

Feisty Women

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.:

Feisty Women takes the view that there should be no requirement for applicants to live in their acquired gender for three months. It is a reasonable assumption that individuals who are contemplating applying for a gender recognition certificate are not doing this lightly and have already given the matter considerable thought. In any event, living in an 'acquired gender' will mean different things to different people and it would be impossible to enforce this.

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?

No

If yes, please outline these comments.:

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.:

This change would be consistent with existing legal rights for 16 year olds in Scotland

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

Yes

If yes, please outline these comments.:

Feisty Women endorses the Scottish Government's view that EHRC should produce a Code of Practice that will allow policy deciders at all levels and in all sectors to navigate safely and fairly through through the complex, tangled world of equality. This will require radically different thinking and innovation.

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

Yes

If yes, please outline these comments.:

The analysis of the potential impact of reforms on women appears to rely on research that is not consistent with the values, language and content of Chapter 5 of the guidance. Feisty Women recommends a new literature review.