19 January 2021

Dear Janet,

Letter about Petition P-05-1085 “Make anti racism training compulsory for all elected Councillors and Members of the Senedd in Wales.”

Thank you for your letter about the above petition.

As an organisation we do not tolerate bullying, harassment or discrimination based on someone’s race or ethnicity. Race equality is enshrined throughout the Commission’s Diversity and Inclusion Strategy and where relevant, within our people policies. Our Dignity and Respect policy outlines our commitment to race equality. The Commission provides training to its staff, promotes awareness raising activities and has a staff network to provide peer support, networking opportunities and a focus for discussion of issues affecting Black Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) members in the organisation.

However, the Commission is not able to make any training compulsory for elected Members of the Senedd (who are not employees of the Commission), or for staff employed directly by Members of the Senedd. The Commission does engage with Members and staff on an ongoing basis regarding training needs and endeavours to provide the support they require.

The Commission is not in a position to comment on training for elected Councillors.

Kind regards,

Elin Jones MS
Llywydd and Chair of the Senedd Commission

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg / We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English