

Comments on Transgender

Comments by organisations, groups and individuals listed alphabetically under each of the headings identified as the main issues raised in the responses to the consultation.

The Belfast Butterfly Club - throughout the document "Transgender" is an occasional add-on rather than an integral part of the strategy.

EHSSB - Issues were identified during Section 75 consultations with transgendered people. These need to be revisited.

Dr. Alistair Heanen - I would urge you to remove all references to 'transgender' from your document for by the inclusion of this term you are undermining and confusing some of the most basic concepts in our society while legitimising and promoting perverseness.

Institute of Conflict Resolution - it is not clear that this intention (i.e. to include transgender issues within the overall concept of a gender strategy) is carried through in the substance of the document.

The Men's Project - The term 'transgendered' should also probably be replaced with 'transsexual'. .we have to separate biological determination from learned and assumed behaviours.

Presbyterian Church in Ireland - The whole matter of gender re-assignment is not morally or theologically neutral. It is important that equality strategy takes sufficient cognisance of the fact that not all churches may be able, in all good conscience, to offer Christian marriage to or fully accept into membership gender-reassigned persons. Protection needs to be given to churches in this area.

South and East Belfast Trust - with the exception of transgendered people whose specific needs/issues are not clearly identified.

Robert McCollum, Tim McEwen, Andrew Connor, Callum Webster and Rupert Thorne - The Gender Strategy should not include transgender as if it was akin to being male or female. a proper definition of transgender must be stated and consulted on. They (the transgendered) do not see themselves as members of a third gender, distinct from male or female. This being the case, the Gender Strategy should not spend valuable time and public resources addressing transgender issues.