



MONTHLY EQUALITIES BULLETIN



EQUALITIES UPDATE: July 09, Issue 7/2009

A monthly email bulletin of recent equalities news and publications, produced in partnership by the Highland Council and the Highlands & Islands Equality Forum.

The following information has been sent to you automatically as a member of the Highlands & Islands Equality Forum, or because you have previously received the bulletin from the Highland Council. The Forum is an ESF funded project focusing on equality issues and training. Follow the links below to access equality related articles and publications. If you do not have internet access and would like information, if you have problems with the links, or if you would like to be removed from the mailing list, please contact [Morag Redwood](mailto:Morag.Redwood@highland.gov.uk) Tel 01463 251738.

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AGE

June 09 [Demography report 2008: meeting social needs in an ageing society](#)
Provides facts and figures on demographic trends in European countries, focusing on families and the implications of an ageing society.

22 June 09 [The Social Security \(Equalisation of State Pension Age\) Regulations 2009: Equality impact assessment](#) This report assesses the impact on equality of regulations that amend various provisions in a number of social security benefits

that are currently linked to female state pension age by references to age 60.

29 Jun 09 [Banning age discrimination: consultation launched](#)

The Government Equalities Office is consulting on proposals for extending age discrimination, to ensure older people do not face unfair or substandard treatment when they are buying goods or using services.

07 July 09 [Employers can't stand still to win the war on generations of talent](#)

New research from the CIPD explores many of the in vogue generational differences employers address when recruiting and retaining good people to sustain businesses performance.

13 July 09 [Building a society for all ages: Choice for older people](#)

The Government is launching a strategy "Building A Society For All Ages", to help Britain prepare for our ageing society.

13 July 09 [End of retirement age signalled](#)

A review of the default retirement age, which allows employers to compel staff to retire at 65, is to be brought forward by a year, the government says.

13 July 09 [Working Together for Older People in Rural Areas](#)

This report examines evidence on the social exclusion experienced by older people in rural areas and identifies examples of innovative service delivery that can make a real difference in these areas.

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DISABILITY

08 June 09 [A Positive Frame of Mind](#)

The [See Me](#) campaign has launched a national photography competition to challenge the stigma and discrimination of mental ill-health by inspiring creativity through photography.

23 June 09 [Social Care for Deafblind Children and Adults](#)

This DOH guidance is for English local social services staff and requires specific actions to be taken such as identifying and keeping records on deafblind people in specific catchment areas.

25 June 09 [Disability and Carers Service Customer Service Survey 2008](#)

This report presents the findings from the fifth annual customer survey carried by research consultants Ipsos MORI for the Disability and Carers Service (DCS).

July 09 [Capability Scotland accessible taxis report](#)

Every two months Capability will be bringing you a Rapid Response Report on the issues that matter most to disabled people. This month's report is on disabled people's experience of using accessible taxis in Scotland.

01 July 09 [New ruling extends disability discrimination powers](#)

More people with disabilities will now receive protection from discrimination after a landmark ruling from the House of Lords, in which the Commission intervened.

07 July 09 [Disabled job seekers face discrimination at application stage](#)
In a snapshot survey published by Terrence Higgins Trust, two thirds of top organisations were found to ask irrelevant health related questions on job application forms

13 July 09 [Directgov Blue Badge Map now available on mobile](#)
Blue Badge holders can now use a mobile phone to find disabled parking, local council parking rules, ServiceCall petrol stations and accessible toilets, with the Blue Badge Map on mobile service from Directgov. To get the Blue Badge map on your internet-enabled mobile phone, text BLUE to 83377.

15 July 09 [Disability Living Allowance and Work Expectations: Analysis of the New Deal for Disabled People-eligible population survey](#) This DWP research investigated the relationship between the receipt of disability living allowance and employment.

15 July 09 [Disability Living Allowance Claimants: The characteristics and aspirations of the incapacity benefit claimants who receive DLA](#) This report looks at the 1.25 million adults of working age who claim disability living allowance as well as incapacity benefits to identify their characteristics and aspirations and to assess the extent to which they differ from, or are similar to, the incapacity benefit claimant group as a whole.

16 July 09 [Trailblazers at the heart of initiative to support disabled people](#) Right to Control is a shake-up of the way disabled people can use the funding they receive from the state and is part of the Government's radical welfare reforms. The trailblazers will test how this could work in practice.

23 July 09 [New Horizons - government consults on mental health and well-being](#)
New vision to make mental health everyone's business

24 July 09 [Commission welcomes High Court ruling on reasonable adjustments in schools](#) The Commission has welcomed a High Court ruling confirming that schools have to make reasonable adjustments for disabled children with conditions that give rise to behavioural problems.

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GENDER

June 09 [Poverty pathways: ethnic minority women's livelihoods](#)
This Oxfam and Fawcett report analyses the main policy challenges, discusses how policy thinking needs to shift, and outlines the steps policy makers need to take to deliver real change to ethnic minority women living in poverty.

10 June 09 [Postcode lottery for victims of rape in England and Wales](#)
Fawcett has obtained the latest available figures on rape conviction rates from the Government which demonstrate that the [postcode](#) lottery for victims of rape continues.

19 June 09 [The Reflexive Generation: Young Professionals' Perspectives on Work, Career and Gender](#) A report by London Business School sponsored by

KPMG, Accenture, IBM and others provides major insight into Y Gen's views on work, career and gender.

23 June 09 [Think Fathers Summit](#)

Ed Balls Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families is calls on individual employers to promote their own family friendly working practices..

24 June 09 [A woman's place is... in the council](#)

There are not enough women in senior positions in local government and there are not enough women councillors.

July 09 [Transgender Domestic Abuse Research](#)

The LGBT Domestic Abuse Project and the Scottish Transgender Alliance are currently jointly carrying out a piece of research around transgender people's experience of domestic abuse. [You can complete the survey here.](#)

02 July 09 [New guidance issued as reports of forced marriage increase](#)

Forced Marriage Unit [guidance](#) encourages front line workers to unite in action. Figures show a welcome increase in the number of people willing to come forward to seek protection from forced marriage.

22 July 09 [MPs to investigate sexism in City](#)

The role of women in the City will be the subject of a new [inquiry](#) launched by the Treasury Committee.

29 July 09 [Gender pay gap 'not being closed'](#)

A lack of government action to tackle gender stereotypes in schools has contributed to women's pay failing to catch up with men's, according to a [Women and Work Commission report](#).
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RACE

March 09 [Tackling worklessness 11: improving employment outcomes for ethnic minorities](#) A series of 'how' to [guides](#) for councils and their partners explains why ethnic minority groups are disadvantaged in the UK labour market and what councils can do to improve their situation.

June 2009 [Report on the situation of the Roma Community in Govanhill, Glasgow](#) Highlights issues regarding the social exclusion of Roma minority groups in Europe. Evaluates service provision for Roma in Govanhill,.

25 June 09 [Jewish school admissions unlawful](#)

Jewish schools may have to change admissions rules after the Appeal Court held that ethnic tests of Jewishness amount to racial discrimination.

July 09 [Progress Report on Gypsy and Traveller Policy](#)

In a response to the report *The Road Ahead* by the independent Task Group on Site Provision and Enforcement for Gypsies and Travellers, the Government produced its first annual report to Parliament on progress on Gypsy and Traveller issues.

02 July 09 [Communities shape their culture](#)

People who traditionally find it difficult to enjoy and participate in Scotland's cultural and creative life can do so if activities are better planned and co-ordinated at local level.

07 July 09 [Research finds no bias in allocation of social housing](#)

An EHRC study found that less than two per cent of all social housing residents are people who have moved to Britain in the last five years and that nine out of ten people who live in social housing were born in the UK

14 July 09 [REACH: Update report](#)

Black boys and young Black men face challenges in every sector of society. They are less likely to do well at school, more likely to be unemployed and more likely to be involved in the criminal justice system. REACH is a key project aimed at raising the aspirations, attainment and achievement of Black boys and young Black men, enabling them to reach their potential.

16 July 09 [Gypsy and Traveller Site Management Good Practice Guide](#)

This document provides good practice guidance on all facets of managing Gypsy and Traveller sites. It is intended to help new and existing managers maintain well-run and sustainable sites that provide a safe environment for residents and their families.

22 July 09 [Racism 'still exists' in police](#)

Racist discrimination still exists in the UK police - 10 years after a report criticised the investigation into a black teenager's death, MPs have said.

22 Jul 09 [Denham announces successful projects to support communities in promoting race equality](#) A £9million Tackling Race Inequality Fund (TRIF) to address discrimination and underachievement has been announced by Communities Secretary John Denham.

23 July 09 [Racism 'still exists' in police](#)

Racial discrimination still exists in the police, 10 years after a [report](#) described Britain's biggest force as institutionally racist, MPs have said.

25 July 09 [Racist crimes in north-east rocket by 50% over a year](#)

Figures for racist crime in Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, and Moray increase by more than 50% in the space of a year.

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RELIGION OR BELIEF

June 09 [Scottish Interfaith Council Values in Harmony](#)

This project has produced a resource of teachings, writings and attitudes from 11 of Scotland's Religion and Belief Communities demonstrate their commonality in promoting "Good Relations" with each other.

07 July 09 [Faith groups can help government deliver says Murphy](#)

Jim Murphy says that he would like 'a new partnership which harnesses the

goodwill of faith and the funding of government.'

23 July 09 [Record rise' in UK anti-Semitism](#)

Anti-Semitic attacks in the UK doubled in the first half of this year compared with the same period in 2008, according to new figures.

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SEXUAL ORIENTATION

15 June 09 [Working together - religion and sexual orientation in the workplace](#)

Stonewall has published [guidance](#) for employers on practical ways of managing perceived tensions between gay people and people of faith in the 21st century workplace. Based on practical solutions already developed among 500 major employers, the guide provides essential advice on how to avoid conflicts which can arise at work.

29 June 09 [The march of gay politics](#)

New York's Stonewall riot in 1969 are credited with launching the gay rights movement - and 40 years on, its impact is still being felt by politicians in the UK.

03 July 09 [Gay Minister Inducted at Service](#)

The gay minister whose appointment sparked a furious debate in the Church of Scotland has been formally inducted in Aberdeen.

02 July 2009 [TUC warns spread of far right across Europe could increase gay hate crimes](#)

TUC General Secretary Brendan Barber will celebrate recent advances in lesbian and gay equality but warn there's still a long way to go before social attitudes catch up with changes in the law.

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EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY GENERAL

June 09 [Monitoring the impact of the recession on various demographic groups](#)

EHRC and DWP reports on labour market outcomes for various demographic groups in the recession, looking at: age, gender, ethnic minorities, disabled people, lone parents, the lowest qualified and the most deprived.

19 June 09 [Diversity is the key to delivering public services effectively in the 21st Century](#)

The Head of the Civil Service, Sir Gus O'Donnell, set out his vision to keep building a more diverse civil service that is representative of the UK today and ready to meet any future challenges.

22 June 09 [Scotland's Chief Police Officers launch a new strategic vision for celebrating and valuing difference](#)

A challenging new [strategy](#), which puts equality and diversity at the heart of daily policing in Scotland, was unveiled by Scotland's Chief Police Officers at the Scottish Police College

01 Jul 09 [Equality Bill - dual discrimination protection](#)

The Government has proposed a new law to protect people who experience discrimination because of a combination of two characteristics, such as Black, and minority ethnic women or religious men.

07 July 2009 [EHRC and Scottish Government to work together to deliver better policy for better lives](#) The EHRC announced that it is carrying out an assessment into the extent to which the Scottish Government is meeting the public sector equality duties in the development and implementation of its policies and practices with a particular focus on equality impact assessment.

08 July 2009 [Jobcentre Plus needs to do more to promote equality](#) The first formal Assessment carried out by the EHRC found that the Department for Work and Pensions' Jobcentre Plus agency is not meeting all the expectations of its public sector duties on equality.

16 July 09 [Equality and Human Rights Commission Strategic Plan](#) Our strategy is driven by our vision of a better Britain built on principles of fairness and respect, our statutory duty to eradicate discrimination, and the needs of the society in which we operate

20 July 09 [C&AG report on the qualification of the Equality and Human Rights Commission's accounts](#) The Comptroller and Auditor General has qualified the accounts of the EHRC because it re-engaged, without Treasury authority, seven former senior employees of the former Commission for Racial Equality who had left that body under a voluntary early severance scheme.

20 July 09 [Equality and Human Rights Commission: Annual report and accounts 2006-08](#) In the 23 ½ month period covered by this report, the EHRC has made its case for managed migration in order to achieve greater community cohesion and enhance good relations

20 July 09 [Watchdog criticised over payments](#) Auditors have criticised the Equalities and Human Rights Commission, days after three of its commissioners resigned.

23 Jul 2009 17:22 [EHRC launches Equality Measurement Framework](#) The EMF will provide information for government and public bodies to inform policy, public services and campaigning priorities. It will also be a resource for journalists, voluntary sector groups and academics to find out more about the state of equality and human rights in Britain.

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EVENTS

28 Aug 09 [EveryOne IN](#): Working towards Equality for Minority Ethnic Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People in Scotland.

Sept 09 – June 10 [Women's Leadership Programme](#), The WEA Women@Work Project in partnership with the Social Enterprise Academy (SEA) is running a Women's Leadership Programme.

01 – 03 Sept 09 [Scottish Intergenerational Summer School](#), Glasgow, The Scottish Intergenerational Summer School is a Professional Development course aimed at policy makers, practitioners and senior staff in organisations involved in

intergenerational working.

14 Sept 09 [Come and meet the Equality and Human Rights Commission legal team](#), Skye. Please email roadshow@equalityhumanrights.com.

22 Sept 09 [Equality Bill Conference](#), A one day conference on the practical implications of the key legislation for 2009-2010, London

24 Sept 09 [Tackling the Social Exclusion of Older People](#) Central London

10 Oct 2009 [GUDE CAUSE](#), Edinburgh. A re-enactment to mark the 100th anniversary of the Women's Suffrage Movement Procession in 1909.

10 Oct 09 [World Mental Health Day](#) Mental health in primary care: enhancing treatment and promoting mental health

15 Oct 09 [Equality 2025 will be holding its third annual public event in Manchester](#) If you are disabled and/or have a long term health condition this is an opportunity for you to influence the development of government policy and contribute to Equality 2025's workplan for 2010/11

18 Nov 09 [Tackling Hate Crime and Harassment: responding to new responsibilities and building on best practice in social housing, criminal justice, schools and communities](#), conference, London

Various dates 2009 [SAIF Training Programme 2009](#), Scottish Accessible Information Forum, Aberdeen, Edinburgh and Glasgow.

Ongoing, [Women@Work Project](#), Network meetings throughout Highlands & Islands for details contact: womenatwork@weascotland.org.uk.

Ongoing, [Highlands & Islands Equality Forum](#) training and awareness raising throughout Highlands and Islands for further details contact [HIEF](#)
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