

## WHAT WILL THE COMMISSION BE?

In 2011 extensive consultation was carried out which established the need for a Commission for Equality and Human Rights, Legislation has now been drafted to set up the Commission.

The Commission's aims will be to encourage and support the development of a society in which

- ◆ an individual's ability to achieve his or her potential is not limited by prejudice or discrimination;
- ◆ there is respect for and protection of each individual's human rights;
- ◆ there is respect for the dignity and worth of each individual;
- ◆ each individual has an equal opportunity to participate in society; and
- ◆ there is mutual respect between groups based on understanding and valuing of diversity and on shared respect for equality and human rights.

## WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW?

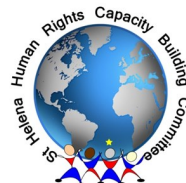
For a full copy of the proposed ordinance or to make comments on this important proposed Ordinance please contact:

Catherine at the Human Rights Office (see contact details below)

[www.humanrightsthelena.org](http://www.humanrightsthelena.org)

### HUMAN RIGHTS CAPACITY BUILDING COMMITTEE

Human Rights Office  
No 3 Main Street  
Jamestown  
Phone:(+) 290 22133  
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## EQUALITY & HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

HUMAN RIGHTS  
CAPACITY BUILDING  
COMMITTEE

## CONSULTATION ON LEGISLATION



TEL 2 2 1 3 3

## WHAT WILL THE COMMISSION DO?

There will be a minimum of 3 Commissioners and a full time Director.

The Commission will prepare an action plan that will be reviewed at least every 3 years and revised as appropriate.

There will be wide consultation on the plan with everyone invited to comment and all contributions will be seriously considered.

The Commissioners and employees **MUST** keep all information confidential or face a fine of up to £10,000 or 6 months in prison.

The Commission's role is to promote the understanding of human rights, equality and diversity and create awareness and understanding of rights in St Helena.

Encourage St Helena Government (SHG) to action specific issues; reviewing and advising on new legislation and policies.

Monitor SHG compliance and implementation of Ordinances and international human rights treaties, for example the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

It will provide advice, education and training and undertake research on relevant issues.

The Commission may conduct an inquiry into a matter relating to any of the Commission's duties and if it believes something to contravene Human Rights legislation report it to the Attorney General

The Commission will have the power to recommend changes to remedy a human rights or equalities problem or pursue a matter through the courts

It will provide shadow reports to UN Treaty Bodies and will facilitate SHG consultations with civil society in the preparation of government reports and follow-up action on UN Treaty Body Recommendations

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