

## **Terrence Higgins Trust Scotland**

### 1. Questions

**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.:**

Is there any evidence to support the idea of making a trans person wait for three months between changing all of their other ID and being able to apply for a gender recognition certificate? We can't see what this apparently arbitrary delay would achieve other than causing undue stress on the individual concerned.

**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?**

Not Answered

**If yes, please outline these comments.:**

What is the evidence to support the idea of a three month period of reflection? Our experience is that an individual will already have considered their decision. There doesn't seem to be any logic to imposing this delay.

**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.:**

We support the view of the Scottish Government on this. This would bring rights for young trans people in line with other legislation such as age of consent.

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

Yes

**If yes, please outline these comments.:**

We support reforming the GRA because it is important that inconsistencies in our society are rectified and everyone can expect an equal human right to recognition and respect. Since this very much includes non-binary people, we are concerned that they are not included in the current proposals.

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

Yes

**If yes, please outline these comments.:**

We support trans rights and do not in any way believe they impact the rights of anyone else in society.