

FAO Roger Halliday

Dear Mr Halliday

I write with great concern over the proposal to collect data on the unprovable 'gender identity' rather than on 'sex' which is clearly defined and immutable.

Rather than go over all the reasons why YOU ARE WRONG to choose data collection based on a self-identified 'sex' as opposed to the reality of a persons sex i simply ask you to read this to understand WHY you are wrong. https://ukdataexperts.files.wordpress.com/2021/02/open-letter-on-sex-data-11-february-2021-1.pdf?fbclid=IwAR20FLAxwWYJmu0Kxyqk5vk_rhCZ5116zM8ov8VKgznNUDS2E5T0asdgLpU

As a citizen of Scotland who has ACCURATELY completed all census forms i think you should be aware that if you proceed down the self-id path and the 'sex' question in the census offers more than 2 options (excepting those with a GRC) then i will be unable to accurately complete it.

I understand there are financial penalties for non completion of Census, none of which i could afford to pay, however it seems that the purpose of the census is to now collect data on fictional identities with regards to 'sex' to the detriment of accuracy or robust data gathering.

For these reasons, a 'sex' question offering more than legally male or female options will force me, to my detriment, to leave the question unanswered and my census incomplete.

I urge you to use common sense and reality to ensure the sex Q consists of only 2 optional answers male/female. If you must collect data on gender-identity then do that elsewhere on the census. The consequences for collecting 'sex' data based on self-id rather than the biological reality of 'sex' will be far reaching as the census is used by local authorities and other statutory bodies to enable adequate provision of sex-specific services throughout the country.

Accuracy is paramount and self-id of sex is not 'accurate' in any sense of the word.

Lesley Mclarty