

**Pink Saltire**

**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 are supportive of the Draft Bill, however we do not believe trans people should be held to an arbitrary time period of 3 months before applying for a GRC. Why is this rule applied to a birth certificate but not any other ID documents in our society? Who defined 3 months as a reasonable time frame to live as your acquired gender - why not 1 week or 10 months? We're concerned at the overarching feeling of 'paternalism' this rule generates among trans people and the impact this could have on the wellbeing of them as human beings.

**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.:**

As above, we are supportive of the Draft Bill, however we do not believe trans people should be held to an arbitrary time period of 3 months of self-reflection before applying for a GRC. Why is this rule applied to a birth certificate but not any other ID documents in our society? Who defined 3 months as a reasonable time frame to live as your acquired gender - why not 1 week or 10 months? We believe this reflection period should be removed from the Bill.

**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 Bill and we are supportive of the move to 16 for a GRC. However we believe that those under 16, supported and with the permission of their parents, should be afforded the same right to change their birth certificate as all their other ID documents when aged under 16.

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

Yes

**If yes, please outline these comments.:**

We support this step forward for trans people, it is important and will help reduce barriers to trans people living their true authentic lives.

Although not every trans person will want a GRC, we believe that all barriers to trans people being able to have ID documents in their acquired gender should be removed. For that reason we are frustrated by the exclusion of non-binary people from this process. Non-binary people are valid and they should be able to have the documents which reflect their identity, however complicated that might be for others to appreciate.

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

Yes

**If yes, please outline these comments.:**

LGBT organisations, demonstrated through the 'Together' joint letter to MSPs, support gender reform in Scotland. Alongwith leading women's organisations Engender, Scottish Women's Aid, Rape Crisis and local single-sex service providers, we do not believe there to be any increased risk to women from these gender reforms. Trans people, and trans women specifically, have been using single-sex spaces for years with no reported abuses caused by the administration of a GRC.