

From: Stephen Harrold [Stephen.Harrold@erewash.gov.uk]

Sent: 19 April 2011 17:34

To: Specific Duties

Subject: Erewash Borough Council's comments on the draft regulations

Dear Sir or Madam

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the policy review paper ' The public sector Equality Duty: reducing bureaucracy' Please find listed below a few comments from our Equalities Group.

- it is viewed that it should be left to Councils to set what objectives and supporting actions are relevant to them and their communities. We welcome the relaxation of some of the previous requirements and feel that local communities are best placed to judge how well we perform against the Act's requirements as evidenced by the recent High Court rulings brought against County Council funding decisions.
- We also agree that we should publish information to show our compliance with the duty but not all of the data on how we went about this e.g. public engagement and details of equality analysis and that it is appropriate for local authorities to decide how best to publish this information to ensure accessibility taking into account the needs of its local communities, this should not be prescribed.
- The feeling is that the focus is right, removing a lot of the specific duties and giving each authority the ability to judge what is relevant for them and not prescribing through guidance although a question is when the guidance is going to be available?

I hope our comments prove to be useful. Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me at the address below.

Yours faithfully

Stephen

Stephen Harrold
Freedom of Information, Compliments, Comments, Complaints and Equalities Officer
Executive Office
Erewash Borough Council
Ilkeston Town Hall
Wharnccliffe Road
Ilkeston, Derbyshire
DE7 5RP
Tel: 0845 9072244 ext 3573
Fax: 0115 9071121
Email: stephen.harrold@erewash.gov.uk