

## **ANNEX**

### **REASONS FOR NOT PROVIDING INFORMATION**

#### An exemption applies

Under section 25(1) of FOISA, we do not have to give you information which is already reasonably accessible to you. You state in your request you have already accessed the information in question via the website listed:

[National Gender Identity Healthcare Reference Group - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot)

Section 25(1) of the Freedom of Information Act exempts disclosure of information that is reasonably accessible by other means, and the terms of the exemption mean that we do not have to consider whether or not it would be in the public interest for you to have the information.

An exemption under section(s) 38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA applies to some of the information you have requested. This is because the information requested contains personal data of a third party, i.e. the names, contact details and e-mail addresses of individuals, and disclosing it would contravene the data protection principles in Article 5(1) of the General Data Protection Regulation and in section 34(1) of the Data Protection Act 2018.

This exemption is not subject to the 'public interest test', so we are not required to consider if the public interest in disclosing the information outweighs the public interest in applying the exemption.

Some of the information is exempt under Section 29(1)(a) as it relates to the formulation or development of government policy.

This exemption is subject to the 'public interest test'. Therefore, taking account of all the circumstances of this case, we have considered if the public interest in disclosing the information outweighs the public interest in applying the exemption. We have found that, on balance, the public interest lies in favour of upholding the exemption. We recognise that there is a public interest in disclosing information as part of open, transparent and accountable government. However, there is also public interest in ensuring that policy officials can deliberate or explore policy matters freely until an agreed position is reached, in this case which outweighs a full release.

### **DOCUMENTS ENCLOSED**

Document 1: Email from SG official to members of the National Gender Identity Healthcare Reference Group (6 September 2022)

Document 2: Policy update paper for National Gender Identity Healthcare Reference Group meeting on 19 August 2022

**Document 1:** Email from SG official to members of the National Gender Identity Healthcare Reference Group (6 September 2022)

**From:** [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot

**Sent:** 06 September 2022 13:29

**To:** [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@nhs.scot>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@nhs.scot>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@nhs.scot>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@nhs.net>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk>; Deputy Chief Medical Officers <DCMO@gov.scot>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@gmail.com>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@nhs.scot>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@nhs.scot>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@nhs.scot>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@nhs.scot>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@nhs.scot>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@nhs.scot>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@nhs.scot>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@lgbthealth.org.uk>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@nhs.scot>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@ggc.scot.nhs.uk>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@pfs.scot>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@ggc.scot.nhs.uk>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@lgbtyouth.org.uk>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@ggc.scot.nhs.uk>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@ed.ac.uk>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@glasgow.ac.uk>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@ggc.scot.nhs.uk>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@equality-network.org>; [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

**Cc:** [Redacted 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot >

**Subject:** 19 August Meeting Actions

Hi All

As agreed at the last meeting of the Gender Identity Healthcare Reference Group on 19 August, here is a link to NHS England statement on recommendations outlined by dr. Cass in her letter: [NHS commissioning » Implementing advice from the Cass Review \(england.nhs.uk\)](#).

[Redacted – out of scope]

Best wishes,

[Redacted 38(1)(b)]

Senior Policy Adviser | Gender Identity and Healthcare Access | Health Improvement Division | Scottish Government | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

**Document 2:** : Policy update paper for National Gender Identity Healthcare Reference Group meeting on 28 August 2022

## **SG Policy Update**

National Gender Identity Healthcare Reference Group  
Friday 19 August 2022

Update on progress against [NHS gender identity services: strategic action framework 2022-2024](#) commitments

<b>Framework Commitment</b>	<b>Policy Update</b>
<b>Establish a National Gender Identity Healthcare Reference Group (the Group) which will oversee the implementation of commitments set out within this Framework until 2024</b>	Group established [redacted – S 29(1)(a)]
<b>Support the NGICNS to become a National Strategic Network for gender identity healthcare, to allow it to take ownership of service improvement and planning from the Reference Group from 2024</b>	[redacted – S 29(1)(a)]
<b>Support the current review and update of the Gender Reassignment Protocol by NHS National Services Scotland and NGICNS</b>	Paper C
<b>Commission Healthcare Improvement Scotland to develop national standards for adult and young people’s gender identity services</b>	[redacted – S 29(1)(a)]
<b>Direct the Reference Group to produce specifications to allocate funding which will develop and test new multidisciplinary models for delivery of gender identity healthcare i.e. ‘pilot services’</b>	[redacted – S 29(1)(a)]
<b>Direct the Reference Group to produce specifications to allocate funding which will support existing GICs to use new approaches to address current waiting lists</b>	[redacted – S 29(1)(a)]
<b>Fund enhanced support for people currently on waiting lists, including community and voluntary sector led support</b>	[redacted – S 29(1)(a)]
<b>Bring gender identity services within national waiting times standards</b>	[redacted – S 29(1)(a)]
<b>Support the establishment of a nationally commissioned Young Person’s Gender Identity Service</b>	[[redacted – S 29(1)(a)]

<b>Re-establish work to scope gender reassignment surgery provision in Scotland, within the wider framework of the four nations surgical contract</b>	[redacted – S 29(1)(a)]
<b>Commission NHS Education for Scotland to complete development of a Transgender Care Knowledge and Skills Framework</b>	[redacted – S 29(1)(a)]
<b>Explore with NHS Education for Scotland opportunities for staff training and improved resources to support best care of trans people accessing services in the NHS</b>	[redacted – S 29(1)(a)].
<b>Continue to review and develop all Equality, Diversity and Inclusion training for all NHS Scotland staff</b>	[[redacted – S 29(1)(a)]
<b>Commission Public Health Scotland to establish robust national waiting times data collection, monitoring and reporting for gender identity services</b>	[[redacted – S 29(1)(a)]
<b>Commission a trans healthcare specific report, as part of the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, NHS Lothian and Public Health Scotland national LGBT Health Needs Assessment</b>	Completed. Report published on 4 July 2022
<b>Commit to have funded service improvements or pilots established via the direction of the Reference Group independently evaluated</b>	[redacted – S 29(1)(a)]
<b>Work with the Chief Scientist’s Office (CSO) to develop research proposals, and make funding available, for additional research on long term health outcomes for those accessing gender identity healthcare</b>	Call for bids live on <a href="#">CSO website</a> and via direct email to relevant contacts in Scottish academic institutions. Closing date 30 September 2022