



**Equality Commission statement on Ashers case**

**29 April 2015**

The Commission supported an individual who took a case before the County Court alleging discrimination under two anti-discrimination statutes – the Equality Act (Sexual Orientation) Regulations (NI) 2006 and the Fair Employment and Treatment Order (NI) 1998.

This case raises issues of public importance regarding the extent to which suppliers of goods and services can refuse service on grounds of sexual orientation, religious belief and/or political opinion. It was heard on the 26, 27 and 30 March.

The Commission's policy is not to discuss the details of any case we are supporting while the matter is under consideration by the court.

The judgement in this case will be given at Laganside Courthouse in Belfast on 7 May 2015.

ENDS