



## **Stonewall Diversity Champion**

Kirklees Council

Stonewall is the national organisation representing lesbians, gay men and bisexuals and is a member of the Equality and Diversity Forum, a network of national organisations committed to the progress on age, disability, gender, race, religion and belief, and sexual orientation issues.

### **Stonewall Diversity Champions**

We joined Stonewall's Diversity Champion programme in 2008.

The Stonewall Diversity Champions programme is Britain's good practice forum in which employers can work with Stonewall, and each other, to promote lesbian, gay and bisexual equality in the workplace.

As a Diversity Champion, the Council has access to best practice sharing, networking opportunities and research from a wide range of organisations.

### **Stonewall Workplace Equality Index**

The Stonewall Workplace Equality Index is the definitive national benchmark for employers on lesbian, gay and bi-sexual issues and highlights best practice.

The Index of top 100 employers is published annually and covers 9 areas of policy and practice, employers are assessed against a range of criteria including:

- Effective employment policies
- Staff and community engagement
- Equal benefits
- Training
- Monitoring
- Staff network functions; and
- Supplier policies
- As well as staff's response to the Stonewall confidential employee questionnaire.

Kirklees Council has applied for the Stonewall index twice and on both occasions we have been rated as a 'Top 100 employer', in 2005/06 we were rated 85<sup>th</sup> out of 164 entries from the private and public sector and this year 2009/10 we were rated 43<sup>rd</sup> from a record number of submissions (352)

This is a prestigious achievement and helps demonstrate our commitment to serving all areas of the community.

For further information, visit the [Stonewall website](#).