

Restoring Trust in the Equality & Human Rights Commission

Conference notes that:

- On August 8th, The Times and Independent reported that the Equality & Human Rights Commission has completed drafting guidance on the Equality Act;
- Labour's 2024 Manifesto pledged to "remove indignities for trans people";
- In *For Women Scotland*, the Supreme Court ruled that within the Equality Act the word "women" does not include trans women;
- The purpose of EHRC is to "support the development of a society in which... there is respect for the dignity and worth of each individual [and] each individual has an equal opportunity to participate in society...";
- There has been widespread concern over EHRC's approach to consulting on guidance around the Equality Act, including the lack of meaningful consideration of over 50,000 consultation responses;

Conference believes:

- Labour is firmly committed to equality for all, including the LGBT+ community;
- EHRC's failure to fully consider consultation responses represents a serious breach of its duty to act independently, transparently, and in the interests of those it's mandated to protect;
- That vulnerable groups should be adequately consulted on issues uniquely affecting them;

Conference calls on the Government to:

- Require EHRC to reconsider its guidance on the Equality Act, including an explicit requirement to engage with concerns from affected groups, MPs, human rights organisations and trade unions;
- Commission a review of EHRC's governance, independence, and adherence to evidence-based policymaking;
- Work with the LGBT+ community and civil society to restore confidence in EHRC, ensuring all future guidance is developed through rigorous, transparent, and inclusive processes.

245 words.