

Here NI

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.:

Arbitrary time limits are not based on medical evidence, it should be removed.

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.:

This should be removed, trans people have already considered their decision and do not need a mandatory 'reflection period'.

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.:

The age should be lowered to at least 16, 16 and 17 years olds can already make a lot of legally binding decisions for themselves in Scotland. Consideration should be given to gender recognition at a lower age, with the involvement of a parent or guardian.

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

Yes

If yes, please outline these comments.:

The draft Bill is welcome but is not enough. Simplifying the process would reduce stress and cost for trans people. Removing the need for medical evidence would avoid pathologising trans people as well as streamline the legal process. There should be consideration on legal recognition of non-binary people.

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

Yes

If yes, please outline these comments.:

This would have no detrimental impact on any group, and a positive impact on trans people. Many women's organisations already include trans women, and do not require 'proof' for involvement or support.