

Baroness Kishwer Falkner

Equality and Human Rights Commission
Third Floor
Windsor House
50 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0TL

Dear Baroness Falkner,

We are writing to you as the LGBTIQ+ affiliate of the Green Party of England and Wales in regards to a recent article posted on your behalf with the title 'Clarifying the definition of 'sex' in the Equality Act'. We are deeply concerned that this is fundamentally at odds with the spirit of the Equality Act 2010 as well as the Gender Recognition Act 2004.

As you know, this letter advises the government to treat trans men with a GRC as women and trans women with a GRC as men; we believe this advice to be contrary to Section 9, subsection 1 of the Gender Recognition Act 2004. Trans women are women and trans men are men in all cases, but those with a GRC are legally their gender in the eyes of the UK government. It is extremely disappointing to see an organisation with its remit in Equalities law advocating for the removal of rights for transgender people in this country.

This latest move also harms the recognition of intersex and non-binary people, who have even less protection in UK law than binary trans people. We believe in the full recognition of non-binary identity and allowing intersex people to be authentically themselves without being forced to pick a gender that doesn't reflect their reality.

Trans people face significant discrimination in their lives, particularly when it comes to dealing with the British state. Trans healthcare is being chipped away at and forcing trans people to go to separate clinics simply slows down the system and prolongs the suffering of many trans people. This is yet another attempt to dehumanise trans people and we cannot stand for it.

We sincerely hope you will reverse course and create guidance that protects trans people rather than simply ostracising them.

Signed:

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Co-Chair, LGBTIQ+ Greens
Trans Liberation Officer, Young Greens
Conferences Committee Member

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