

Ministry of Housing and Equality

## PRESS RELEASE

No: 90/2017

Date: 15th February 2017

## **Equality Means Business: Making Live Events Accessible**

Ministry of Equality engages Attitude is Everything to provide disability equality training for more inclusive events

The Ministry of Equality is delighted to announce further training offered as part of its 'Equality Means Business' series of awareness seminars next week as part of its initiative and drive to promote awareness and inclusion of individuals with disabilities in our community.

This latest training, information and awareness sessions are in relation to provision and management of events and the Ministry of Equality has engaged with a specialist UK organization to deliver this. Attitude is Everything is a UK charity who have been delivering Disability Diversity training for 15 years and regularly advises on large public events in the UK including concerts and live performances, and how these can be made more accessible. They have worked with a number of popular UK festivals (including Glastonbury and Festival Republic) as well as a number of entertainment venues.

The bespoke training will take place over a number of days next week to cater for the different focus of the various businesses and their staff. In addition to the training provided to the public sector, the Ministry of Equality is also offering local, private promoters the chance to attend a morning training session at the University of Gibraltar on Wednesday 22nd February 2017. A further seminar will be held at the University of Gibraltar on Thursday 23rd February 2017 which will be geared to establishments, like bars and hotels, that provide entertainment. Both seminars will start at 9.00 am.

Anyone wishing to attend any of these seminars should first register their interest with the Ministry of Equality. Participation for all seminars is free, and given the interest and demand already expressed there will be limited spaces available and these will be given on a first come, first served basis.

The Minister for Equality, the Hon. Samantha Sacramento MP, said "These seminars are a continuation of the training series already established as we are taking the lead on our shared responsibility in making Gibraltar more inclusive.



Gibraltar is blessed with a very diverse and active social calendar so I want to ensure that everyone involved in organizing these events are aware of their responsibilities towards individuals with disabilities and support them in their proper delivery of it and show how, without doubt, a more inclusive business makes for a better business all round.

Creating awareness is vital and we must work together to change attitudes. In the advent of the Disability Act, we will be providing continuous support and information to enable businesses to provide more accessible social and cultural experiences to those who, because of their disability, may have been left out in the past.

These seminars compliment previous training seminars and there will be many more, on other aspects as well, throughout the year.

To register your interest or for more information please e-mail: <a href="mailto:equality@gibraltar.gov.gi">equality@gibraltar.gov.gi</a> or phone 200 70112.