

## DLA's *Briefings* Editor and Designer retire



Geraldine Scullion

*Briefings* editor, Geraldine Scullion, is retiring from the post after a tenure of 17 years. During that time the UK Discrimination Law Association's (DLA) journal has marked significant legal developments; these include major legislative changes such as the enactment of the Equality Act 2010 in October that year, or the ban on age discrimination in the field of services in October 2012. Articles on legislative changes have ranged from the impact of Brexit on equality law, to more recent updates on the Equality Act 2010 (Amendment) Regulations 2023 or the Worker Protection (Amendment of Equality Act 2010) Act 2023.

Case law judgments reported in *Briefings* ranged from those developing key concepts such as discrimination by association or expanding understanding of disability or age discrimination, to those highlighting the development of protection of the rights of vulnerable groups such as female prisoners, Gypsies, Roma & Travellers, migrants and asylum seekers, or those using the public sector equality duty to challenge public bodies' decisions. *Briefings'* articles have highlighted inequalities arising from practices such as government's overreliance on digital technology to deliver public services, or its failure to adequately respond to the Windrush scandal, to name just two. Articles on the disproportionate impact on disabled people of Covid-19 and the pandemic's stark exposure of existing structural failings and inequalities they experience were a highly significant topic in 2022.

With its focus on practical support, *Briefings* has provided equality practitioners with valuable information on how to use new legal approaches to challenge unfair practices during bleak periods when civil legal aid was cut back, public services decimated, the EHRC's budget reduced, fees introduced at tribunals, third-party harassment protection abolished, and it was government policy to create a 'hostile environment' to deter immigration into the UK. Articles were commissioned on, for example, how practitioners should best respond to procedural changes at the employment tribunal or use the provisions of UN and Council of Europe conventions and expert reports to enhance policy or legal challenges. *Briefings* aimed to ensure readers are up to date with new developments such as the consequences of the increasing use of artificial intelligence, or the development of trans rights.

Geraldine regards as one of her key achievements the nurturing of new contributors and the maintenance of contact with over 150 'DLA active members' who are willing to write for *Briefings*. The journal could not be produced without the support of its volunteer contributors who are drawn from among leading anti-discrimination lawyers and NGOs in the UK and across Europe. She said:

*It has been a great privilege for me to be the editor of Briefings and I will be sad to leave it behind. I have met and worked with great people, the best lawyers and experienced activists in the UK and abroad, all experts in their field. As the DLA's editor, it has also been a privilege to have had the opportunity to contribute to the development of equality & anti-discrimination law and policy.*



Alison Beanland

Geraldine has worked with Alison Beanland, graphic designer, who is also retiring after 24 years with the DLA. Together they have produced some 50 editions providing readers with valuable legal updates and accessible, complainant-oriented analysis of judgments and developments in discrimination law. Alison has played a vital role in ensuring the high standard and timely production of the journal which is issued three times a year to DLA members. She designed the logo for the DLA in 2001 and has worked with four editors. She ensured the smooth transition from hard copy to digital copy in 2022 and undertook the design of the new look journal in 2022.

Responding to the news, DLA chair Nicki Redhead said:

*'The DLA is immensely proud of Briefings. I want to express my sincere thanks to Geraldine and Alison for all their hard work, dedication and commitment throughout the years. We have really depended on their expertise so, naturally, we were deeply saddened when they told us that they had both decided to retire.*

*We also realised that we would have to replace them. This will be no easy feat but nevertheless we must, so we are launching our recruitment process today for a new Briefings editor and digital typesetter designer.*

*Does this sound like you? Then click on this [link](#) to obtain an application and monitoring form and job description. We look forward to hearing from you.'*

The DLA wishes to thank Geraldine and Alison for their expertise and commitment to *Briefings* over the years and wish them all the very best for their retirement.