**POLICE OMBUDSMAN’S EQUALITY MONITORING REPORT PUBLISHED.**

**The Police Ombudsman’s Office has published its latest Equality Monitoring Report which looks at the profile of members of the public who made complaints about police.**

In order to ensure it provides a service that meets its equality obligation under law, the Police Ombudsman’s Office asks those who make complaints to complete a questionnaire about their personal characteristics.

This 52- page report looks at the information from those who returned questionnaires during the five-year period between April 2008 and March 2013, when it received more than 16,000 complaints about the conduct of police officers.

From those who responded, the Office made an analysis of the profile of people who make complaints in terms of characteristics such as their age and gender, their marital and their employment status, their sexual orientation, whether they were disabled, their racial group, their religious belief and their political opinion.

The Police Ombudsman’s Chief Executive, Adrian McAllister said that when all the figures are examined in detail they show that the Police Ombudsman’s Office is being used by all groups across the community.

“The police complaints system is for everyone and the whole point of this exercise is to ensure, as best we can, that everyone who needs to is using our service. From that point of view these figures are encouraging, as people from each of the groups we looked at are using our service. ”

The report is available at [Equality Monitoring Report 2008-2013.](http://www.policeombudsman.org/Publicationsuploads/combined%20report%20EQ%202008-2013.pdf)

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