

# TRAINING SERVICE

**AN IRISH DIMENSION  
TO  
EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

**HEALTH**

**HOUSING**

**SOCIAL SERVICES**

**TRAINING**

**EMPLOYMENT**

**JUSTICE**

**ADVICE SERVICES**



## **Planning or organising a Community Care Programme?**

## **Implementing the Childrens Act 1989?**

## **Reviewing service delivery?**

**Are you involved with health service provision, housing, social services, employment and training, the justice system?**

**Do you have an equal opportunities policy?**

## **Is there an IRISH DIMENSION?**

**The Irish in Britain**, because of numerical strength and characteristics such as shared history, cultural tradition, common ancestral origins, **constitute the largest Ethnic Minority**. However, despite experiencing discrimination and disadvantage in employment, health and housing, this has not been reflected in Equal Opportunities initiatives. An Irish dimension to equal opportunities has been conspicuous by its absence. AGIY's Training Service is an initiative to redress this absence and the range of courses and programmes available will enable professionals who work with Irish people to deliver a more aware, sensitive and improved service.

AGIY offer courses on how to practically incorporate *an Irish dimension* for those professionals in both statutory and voluntary agencies who work with Irish people. AGIY Training courses look at areas such as :

- **The Importance of Language**
- **Perceptions of the Irish**
- **Ethnicity, Race Relations, Law**
- **Discrimination and Disadvantage**
- **Anti-Irish Racism**
- **The Historical Context**
- **Key Dates in Irish History**
- **Emigration**
- **Experience of Irish Emigrants**
- **An Irish Dimension - Practical Implications**

All courses include practical exercises on incorporating an Irish dimension and on improving work with and service delivery to Irish people. Training methods include presentations with OHPs and flipcharts, video and groupwork.



## Course Example

9.45 Arrival

10.00 Welcome and Introductions

10.30 The Importance of Language

11.00 The Irish as an Ethnic Minority

11.15 BREAK

11.30 Perceptions of the Irish

12.00 Irish Emigration

12.30 The Irish in Britain (Video)

1.00 LUNCH

2.00 Working with Irish people 1

2.40 Experience of Irish Emigrants

3.00 BREAK

3.15 An Irish Dimension - Practical Implications

3.35 Working with Irish people 2

4.15 Evaluation

4.30 CLOSE

Discrimination and disadvantage, anti-Irish racism, the historical context are included in the different headings. A more in-depth course on history and racism is available.

## TRAVELLERS

Irish Travellers have been coming to Britain for over 100 years, yet they remain a misunderstood and marginalised group. Travellers experience a pervasive prejudice resulting in widespread discrimination and disadvantage. Travellers see themselves as an ethnic group in their own right, with their own language, culture, history etc. For those who work with, or come into contact with Travellers, AGIY can offer a course on Working with Travellers. Topics covered include :

- **Perceptions of Travellers**
- **Myths and Reality**
- **Who are Travellers?**
- **History and Origins**
- **Anti-Traveller Prejudice**
- **Social and Cultural Lifestyle**

plus exercises on improving work with and service delivery to Travellers.



## INFORMATION PACKS

All participants on AGIY Training Courses and Programmes will receive a comprehensive Information Pack containing handouts on all topics covered, together with data on the Irish community and contacts list.

## COMMENTS

AGIY have already provided courses for Probation Officers, Careers Officers, Drug Advisory Workers and Support Staff working with Homeless people and Alcohol abusers.

Comments from those who have attended our courses include :

*" I now have greater awareness of Irish issues"*

*"...shows how existing services could improve service delivery to Irish community"*

*"opened new areas of debate"*

*" gave historical perspective"*

**CONTACT** for further information on courses, programmes, fees

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