



# Government **Equalities** Office

Putting equality at the heart of government

Dear All

## **LAUNCH OF CONSULTATION - STRENGTHENING WOMEN'S VOICES IN GOVERNMENT - WE WELCOME YOUR VIEWS AND FEEDBACK!**

I am taking this opportunity to invite you on behalf of the Government Equalities Office to participate in an open discussion on the recently launched Government Equalities Office consultation: 'Strengthening Women's Voices in Government'. It is about a new model for engaging and listening to women in the UK and the details are set out below:

**Date: 02 June 2011**

**Time: 1:00 – 4:00pm**

**Venue: Albert Halls, Dumbarton Road, Stirling, FK8 2QL**

**Location map link:** <http://www.stirling.gov.uk/ahmap>

The aim of this event is to hear the views of women in Scotland and get your feedback on the Government's proposals as these will help shape the new approach which should be in place later this year. The new model has four approaches:

- **Direct engagement** between ministers, women and organisations that represent women, to ensure government understands the views of a wide range of women in the UK, and providing the opportunity for a genuine two way dialogue on policies that affect women.
- **Bringing in expertise** from the women's sector and beyond to support the new model and support independence from government where this is critical, particularly in the international arena.
- **Looking Ahead** to enable us to anticipate emerging and future issues, such as the impact of the changing demography of the UK, which will be important for women.
- **A new IT platform**, making the most of modern communication techniques to get the informed voice of women to Government when they need to be heard.

We are keen to hear your views and welcome your input so hope you can join us. In the meantime, the consultation document is downloadable from:

<http://www.equalities.gov.uk/pdf/strengthening%20womens%20voices.pdf>

For administration purposes please can you confirm attendance to me:

[Shelly.Dowrich@geo.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Shelly.Dowrich@geo.gsi.gov.uk) by **Thursday 26 May**. The agenda will be issued upon confirmation of attendance.

I do hope that you will be able to attend on the day.

Warmest regards

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[Strengthening Women's Voices consultation now open](#)