



## NEWS REPORT

**Date:** 12 October 2010  
**Expert:** Aileen McColgan  
**Title:** Equality Act 2010 implementation  
**Country:** United Kingdom

### Context

**Issue at stake:** Equality Law General  
**Ground of discrimination:** sexual orientation, race, disability, sexual orientation, religion/ belief, age  
**Source:** Parliament  
**Field:** all

### Content

The Equality Act 2010 (Commencement No 4, Savings, Consequential, Transitional, Transitory and Incidental Provisions and Revocation) Order 2010, which came into force on 1 October 2010, brought into effect many of the provisions of the UK's long-awaited Equality Act 2010. The Act now replaces, for most purposes, the predecessor legislation (the Race Relations Act 1976, Disability Discrimination Act 1995, EQUALITY Act 2006, Employment Equality (Sexual Orientation) Regulations 2004, Employment Equality (Religion or Belief) Regulations 2003, Employment Equality (Age) Regulations 2006 and Equality Act 2006 (Sexual Orientation) Regulations 2007, though the powers of the Equality and Human Rights Commission are still to be found in the Equality Act 2006 and the public duties provisions of the Race Relations Act 1976 and Disability Discrimination Act 1995 continue to apply pending the implementation (expected in April 2011) of the general public duty which is expected to apply across all six grounds and gender.

The Equality Act 2010 will, when fully implemented, regulate age discrimination across the material scope of the Act (that is, in relation to goods, facilities and services, public functions, housing etc) as is currently the case for all the other protected grounds. The main exclusion from the implementing regulations which have just come into force are the provisions relating to age discrimination which will continue to be regulated (as at present) only in relation to employment and occupation (broadly defined to



include third level education). It remains to be seen when the other provisions on age discrimination will be brought into force.

**Internet link source and additional information:** (no newspaper links)

[http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2010/2317/pdfs/uksi\\_20102317\\_en.pdf](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2010/2317/pdfs/uksi_20102317_en.pdf)

(the Regulations)

[http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/pdfs/ukpga\\_20100015\\_en.pdf](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/pdfs/ukpga_20100015_en.pdf)

(the Equality Act 2010)