

REPORT FOR RESOLUTION

**SUBJECT: PATROL Adjudication Joint Committee
Equality Policy Statement**

PREPARED BY: The Lead Officer on behalf of the Advisory Board

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To approve the PATROL Adjudication Joint Committee Equality Policy Statement.

RECOMMENDATION

The Joint Committee is recommended to:

1. Approve the PATROL Adjudication Joint Committee Equality Policy Statement.

FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES

None at this time

CONTACT

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APPENDIX 1

PATROL ADJUDICATION JOINT COMMITTEE EQUALITY POLICY STATEMENT

1. Purpose of Policy Statement

- 1.1 To ensure that equality and diversity issues are positively incorporated in all aspects of the Joint Committee's responsibilities.

2. Background

- 2.1 One of the agreed primary objectives of the Joint Committee is:

A fair adjudication service for Appellants including visible independence of adjudicators from the authorities in whose areas they are working

- 2.2 The functions of the Joint Committee include:

- appointing Adjudicators subject to the Lord Chancellor's consent.
- providing or making arrangements for the provision of accommodation and administrative staff and facilities for the Adjudicators.
- commissioning and receiving an annual report from the Adjudicators
- defraying all the expenses of the adjudication process

- 2.3 The Joint Committee will have regard to the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 in carrying out its functions.

3. Adjudicators and Staff

- 3.1 The Joint Committee is committed to equality of opportunity in relation to the appointment of adjudicators and staff for those adjudicator irrespective of race, gender, disability, sexuality, religion and belief, marital status, social background or age.

- 3.2 The Joint Committee has delegated the appointment of Adjudicators to the Chief Adjudicator who is required to follow recognised best practice in judicial appointments.

- 3.3 The Joint Committee appoints a Host Authority for the purposes of entering into contracts of employment with staff and, where appropriate, their equal opportunities policy in relation to employment practice will be adopted.

- 3.4 The Joint Committee will make provision for a safe, secure and accessible working environment.

4. Resourcing the Traffic Penalty Tribunal

- 4.1 The Joint Committee will make appropriate resources available to the Tribunal to ensure that both all appellants and councils officers are able to access adjudication.

5. Joint Committee Meetings

- 5.1 In conducting its business the Joint Committee's meetings will be held in accessible venues and the Joint Committee will make its agendas, reports and publications available in a range of formats. The Joint Committee's website will include a statement of accessibility.

6. Equality Objective

- 6.1 The Joint Committee will establish objectives in areas where through review and evaluation it can assess improvements to its service. The inaugural objective will be:

To ensure that the PATROL web site meets the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) web content accessibility guidelines.

7. Communication and Review

- 7.1 The Joint Committee's Policy Statement on Equality will be communicated to new member councils and councillors, and published on the PATROL website. The policy statement will be reviewed by the Joint Committee on an annual basis.