



Office for
Equality and
Opportunity

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Debbie Abrahams MP
Work and Pensions Select Committee Chair
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Dear Debbie

Call for Evidence on Equality Law

We are writing to inform you that we are about to publish a call for evidence on equality law.

The government is seeking evidence and views on a number of areas of equality policy. In some cases, we are looking for evidence and views about areas of the existing legal framework. This will help us to better understand how the law is working in practice. In others, we are seeking evidence and views on areas of possible equality law reform that the government is considering.

We are launching this call for evidence because the government wants to identify barriers to opportunity and seek expert views on how to overcome these barriers. Only by breaking the barriers to opportunity can we empower people to flourish, bringing all their skills, talent and creativity to work, spurring on growth and powering our economy.

The call for evidence seeks evidence and views on the following areas:

- the prevalence of pay discrimination on the basis of race and disability
- making the right to equal pay effective for ethnic minority and disabled people
- measures to ensure that outsourcing of services can no longer be used by employers to avoid paying equal pay
- improving the enforcement of equal pay rights by establishing an Equal Pay Regulatory and Enforcement Unit, with the involvement of trade unions
- improving pay transparency
- strengthening protections against combined discrimination
- ensuring the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) is met by all parties exercising public functions
- creating and maintaining workplaces and working conditions free from harassment
- commencing the socio-economic duty



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The responses to this call for evidence will help us to ensure policy is developed based on the best possible evidence, and the practical experience of business, workers and civil society.

We look forward to continuing to build a constructive relationship with your committee.

We have also informed the Women and Equalities Select Committee, the Housing, Communities and Local Government Select Committee and the Business and Trade Select Committee of these upcoming publications.

Yours sincerely,

Seema Malhotra MP
Minister for Equalities