

The Office for Tackling Injustices

The Office for Tackling Injustices (OfTI) will be an independent, non-partisan organisation tasked with identifying metrics to assess how well the UK is addressing certain social injustices, and then monitoring and highlighting whether there is progress against them.

OfTI will focus on ethnicity, gender, disability, LGBT and socio-economic background, although it is intended that future Governments should have the flexibility to amend the remit through secondary legislation when there is evidence to show that it is desirable for this to be the case.

OfTI will collect, monitor and analyse data, and publish its findings on progress to reduce injustices against a series of headline metrics, looking at current performance and underlying drivers. OfTI will not make policy recommendations, but use evidence and data to challenge Government.

OfTI will lay an annual report before Parliament, providing an assessment of Government's progress towards reducing disparities in the 5 areas above. Doing so will support the examination of progress on key injustices, as part of normal parliamentary scrutiny of Government business. Government should respond to the report within 4 months.

To assist OfTI in exercising the functions above, the Government is asked to publish a plan for improving the quality, collection and publication of relevant data.

Territorial extent:

Initially covering England only, the territorial scope of OfTI will require consultation with the devolved administrations over how it will collect and analyse information across the UK.

1 Office for Tackling Injustices

A body corporate called the Office for Tackling Injustices is established (and is referred to in these clauses as “the OfTI”).

2 Purpose

- (1) The purpose of the OfTI is to monitor and assess the extent to which the factors mentioned in subsection (2) affect disparity in social and economic outcomes.
- (2) The factors are—
 - (a) disability,
 - (b) race,
 - (c) sex,
 - (d) socio-economic background,
 - (e) sexual orientation, and
 - (f) gender reassignment.
- (3) A Minister of the Crown may by regulations amend the list in subsection (2) so as to add, remove or vary an entry.

3 Functions

- (1) The functions of the OfTI are—
 - (a) to collect, monitor and assess data published by public bodies which is relevant to the OfTI’s purpose under clause 2,
 - (b) to interpret and analyse that data, and
 - (c) to publish its findings.
- (2) The OfTI may also commission research which is relevant to the OfTI’s purpose.
- (3) A Minister of the Crown may direct the OfTI to prepare, and send to the Minister, a report on any matter relating to the OfTI’s purpose.

4 Collection and publication of data

A Minister of the Crown must publish a plan for improving the collection and publication of data which will assist the OfTI in exercising its functions under clause 3(1)(a) and (b).

5 Reports on progress

It is the duty of the OfTI to lay before Parliament each year a report setting out the OfTI’s assessment of progress towards reducing disparity in social and economic outcomes linked to the factors mentioned in clause 2(2).

6 Response to reports on progress

- (1) A Minister of the Crown must lay before Parliament a response to each report of the OfTI under clause 5.
- (2) The response must include a plan for addressing the findings in the report.