

GUIDANCE ON RACE EQUALITY IN THE PROCUREMENT PROCESS

Purpose

1. To remind you of guidance published by the Commission for Racial Equality (CRE) on race relations and equal opportunity issues in procurement.

Background

2. CRE has published a guidance document entitled '*Race Equality and Public Procurement – a guide to meeting the duty to promote race equality*'. This guidance was launched in Scotland in August 2003 at Victoria Quay with the support of the Minister for Communities, Margaret Curran.

3. The CRE document outlines how the duty to promote race equality can be met within the procurement process and is a useful source of information. The document is available on-line at www.cre.gov.uk

4. Public purchasers should be particularly aware of these requirements if they are procuring a service which would once have been performed in-house or are procuring a service that offers direct provision of a service to the public.

5. The Scottish Executive has published guidance on race equality and monitors progress in the areas, this is available via www.scotland.gov.uk/raceequalityprogressreports.

Dissemination

6. I would be grateful if this paper could be brought to the attention of all relevant staff in agencies and NDPB's and other sponsored public bodies within your field of responsibility.

Enquiries

6. For further information, please contact the Policy and Best Practice Branch, Scottish Procurement Directorate on 0131 244 3725 or email lynne.watts@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

