

PfG PRIORITIES:

EQUALITY DATA

➤ Recommendations

We recommend actions to:

- address the key gaps in equality data, including on the grounds of gender identity, sexual orientation, and race;
- rectify the lack of data disaggregation in relation to ethnicity, disability and gender.

“It is also essential that all relevant PfG measures ... are not only tracked in aggregate but also tracked for the impact on individuals from each of the Section 75 grounds.”

[ECNI Response to the Executive’s consultation on a draft Programme for Government Framework 2016](#)

➤ Gaps in equality data

The Commission has highlighted the lack of specific data across a number of themes in relation to a range of equality grounds, including gender identity, sexual orientation, and race; as well as multiple identity. It has also highlighted the lack of data disaggregation in relation to some equality grounds, such as ethnicity, disability and gender.

The PfG should include actions, particularly by Departments and other public bodies, to address key gaps in equality data – including to ensure that data is available across the full range of equality grounds, and in respect of people’s multiple identities.

The absence of key equality data means that it is difficult for the Executive, Departments and others to assess the nature and extent of key inequalities, as well as to track progress in achieving agreed equality and good relations outcomes.

For example, research⁶ into educational inequalities in Northern Ireland has highlighted that the lack of available and/or robust data relating to several equality groups, as regards educational access, attainment, progression and destinations, hinders progress being made on redressing the educational inequalities they may face.

6 Burns, S., Leitch, R. and Hughes, J. (2015) *Education Inequalities in Northern Ireland* commissioned by Equality Commission

Read more: www.equalityni.org/EqualityData

