

The Action Group

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.:

We don't support making trans people wait 3 months between changing their other ID and applying for a gender recognition certificate to change their birth certificate.

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?

Not Answered

If yes, please outline these comments.:

We don't support requiring trans people to have a 'period of reflection' as though they haven't already considered their decision.

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.:

We support the Scottish Government's proposals to lower the age for gender recognition to 16. This would be in line with the rights of 16- and 17-year olds in Scotland to marry, gain employment, vote, and be held legally responsible for their actions. We think that 16- and 17-year olds should also be able to change their birth certificate to match who they are.

We also believe that trans children and young people under the age of 16 should be able to update their birth certificates with aid of parental or guardian support.

This would match with their existing ability to change their sex on their school records, medical records and passport. Often children and young people under 16 need to use their birth certificate more than adults do, so being able to change it is particularly important to protect their privacy.

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

Yes

If yes, please outline these comments.:

We support reforms to the Gender Recognition Act but believe every part of the trans community can benefit from this legislative change. Therefore we would ask you to consider non-binary people being recognised in the same way.

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

Not Answered

If yes, please outline these comments.:

Implementing more rights for trans people affects only trans people. It is not detrimental to the lives of anyone who is not trans or non-binary. Therefore, we believe that there is no reason the reform should not pass.