

Your Right!

"many people expressed fear of retribution if they spoke out."

" there was clear preference for the offices of the SHHRC to be located away from SHG and to be in a discrete location. Concern was expressed by some about being seen to be entering the office and the gossip which could result."

Quotes from the research carried out on behalf of the Citizenship Commission

The Citizenship Commission


Organization



Who's Right?

The Citizenship Commission's proposal for

A National Human Rights Body for St Helena

► What is a National Human Rights Institution?


National human rights institutions (NHRIs) are administrative bodies set up in to protect, promote and monitor human rights.

They should be compliant with the United Nations standards

NHRIs can be grouped in two broad categories: human rights commissions and ombudsmen. While an ombudsman is a single person, human rights commissions are independent multi-member committees.

They are sometimes set up to deal with specific issues such as discrimination, but often have much wider responsibilities.

Various international human rights treaties have been extended to St Helena and our Constitution also protects our rights so why do we need one on St Helena?



Why Do we need one?

- To Give everyone on St Helena a voice—without the risk of recriminations
- For education and awareness raising - many people on St Helena do not know what their rights are.
- We need to know on the procedure for dealing with complaints whether we are complaining or being complained about
- For investigating complaints - to act on behalf of, or support, individuals or groups with human rights grievances.
- To investigate of specific themes - it is recommended that the SHHRC is mandated to investigate human rights themes where there is evidence of systematic abuses of human rights.
- To encourage SHG to act on specific issues
- To review and advise on new legislation and policies.
- To monitor SHG compliance with, and implementation of Ordinances and also with international human rights treaties.

The Citizenship Commission is asking SHG to support the establishment of The Saint Helena Human Rights Commission to promote and protect our human rights.

What will St Helena's be like?

3 commissioners appointed independently to do all of the above and

- Investigate complaints and make recommendations for future action, such as ways to avoid recurrence of the complaint
- Influence SHG and LegCo to change behaviours and respond positively to recommendations of the SHHRC
- Promote public awareness of human rights issues on St Helena as they emerge
- Train and keep up to date with relevant human rights legislation in St Helena and the UK
- Monitor good practice elsewhere and promote it in St Helena

And

TO GIVE YOU A VOICE



St Helena Human Rights Commission