



Call for Evidence



Racial Inequality in Wales

This year marks the start of the journey towards the next examination of government's progress in implementing the UN International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD).

Race Equality First is now facilitating the development and submission of the **joint NGO Shadow Report for Wales on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination** for the UN Committee to help inform their forthcoming review.

This is a real opportunity to hold the government to account and to identify areas for change.

We are issuing this Call for Evidence to gather racial discrimination priorities for inclusion in the Report. **We need your priorities and evidence** to help us determine what to include and what needs to change for people from a Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) background in Wales.

We want to hear from you.

Thematic Areas

Policing

An under-representative workforce
BME officers facing discriminatory treatment within the police
Ethnic disproportionality in police powers (stop & search, use of force, arrest, sentencing)

Health

Access to healthcare for BME individuals
Racial inequalities in mental health (over-representation of persons of African-Caribbean descent in psychiatric institutions)
Treatment of BME healthcare staff, under-representation of BME staff in senior roles within the NHS

Education

The lack of balanced teaching about the history of the British Empire and Colonialism
Racist Bullying and harassment in schools
Disproportionate rate of exclusion from schools of pupils belonging to Gypsy, Traveller & Roma or African-Caribbean communities

Hate Crime

The increasing number of racial hate crimes reported year on year
The large justice gap that remains with successful prosecutions being so low
The issue of under-reporting
The rise in cyber hate crime

Criminal Justice System

BME people are disproportionately targeted throughout the criminal justice system (CJS)
The disproportionate number of BME people in prisons
An under-representation of BME people in senior roles in the CJS

Brexit

The inflammatory rhetoric used by politicians throughout the campaign
The large spike in race and race/religion hate crimes surrounding the referendum to leave the EU (not covered in the 2016 Report)

Issues facing Gypsy, Traveller & Roma Communities

These communities continue to face exclusion and discrimination in the fields of health, education, housing and employment
These communities are subject to negative stereotypes and stigmatisation in the media

Employment

A higher rate of unemployment among BME people
BME people more likely to be in low-paid work

Counter-terrorism Measures

How 'Prevent' has created an atmosphere of suspicion towards members of Muslim communities.

Immigration Detention

The use of immigration detention with no statutory time limit
Children continuing to be held in immigration detention facilities

Overarching Issues (including, but not exclusive to)

The ways in which the Covid-19 pandemic disproportionately affects BME individuals
Housing
Sport
Political Engagement
The over-representation of BME children in Special Education Needs (SEN) classes in schools in Wales

The above list of areas have been identified in the UN CERD Committee's concluding observations on the 2016 Shadow Report for the UK as prominent areas of interest for the 2021 Report.

The above list is here to help guide you. We do not expect you to cover every topic, only those areas where you have knowledge and evidence you wish to share.

In your response, you may wish to consider (as a guide):

- What are the main issues that Welsh Government and public bodies should be prioritising and why?
- What information or evidence do you have to support this?
- What policy or changes in law need to happen and why? Are there any gaps?
- What recommendations do you wish to make to ensure positive change and reduce racial inequality in the UK?

Submission Guidance

- We welcome responses and evidence on as many of the topics as you wish to respond to, if you only have knowledge and evidence to share on one or two priorities, then that is perfectly fine.
- Please be concise with your written submission. There is no word limit but please keep your response succinct to help ensure we are able to identify the main issues, concerns and priorities you are highlighting.
- Please include references to any studies, statistics and reports which have been released since 2016 (the more recent the better) to support your evidence.
- We welcome specific recommendations in support of your evidence.
- Include any new or emerging issues as applicable, for instance the impact of Covid-19.
- Please be clear as to whether you're providing a response on behalf of your organisation or from a network or as an individual (e.g. academic).

All submissions will be considered which will help determine the priorities for inclusion in the Shadow Report for Wales on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Your input will be shared with thematic leads in our Project Steering Group for the purpose of checking for accuracy.

Acknowledgements – we wish to give full recognition to all organisations who have contributed evidence to inform the Report. Prior to publication, organisations will be contacted to support the Report. There is no obligation for this, but we would like to include as many signatories as possible to support the Shadow Report for Wales to ensure we have as strong a submission as possible.

We greatly appreciate your time and involvement in this work.

Our funder requires that written evidence we receive is made public on our website once the call for evidence has closed. Please let us know if there is any part of your submission that is confidential which you do not want published.

Please send your submissions to – Christina.T@raceequalityfirst.org.uk

If you have any questions, please contact Christina Tanti on Christina.T@raceequalityfirst.org.uk

Or call our office on 029 2048 6207

Closing date – Tuesday 9th March 2021 at 5.00pm.



An independent project, with financial support from the EHRC.

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"Working with you to make equality a reality"



