

Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Claims of Asylum: A European human rights challenge – SOGICA

For the attention of the Freedom of Information Officer, Ministry of Justice

29 January 2019

Dear Sir/Madam

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please will you provide the information requested below by email with the relevant attachments within the 20 working days specified. This information is not publicly available in the form or with the level of detail requested. It is required in the public interest for the completion of the <u>SOGICA research project</u>.

- 1. Does the Ministry of Justice keep figures differentiating asylum appeals and appeal decisions for people claiming asylum where there is a sexual orientation or gender identity basis or component?
- 2. If so, how far do these figures date back?
- 3. If not, does the Ministry of Justice plan to start recording and publishing such figures?
- 4. Do Tribunal judges receive any training on handling asylum appeals relating to sexual orientation or gender identity?
- 5. If so, who provides it and how regularly is there refresher training?
- 6. Is training mandatory?
- 7. Does the Ministry of Justice monitor the sexual orientation and gender identity of judges for equality purposes?
- 8. If there are Ministry of Justice statistics relating to asylum appeals with a sexual orientation or gender identity basis or component, other than the Home Office Experimental statistics published in November 2017 November 2018 please can they be made available.

Please contact me if any clarification is required or if you would like further information about the SOGICA project.

Your sincerely,

Moira Dustin Research Fellow Sussex Law School, School of Law, Politics and Sociology University of Sussex Brighton BN1 9QE