

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Lead  
[equality@edinburghcollege.ac.uk](mailto:equality@edinburghcollege.ac.uk)

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This newsletter brings you the latest equality news and developments at Edinburgh College. Anyone at the College is welcome to contribute to this newsletter, please contact the [EDI Lead](#) for more information. To read past newsletters, please visit this [webpage](#).

## Edinburgh College celebrated the College of Sanctuary Award

On 26 January 2026, staff, students and partners came together at the EH15 Restaurant in Milton Road Campus to celebrate the achievement of Edinburgh College being presented the College of Sanctuary Award. This status recognises the conscientious support the College provides to sanctuary seeking students. For more information, please visit [EE Colleges of Sanctuary](#).



## EDI workshop for Dundee and Angus College automotive apprentices



The EDI Lead and CTM of Automotive Engineering visited Dundee and Angus College to deliver the 'Understanding the Equality Act' workshop to their automotive apprentices on 5 February 2026. This workshop provides participants knowledge about the latest changes to the Act including the new duty on preventing sexual harassment. It forms part of the partnership with Scottish Motor Trade Association (SMTA) and Energy Skills Partnership (ESP), funded by Transport Scotland.

# Senior Management Team (SMT) adopted the Mainstreaming Equality and Human Rights Toolkit

The Scottish Government launched the [Mainstreaming Equality and Human Rights Toolkit](#) in December 2025 and encouraged all public sector bodies to adopt the toolkit to demonstrate the compliance of the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED). A small group of SMT members met with EDI Lead on 29 January 2026 to undertake the self-assessment to review strengths and weaknesses under six key drivers. The group proposed that the College should prioritise Strengthening Leadership and work on other key drivers in due course. Below are the recommendations that have been agreed by the full SMT to strengthen leadership:

- 'Putting EDI into Practice' workshop for members of Board of Management and SMT
- EDI Lead supports each department to develop EDI objectives in Operational Plans (currently the quality of objectives varies significantly)
- Identify equality champions in all business areas
- Ensuring Equality Impact Assessments are completed as part of decision making at all levels
- New strategic plan will include an Equality and Human Rights statement with explicit focus of advancing EDI in all business areas

## Coming Up

**In dialogue with  
Manira Ahmad**  
Chief Officer  
Public Health Scotland  
Thursday 2 April  
11:30 - 12:30



**In Dialogue with Manira Ahmad**  
The Decolonising the Curriculum Group is delighted to have arranged an event with influential BAME leader Manira Ahmad. Manira will speak about her journey to being in a leadership role of a key public sector body, the challenges she experienced as the organisation's first Muslim woman in this position and the allies she met along the way.

This is a rare opportunity to engage with a strategic anti-racist leader on a personal level in an exclusive setting. For more information, please visit [staff intranet](#). To book a place, please contact [Organisation Development](#).

### BAME Network Event

The next BAME Network event will take place on 22 April 2026 at the Boardroom in Granton Campus. The members of this network will share information about their organisation and how they can support the work of the College.