



The Society of Labour Lawyers

Environment and Communities Group presents a Westminster Workshop on

“Litigating the Cuts: Equality duties and local communities”

on 24 January 2012 at the House of Commons,

Committee Room 9, 6pm – 8pm

The cuts to public spending will fall heavily on those who are the biggest users of public services – the elderly, the disabled, women and disadvantaged racial and religious groups. The Equality Act 2010 imposes a duty on public bodies to have due regard to the impact of public decisions on protected groups. This duty is emerging as a vital legal weapon in the fight against the cuts. The panel will consider innovative ways in which equality duties can be used by individuals and community groups to hold the government to account and shape local services from libraries to Sure Start centres. The panel will consider: what can Labour do to advance the equalities agenda in opposition? And what might the role of law and of lawyers be both in litigating the cuts and in developing equality principles which will serve our communities in the long-term?

Speakers:

Kate Green MP (Shadow Minister for Equalities, former chief exec of CPAG)

Mary-Ann Stephenson (co-author of *Unravelling Equality*, Coventry Women’s Voices, former director of the Fawcett Society)

David Wolfe (Barrister, Matrix Chambers, specialising in public, environmental and discrimination law)

Chair:

Sarah Sackman (Barrister, Chair of the SLL Environment and Communities Group)

This event is free to attend and seats are allocated on a first come first served basis. Please ensure you arrive early for this event as the queues outside Parliament can cause delays. RSVP Gracecullen@pumpcourt.co.uk.