



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Equality Means Business: Frontline Staff Training on Disability Awareness for Toilet Attendants at Beach Locations and the Bathing Pavilion**

The Ministry of Equality, in partnership with the Ministry of the Environment, offered disability awareness front line staff training for Master Service toilet beach attendants, who provide a service to HM Government of Gibraltar. Two sessions were organised on the 29th June and 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

This training is the same as that delivered recently to lifeguards and beach assistants and officers from the Ministry of the Environment.

Our beaches are very popular in summer, individuals with disabilities now feel more encouraged to attend as a result of the significant accessibility adaptations and investment of additional beach attendants engaged especially to work with beach users with physical disabilities.

Jason Belilo, Equality Officer from the Ministry of Equality, delivered the sessions.

Mr Belilo underwent a 'Train the Trainer' course early last year and was certified by the UK Charity, Attitude is Everything, to deliver training on disability awareness. Further disability awareness training will be delivered throughout Government Departments during the course of the year.

This training is being delivered throughout the public sector on a rolling basis and is offered to the private sector as part of the Ministry for Equality's Equality Means Business series of seminars.

Anyone interested in attending should register their interest at [equality@gibraltar.gov.gi](mailto:equality@gibraltar.gov.gi) and they will receive notifications on this and other future training on equality.

The Minister for Equality, the Hon Samantha Sacramento, MP, said "This training, which follows recent training offered to lifeguards and beach attendants, means that all personnel who work on our beaches who will deliver a service to people with disabilities have received the same training so there will be consistency throughout.



“We have invested greatly in improving accessibility to our beaches and importantly also invested in providing changing places toilet facilities in most of our beaches and the bathing pavilion. This encourages people with disabilities to attend our beaches where they otherwise may not have. We therefore want to ensure that all beach users are greeted with dignity and respect and investing in frontline training for all staff is important to us.”

Minister for the Environment, the Hon Dr John Cortes MP said “Disability awareness is now a key component of the work of staff throughout the public sector, and my Ministry is very pleased to work with the Ministry of Equality in extending this to all who provide frontline service to the community.”