

Questionnaire:

**Consultation on the Equality and
Human Rights Commission
Strategic Plan**

Phase 2

October 2011



**Equality and
Human Rights
Commission**

Contents

- Introduction.....1
- The consultation questionnaire.....2
 - Section A – About our mission and roles2
 - Question one2
 - Question two3
 - Question three.....3
 - Section B - About the key issues 2012-154
 - Question four.....4
 - Question five4
 - Question six.....5
 - Section C - About you5
 - Question seven6
 - Question eight6
 - Question nine7
 - Question ten.....7
 - Question eleven9
- Confidentiality10
 - Freedom of Information.....10
- Contacts11
 - England.....11
 - Scotland.....11
 - Wales11

Introduction

The Equality and Human Rights Commission has a statutory duty to consult on and produce a three-year plan setting out how we will fulfil our various functions. A strategic plan covering our plans and priorities from April 2012 to March 2015 is due to be laid before Parliament in April 2012.

We have designed a strategic planning process that will enable the Commission's Board to fulfil all the aims of the public sector equality duty, including analysing the effect on equality for all of the protected characteristics, and our duties as a National Equality Body and National Human Rights Institution. At the heart of this is consulting and involving our stakeholders and the general public in the process from start to finish.

This consultation concerns phase two of our strategic planning process and gives you the opportunity to feedback to us on the Commission's mission and roles for 2012-15, how we prioritise, and the key issues that the Commission might tackle. It opened on **11 October 2011** and you must respond by no later than **12 December 2011**.

If you wish to respond using a different format or require a copy of the questionnaire in another format such as large print or Braille, please contact our Helpline to discuss your requirements. Contact details can be found on the back page.

Please send your reply via email to:

strategicplanconsultation@equalityhumanrights.com

Alternatively, you can post your response to:

Rachel Zaltzman – Strategic Plan
Equality and Human Rights Commission
FREEPOST RRUY-EJHS-CKGT
3 More London
Riverside
Tooley Street
London
SE1 2RG

If you have any comments or queries about the content or the process of this consultation, please contact Rachel Zaltzman via the email above or telephone on 0203 117 0235.

The consultation questionnaire

Section A – About our mission and roles

In this part of the consultation we are seeking your views on the Commission's mission and roles for 2012-15, and how we prioritise. Please use **Part 2: Our mission and roles on page 7** of the consultation document to help you answer questions one to three.

Question one

Do you agree that fulfilment of these four proposed roles will best help the Commission deliver its mission of being a catalyst for change and improvement over the next three years?

Yes

No

If you have answered 'No', please explain your answer.

For example:

- Are there other key roles that we should consider fulfilling over the next three years?
- Are there other activities that you consider should be included under the four roles?

Question two

Do you think the fulfilment of these roles may require different approaches, or partially different approaches, in relation to:

- the private sector

Yes

No

- human rights

Yes

No

Please explain your answer. For example, should the balance between our roles as regulator and promoter of best practice be different in our approach to the private sector, as compared to the public sector; or our approach to human rights, as compared to equality?

It is vital at this stage that the Commission concentrate on ending discrimination in the public sector especially as this will also influence the private sector. In the sector the ManKind Initiative works within (domestic abuse), the level of discrimination against male victims of domestic abuse means more work is needed in this sector.

Question three

Is this the right approach to assessing what our priorities should be?

Yes

No

If your answer is 'No', please explain your answer. For example, are there other factors that you would like us to include in our assessment?

Section B – About the key issues 2012-15

In this part of the consultation we are seeking your views on the Commission’s mission and roles for 2012-15, and how we prioritise them. Please use **Part 3: Key issues 2012-15 on page 16** of the consultation document to help you answer questions one to three.

Question four

Do you agree that the economic agenda should be a priority for the Commission over the next three years?

- Yes
- No

Please explain your answer. For example, are the issues broadly what we should tackle over the next three years? Are there any other issues we should consider? Should we focus our efforts on particular groups, or adopt a thematic approach?

Question five

Do you agree that the public service agenda should be a priority for the Commission over the next three years?

- Yes
- No

Please explain your answer. For example, are the issues broadly what we should tackle over the next three years? Are there any other issues we should consider? Should we focus our efforts on particular groups, or adopt a thematic approach?

It is vital that the Commission concentrates on making sure statutory agencies comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty and also ensuring every member of the public that this duty actually exists.

Question six

Do you agree that the respect and dignity agenda should be a priority for the Commission over the next three years?

Yes

No

Please explain your answer. For example, are the issues broadly what we should tackle over the next three years? Are there any other issues we should consider? Should we focus our efforts on particular groups, or adopt a thematic approach?

Section C – About you

We would like to collect information to help the Commission meet our public sector equality duty and to understand more about you and your organisation.

Name (optional):

Mark Brooks

Address and postcode (optional):

Flook House, Belvedere Road, Taunton, TA1 1BT

Email (optional):

chairman@mankind.org.uk

Question seven

Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?

Individual (go to Question 5)

Organisation (go to Question 2)

Question eight

How would you describe your organisation? Tick all that apply.

Further or Higher Education Institution

Local Authority

National Public Body

Private sector organisation

Professional or advisory body

School

Service provider

Trade Union

Voluntary organisation

Other – please tick box and describe below

Question nine

If you are a professional or advisory body, or a voluntary organisation, how many members do you have?

- Up to 50
- 51 to 100
- 101 to 250
- Over 250

If you answered over 250, please state how many members you have

Question ten

Which of the following elements of our remit are of primary interest to your organisation?

Please select as many as apply. If all, please select "all of the above."

- Age

Tick all the age groups your organisation is interested in:

- 0 to 4
- 5 to 16
- 17 to 25
- 26 to 39
- 40 to 64
- 65 and over

- Civil partnership and marriage
- Disability
- Good Relations
- Human Rights
- Maternity and pregnancy

- Race and ethnicity

Tick all the race and ethnicity groups your organisation is interested in:

White

Gypsy and Travellers

Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups

Asian/Asian British

Black/African/Caribbean/Black British

Other ethnic group – please tick box and describe below

- Religion and/or belief

Tick all the religious/belief groups your organisation is interested in:

Buddhist

Christian

Hindu

Jewish

Muslim

Sikh

Any other religion or belief – please tick box and describe below

- Gender
- Transgender
- Sexual Orientation
- All of the above
- Other – please tick box and describe below

Question eleven

Which location below are you or your organisation most active in?

- Great Britain
- England
- Scotland
- Wales
- East Midlands
- East of England
- London
- North East
- North West
- South East
- South West
- West Midlands
- Yorkshire and Humber

Thank you for completing our questionnaire. We will publish our full response to this consultation in early 2012, alongside our draft strategic plan 2012-15.

Confidentiality

In line with the Commission's policy of openness, at the end of the consultation period, copies of the responses we receive may be made publicly available through our website and offices at:

3 More London
Tooley Street
London
SE1 2RG.

The information contained in responses may also be published in a summary of responses. If you do not want your response or your name to be made publicly available, you must clearly request that your response and or name be treated confidentially. Any confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system in e-mail responses will not be treated as such a request.

Please note however that confidential replies will still be included in a statistical summary of numbers of responses received and views expressed.

In addition, all information provided in responses may be disclosed to:

- (i) to Commission staff, agents and contractors it has engaged in the consultation and/or codes of practice drafting process, or who need to know the information for any other purposes related to carrying out the business of the EHRC;
- (ii) our sponsor body and any other government department who need to know the information.

Freedom of Information

The Commission cannot guarantee the confidentiality of your response as there might be circumstances in which the Commission will be required to communicate information to third parties on request in order to comply with its obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI) and the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) 2004. Any queries about FOI or EIR should be directed to: foi@equalityhumanrights.com

Comments or complaints about the consultation process (as opposed to comments about the issues which are the subject of the consultation) should be addressed to complaints@equalityhumanrights.com

Contacts

England

Equality and Human Rights Commission Helpline
FREEPOST RRLG-GHUX-CTR
Arndale House, Arndale Centre,
Manchester
M4 3AQ

Main number: 0845 604 6610
Textphone: 0845 604 6620
Fax: 0845 604 6630

Scotland

Equality and Human Rights Commission Helpline
FREEPOST RSAB-YJEJ-EXUJ
The Optima Building,
58 Robertson Street,
Glasgow
G2 8DU

Main number: 0845 604 5510
Textphone: 0845 604 5520
Fax: 0845 604 5530

Wales

Equality and Human Rights Commission Helpline
FREEPOST RRLR-UEYB-UYZL
3rd Floor, 3 Callaghan Square,
Cardiff
CF10 5BT

Main number: 0845 604 8810
Textphone: 0845 604 8820
Fax: 0845 604 8830

Helpline opening times:

Monday to Friday 8am–6pm.

Calls from BT landlines are charged at local rates, but calls from mobiles and other providers may vary.

Calls may be monitored for training and quality purposes.

If you require this publication in an alternative format please contact the relevant helpline to discuss your needs. All publications are also available to download and order in a variety of formats from our website.

www.equalityhumanrights.com