



# Equality Act 2006

## 2006 CHAPTER 3

### PART 1

#### THE COMMISSION FOR EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

##### *Duties*

### **8 Equality and diversity**

- (1) The Commission shall, by exercising the powers conferred by this Part—
- promote understanding of the importance of equality and diversity,
  - encourage good practice in relation to equality and diversity,
  - promote equality of opportunity,
  - promote awareness and understanding of rights under the [<sup>F1</sup>Equality Act 2010],
  - enforce [<sup>F2</sup>that Act],
  - work towards the elimination of unlawful discrimination, and
  - work towards the elimination of unlawful harassment.
- (2) In subsection (1)—
- “diversity” means the fact that individuals are different,  
“equality” means equality between individuals, and  
“unlawful” is to be construed in accordance with section 34.
- (3) In promoting equality of opportunity between disabled persons and others, the Commission may, in particular, promote the favourable treatment of disabled persons.
- (4) In this Part “disabled person” means a person who—
- is a disabled person within the meaning of the [<sup>F3</sup>Equality Act 2010], or
  - has been a disabled person within that meaning (whether or not at a time when that Act had effect).

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**Changes to legislation:** Equality Act 2006, Section 8 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

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### Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 8(1)(d) substituted (1.10.2010) by Equality Act 2010 (c. 15), s. 216(3), **Sch. 26 para. 62(2)(a)** (with ss. 6(4), 205); S.I. 2010/2317, art. 2(15)(e)(iv) (as amended (1.10.2010) by S.I. 2010/2337, art. 2)
- F2** Words in s. 8(1)(e) substituted (1.10.2010) by Equality Act 2010 (c. 15), s. 216(3), **Sch. 26 para. 62(2)(b)** (with ss. 6(4), 205); S.I. 2010/2317, art. 2(15)(e)(iv) (as amended (1.10.2010) by S.I. 2010/2337, art. 2)
- F3** Words in s. 8(4) substituted (1.10.2010) by Equality Act 2010 (c. 15), s. 216(3), **Sch. 26 para. 62(3)** (with ss. 6(4), 205); S.I. 2010/2317, art. 2(15)(e)(iv) (as amended (1.10.2010) by S.I. 2010/2337, art. 2)

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:**

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 21(8) inserted by [2023 c. 51 s. 4\(2\)](#)
- s. 24A(1)(aa) inserted by [2023 c. 51 s. 4\(3\)](#)