

## Scottish Just Law Centre Strategic Priorities

The Scottish Just Law Centre takes strategic legal casework and provides direct advice and representation in key areas of disability and transgender legal justice.

We recognise that we cannot represent all people in Scotland who face discrimination and disadvantage in all relevant areas of law, and therefore have agreed, with our partners, Inclusion Scotland and the Scottish Trans Alliance, to focus initially on cases which meet the following criteria.

- 1. The potential defender is a public body, public service provider, or employer
- 2. The client would qualify for Legal Aid. (If not, can offer second-tier advice / signposting)
- 3. For alleged <u>disability discrimination</u>, the potential client has experienced one of the following:
  - a COVID 19 policy or practice having discriminatory impact, for example someone being pressured to accept a 'Do Not Attempt to Resuscitate' notice without consultation;
  - a UK or Scottish benefit rule or practice negatively impacting them because of their disability;
  - a public building being inaccessible because of physical barriers and / or lack of reasonable adjustments (such as a suitable alternative arrangement);
  - their social sector housing being unsuitable because of lack of adaptations;
  - a public service being unusable because there are no accessible toilet facilities (or there are, but they are out of order);
  - inaccessible public information, guidance or consultation document;
  - a public meeting being inaccessible, for example due to lack of suitable communication support;
  - public transport being inaccessible because of lack of reasonable adjustments, or a driver refusing to take a passenger who is visibly disabled;
  - social care support / healthcare service provision being inadequate;

Scotland's Legal Centre for Justice and Human Rights

JustRight Scotland is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SC047818) which provides legal services through its limited liability partnership, JustRight Scotland LLP which trades as JustRight Scotland (S0305962). This firm has been authorised to act as solicitors by the Law Society of Scotland (Registered No 53703). Our Registered Office is: Suite 3.1, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Forsyth House, 111 Union Street, Glasgow, G1 3TA

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- a bureaucratic process, such as an online application, being inaccessible;
- a public funding cut (or failure to adequately resource in the first place) leading to a policy that has detrimentally impacted them; or
- a school or other education establishment failing to remove the barriers they (or their disabled child) face, meaning they can't access and participate in education in the same way as someone who's not disabled.
- 4. For alleged <u>trans discrimination</u>, the potential client has experienced one of the following:
  - a UK or Scottish benefit rule or practice negatively impacting them because of their or a family member's gender reassignment;
  - failure by a service provider, school or employer to correctly update records and maintain confidentiality of their trans history, leading to lack of privacy and dignity;
  - an official form or record system being designed in such a way as to force them to reveal their trans history or to prevent them being recorded as their lived sex/gender identity;
  - being unable to obtain UK identity documents due to a lack of formal processes for updating name or sex in their country of origin;
  - unjustified discrimination within, or unjustified exclusion from, a single sex facility, service or job;
  - harassment in the workplace, or by a provider of goods, facilities or services;
  - healthcare service provision being inadequate;
  - a public policy change that has detrimentally impacted them.
- 5. There is a comparator who has been treated more favourably / advantageously
- 6. There could be a tangible outcome to the case that has wider benefit for other people

Due to the volume of referrals, we may not be able to respond to every enquiry, particularly if the enquiry does not fall within our strategic priorities; however we will try, where possible, to signpost your client to other organisations that might be able to help where we are not able to do so ourselves.

To make a referral to us, please contact: <u>SJLC@justrightscotland.org.uk</u>.