



**Discrimination
On Our
Doorstep**



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Dear

MSP

Scottish Gypsy Travellers (SGT) have a long history of discrimination. The Scottish Parliament's Equal Opportunities Committee (EOC) found **continuing discrimination** and made several recommendations in 2001. In 2009, Amnesty International Scotland was asked to investigate and found implementation has been **slow and patchy**. Today, many local authorities still have made little progress. Amnesty recommends the Scottish Government (SG) do the following:

1. Support local authorities (LA) to **establish transit sites** to reduce unauthorised camps and thereby reduce tensions.
2. Take **leadership** on building community wide **consensus** including SGT, especially in areas where there have been **community tensions**.
3. Re-convene the **Gypsy/Traveller Strategic Group** to address race equality and service discrimination issues.
4. Implement **all the recommendations** made by the EOC.
5. Examine the effectiveness of the SG grants to refurbish sites, highlighting barriers to improving standards of living and working towards a **universal transit site standard**.

Please update me on what progress has been made on these urgent recommendations. I also ask you to detail the action you will personally be taking. Visit amnesty.org.uk for the full report "On The Margins".

Yours Sincerely

Address

MSP
Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP



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