Status: Point in time view as at 01/09/2012. This version of this provision is not valid for this point in time.
Changes to legislation: Equality Act 2010, Section 1 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on
or before 22 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)

Equality Act 2010

2010 CHAPTER 15

PART 1

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INEQUALITIES

VALID FROM 01/04/2018

1   Public sector duty regarding socio-economic inequalities

(1) An authority to which this section applies must, when making decisions of a strategic nature about how to exercise its functions, have due regard to the desirability of exercising them in a way that is designed to reduce the inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage.

(2) In deciding how to fulfil a duty to which it is subject under subsection (1), an authority must take into account any guidance issued [**F1**in accordance with subsection (2A)].

[**F2**(2A) The guidance to be taken into account under subsection (2) is—

   (a)   in the case of a duty imposed on an authority in relation to devolved Scottish functions, guidance issued by the Scottish Ministers;

   (b)   in any other case, guidance issued by a Minister of the Crown.]

(3) The authorities to which this section applies are—

   (a)   a Minister of the Crown;

   (b)   a government department other than the Security Service, the Secret Intelligence Service or the Government Communications Head-quarters;

   (c)   a county council or district council in England;

   (d)   the Greater London Authority;

   (e)   a London borough council;

   (f)   the Common Council of the City of London in its capacity as a local authority;

(g) the Council of the Isles of Scilly;

(h) [**F3**a Strategic Health Authority established under section 13 of the National Health Service Act 2006, or continued in existence by virtue of that section;]

(i) [**F4**a Primary Care Trust established under section 18 of that Act, or continued in existence by virtue of that section;]

(j) [**F5**a regional development agency established by the Regional Development Agencies Act 1998;]

(k) a [**F6**police and crime commissioner] established for an area in England.

F7(4) . . . .

F8(5) . . . .

(6) The reference to inequalities in subsection (1) does not include any inequalities experienced by a person as a result of being a person subject to immigration control within the meaning given by section 115(9) of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

Textual Amendments

F1   Words in s. 1(2) substituted (23.5.2016) by Scotland Act 2016 (c. 11), **ss. 38(3)**, 72(7)

F2   S. 1(2A) inserted (23.5.2016) by Scotland Act 2016 (c. 11), **ss. 38(4)**, 72(7)

F3   S. 1(3)(h) omitted (1.4.2013) by virtue of Health and Social Care Act 2012 (c. 7), s. 55(2), **Sch. 5 para. 181(a)**; S.I. 2013/160, **art. 2(2)** (with arts. 7-9)

F4   S. 1(3)(i) omitted (1.4.2013) by virtue of Health and Social Care Act 2012 (c. 7), s. 55(2), **Sch. 5 para. 181(b)**; S.I. 2013/160, **art. 2(2)** (with arts. 7-9)

F5   S. 1(3)(j) repealed (1.7.2012 at 0.02 a.m.) by Public Bodies Act 2011 (c. 24), s. 30(3), **Sch. 6**; S.I. 2012/1662, **art. 2(2)(b)**

F6   Words in s. 1(3)(k) substituted (22.11.2012) by Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (c. 13), s. 99, **Sch. 16 para. 381**; S.I. 2012/2892, **art. 2(a)(i)**

F7   S. 1(4) omitted (26.5.2015) by virtue of Deregulation Act 2015 (c. 20), **ss. 100(2)(g)**, 115(3)(k)

F8   S. 1(5) omitted (26.5.2015) by virtue of Deregulation Act 2015 (c. 20), **ss. 100(2)(g)**, 115(3)(k)

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