



Getting to grips with the Equality Act Changes in 2024

### Agenda



- 17:30 18:00 Networking and registration
- 18:00 18:45 Diversity and Inclusion the new legislative landscape and culture change
- 18:45 19:00 Short break refreshments and networking
- 19:00 19:45 Transgender Rights and inclusive cultures in the workplace- Jim Glennon Pride UK Training and Consultancy
- 19:45 20:00 Q&A with speakers

#### Aims for today

- Update you on changes to the Equality Act and other legislation which has been designed to strength family friendly policies and respond to issue of sexual harassment in the workplace
- Explore how legal drivers can support culture changes
- LGBT+ Month an in-depth look at the CIPD's guidance on transgender inclusion in the workplace





CIPD

- 1. How does your organization ensure that diversity and inclusion are integrated into company policies, practices, and decision-making processes across all departments and functions?
- 2. What strategies does your organization employ to create a sense of belonging and inclusion for employees from diverse backgrounds, including those who may be part of multiple marginalized groups?
- 3. How does your organization address and respond to incidents of discrimination, harassment, or other forms of bias to maintain a safe and respectful work environment for all employees?





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Essex and Ipswich Branch
 Freelance and
 Consultants Group Launch Event 9 February
 2024



 Roundup of changes to employment law in 2024 14 March 2024



https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/cipd-essex-and-ipswich-branch-7902997427

Upcoming events by CIPD Essex & Ipswich





## Post-Brexit preservation of EU Law (1 January 2024)





- special treatment permissible in connection with maternity, pregnancy or childbirth
- direct discrimination = less favourable treatment because of breastfeeding
- treatment after protected period because of pregnancy is protected

## Post-Brexit preservation of EU Law (1 January 2024)





- protected period same for individuals whose maternity rights under statutory or contractual scheme (e.g. police)
- individual does not have to have protected characteristic under indirect discrimination
- direct discrimination outside active recruitment

## Post-Brexit preservation of EU Law (1 January 2024)





- equal pay covered if single source
- disability day to day activities include work-related activities



### Changes to flexible working (6 April 2024)



- day 1 (↓ 6 months)
- 2 requests per 12 months (↑ 1)
- consider alternatives
- respond in 2 months (↓ 3 months)
- no requirement to consider impact
- 8 reasons to refuse



### Changes to flexible working (6 April 2024)



Draft Acas code of practice

# Extension of redundancy protection (6 April 2024)





- offer (in preference) suitable alternative vacancy
- on or after 6 April 2024
- miscarriage, maternity/adoption/ shared parental leave returners within 6 months
- not protect against redundancy

### Carer's leave (6 April 2024)





- day 1
- 1 week in any 12 months
- unpaid
- provide / arrange long-term care for dependant
- taken in days or half days
- notice of twice period wish to take plus 1 day
- postpone but not deny

# Reasonable steps to prevent harassment (by October 2024)





- no liability for third party harassment
- increase in compensation up to 25% unless reasonable steps
- reasonable steps to prevent sexual harassment

### Neonatal leave (by April 2025)





- day 1
- 1 12 weeks' leave
- baby (up to 28 days' old)
- neonatal care of at least 7 days
- taken in first 68 weeks
- paid if 26 weeks' service and LEL

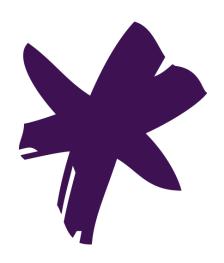
## Equal pay - disability and BAME





## Non-disclosure agreements in harassment and discrimination





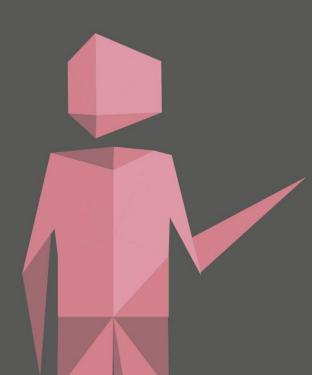
- permitted to police, regulated health and care professionals and legal professionals
- not extend to allegations
- enhance independent legal advice
- drafting guidance
- enforcement measures

### **CIPD**

#### Key questions...



- How does your organization ensure that diversity and inclusion are integrated into company policies, practices, and decision-making processes across all departments and functions?
- What strategies does your organization employ to create a sense of belonging and inclusion for employees from diverse backgrounds, including those who may be part of multiple marginalized groups?
- How does your organization address and respond to incidents of discrimination, harassment, or other forms of bias to maintain a safe and respectful work environment for all employees?



a perfect balance of skills for your HR needs

let's talk

### Training for your staff

A range of training to help your staff move forward with knowledge and confidence:

- Equality / Equity, diversity and inclusion in the workplace
- Menopause in the workplace
- Bullying, harassment and equal opportunities in the workplace



https://www.birkettlong.co.uk/site/inbusiness/employment-hr/hr-and-employmentlaw-training-for-your-business/





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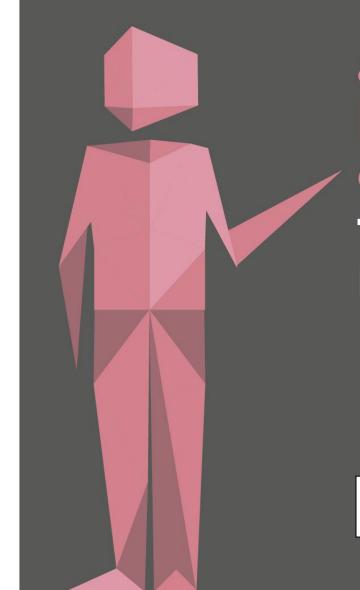
## Birkett Long's BLHR and employment services

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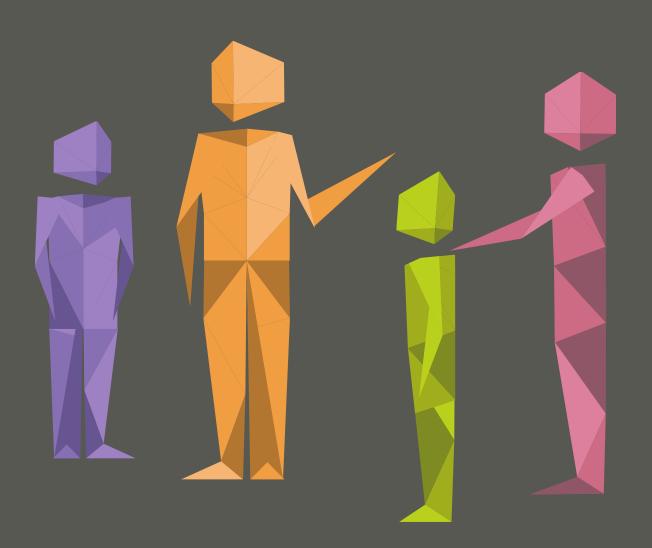
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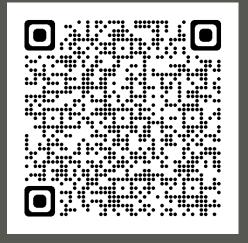
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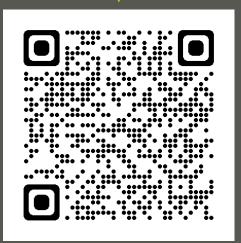
## Keep in touch with the latest HR and employment news



#### **Workplace training**



#### **BLHR**



#### **Keep in touch**



#### Notes from today's presentation

