morning and one per afternoon session.

12.00 – 1.00	1	2	3	4	5
14.00 – 15.15	6	7	8	9	10

### Payment Details

I enclose a cheque, made payable to Diverse City Services for £ .....

Please invoice my organisation at the following address. I understand that if payment is not made prior to 30 May 2008, the organisers reserve the right to cancel the reservation and allocate the place elsewhere.

I wish to reserve a place at the conference on 5 June 2008.

Signed ..... Name (print) ..... Date .....

### Address for invoice

Name .....

Organisation .....

Address .....

Please return the booking form to

Diverse City Services, 121 Suffolk Street  
Queensway, Birmingham UK  
B1 1LX

Telephone: 0121 604 6900 Fax: 0121 633 8017 Website: [www.diversecityservices.co.uk](http://www.diversecityservices.co.uk)

### **Booking terms, conditions and cancellations**

By completing this form you /your organisation is agreeing to the organisers' payment terms and conditions. Completion of a registration form does not guarantee a place at the event or constitute a confirmed booking. We will accept cancellations by writing, fax, or email but not by phone up to 23 May 2008. After this date we cannot make any refunds because of expenditure already incurred. Outstanding invoices will be liable for payment in full. We will accept delegate replacements: simply write, fax, or email the change of name. Places are allocated on a first come first served basis. A confirmation letter and joining details will be issued prior to the event. If you have not received these within then working days of submitting your registration form, please contact Doreen Osbourne, on 0121 604 6900. In the event of any situation that prevents a delegate's attendance, e.g., personal ill health, adverse weather, transport breakdown, the organisers cannot be held responsible and will not refund.

### **Data protection Act 1998**

Your details will not be passed onto any third party and will be stored in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. Please tick this box if you do not want us to send you further information which may be of interest to you.

For further information about this event, please feel free to telephone Diverse City Services on 0121 604 6900 or Rights and Equality West Midlands on 0121 250 3863.



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