

John Griffiths AM
Chair, ELGC Committee
National Assembly for Wales

Monday 20 April 2020

Dear John Griffiths AM,

Subject: Working together to promote equality and human rights

I am writing to share the Commission's <u>Business Plan for 2020-21</u>. This plan covers the second year of our 2019 to 2022 <u>Strategic Plan</u>.

We have set out important steps we will take to address the equality and human rights implications of the coronavirus pandemic. We recognise that we are at an early stage of Wales and Britain's response to the pandemic, and we are working with stakeholder groups to update our approach as the impacts on communities, individuals and the economy become clearer. This is intended to be a living document, enabling us to use our powers and levers flexibly and strategically.

We have discussed with your Committee Team the importance of due scrutiny being given to the Welsh Government's response to the pandemic. We

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The Commission welcomes correspondence in Welsh or English.

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recommend that the Committee take forward an Inquiry into the equality and human rights impacts of the pandemic. The Commission would welcome the opportunity to work with you on such an Inquiry.

I look forward to speaking with you about our new business plan and how we can work together to challenge discrimination, protect rights, and promote equality of opportunity across Wales. We will liaise with your office to see when there is an opportunity to do this. My colleague Rhys Fletcher (Rhys.Fletcher@equalityhumanrights.com) will be available to arrange a meeting.

In the meantime, please do not hesitate to be in touch with any questions

Yours sincerely,

Rev Ruth Coombs

Head of Wales

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