



Office of the
Deputy Prime Minister
Creating sustainable communities



31 August 2005

Dear Colleague,

Diversity Champions programme

The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, CFOA, the Fire Brigades Union and Stonewall would like to bring to your attention Stonewall's Diversity Champions programme. This promotes understanding and good practice around issues of sexual orientation in the workplace.

Diversity Champions currently has 107 members, with over 2.7 million employees between them. Employers already benefiting from their membership include London, Kent and Avon Fire Brigades, ODPM, Royal Mail, British Airways and Ford. The programme provides an opportunity for employers to learn from each other and from Stonewall – to develop practical policies, employment audits and to explore marketing opportunities. We don't believe in reinventing the wheel. We do believe in building on experience and working together.

As you will know, the new Employment Equality (Sexual Orientation) Regulations make sexual orientation discrimination in the workplace unlawful for the first time. Becoming a member of Diversity Champions will help your organisation to meet the challenges ahead – to attract the best recruits, to motivate and retain your workforce, to maximise market potential and to ensure that your organisation complies with the new law.

Investing in diversity is good for individuals and good for business. It's a win/win situation, so we do hope that you will consider becoming a member. Stonewall would be delighted to meet you to talk about Diversity Champions, and we encourage you to call Stonewall with any questions you may have on 020 7881 9262.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Fitzpatrick MP
Parliamentary Under
ODPM

Tom Carroll
President
Chief Fire Officers
Association

Stewart Brown
Executive Council
FBU

Ben Summerskill
Chief Executive
Stonewall