

Philip Davies MP,
House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA
Sent via email

Thursday 11 June 2020

Dear Mr Davies,

Grants distributed by the Equality and Human Rights Commission since 2016

I write to respond to your Parliamentary Question (no. 53350 answered by the Minister for Equalities on 10th June) regarding our distribution of grant funding since 2016. I have enclosed information on the amount, recipient and purpose of each grant distributed by the Equality and Human Rights Commission since 2016 at **Annex A**.

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The Equality Act 2006 sets out the range of powers which the Commission can use to drive equality and human rights improvements, and we use these selectively and proportionately to achieve our objectives. Under section 17, it provides the legal basis for us to award grants as follows:

In pursuance of any of its duties under sections 8 and 9 of the 2006 Act, the Commission may make grants to another person (s17(1)). These may be made subject to conditions, including as to repayment (s17(2)). A power...to co-operate with or assist a person may not be exercised by the provision of financial assistance otherwise than in accordance with this section (s17(3))

Since 2016, and as set out in **Annex A**, the Commission has exercised this power to provide individual grants to organisations in fulfilment of its objectives. In addition, in 2017/2018 we launched a grants programme to improve the quality and availability of advice on discrimination and human rights matters across Great Britain. We sought applications from advice organisations that would use the funding to improve access to justice for the people they work with through:

- Improving the quality or quantity of discrimination and human rights advice: and
- Improving information and knowledge sharing discrimination and human rights in the advice sector, including information about the availability of advice and referral routes.

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Further details on the grants awarded to organisations can be found at **Annex A.**

I am sending a copy of this letter to the Minister for Equalities so that it can be laid in the libraries of both Houses of Parliament.

Yours sincerely,



Rebecca Hilsenrath

Equality Human Rights Commission | Chief Executive

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