The Gender Recognition Act 2004

1. The initial view of Scottish Government is that applicants for legal gender recognition should no longer need to produce medical evidence or evidence that they have lived in their acquired gender for a defined period. The Scottish Government proposes to bring forward legislation to introduce a self-declaratory system for legal gender recognition instead.

Disagree

If you want, you can give reasons for your answer, or make comments:
The idea that gender is something to be 'acquired', as distinct from genetically inherited, is in conflict with nature, and the idea that gender is a matter of subjective choice is a product of postmodern ideology rather than objective scientific reality.

2. Should applicants to the proposed gender recognition system in Scotland have to provide a statutory declaration confirming they know what they are doing and intend to live in their acquired gender until death?

No

If you want, you can give reasons for your answer or make comments:
For a matter so serious, and given the significant minority of people who later regret gender reassignment, there should always be a way back.

3. Should there be a limit on the number of times a person can get legal gender recognition?

Yes

If you want, you can give reasons for your answer or make comments:
A maximum of one reversal should be allowed.

4. If the Scottish Government takes forward legislation to adopt a self-declaration system for legal gender recognition, should this arrangement be open:

C. Don't know

If you want, you can give reasons for your answer or make comments:
I strongly believe that a self-declaration system should not be introduced for anyone.

5. The Scottish Government proposes that people aged 16 and 17 should be able to apply for and obtain legal recognition of their acquired gender. Do you agree or disagree?

Disagree

If you want, you can give reasons for your answer or add comments:
I strongly disagree with the proposition of 'gender acquisition' in any human being, even more so for 16-17 year-olds who are at a particularly vulnerable and transitional stage of their emotional and psychological development.

6. Which of the identified options for children under 16 do you most favour?

Option 1 – do nothing for children under 16

If you want, you can give reasons for your answer, add comments, or describe your preferred option if none of the options given reflects your views:
Children are already being sexualised much too early by our media and this is increasingly supplemented by state education and health care systems. Lowering the age of gender-related actions to below 16 will only accelerate this extremely dangerous trend.

Marriage and Civil Partnership

7. Should it be possible to apply for and obtain legal gender recognition without any need for spousal consent?

No

If you want, you can give reasons for your answer or add comments:
Such an allowance would be totally dismissive of the huge relational and third-party ramifications of gender reassignment and potentially very damaging to the well-being of spouses in particular.

8. Civil partnership is only available to same sex couples. This means that the civil partners cannot remain in their civil partnership if one of them wishes to obtain a full Gender Recognition Certificate.
Don't know

If you want, you can give reasons for your answer or add comments:

9 Should legal gender recognition stop being a ground of divorce or dissolution?
No

If you want, you can give reasons for your answer or add comments:
If someone gets married on the grounds that marriage is a union of a man and a woman - and conservative religious values still do exist in Scotland, frowned upon though they may now be by a prevailing 'progressive' intelligentsia - then, for that person, a fundamental basis of marriage has been undermined by a spouse’s gender reassignment.

Other aspects of the 2004 Act

10 Are any changes to section 22 (prohibition on disclosure of information) necessary?
No

If you answered Yes, describe the changes you consider are needed:

11 Should a person who has been recognised in their acquired gender under the law of another jurisdiction be automatically recognised in Scotland without having to make an application?
No

If you want, you can give reasons for your answer or add comments:
It is important that the historical facts behind a person's gender reassignment are available; for example, in the case of a person seeking reversal of gender reassignment previous medical and psychological case notes would presumably be relevant.

Non-binary people

12 Should Scotland take action to recognise non-binary people?
No

If you answered No, and if you want, you can give reasons for your answer:
I reject the postmodern ideological premise that gender is something subjective that may be 'self-defined' as opposed to an objective, biological fact. I am confident that many who seek to frame a so-called 'gender progressive' agenda would be surprised at how many people see the trend as not only contrary to common sense but damaging to the fabric of society.

13 If you answered Yes to Question 12, which of the identified options to give recognition to non-binary people do you support? You can select more than one option.
None of the above options

If you want, you can give reasons for your answer, add comments or, if you think none of Options 1 to 6 is suitable, describe your preferred option:
See my comment in 12) above.

14 At paragraph 7.26. and in Annex J we have identified the consequential legal impacts if non-binary people could obtain legal gender recognition using the proposed self-declaration system.
No

If you answered Yes, describe the impacts you have identified:

Conclusion

15 Do you have any comments about, or evidence relevant to:
No

If you answered Yes, add your comments or evidence:

16 Do you have any further comments about the review of the Gender Recognition Act 2004?
Yes

If you answered Yes, add your comments:
I believe that any legislative agenda which seeks to execute both an ideological shift away from the scientific truth that underpins conventional binary gender
categories, particularly by encouraging subjective journeys of supposed 'self-definition' towards 'gender acquisition/re-acquisition', is a damaging and corrosive trend.

About You

What is your name?

Name:
Alistair John Matheson

What is your email address?

Email:

Are you responding as an individual or an organisation?

Organisation

What is your organisation?

Organisation:
The Apostolic Church (UK), Scotland.

If you are responding as an organisation and want to tell us more about your organisation’s purpose and its aims and objectives, you can do so here.

If you are responding to this consultation as an organisation and want to tell us more about your organisation’s purpose and its aims and objectives, please do that here.:
The Apostolic Church (UK) was established in 1916 and is a historic Pentecostal denomination representing 14 congregations in Scotland and up to 15 million members worldwide, with the aim of promoting the gospel of Jesus Christ and expressing his love for our world, both spiritually and practically.

Where are you resident?

Scotland

The Scottish Government would like your permission to publish your consultation response. Please indicate your publishing preference:

Publish response with name