

Fathers and parenting Equal Opportunities Committee call for views

The Equal Opportunities Committee is keen to hear about the experiences of single fathers and fathers with shared residence of children. We wish to identify the key challenges they face in day-to-day life and the quality of support currently available to them.

As well as hearing from fathers about their own experiences, we would like to hear from statutory services and organisations that provide support to single fathers.

Areas which we're interested in hearing about include—

- the provision of services and support groups;
- societal attitudes towards lone / unmarried fathers; and
- issues around parental responsibilities and rights for fathers.

You might want to consider the following questions—

- What day to day challenges do you experience as a lone / unmarried father in Scotland?
- Do you experience any particular challenges in a specific aspect of your life for example - work / family / social?
- Do you experience any particular challenges dealing with a specific subject for example - finance or dealing with access or care arrangements?
- What kinds of support and or services are available to you and do they meet your needs?
- Do you feel you get equal access to all types of public facilities when out with your children?
- If you said that you experience challenges, what are your thoughts on public perception and general awareness of the issue?

We invite submissions, in writing, **by Friday, 21 February 2013**

Please—

- **structure your response using the themes and questions above** – if you wish to add any further issues, use additional headings at the end of your response
- **read the [policy on treatment of written evidence by subject and mandatory committees](#)** before sending your submission
- **try not to exceed 6 sides of A4**
- **send submissions by email** to equal.opportunities@scottish.parliament.uk or **by post** c/o the Clerk, Equal Opportunities Committee, TG.01, The Scottish Parliament, EDINBURGH, EH99 1SP
- **contact us** with any queries, by email or by post as above or by telephone on 0131 348 5408.