



PRESS RELEASE

Issued by: Monday 16th June 2008

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Equality and Diversity in the workplace

The Dudley based Centre for Equality & Diversity in conjunction with Higgs and Sons Solicitors are urging small medium enterprises (SME's) across the Black Country to take steps to embrace diversity to avoid claims for discrimination. Claims for race, sex, disability, sexual orientation, religion or belief, gender reassignment and age are all on the increase and with unlimited compensation it is imperative that business owners knows where they stand and what they can do.

Proprietors, managing directors human resources and other managers within SMEs are being invited to attend a free seminar "Equality and Diversity in the Workplace" on Thursday 17th July 2008, 9:15am – 1:00pm. The seminar will be held at the National Metal Forming Centre, Birmingham Road, West Bromwich.

Tim Jones of Higgs and Sons will be giving employers a review of the laws on equality and diversity together with an insight into the practical steps that can be taken into the work place. There will also be presentations from representatives of the Trade Union Congress (TUC) and West Bromwich Building Society.

Martyn Copus, Chairperson of CfED said;

"As the scramble for talent becomes more competitive across the region, SME's that successfully embrace diversity as part of their culture is likely to enjoy competitive advantage and unlikely to experience a claim for any form of discrimination"

For further information and to reserve a seat please contact Judith Stroud on 01384 456166

or email admin@cfed.org.uk

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---NOTES FOR EDITORS---

- (i) The Equality and Diversity in the Workplace seminar is sponsored by Advantage West Midlands, Stourbridge College the Charles Group and CK. Consulting.
- (ii) CfED is a company limited by guarantee (5745005) and a registered charity (1114821)
- (iii) An organisation at the heart of the Borough of Dudley and dedicated to:
 - (a) promoting the interest of all Black and Minority Ethnic communities
 - (b) building effective partnerships
 - (c) creating an environment in which all people in the Borough support equality and diversity, understand and appreciate the differences between individuals and communities.
 - (d) raising the profile of all six equality strands.
- (iv) Higgs and Sons is the largest employment team in the Black Country and are recognised as leaders in their field in Legal 500 and Chambers Directory.