

Women's Policy Group NI

16th June 2020

WPG Support for Transgender People – Do Not Accept Liz Truss' Proposals on GRA

Dear Prime Minister Boris Johnson,

We are writing to you as a matter of urgency on behalf of the [Women's Policy Group NI](#). The WPG is a platform for women working in policy and advocacy roles in different organisations to share their work and speak with a collective voice on key issues. It is made up of women from trade unions, grassroots women's organisations, women's networks, feminist campaigning organisations, LGBT+ organisations, support service providers, NGOs, human rights and equality organisations and individuals.

We are informed that the anti-trans proposals listed in last week's Sunday Times article are to be brought to you this week. These proposals included 'new protections to safeguard female-only spaces...' and 'abandoning' a self-determined procedure around GRA reform. We are a group of women that are opposed to the rolling back of trans rights in the name of women's rights and we absolutely do not support the harmful proposals set out by Liz Truss MP. We urge to reject these proposals as they are extremely harmful.

Trans women are women, and they are amongst the most marginalised groups of women in our society. We reject the removal of trans rights being framed as the protection of women's rights, and we do not want this to be done in our name. We are a group of experts on women's rights, and work with women across Northern Ireland, including LGBT+ women. We fundamentally oppose anti-trans policy making and we support reform to the GRA. The Gender Identity Clinic in Belfast has not had a new patient in over two years, and trans people are already suffering immensely as a result. Supporting the proposals from Liz Truss MP will make this matter significantly worse, and we urge you to oppose this.

The Women's Policy Group NI opposes the rollback of trans rights, and this should never happen under the guise of women's equality.

Kind regards,
Women's Policy Group NI

Signed:

Women's Policy Group NI

Women's Resource and Development Agency

Raise Your Voice

Transgender NI

Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network

Northern Ireland Women's European Platform

Women's Support Network

HERE NI

Alliance for Choice

Reclaim the Agenda

Belfast Feminist Network

Reclaim the Night

Amnesty International UK

Please send any responses to Rachel Powell, Women's Sector Lobbyist, Women's Resource and Development Agency, rachel.powell@wrda.net.