

Central Evangelical Church

Questions

1 Do you have any comments on the proposal that applicants must live in their acquired gender for at least 3 months before applying for a GRC?

Yes

If yes, please outline these comments.:

1) Changing your legal sex is a significant step, both for the person themselves and for their family, as well as social/ work contacts.

The current requirement to live for a min of two years as a person of the alternative gender allows time for the person themselves to determine if they do wish to permanently live as someone of the other gender. Three months is not enough time for this to be demonstrated.

2 Do you have any comments on the proposal that applicants must go through a period of reflection for at least 3 months before obtaining a GRC?

Yes

If yes, please outline these comments.:

A period of reflection is a vague term, and three months is not long enough to demonstrate a commitment to the change of gender - even after the current two year wait there is an increasing number of people who wish to de-transition.

3 Should the minimum age at which a person can apply for legal gender recognition be reduced from 18 to 16?

Yes

If you wish, please give reasons for your view.:

In society at present 16 & 17 year old cannot buy cigarettes, get a tattoo or place a bet. The change of ones sex is more far reaching than these things, and the age to apply for gender recognition, should therefore not be reduced.

4 Do you have any other comments on the provisions of the draft Bill?

Yes

If yes, please outline these comments.:

A self declaration, with no medical opinion sought, or time lapse, leaves the system open to abuse by those who would seek to use it to abuse others through freedoms that they have gained with the proposed changes

5 Do you have any comments on the draft Impact Assessments?

Yes

If yes, please outline these comments.:

The DIAs indicate that a high level of mental health problems may be overcome by surgery. British research shows that, in teens, there is an increase in these problems a year after starting the transition process.