

Transparentsees

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.:

Most people applying for a GRC will most probably have been living in their acquired gender for some time before applying. This is an unnecessary time to wait and, as far as I know, is not a requirement in other countries which have adopted self declaration.

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.:

By the time trans people apply for a GRC they will have spent many, many months "reflecting" and coming to terms with who they really are. This is an unnecessary time to wait and, as far as I know, is not a requirement in other countries which have adopted self declaration.

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 Scotland, young people can marry and vote without parental permission. 16 has long been recognised an age of majority in Scotland. However, we as parents, would also want the right for our children to change their legal gender with parental support and permission. They can already change their names on school certificates, passports and with GPs, dentists et al. It would be logical for this to be extended to obtaining a new birth certificate (GRC). It is disappointing to see that, 4 years after Transparentsees gave evidence before the launch of the GRA reform, that the ability to change legal gender for under 16s had been dropped.

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

Yes

If yes, please outline these comments.:

As parents, we wholly support reform of the GRA. We are however very disappointed to see that acknowledgement of non-binary identity has been dropped. We would want that provision to be re-instated as several of our children and young people identify as non-binary.

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

Yes

If yes, please outline these comments.:

It is heartening to note that the draft Impact Assessment show no detriment to the existing rights of women and girls, despite what has been said in the media and elsewhere. We as parents, both men and women (and non-binary) do not feel that our rights will be affected in any shape or form by reforming the GRA and fully support it going forward.