

# Equality Act 2006

# **CHAPTER 3**

# **EQUALITY ACT 2006**

# PART 1

# THE COMMISSION FOR EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

# The Commission

- 1 Establishment
- Constitution, &c.
- 2 3 4 General duty
- Strategic plan
- 5 Strategic plan: consultation
- 6 Disclosure
- 7 Scotland: human rights

#### **Duties**

- 8 Equality and diversity
- 9 Human rights
- 10 Groups
- 11 Monitoring the law
- 12 Monitoring progress

#### General powers

- 13 Information, advice, &c.
- 14 Codes of practice
- 15 Codes of practice: supplemental
- 16 Inquiries
- 17 Grants
- Human rights 18

#### 19 Groups

#### Enforcement powers

- 20 Investigations
- 21 Unlawful act notice
- 22 Action plans
- 23 Agreements
- 24 Applications to court
- 25 Application to restrain unlawful advertising, pressure, &c.
- 26 Section 25: supplemental
- 27 Conciliation
- 28 Legal assistance
- 29 Legal assistance: costs
- 30 Judicial review and other legal proceedings
- 31 Public sector duties: assessment
- 32 Public sector duties: compliance notice

#### Interpretation

- 33 Equality and human rights enactments
- 34 Unlawful
- 35 General

# Dissolution of Existing Commissions

- 36 Dissolution
- 37 Transfer of property, &c.
- 38 Transfer of property: supplemental

# Miscellaneous

- 39 Orders and regulations
- 40 Consequential amendments
- 41 Transitional: the Commission
- 42 Transitional: functions of the dissolved Commissions
- 43 Transitional: rented housing in Scotland

# PART 2

# DISCRIMINATION ON GROUNDS OF RELIGION OR BELIEF

# Key concepts

- 44 Religion and belief
- 45 Discrimination

# Prohibited discrimination

- 46 Goods, facilities and services
- 47 Premises
- 48 Section 47: exceptions
- 49 Educational establishments
- 50 Section 49: exceptions
- 51 Local education authorities and education authorities
- 52 Public authorities: general

# Other unlawful acts

- 53 Discriminatory practices
- 54 Discriminatory advertisements
- 55 Instructing or causing discrimination

#### General exceptions

- 56 Statutory requirements
- 57 Organisations relating to religion or belief
- 58 Charities relating to religion or belief
- 59 Faith schools, &c.
- 60 Membership requirement
- 61 Education, training and welfare
- 62 Care within family
- 63 National security
- 64 Amendment of exceptions

#### Enforcement

- 65 Restriction of proceedings
- 66 Claim of unlawful action
- 67 Immigration
- 68 Remedies
- 69 Timing
- 70 Information
- 71 National security
- 72 Validity and revision of contracts

#### General

- 73 Aiding unlawful acts
- 74 Employers' and principals' liability
- 75 Police, &c.
- 76 Indirect provision of benefit, &c.
- 77 Employment Equality Regulations
- 78 Crown application
- 79 Interpretation
- 80 Territorial application

#### PART 3

#### DISCRIMINATION ON GROUNDS OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION

- 81 Regulations
- 82 Regulations for Northern Ireland

#### PART 4

# PUBLIC FUNCTIONS

#### Sex discrimination

- 83 Prohibition of discrimination
- 84 General duty to promote equality, &c.
- 85 Specific duties
- 86 Codes of practice

87 National security

Disability discrimination

- 88 General duty: exceptions
- 89 National security

Race discrimination

90 National security

# PART 5

# GENERAL

- 91 Repeals
- 92 Crown application
- 93 Commencement
- 94 Extent
- 95 Short title

# SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1 — The Commission: Constitution, &c. Part 1 — CONSTITUTION

- 1 Membership
- 2 (1) In appointing Commissioners the Secretary of State shall—
- 3 Tenure
- 4 Chairman
  - Part 2 PROCEEDINGS
- 5 Procedure
- 6 (1) The Commission shall determine a quorum for its meetings....
- 7 Staff
- 8 At the end of section 3(2) of the Employers' Liability...
- 9 Investigating Commissioners
- 10 Delegation
- 11 Committees
- 12 (1) The Commission may establish one or more committees to...
- 13 A member of a committee shall hold and vacate office...
- 14 The Commission— (a) may, to any extent, regulate the proceedings...
- 15 (1) The Commission may delegate a function to a decision-making...
- 16 Scotland Committee
- 17 The Commission shall appoint as the Chairman of the Scotland...
- 18 The Commission shall appoint each member of the Scotland Committee...
- 19 The Scotland Committee shall advise the Commission about the exercise...
- 20 Before exercising a function in a manner which in the...
- 21 (1) The power under section 13—(a) shall be treated...
- 22 (1) The power under section 11(2)(c)— (a) shall be treated...
- 23 In allocating its resources the Commission shall ensure that the...
- 24 Wales Committee
- 25 The Commission shall appoint as the Chairman of the Wales...
- 26 The Commission shall appoint each member of the Wales Committee...

- 27 The Wales Committee shall advise the Commission about the exercise...
- 28 Before exercising a function in a manner which in the...
- 29 (1) The power under section 13—(a) shall be treated...
- 30 (1) The power under section 11(2)(c)— (a) shall be treated...
- 31 In allocating its resources the Commission shall ensure that the...
- 32 Annual report
- 33 Savings
- The validity of proceedings of a committee of the Commission...
  Part 3 MONEY
- 35 Remuneration, &c.
- 36 (1) The Commission may pay sums to or in respect...
- 37 (1) The Commission may, with the approval of the Secretary...
- 38 Funding by Secretary of State
- 39 Charging
- 40 Accounts
- 41 Financial year

# Part 4 — STATUS, &C.

- 42 Status
- 43 Supervision
- 44 Disqualifications
- 45 (1) In Part II of Schedule 1 to the Northern...
- 46 A Commissioner or Investigating Commissioner, and a member of a...
- 47 Records
- 48 Freedom of information

Part 5 — DISABILITY COMMITTEE

- 49 Establishment
- 50 Membership
- 51 The appointment of each member of the Disability Committee shall...
- 52 Functions
- 53 Before exercising a power or fulfilling a duty wholly or...
- 54 The Disability Committee shall advise the Commission about the exercise...
- 55 Resources
- 56 Report
- 57 5-year review
- 58 The following may not participate in the review (although those...
- 59 The Commission shall ensure— (a) that those conducting the review...
- 60 As soon as is reasonably practicable after receiving a report...
- 61 As soon as is reasonably practicable after receiving a recommendation...
- 62 An order under paragraph 61 may include provision about—
- 63 The dissolution of the Disability Committee is without prejudice to...
- 64 The Disability Committee may not be dissolved under paragraph 14(c)....

SCHEDULE 2 — Inquiries, Investigations and Assessments

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Terms of reference
- 3 Before conducting an investigation the Commission shall—
- 4 Before conducting an assessment of a person's compliance with a...
- 5 Paragraphs 2 to 4 shall apply in relation to revised...
- 6 Representations
- 7 Arrangements under paragraph 6 may (but need not) include arrangements...

- 8 (1) The Commission shall consider representations made in relation to...
- 9 Evidence
- 10 (1) A notice given to a person under paragraph 9...
- 11 The recipient of a notice under paragraph 9 may apply...
- 12 (1) Sub-paragraph (2) applies where the Commission thinks that a...
- 13 (1) A person commits an offence if without reasonable excuse...
- 14 (1) Where a person is given a notice under paragraph...
- 15 Reports
- 16 Recommendations
- 17 Effect of report
- 18 A person to whom a recommendation in the report of...
- 19 Courts and tribunals
- 20 Intelligence services

SCHEDULE 3 — Amendments Consequential on Part 1

- 1 Public Records Act 1958 (c. 51)
- 2 Parliamentary Commissioner Act 1967 (c. 13)
- 3 Superannuation Act 1972 (c. 11)
- 4 House of Commons Disqualification Act 1975 (c. 24)
- 5 Northern Ireland Assembly Disqualification Act 1975 (c. 25)
- 6 Sex Discrimination Act 1975 (c. 65)
- 7 In section 37(3) (discriminatory practices) for "sections 67 to 71...
- 8 At the end of section 38 (discriminatory advertisements) add—
- 9 At the end of section 39 (instructions to discriminate (which...
- 10 At the end of section 40 (pressure to discriminate) add—...
- 11 Part VI (the Equal Opportunities Commission) shall cease to have...
- 12 Sections 67 to 73 (enforcement) shall cease to have effect....
- 13 Section 75 (assistance by Equal Opportunities Commission) shall cease to...
- 14 (1) Section 76 (timing of proceedings) shall be amended as...
- 15 Section 76D (public authorities: enforcement) (inserted by section 85 of...
- 16 Section 76E (codes of practice) (inserted by section 86 of...
- 17 In section 81 (orders)— (a) in subsection (1) omit the...
- 18 In section 82 (interpretation)— (a) in subsection (1)—
- 19 In Schedule 2 (education admissions: transitional exemption)—
- 20 Schedule 3 (Equal Opportunities Commission) shall cease to have effect....
- 21 Race Relations Act 1976 (c. 74)
- 22 In section 28(3) (discriminatory practices), for "sections 58 to 62"...
- 23 At the end of section 29 (discriminatory advertisements) add-
- 24 At the end of section 30 (instructions to discriminate, &c....
- 25 At the end of section 31 (pressure to discriminate, &c.)...
- 26 Part VII (Commission for Racial Equality) shall cease to have...
- 27 Sections 58 to 64 (enforcement) shall cease to have effect....
- 28 Section 66 (assistance by Commission for Racial Equality) shall cease...
- 29 (1) Section 68 (timing of proceedings) shall be amended as...
- 30 Section 71C (codes of practice) shall cease to have effect....
- 31 Sections 71D and 71E (general public authority duty: compliance notice)...
- 32 In section 74 (orders and regulations)— (a) in subsection (1)...
- 33 In section 78 (interpretation)— (a) in subsection (1)—
- 34 Schedule 1 (Commission for Racial Equality) shall cease to have...

- 35 In Part II of Schedule 1A (general statutory duty)-
- 36 Estate Agents Act 1979 (c. 38)
- 37 In section 9(6) (provision of information to Office of Fair...
- 38 (1) Schedule 1 shall be amended as follows.
- 39 Legal Aid (Scotland) Act 1986 (c. 47)
- 40 Employment Act 1989 (c. 38)
- 41 Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (c. 50)
- 42 At the end of section 16B (discriminatory advertisements) add—
- 43 At the end of section 16C (instructions and pressure to...
- 44 Section 17B (proceedings by Disability Rights Commission) shall cease to...
- 45 Section 28 (conciliation services) shall cease to have effect.
- 46 In sections 28C(4) and 28T(2) (non-discrimination in education) for "section...
- 47 Section 31B (conciliation services) shall cease to have effect.
- 48 In section 49D(5) for "Disability Rights Commission" substitute "Commission for...
- 49 Sections 49E and 49F (public authorities: enforcement) shall cease to...
- 50 Section 49H (let property: conciliation of disputes) shall cease to...
- 51 Section 49I (conciliation of disputes: rented housing in Scotland) shall...
- 52 Section 53A (codes of practice) shall cease to have effect....
- In section 67(5)(b) (regulations and orders) omit the words "53A(6) (a)"....
- 54 In section 68(1) (interpretation), in the definition of "regulations" omit...
- 55 In section 70(5A) for "7B, 49G, 49H and 53A(1D) and...
- 56 (1) For paragraph 6(2) of Schedule 3 (enforcement) substitute—
- 57 Employment Tribunals Act 1996 (c. 17)
- 58 Asylum and Immigration Act 1996 (c. 49)
- 59 Disability Rights Commission Act 1999 (c. 17)
- 60 Freedom of Information Act 2000 (c. 36)
- 61 Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001 (c. 24)
- 62 Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 (asp 10)
- 63 Housing (Scotland) Act 2006 (asp 01)

SCHEDULE 4 — Repeals