

DOCUMENT 1

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 05 April 2023 10:31
To: [Redacted]@equality-network.org; [Redacted]@stonewallscotland.org.uk>; [Redacted]@equality-network.org>; [Redacted]@lgbtyouth.org.uk>; [Redacted]@lgbtyouth.org.uk; [Redacted]@equality-network.org>
Subject: Catch-up with SG

Morning All

Hope you're all well under the circumstances.

I'm aware things have been quieter over Feb and March but it might be beneficial to catch up – Can I check availability for next week?

I've currently held a slot in the diary for a Teams call on **Wed 12 April at 14:30 – 15:30**.

Can be flexible on this so please let me know if you can't make this time.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Thanks

[Redacted] | Gender Recognition Unit
[Redacted]



From: [Redacted]@stonewallscotland.org.uk>
Sent: 05 April 2023 10:56
To: [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@equality-network.org>; [Redacted]@equality-network.org>; [Redacted]@lgbtyouth.org.uk>; [Redacted]@lgbtyouth.org.uk; [Redacted]@equality-network.org>
Subject: RE: Catch-up with SG

Hi [Redacted] – I can't make that time but would like to in the meeting – is there a possibility it can be moved to an earlier time on 12th? I can be free 10-11 if that works for everyone?

Regards,
[Redacted].

From: [Redacted]@equality-network.org>
Sent: 05 April 2023 11:02

To: [Redacted]@stonewallscotland.org.uk>; [Redacted]@gov.scot;
[Redacted]@equality-network.org>; [Redacted]@equality-network.org>;
[Redacted]@lgbtyouth.org.uk>; [Redacted]@lgbtyouth.org.uk
Subject: RE: Catch-up with SG

Hi [Redacted],

Thanks! I can make any time on Wed 12th April, and am fairly free on Tuesday and Friday next week also. I realise that Friday is some sort of deadline for you!

All the best,

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]@stonewallscotland.org.uk>
Sent: 05 April 2023 11:04
To: [Redacted]@equality-network.org>; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@equality-network.org>; [Redacted]@equality-network.org>; [Redacted]@equality-network.org>; [Redacted]@lgbtyouth.org.uk>; [Redacted]@lgbtyouth.org.uk
Subject: RE: Catch-up with SG

Hi [Redacted],

Like [Redacted] I can also do Tuesday if that also works for everyone.

[Redacted].

From: [Redacted]@equality-network.org>
Sent: Wednesday, April 5, 2023 11:45 AM
To: [Redacted]@stonewallscotland.org.uk>; [Redacted]@equality-network.org>; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@equality-network.org>; [Redacted]@lgbtyouth.org.uk>; [Redacted]@lgbtyouth.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Catch-up with SG

WARNING: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi [Redacted],

[Redacted] and I can also do 10-11 next Wednesday as [Redacted] suggested.

Tuesday 11th would work too although morning would be best (ideally before 11), and Friday 14th [Redacted] and I are both pretty free!

Thanks,

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]@lgbtyouth.org.uk>
Sent: 05 April 2023 11:49
To: [Redacted]@equality-network.org>; [Redacted]@stonewallscotland.org.uk>;

[Redacted]@equality-network.org>; [Redacted]@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@equality-network.org>

Subject: RE: Catch-up with SG

Hello

[Redacted] is on AL this week and next, so I've dropped [Redacted] from the chain to save [Redacted] inbox.

Next week I can be pretty flexible both Tuesday and Wednesday, so happy to go with what works for others.

Cheers

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

LGBT Youth Scotland

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Why I share my pronouns



British Sign Language (BSL) users can contact us directly using ContactScotland BSL

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 05 April 2023 13:17

To: [Redacted]; [Redacted]; [Redacted]'; [Redacted]'; [Redacted]'

Subject: RE: Catch-up with SG

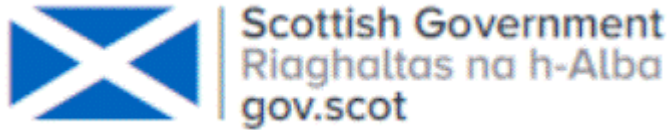
Thanks for getting back so quickly

Tuesday morning I want to keep free as we'll all be returning after the Easter break and just want to hold some space to anticipate/process any unexpected curveballs over the long weekend.

If I go with **10:00 on Wednesday 12th** then that should accommodate everyone. [Redacted], are you content to update [Redacted] in [Redacted] absence?

I'll send out the diary invite directly.

[Redacted] Gender Recognition Unit
[Redacted]



From: [Redacted]
To: [Redacted]; [Redacted]; [Redacted]; [Redacted]; [Redacted]; [Redacted]; [Redacted]; [Redacted]; [Redacted]; [Redacted]
Subject: 10:00 - 11:00 SG / LGBT+Stakeholder engagement catch-up
Start: 12 April 2023 10:00:00
End: 12 April 2023 11:00:00
Confirming for Wed 12th at 10:00.

As discussed, setting up for the Wednesday morning.

Please get in touch if you need to reschedule.

Thanks as always

[Redacted]

LGBT+ Stakeholder Meeting with SG Officials

12 April 2023 – Teams virtual meeting.
10:00 – 11:00

Attendees

[Redacted] - GRU, [Redacted]– GRU, [Redacted] – GRU, [Redacted] – GRU,
[Redacted]– GRU
[Redacted] – Equality Network, [Redacted] – Scottish Trans, [Redacted]– Stonewall
Scotland [Redacted]– LGBT Youth, [Redacted]– Scottish Trans

Apologies

[Redacted]- LGBT Youth

Minute

SG provided an update on the present situation, Discussing:

- GRR Bill and anticipated s.35 Challenge
- Anticipated PQ publication

Action Points

GRU will be in touch to arrange the next catch up as needed and Stakeholders are always welcome to make contact if they have any questions or concerns.

DOCUMENT 2

Correspondence 1:

Rachael Hamilton MSP Member for Ettrick, Roxburgh & Berwickshire

The Constituency Office of Rachael Hamilton MSP 7, Abbey Court, Kelso TD5 7JA 01573 224862 rachael.hamilton.msp@parliament.scot

18th October 2023

Dear Humza Yousaf,

I am writing to you about serious flaws in the Gender Recognition Reform (GRR) Bill which have once again been thrown into light following the sentencing of a criminal who claims to be transgender.

[Redacted] has now been [Redacted]

Similar to the [Redacted], this situation exposes some of the glaring issues in your GRR Bill and the principle of universal gender self-identification which your government supports.

[Redacted] However, if he transitions, your policy may allow him to try and enter a women's prison. This would be unacceptable and you must rule it out immediately.

But the problems go beyond which prison he will be housed in.

[Redacted] is eventually free, the SNP's GRR Bill would allow him, and criminals like him, to potentially access women's single-sex spaces and services.

So I am writing to ask why you think that is appropriate? Why should a convicted male criminal ever be allowed in women's single-sex spaces? Why should sex offenders be able to access women's services?

Your GRR Bill, and the principle of universal self-ID which it rests upon, would give dangerous men like [Redacted] the opportunity to abuse, threaten or attack women again.

This horrible man should never be allowed to access women's spaces or services. He is a risk to women's safety. You must explain why your government does not agree.

Yours sincerely,
Rachael Hamilton MSP
Ettrick, Roxburgh & Berwickshire

Reply:

14 November 2023

Dear Rachael,

Thank you for your correspondence of 18 October about the Gender Recognition Reform Bill. I am responding as Minister responsible for the Bill.

As you are aware, the Bill has not yet received Royal Assent. This is because the Secretary of State for Scotland has made an order under section 35 of the Scotland Act 1998. As the Bill has not yet become law, the existing law in this area, the Gender Recognition Act 2004, has not yet been amended by the provisions of the Bill and therefore still applies in Scotland.

The Scottish Government is clear that all violence against women is abhorrent and unacceptable which is why we will continue to take robust action to tackle sexual offending through Scotland's Equally Safe Strategy for preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls. Those who perpetrate violence and abuse, the majority of whom are men, must face up to their actions and accept responsibility. It is also essential that perpetrators of sexual violence are held to account and that the onus for change and action is focused on the perpetrator and not the victim.

There is no evidence that holding a Gender Recognition Certificate is exploited by predatory offenders. Under the current UK Gender Recognition Act, there is also no provision for denying a Gender Recognition Certificate on the basis of risk. The Gender Recognition Reform (Scotland) Bill would allow an application to be paused or refused following a Sexual Harm Prevention Order, Sexual Offences Prevention Order or Sexual Risk Order. The Bill's safeguards against risk of sexual harm go further than those under the current process, but those safeguards have been blocked by the UK Government's intervention.

Regarding your concerns around prisons, the management and accommodation of prisoners within the prison estate has been and will continue to be an operational matter for the Scottish Prison Service (SPS) who have rigorous and robust risk assessments in place that prioritise prisoner and staff safety. SPS have significant experience and a strong track record in safely managing complex, high-profile and challenging individuals within their care and keeping others safe.

While the SPS is finalising the review of their Gender Identity and Gender Reassignment Policy, arrangements for the placement of transgender prisoners mean that no transgender person with a history of violence against women - including sexual offences against women - will be placed in the female estate or moved from the male to the female estate. Any exception to this would require the approval of Ministers. The proposals in the Gender Recognition Reform Bill make no changes to how decisions are made about where prisoners are accommodated.

SPS anticipate that the review of the Gender Identity and Gender Reassignment policy will be completed before the end of the year. I can assure you there is absolutely no automatic right for a transgender woman convicted of a crime to serve their sentence in a female prison, even if they have a Gender Recognition Certificate. The Gender Recognition Reform (Scotland) Bill does not change this process in any way.

Trans people have been able to apply for a Gender Recognition Certificate since the Gender Recognition Act 2004 came into force. The Bill is aimed at making the application process more streamlined which we will do while ensuring we uphold the rights and protections that women and girls currently have under the Equality Act 2010.

The Bill does not make any changes to the Equality Act 2010, which is generally reserved to the UK Parliament. The Scottish Government supports the single sex exceptions in the 2010 Act which can allow for a trans person to be excluded from those services, where this is a proportionate means of achieving a legitimate aim. This means that single sex services are protected as are single sex employment rights and health services.

Gender equality is at the heart of the Scottish Government's vision for a fairer Scotland, where women and girls have equal rights and opportunities, are empowered to exercise those rights, have equitable access to economic resources and decision-making, and live their lives free from all forms of violence, abuse and harassment.

Thank you for your continued interest in this matter.

Yours sincerely

SHIRLEY-ANNE SOMERVILLE

Correspondence 2

From: [Redacted]

To: "dundee@shona.robison.scot"<dundee@shona.robison.scot>

Date: Sun, 22 Oct 2023 17:11:47 +0100

Subject: your comment

===== Forwarded message =====

Dear Ms Robison,

In light of the recent sentencing [Redacted] do you stand by the comment you made during the debate on the Gender Recognition Bill? You said, "There is no evidence that predatory and abusive men have ever had to pretend to be anything else to carry out abusive and predatory behaviour."

Scottish voters, including those like me who once campaigned for the SNP, need to hear your answer to this question, but what we really want to hear is an apology — especially to the women and children who are being failed by your government.

I won't describe the perversions that were carried out on this [Redacted] but I do hope that you have taken the time to read the judge's sentencing comments in which her ordeal is described. [Redacted]

Whether you still believe [Redacted] or any man can be a "woman" is irrelevant. Thanks to Scottish Government policy that has allowed de facto self-ID, predatory

men like [Redacted] have a far easier time accessing their prey — whether they are children such as this victim or women in prisons, changing rooms, hospital wards, domestic violence refuges or rape-crisis centres. Any man can now enter these once-safe spaces and no staff member dares to stop them. This is how self-ID works and will continue to work unless politicians find some courage and reverse these dangerous developments.

It doesn't matter whether most men who say they're women aren't predators, or that some predators will pretend to have a so-called gender identity as a woman. The crucial thing is that they are all MEN and it's impossible to tell which men mean harm to women or children once they're given access to them under the cloak of self-ID. That's why societies through the ages have made sure women and children are safeguarded from men, all men.

Not all men are predators, but virtually all predators are men. And some of them say they're women.

I look forward to hearing whether you still stand by your comment, and so do other voters across Scotland. An apology would be even better.

Sincerely yours,
[Redacted]

Correspondence 3

Sent 22 October

[Redacted]

Dear Ms Robison,

I read with interest a couple of recent articles in relation to the relevance of the [Redacted] case to remarks you have made in relation to the Gender Recognition Act.

Last year, you claimed that “there is no evidence that predatory and abusive men have ever had to pretend to be anything else to carry out predatory and abusive behaviour”. Then, when questioned in May this year by Connor Gillies of Sky News, who pointed out that [Redacted] was [Redacted]

I understand that the [Redacted] The sentencing judge stated this week [Redacted] Therefore, is this not an example of the evidence which you claimed did not exist?

Regards

[Redacted]

Correspondence 4

===== Forwarded message =====

From [Redacted]

To: "dundee@shona.robison.scot"<dundee@shona.robison.scot>

Date: Sun, 22 Oct 2023 18:04:32 +0100

Subject: The [Redacted]case

===== Forwarded message =====

Dear Ms Robison,

I read with interest a couple of recent articles in relation to the relevance of the [Redacted] case to remarks you have made in relation to the Gender Recognition Act,

Last year, you claimed that "there is no evidence that predatory and abusive men have ever had to pretend to be anything else to carry out predatory and abusive behaviour". Then, when questioned in May this year by Connor Gillies of Sky News, who pointed out that [Redacted]

I understand that the [Redacted] Therefore, is this not an example of the evidence which you claimed did not exist?

Regards

[Redacted]

Correspondence 5

===== Forwarded message =====

From: [Redacted]

To: <dundee@shona.robison.scot>

Date: Thu, 19 Oct 2023 07:44:37 +0100

Subject: HMA v [Redacted]

===== Forwarded message =====

[https://judiciary.scot/home/sentences-judgments/sentences-and-opinions/2023/10/18/hma-v-\[Redacted\]](https://judiciary.scot/home/sentences-judgments/sentences-and-opinions/2023/10/18/hma-v-[Redacted])

Dear Ms Robison

I know you probably will not reply but do you ever question yourself on your utterances on the issue of men who say that they are women never having caused issues for women?

I also wonder if you have aunts and if they agree with the ideology that a man is a woman if he says he is? What would your grandmother have said?

What is it going to take for you to wake up to the insanity of what you are proposing and imposing on the women and girls of Scotland? I am mother to a 14 year old girl and what happened to that child is every mother in Scotland's worst nightmare.

I would consider my position if I were you but I doubt very much that you would ever have the humility to do so.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted]