

Minister for Public Health and Women's Health – Meeting with Scottish Trans Youth Commission

Minutes: 12 December 2023, online meeting on Teams

Attendees

Minister for Public Health and Women's Health

External Attendees

Dr Mhairi Crawford, Chief Executive, LGBT Youth Scotland

[Redacted – s.38(1)(b)] members of the Scottish Trans Youth Commission
(Commissioners)

Scottish Government

[Redacted – s.38(1)(b)] Gender Identity and Healthcare Access

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Welcome and Introductions

1. Introductions were made and apologies conveyed on behalf of some of the Commissioners who were unable to attend due to exam pressures.
2. A brief history of the Trans Youth Commission was provided. Commissioners explained they volunteer in their role because the work directly concerns their lives but also because they want to influence change now to improve things for future generations.
3. The Minister thanked the Youth Commission for inviting her and confirmed her belief in importance of lived experience for shaping policy. She outlined her journey into politics and outlined the remit of her portfolio.
4. The Minister reiterated Scottish Government's commitment to improving lives of LGBT people in Scotland and expressed her appreciation to Youth Commissioners for their work.

5. Reflecting on her visit to Chalmers Gender Identity Clinic in August 2023, the Minister acknowledged that although there are challenges there is much work underway to improve this area of healthcare.

[Redacted – s.30(b)(ii)]

6. The Minister thanked the Commissioners for sharing their experiences and how they had affected them. Officials encouraged the young people to share these experiences with the SG funded Lived Experience Coordinator, so they can ensure it is fed back to members of National Gender Identity Healthcare Reference Group.

[Redacted – s.30(b)(ii)]

7. Officials highlighted the ongoing work by NHS Education for Scotland (NES) to develop a Knowledge and Skills Framework, with the draft currently out for internal consultation. An opportunity for Trans Youth Commission to provide feedback in this consultation was highlighted, which can be supported by the Lived Experience Coordinator. Mhairi Crawford confirmed this is being set up.

[Redacted – s.30(b)(ii)]

8. The Minister thanked the Commissioners for sharing their experiences. She proposed a follow up meeting in around four months to reflect on the progress of the work. She encouraged them to get in touch with officials if there is anything they would like her to know before then. The actions were agreed (outlined below).
9. The Commissioners thanked the Minister and confirmed that the agreed actions are more than they expected from the meeting.

Actions

- Officials to follow up with NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Sandyford clinic:

- To clarify what people should do if they believe they have been wrongly removed from the waiting list for the young people's service as part of the waiting list validation process;
- To clarify the process for managing a young person's transition from the young people's service to adult services, and whether waiting times would be honoured at adult services; and
- To convey the Trans Youth Commission's wish for an opportunity to meet NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde strategic leads to the Sandyford Young People's Gender Service.
- Officials will discuss with the Lived Experience Coordinator opportunities for Trans Youth Commission feedback to feed into their report/presentation to National Gender Identity Healthcare Reference Group February meeting.
- LGBT Youth Scotland will liaise with HIS, NES and the Lived Experience Coordinator to arrange for opportunities for the Trans Youth Commission to feed into Skills and Knowledge Framework and draft National standards of care for adult and young people gender identity services.
- Officials will liaise with Private Office and LGBT Youth Scotland to arrange a follow up meeting in around four months.