

Debate Pack

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LGBT+ History Month

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1

Background

A general debate on LGBT+ History Month is scheduled for Thursday 2 February 2023 in the House of Commons Chamber.

LGBT+ History Month was founded in the United Kingdom in 2004 by Paul Patrick and Sue Sanders. They are both co-chairs of Schools OUT UK, a charity that's overarching aim is “to make our schools and educational institutions safe spaces” for LGBT+ peoples. LGBT+ History Month was first celebrated in February 2005. The theme for 2023 is ‘Behind the lens’, which “celebrates LGBT+ peoples’ contribution to cinema and film from behind the lens”.

2

Statistics on the LGBT+ population

Census statistics for England and Wales

The 2021 census in England and Wales asked respondents about their sexual orientation and gender identity for the first time. In January 2023, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) published the first census results on these topics.







The Commons Library Insight [2021 census: What do we know about the LGBT+ population?](#) summarises the main findings. It also includes an interactive map where you can view statistics for small local areas.

The questions on sexual orientation and gender identity were optional and only asked of people aged 16 or over.

Sexual orientation

92.5% of respondents answered the question on sexual orientation, while 7.5% chose not to. In total, **1.5 million people (3.2% of people aged 16+)** identified as gay, lesbian, bisexual, or another sexual orientation (other than straight or heterosexual).

The table below shows a more detailed breakdown.

LGB+ sexual orientations in England and Wales		
Respondents to the 2021 census aged 16 and over		
Sexual orientation	Number of people	% of 16+ population
Gay or Lesbian	747,805	1.54 
Bisexual	623,504	1.28 
Pansexual	112,386	0.23 
Asexual	28,172	0.06 
Queer	14,511	0.03 
All other sexual orientations	10,236	0.02 

Source: ONS, [Sexual orientation, England and Wales: Census 2021](#) (6 January 2023) Figure 1

Further information is available in the ONS [publication Sexual orientation, England and Wales: Census 2021](#).

The ONS subsequently published a breakdown of the sexual orientation statistics by age and sex.

The ONS found that people who identified with an LGB+ sexual orientation “tended to be younger than the overall population”:

More than half of those who identified as LGB+ (57.88% or 889,000) were aged between 16 and 34 years. In contrast, less than a third of the overall population were aged between 16 and 34 years (29.59% or 14.4 million).¹

People in the 16-24 age group were the most likely to identify as LGB+ (6.9% did, compared with 3.2% across all age groups). The proportion then decreased with each older age group, with 0.4% of people aged 75+ years identifying as LGB+.²

Gender identity

The 2021 census asked people “Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?”. 94.0% of the population aged 16 and over answered the question.

262,000 people (0.5% of the population aged 16+) answered “No” to this question, ie that they had a different gender identity from their sex registered at birth.

Respondents who answered “No” had the option to write in their gender identity. Of these:

- 118,000 (0.24%) answered “No” but did not provide a write-in response
- 48,000 (0.10%) identified as a trans man
- 48,000 (0.10%) identified as a trans woman
- 30,000 (0.06%) identified as non-binary
- 18,000 (0.04%) wrote in a different gender identity³

The ONS has also published an age and sex breakdown of these statistics. People aged 16-24 were the most likely to say their gender identity differed from their sex at birth (1.0% did, compared with 0.5% of the 16+ year old population). The proportion decreased in each older age group.⁴

Survey estimates for the UK

Because census results aren’t yet available for the whole UK, the only UK-wide statistics are from the Annual Population Survey, a representative survey of UK households. These estimates are subject to some uncertainty, because they are based on a survey sample.

¹ ONS, [Sexual orientation: age and sex, England and Wales: Census 2021](#), 25 January 2023

² As above

³ ONS, [Gender identity, England and Wales: Census 2021](#), 6 January 2023

⁴ ONS, [Gender identity: age and sex, England and Wales: Census 2021](#), 25 January 2023

The most recent statistical release relates to the population in 2020. At this time:

An estimated 3.1% of the UK population aged 16 years and over identified as lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB) in 2020, an increase from 2.7% in 2019 and almost double the percentage from 2014 (1.6%).⁵

The ONS publication [Sexual orientation, UK: 2020 also](#) includes some estimates of the age, sex and marital status of people in these groups.

There aren't survey estimates of the size of the transgender population; the gender identity statistics from the census discussed above are the first official figures on the size of this population.

⁵ ONS, [Sexual orientation, UK: 2020](#), 25 May 2022

3 1533-2013: UK legislation and the rights of LGBT+ peoples

The following timeline provides an overview of the history of UK legislation and the rights of LGBT+ peoples from 1533 up to the passing of the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act in 2013.

1533: The Buggery Act

During the reign of Henry VIII, Parliament passed ‘An acte for the punyshement of the vice of buggerye’. The British Library provides the following summary of its provisions:

The act did not explicitly target sex between men, as it also applied to sodomy between men and women and a person with an animal. Convictions between men for sodomy were by far the most common and well publicised.⁶

Individuals convicted under this Act faced the death penalty. In 1540 Walter Hungerford became the first individual to be executed under its terms.⁷

Anal sex remained a capital offence until the passing of the [Offences Against the Person Act 1861](#). Section 61 of this Act did not remove the 1533 offence but provided that those convicted could be sentenced to “Penal Servitude for Life or for any Term not less than Ten Years”.⁸

1885: The Criminal Law Amendment Act

In 1885 Henry Labouchere, the then Liberal MP for Northampton, [introduced Section 11 to the Criminal Law Amendment Act](#). This replaced previous provisions that mentioned sodomy with a broader reference to “any act of gross indecency with another male person” committed in “public or private”.⁹ This also applied to an individual who “procures or attempts to procure the commission” of said acts.¹⁰ Gross indecency was not defined in the Act.

Under this Act those found guilty were liable to “be imprisoned for any term not exceeding two years, with or without hard labour.” Oscar Wilde (convicted in 1895) and Alan Turing (convicted in 1953) were both imprisoned under this Act. Alan Turing was given a royal pardon in 2013.

In August 1921, Sir Ernest Wild, then Conservative MP for Upton, F. A. Macquisten, then Conservative MP for Glasgow Springburn, and Howard Gritten, then Conservative MP for The Hartlepoons, sought to introduce an

⁶ British Library, [The Buggery Act 1533](#) (accessed 1 February 2023)

⁷ English Heritage, [Walter Hungerford and the ‘Buggery Act’](#) (accessed 1 February 2023)

⁸ [Offences Against the Person Act 1861](#), s61

⁹ UK Parliament, [1885 Labouchere Amendment](#) (accessed 1 February 2023)

¹⁰ As above

amendment to Section 11 of the 1885 Act. This amendment aimed to extend the pre-existing provisions to “gross indecency between female persons”.¹¹ The amendment did not pass.

[Section 164 of the Policing and Crime Bill 2017, the so-called ‘Turing’s law’](#), provided statutory pardons to people convicted under the Acts of 1533, section 61 of the 1861 Act and section 11 of the 1885 Act.¹²

1967: Sexual Offences Act

By 1954, the number of men arrested under the Criminal Law Amendment Act stood at around 1000 per year.¹³ Many of the arrests in the post-war period were of high-profile individuals and the trials attracted significant media interest.

In response, the Government announced an enquiry into potentially reforming the law in this area. In 1957, the Report of the Committee on Homosexual Offences and Prostitution, known as the Wolfenden Report, was released. It recommended that homosexual acts between two consenting adults, aged 21 or over, should no longer be criminalised. In 1960 a Bill attempting to put the report’s recommendations into law was voted down by 213 to 99.¹⁴

[Section 1 \(2\) of the Sexual Offences Act, passed in 1967](#), stated that “a homosexual act in private shall not be an offence provided that the parties consent thereto and have attained the age of 21 years”.¹⁵

Its provisions were brought into force in Scotland through the [Criminal Justice \(Scotland\) Act 1980](#), and in Northern Ireland through the [Homosexual Offences \(Northern Ireland\) Order 1982](#).

Offences such as gross indecency, soliciting, or importuning remained, and criminalised interactions that would have been legal between a man and woman. Peter Tatchell’s analysis of gross indecency convictions in this period suggests that convictions rose from 420 in 1966 to 1,711 in 1974.¹⁶ Section 1(2) also did not apply to individuals in the merchant navy or armed forces.

The Wolfenden Report’s evidence sessions included references to lesbianism.¹⁷ However, the Act’s remit extended solely to homosexuality.

¹¹ HC Deb (5th series) 4 August 1921 vol 145 cc1799-1807

¹² [Policing and Crime Bill 2017](#), s164

¹³ UK Parliament, [Wolfenden Report](#) (accessed 1 February 2023)

¹⁴ [HC Deb 29 June 1960 vol 625 c1811](#)

¹⁵ [Sexual Offences Act 1967](#), s1(2)

¹⁶ Peter Tatchell, [Don’t fall for the myth that it’s 50 years since we decriminalised homosexuality](#), 23 May 2017

¹⁷ Caroline Derry, [Lesbians and the law: the Wolfenden Report and same-sex desire between women](#), 27 February 2020

1970: Judgment in *Corbett vs Corbett (otherwise Ashley)*

In September 1963, Arthur Corbett married April Ashley. April Ashley had undergone gender reassignment surgery in 1960. The couple divorced in December 1963 and in 1967 Arthur Corbett filed suit for the marriage to be annulled “because the respondent, at the time of the ceremony, was a person of the male sex”.¹⁸ He also alleged that the marriage had never been consummated.

Lord Justice Ormrod heard the case in the High Court of England and Wales from November to December 1969. Both sides called three medical experts. In his judgment of February 1970, Lord Justice Ormrod stated that the question of the case was what is “meant by the word ‘woman’ in the context of a marriage”, rather than “the ‘legal sex’ of the respondent at large”.¹⁹ He found that “the respondent is not a woman for the purposes of marriage but is a biological male and has been so since birth”.²⁰

To reach this conclusion Lord Justice Ormrod put forward three criteria to determine sex in the context of marriage: chromosomal, gonadal and genital. These so-called ‘Corbett criteria’ established a precedent for legal sex that, to quote Stonewall, “a person's sex cannot legally be changed from that which is assigned at birth”.²¹

The Corbett criteria would continue to be applied in cases outside of the context of marriage. For instance, in 1980 Brendan Rees, who had undergone gender reassignment surgery in 1974, instructed his solicitor to formally request the alteration of his birth certificate to show his sex as male. The Registrar General refused this on the grounds of the Corbett criteria. [In October 1986, the European Court of Human Rights found that this decision](#) had not violated Mr Rees’ rights under Article 8 (the right to respect for family and private life) and Article 12 (right to marry and start a family) of the European Convention on Human Rights.²²

1988: Local Government Act

[According to the British Social Attitudes surveys from the 1980s](#), this period saw a change in public attitudes towards same-sex relationships. In 1983, 50% of those surveyed agreed that “sexual relations between two adults of the same sex” were “always wrong”. By 1987, the figure had risen to 64%.

In 1983, a storybook for children, written by Susanne Bosche, was published in English entitled *Jenny lives with Eric and Martin*. The author decided to write

¹⁸ [Judgment Corbett v Corbett \(otherwise Ashley\)](#) (PDF), 2 February 1970, p2

¹⁹ As above, p.19

²⁰ As above, p.20

²¹ Stonewall, [Key dates for lesbian, gay, bi and trans equality](#) (accessed 1 February 2023)

²² European Court of Human Rights, [Case of Rees v. The United Kingdom](#), 17 October 1986

the book after becoming aware that many same-sex couples in Denmark had children and realising “that there was a need for a book for these children to identify with”.²³ In 1986 the book was found in the library of the Inner London Education Authority. The then Education Secretary, Kenneth Baker, described the book as “propaganda”.²⁴ The episode generated significant media interest.

Beginning in 1986, Lord Halsbury tabled a Bill entitled ‘An act to refrain local authorities from promoting homosexuality’. The 1987 election disrupted the passage of this Bill. In the same year, the then Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, stated in her speech to the Conservative Party Conference that children were being “cheated of a sound start in life” due to being “taught they have an inalienable right to be gay”.²⁵ On 2 December 1987 during the Committee stage for the Local Government Act 1987-88, the then Conservative MP for Spelthorne David Wilshire proposed similar provisions to those of Lord Halsbury’s previous Bill to be included [as Section 28 of the Local Government Act](#):

A local authority shall not—

(a) intentionally promote homosexuality or publish material with the intention of promoting homosexuality;

(b) promote the teaching in any maintained school of the acceptability of homosexuality as a pretended family relationship.²⁶

Section 28 was met with large protests by LGBT+ groups. For instance, [on 23 May 1988 a group of lesbian activists disrupted a live news broadcast](#) at the BBC and in a [radio debate on the clause the actor Sir Ian McKellen came out as gay](#). He would subsequently co-found Stonewall as a lobbying group. Organisations such as the Arts Council also opposed the clause on the grounds of its potential usage as a method of censorship in the arts.

Section 28 would be repealed through the [Ethical Standards in Public Life etc. \(Scotland\) Act 2000](#), in Scotland, and the [Local Government Act 2003](#) in England and Wales. Section 28 did not apply to Northern Ireland. David Cameron, the then leader of the Conservative Party, [would apologise for the clause in July 2009](#).

1999: Sex Discrimination (Gender Reassignment) Regulations

[The 1975 Sex Discrimination Act](#) introduced protections for men and women from discrimination and harassment on the grounds of sex in relation to

²³ Susanne Bosche, [Jenny, Eric, Martin...and me](#), 31 January 2000

²⁴ London School of Economics, [Section 28, three decades on: the legacy of a homophobic law through the LSE Library’s collection](#), 23 May 2018

²⁵ Margaret Thatcher, [Speech to Conservative Party Conference](#), 9 October 1987

²⁶ [Local Government Act 1988](#), s28

employment, training, education, goods and services, public functions and in housing. The Act did not provide specific protections for transgender people.

In 1997, in the case of *P v. S and Cornwall County Council*, [the European Court of Justice found that discrimination against a transgender person fell within the prohibition of sex discrimination in European law](#) (PDF). The [Sex Discrimination \(Gender Reassignment\) Regulations were introduced in 1999](#) to amend the 1975 Act to extend its protections to transgender people.

The provisions applied to those who intend to undergo, are undergoing or have undergone gender reassignment. These protections applied to discrimination in the areas of employment and vocational training. The regulations did not extend to Northern Ireland.

2000: Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act

In 1994 the then Conservative MP for South Derbyshire Edwina Currie, introduced an amendment that sought to lower the age of consent for homosexual acts, from 21 to 16 in line with that for heterosexual acts. This amendment was defeated and instead the gay male age of consent was lowered to 18.²⁷

In the same year Euan Sutherland, then 17 years old, had lodged a complaint against the UK in the European Court of Human Rights. Mr Sutherland's complaint was:

...that the fixing of the minimum age for lawful homosexual activities between men at 18, rather than 16 as for women, violated his right to respect for private life under Article 8 of the Convention and was discriminatory in breach of that Article taken in conjunction with Article 14.²⁸

The Government submitted to the European Court of Human Rights that it would bring forward legislation to equalise the age of consent.

Beginning in 1998, the House of Lords defeated the provision to change the age of consent to 16 on two occasions and the then Home Secretary Jack Straw used the Parliament Act to override the Lords before the measure was passed in November 2000.

On 30 November 2000, [the Sexual Offences \(Amendment\) Act](#) received Royal Assent. This reduced the age of consent for gay and bisexual men to 16 in England, Wales and Scotland, and 17 in Northern Ireland. In 2008, this would be set as 16 in Northern Ireland.

²⁷ The National Archives, [Equality of sexuality: The age of consent](#), 23 February 2022

²⁸ European Court of Human Rights, [Case of Sutherland v. the United Kingdom](#), 27 March 2001

2004: Gender Recognition Act

On 11 July 2002, the European Court of Human Rights delivered two judgments (*Christina Goodwin v. the United Kingdom* and *I. v. the United Kingdom*) which found that the UK had breached the rights of two transgender people under Articles 8 (right to respect for private life) and Article 12 (right to marry) of the European Convention on Human Rights. In the judgment of *I. v. the United Kingdom*, the court stated, in the legal language of the time, that:

In the previous cases from the United Kingdom, this Court has since 1986 emphasised the importance of keeping the need for appropriate legal measures under review having regard to scientific and societal developments (see references at paragraph 54). Most recently in the Sheffield and Horsham case in 1998, it observed that the respondent State had not yet taken any steps to do so despite an increase in the social acceptance of the phenomenon of transsexualism and a growing recognition of the problems with which transsexuals are confronted (cited above, § 60).²⁹

In April 2003, in another case, relating to the marriage of a transgender person (*Bellinger (FC) (Appellant) v. Bellinger*), [the House of Lords declared that section 11\(c\) of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 was incompatible with the European Convention on Human Rights. Section 11 \(c\) states that marriages could be void on the grounds](#) “that the parties are not respectively male and female”.

[According to the Gender Recognition Act’s explanatory notes](#), as a result of these judgments, the then Government had obligations to “rectify these ongoing breaches” of the European Convention on Human Rights. Moreover, due to the judgment in the House of Lords, it was obliged to introduce legislation that, in the legal language of the time, would “enable transsexual people to marry in their new gender”.

To fulfil these obligations a draft Gender Recognition Bill was introduced in July 2003. The Bill enabled transgender adults to achieve legal recognition in their acquired gender and change their recorded sex on their birth certificate from male to female or vice versa. This legal recognition is dependent upon the issuing of a Gender Recognition Certificate by a Gender Recognition Panel. The Library’s February 2022 paper entitled [Gender Recognition Act reform: Consultation and outcome](#), provides the following summary of how this process operates:

In most cases, applicants must provide medical evidence of a diagnosis of gender dysphoria and details of any treatment received; evidence of living in their acquired gender for at least two years; and a statutory declaration that they will continue to do so permanently. There is no requirement for applicants to have undergone gender reassignment surgery or hormone treatment.³⁰

²⁹ European Union Court of Human Rights, *Case of I. v. the United Kingdom*, para 72

³⁰ House of Commons Library, [Gender Recognition Act reform: Consultation and outcome](#), 18 February 2022, p.5

The Act received Royal Assent in July 2004 and applies to the entirety of the UK.

2004: Civil Partnership Act

On 30 June 2003, the Government published a consultation paper, Civil Partnership – A framework for the legal recognition of same sex couples, outlining its proposals for a civil partnership registration scheme in England and Wales. The Civil Partnership Bill was introduced to the House of Lords in March 2004. On introducing the Bill, Jacqui Smith, the then Deputy Minister for Women and Equalities, stated that it “opens the way to respect, recognition and justice for those who have been denied it for too long.”³¹ Prior to this Bill, there was no mechanism for formally recognising a same-sex relationship, and couples had no recourse to the rights available to opposite-sex married couples.

The Act established a new legal relationship for same-sex couples. Couples who register as civil partners of each other can then access many of the legal rights and responsibilities to which married couples had previously solely been entitled. The Library’s 2004 paper [The Civil Partnership Bill \[HL\]: background and debate](#), provides the following summary of the rights and responsibilities that became available to those in civil partnerships:

Same-sex couples who enter a civil partnership would access a wide range of rights and responsibilities in many areas including property and financial arrangements; social security; children; housing and tenancies; employment and pension benefits; recognition under intestacy rules; life assurance; access to fatal accidents compensation; protection from domestic violence; and tax treatment.³²

The Act came into force on 5 December 2005 and the first civil partnership ceremony, [between Matthew Roche and Christopher Cramp at St Barnabas Hospice, would take place on the same day](#).

2010: Equality Act

Proposals for a [unified discrimination statute began in at least 1994](#) (PDF). The Government announced an Equalities Review on 25 February 2005; a Green paper on proposals for a single equality bill was published on 12 June 2007. In April 2009, the Equality Bill was introduced to the House of Commons. [The Bill’s explanatory notes stated that its two core aims were](#): “to harmonise discrimination law, and to strengthen the law to support progress on equality”.

³¹ Department of Trade and Industry, Landmark Bill for Same-Sex Couples Published, P/2004/129, 31 March 2004

³² House of Commons Library, [The Civil Partnership Bill \[HL\]: background and debate](#), 7 September 2004, p.3

Under this Act, sexual orientation and gender reassignment became two of the nine “protected characteristics” that are within the scope of the new unitary equality law regime.

The Act prohibits, among other things, the following forms of conduct in relation to “protected characteristics”: direct discrimination, gender reassignment discrimination on the grounds of absence from work, indirect discrimination, harassment, and victimisation.

The Equality Act received Royal Assent on 8 April 2010.

2013: Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act

In March 2012, [the Government Equalities Office published a consultation on “Equal Civil Marriage”](#) (PDF), which looked at how to enable same sex couples to marry. The consultation stated that no religious organisation would be obliged, or permitted, to conduct marriage ceremonies for same sex couples. The consultation received over 228,000 responses, together with 19 petitions. It was stated to be the largest response ever received for a Government consultation.

In December 2012, [the Government published its response to the consultation](#) (PDF). The response document confirmed the Government’s commitment to legislating for the introduction of civil marriage ceremonies for same-sex couples, stating: “We believe that by allowing same-sex couples to get married we are further strengthening the institution of marriage”.³³ The response also outlined that the Government would enable religious organisations that wished to perform same-sex ceremonies to ‘opt-in’ to the provisions, with no obligation to do so. The possible legislation would also provide legal protections for organisations that did not opt-in. Moreover, the Government stated that the legislation would enable couples to convert their civil partnerships into civil marriages. Finally, the response described proposals that would enable individuals to change their gender legally while remaining married, if both parties wished to do so.

[The Marriage \(Same Sex Couples\) Bill was introduced into the House of Commons on 24 January 2013](#). Broadly, the Bill aimed to amend pre-existing legislation so as to legislate for the points outlined in the Government’s consultation response.

[It received Royal Assent on 17 July 2013](#). The Act’s marriage provisions extended to England and Wales. In Scotland [the Marriage and Civil Partnership \(Scotland\) Bill](#) introduced the same provisions and was passed in February 2014. It was introduced in Northern Ireland through [the Northern](#)

³³ Government Equalities Office, [Equal marriage: The Government’s response](#) (PDF), December 2012, para 3.1

[Ireland \(Executive Formation etc\) Act 2019](#). The first ceremonies [took place in England and Wales on 29 March 2014](#).

4

Developments since 2014

Since 2014, the Government has outlined plans to either reform pre-existing legislation linked to LGBT+ peoples or to introduce new Bills to forward provisions in new policy areas.

Reform of the Gender Recognition Act

In July 2018, the UK Government launched a consultation on possible reforms to the [Gender Recognition Act: Reform of the Gender Recognition Act – Government Consultation](#) (PDF). Broadly, the consultation focused on the process for gaining legal recognition and “asks how best Government might make the existing process under the Gender Recognition Act”.³⁴ The Government described the current process as possibly too intrusive and as potentially denying transgender people “access to the legal recognition that they want”.³⁵ The then Minister for Women and Equalities, Liz Truss, announced the Government’s response to the consultation on 22 September 2020. This stated that the Government would maintain the current process for changing legal sex established in the Gender Recognition Act, but would introduce policies to improve individuals’ experience of this system:

1. Reducing the bureaucracy and cost of the process: the Government committed to the move the procedure online and reduce the fee to a “nominal amount”.
2. Improving trans healthcare: “That is why we are opening at least three new gender clinics this year, which should see waiting lists cut by around 1,600 patients by 2022.”
3. Protections under the Equality Act 2010: the Government reiterated the protections under this Act for both transgender people and the allowances for service providers “to restrict access to single sex spaces on the basis of biological sex if there is a clear justification”.

The Government’s most recent update on the implementation of its consultation response was given by Kemi Badenoch, Minister for Women and Equalities, on 9 January 2023. This statement outlined the Government’s commitment “to ensuring that this outcome of the Gender Recognition Act consultation is followed through and upheld”, and described plans for updating the list of approved overseas countries and territories (provided for under Section 1(1)(b) of the Gender Recognition Act):

The list of approved overseas countries and territories was last updated in 2011. A commitment was made to keeping the list under review.

³⁴ [Reform of the Gender Recognition Act – Government Consultation](#) (PDF), July 2018, p.4

³⁵ As above, para 25

There are now some countries and territories on the list who have made changes to their systems since then and would not now be considered to have equivalently rigorous systems. It should not be possible for a person who would not satisfy the criteria to obtain UK legal gender recognition in the UK to use the overseas recognition route to obtain a UK Gender Recognition Certificate in the UK. This would damage the integrity and credibility of the process of the Gender Recognition Act.

We are finalising details of overseas countries and territories to be removed from the list via an affirmative Statutory Instrument. These comprise countries and territories where there is a clear indication that the country now no longer has a system at least as rigorous as those in the Gender Recognition Act 2004. We are undertaking a thorough checking system to verify our understanding of each overseas system in question.³⁶

The Scottish Government undertook a separate consultation and analysis in 2017 and 2019. This process led to the introduction of [the Gender Recognition Reform \(Scotland\) Bill on 2 March 2022](#). On 17 January 2023, the UK Government exercised its power under section 35 of the Scotland Act 1998 to prevent the Bill from proceeding to Royal Assent, effectively vetoing the Bill. [The Government published a statement of reasons](#) outlining its rationale for making the order, basing the decision on the Secretary of State's view that the Bill would have an adverse effect on UK equality law. The Library's 27 January 2023 paper [The Secretary of State's veto and the Gender Recognition Reform \(Scotland\) Bill](#) provides more background on this.

Banning conversion therapy

The Government's July 2018 [LGBT Action Plan](#) committed to "bringing forward proposals to end the practice of conversion therapy in the UK." According to the May 2020 [United Nations \(UN\) Report on conversion therapy](#), conversion therapy "is used for a multitude of practices and methods", all of which have in common "the belief that a person's sexual orientation or gender identity (SOGI) can and should be changed."³⁷

[A consultation on banning conversion therapy ran from 29 October 2021 to 4 February 2022](#). In the consultation document the Government proposed to introduce new criminal offences that covered talking conversion therapies and physical conversion therapies. Alongside these, it suggested a "holistic package of measures", that would offer support to victims and limit the potential promotion of conversion therapy practices. The Government's response to the consultation has yet to be published.

The most recent Government update on this was provided in response to a written question on 18 January 2023, by Stuart Andrew, Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Department for International Trade and Minister for Equalities:

³⁶ [HCWS482, 9 January 2023](#)

³⁷ UN, [Report on conversion therapy](#), 1 May 2020, p.1

The Government is committed to protecting people from these practices.

We are carefully considering the responses to the public consultation on banning conversion practices which closed last year.

We will be publishing a draft bill to ban conversion practices for pre-legislative scrutiny in this parliamentary session. We hope to send it to a Joint Committee for scrutiny and will work with the Liaison Committee accordingly.

In the meantime, we have launched a support service open to all victims and those at risk of conversion practices regardless of their background or circumstances, backed by up to £360,000 over three years.³⁸

³⁸ [PQ 122156 \[Conversion Therapy\], 18 January 2023](#)

5 Parliamentary material

5.1 Early day motions

[Mr Gay England, Mr Gay Europe and MX Drag competitions](#)

That this House celebrates the organisers and competitors of the Mr Gay England, Mr Gay Europe and MX Drag competitions, with particular congratulations to David Allwood, Paul Dennison and Lavender Love, winners of Mr Gay England, Mr Gay Europe and MX Drag respectively; and further recognise the efforts ...

13 Oct 2022 | Early day motions | Open | House of Commons | 457 (session 2022-23)

Primary sponsor: Lewell-Buck, Mrs Emma

[Stockport Pride 2022](#)

That this House wishes that the upcoming Stockport Pride on 31 July 2022 is a great success; congratulates Stephen Bowyer, the Stockport Pride organising team and all the volunteers for their hard work in arranging the event; recognises the work Stockport Pride does to raise awareness about LGBTQ+ equality ...

13 Jul 2022 | Early day motions | Open | House of Commons | 289 (session 2022-23)

Primary sponsor: Mishra, Navendu

[Keith Parry and the LGBTQ+ community in north Wales](#)

That this House recognises Keith Parry from Bangor for a lifetime of commitment to supporting members of the LGBTQ+ community across north Wales; notes that Keith opened up his phone line to provide support for those who needed a safe space to talk through their problems; further notes that Keith has ...

11 Jul 2022 | Early day motions | Open | House of Commons | 273 (session 2022-23)

Primary sponsor: Williams, Hywel

[Stonewall findings on acceptance of LGBT identities](#)

That this House welcomes findings from recent research commissioned by LGBTQIA+ charity, Stonewall, which finds that levels of acceptance and respect of the LGBT community is now at an all-time high in the UK; celebrates that now anti-LGBT sentiments are restricted to a tiny minority of the public; welcomes ...

06 Jun 2022 | Early day motions | Open | House of Commons | 122 (session 2022-23)

Primary sponsor: Crawley, Angela

[50 years of Pride in the UK](#)

That this House welcomes Pride Month 2022, running from 1st to 30th June; understands Pride is a month-long celebration of the establishment of the LGBTQIA+ rights movement that followed the Stonewall riots in New York in 1969; recognises this year marks 50 years of the Pride movement in the UK, following ...

06 Jun 2022 | Early day motions | Open | House of Commons | 121 (session 2022-23)

Primary sponsor: Crawley, Angela

[Perth Parrots Floorball club](#)

That this House congratulates Perth Parrots Floorball Club on receiving £949.35 from the Perth Harbour Community Fund; understands that the money will be used to host a range of community focused activities to help bring the LGBTIQ+ community in the Perth and Kinross area together, reduce isolation & ...

10 May 2022 | Early day motions | Open | House of Commons | 5 (session 2022-23)

Primary sponsor: Nicolson, John

[LGBT+ History Month](#)

That this House notes that February is LGBT+ History Month, which aims to promote equality and diversity for the benefit of all; welcomes this year's theme, Blurring Borders: A World in Motion, which invites people to think beyond borders and to consider their place within the global movement towards ...

01 Feb 2022 | Early day motions | Open | House of Commons | 933 (session 2021-22)

Primary sponsor: Oswald, Kirsten

[Rainbow Heartlands project by Pink Saltire](#)

That this House recognises the important work of Pink Saltire in building and supporting the LGBT+ community in Scotland; commends the charity's efforts to tackle isolation and loneliness in LGBT+ rural communities; and wishes them luck with the Rainbow Heartlands project, beginning in February.

31 Jan 2022 | Early day motions | Open | House of Commons | 926 (session 2021-22)

Primary sponsor: Nicolson, John

[In memory of David Stuart](#)

That this House is deeply saddened by the sudden death of David Stuart, an internationally respected advocate, activist, support worker, campaigner, lecturer and researcher for LGBT+ communities; notes that David worked at 56 Dean Street for the last eight years as the Substance Misuse Lead specialising ...

13 Jan 2022 | Early day motions | Open | House of Commons | 845 (session 2021-22)

Primary sponsor: McDonald, Stewart Malcolm

5.2

Debates

[FIFA World Cup 2022](#) – HC Deb 20 Oct 2022 – 720 cc382-394WH

[50 Years of Pride in the UK](#) – HC Deb 30 Jun 2022 – 717 cc522-555

[Legal Recognition of Non-binary Gender Identities](#) – HC Deb 23 May 2022 – 715 cc1-22WH

[Gender Recognition Act](#) – HC Deb 21 Feb 2022 – 709 cc1-48WH

[Nationality and Borders Bill: LGBTQ+ People](#) – HC Deb 02 Feb 2022 – 708 cc194-212WH

[LGBTQ+ Afghan Refugees](#) – HC Deb 21 Sep 2021 – 701 cc97-114WH

[Pride Month](#) – HC Deb 01 Jul 2021 – 698 cc450-499

5.3

Ministerial statement

[Scotland Act 1998: Section 35 Power](#)

17 Jan 2023 | Ministerial statements | House of Commons | 726 cc199-219

[LGBT Veterans Review](#)

22 Jun 2022 | Written statements | House of Commons | HCWS126

Attachment: LGBT Veterans Review Terms of Reference

[Publication of the Veterans' Strategy Action Plan 2022-2024](#)

19 Jan 2022 | Written statements | House of Commons | HCWS543

[Announcement of a Consultation on How to Ban Conversion Therapy](#)

29 Oct 2021 | Written statements | House of Commons | HCWS357

[Safe To Be Me: A Global Equality Conference on LGBT Rights](#)

17 May 2021 | Written statements | House of Commons | HCWS32

[Blood Donation](#)

14 Dec 2020 | Written statements | House of Lords | HLWS639

5.4

Parliamentary questions

[Blessings for Same-sex Couples](#)

Asked by: Christine Jardine

I thank the hon. Member for that clarification and for his comments about welcoming the LGBTQI+ community joyfully. But can I ask him to clarify then why it is that a man and a woman who do not believe in God and do not regularly attend church are welcome to marry in the Church of England—

indeed, the Church’s website says, “God’s blessing is the main attraction for many couples”—but a couple in a same-sex relationship, both of whom may have worshipped in the Church all their lives and live in the spirit of Christian faith, are denied the same right in the Church, even though similar denominations in Scotland offer that opportunity? Can the hon. Member inform the House whether the Commissioners have discussed that inequality with the Church of England?

Answered by: Andrew Selous | **Department:** Church Commissioners

The hon. Lady is right to raise this issue. These matters will be very lively debated at the General Synod between 6 and 9 February. I can also tell her that each province in the global Anglican communion is autonomous. The majority of the provinces in the communion provide neither blessings nor marriages for same-sex couples: the Scottish Episcopal Church provides marriages, the Church in Wales provides blessings, and the Church of Ireland provides neither for same-sex couples, so the hon. Lady can see that there is a variety of practice within these islands. But I have heard what she has said and, more importantly, I will make sure that the General Synod is very well aware of her views and those of others in this House.

26 Jan 2023 | Oral questions - 1st Supplementary | Answered | House of Commons | 726 c1169

Date answered: 26 Jan 2023

[Gender Recognition: Scotland](#)

Asked by: Dodds, Anneliese

To ask the Secretary of State for Scotland, if he will publish the legal advice received by Government in advance of their Section 35 Order on the Gender Recognition Reform Bill (Scotland).

Answering member: Mr Alister Jack | **Department:** Scotland Office

Further to my answer of 24 January (UIN 125468), it is long-standing government practice, accepted by successive administrations, not to publish legal advice provided to the Government. The order, and a full Statement of Reasons published alongside it, set out in full the adverse effects the Government is concerned about in relation to the Gender Recognition Reform (Scotland) Bill.

26 Jan 2023 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 130013

Date tabled: 23 Jan 2023 | **Date for answer:** 26 Jan 2023 | **Date answered:** 26 Jan 2023

[IVF: LGBT+ People](#)

Asked by: Leadbeater, Kim

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, whether the commitments to deliver equitable IVF access set out in the Women's Health Strategy include (a) trans men and (b) non-binary people assigned female at birth.

Answering member: Maria Caulfield | **Department:** Department of Health and Social Care

We expect fertility services to be commissioned in line with National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) guidelines, ensuring equal access to fertility treatment and preservation across England. Partners who are transgender men, or non-binary people assigned female at birth, fall within the NICE definition of same-sex couples, as they require Intrauterine Insemination as a first line of treatment. The Women's Health Strategy has ambitions to improve variations in access to National Health Service funded fertility services. Commitments in the Strategy in respect of same sex couples include these groups.

20 Jan 2023 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 125527

Date tabled: 17 Jan 2023 | **Date for answer:** 19 Jan 2023 | **Date answered:** 20 Jan 2023

[Sports: LGBT+ People](#)

Asked by: Pollard, Luke

To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, if she will make it her policy only to back bids for major sporting events from nations which uphold LGBT+ rights.

Answering member: Stuart Andrew | **Department:** Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

Sport operates independently of the government, therefore the government does not back bids from other nations for major sporting events.

The Government has frank conversations at international level with our counterparts around the world on human rights issues, including LGBT rights, and we will continue to have those conversations.

09 Jan 2023 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 113462

Date tabled: 19 Dec 2022 | **Date for answer:** 09 Jan 2023 | **Date answered:** 09 Jan 2023

[Hate Crime: LGBT+ People](#)

Asked by: Whittome, Nadia

To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what support his Department is providing to LGBTQ+ young people aged 16-25 who have been victims of (a) hate crime, (b) serious violence or (c) malicious communications in the last 12 months.

Answering member: Edward Argar | **Department:** Ministry of Justice

The Government funds services for all victims of crime, regardless of the crime type, when it happened, or whether it has been reported to the police. The Ministry of Justice provides funding for victim support services both at a national and local level. Local funding is routed through Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) who commission services in their local area based on an assessment of need. This includes providing tailored services for victims with protected characteristics. Whilst we collect voluntary demographic data on the victims these services support, such as age, ethnicity, and sexuality, we do not hold data to the level of granularity requested.

09 Jan 2023 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 113421

Date tabled: 19 Dec 2022 | **Date for answer:** 09 Jan 2023 | **Date answered:** 09 Jan 2023

[Topical Questions](#)

Asked by: Mr Clive Betts (Sheffield South East) (Lab)

The Minister quite rightly wore the armband in Qatar. Does he agree that it is completely disgraceful that FIFA stopped Harry Kane and other captains from wearing the armband as a demonstration of solidarity? Will he encourage our Football Association to work with other, like-minded FAs to ensure that FIFA changes its approach to the awarding and running of World cups?

Answered by: Stuart Andrew | **Department:** Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

That was one of the reasons why I wore the armband. It was totally unacceptable that both the Welsh and English teams, at the 11th hour, were faced with an impossible decision. I thank those teams for wanting to wear the armband; it means a lot to all of us. I have already spoken to the FA about where we go from here. We cannot, at the end of this tournament, just let the matter come to an end. We need to talk about the future.

01 Dec 2022 | Topical questions - Supplementary | Answered | House of Commons | 723 c996

Date answered: 01 Dec 2022

[Asylum: LGBT+ People](#)

Asked by: Corbyn, Jeremy

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to prevent discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity in the application of the new asylum assessment rules under the Nationality and Borders Act 2022.

Answering member: Robert Jenrick | **Department:** Home Office

This Government is committed to advancing the rights of individuals who are LGBT. The welfare and dignity of all claimants, including those who are LGBT, remains central to our decision-making processes.

One of the key objectives of the Nationality and Borders Act 2022 is to increase the fairness and efficacy of our asylum system so that we can better protect and support those in genuine need of asylum. In September 2021, we published an Equality Impact Assessment for the policies being taken forward through the then Bill which included an assessment on potential impacts on people who may face persecution because of the protected characteristics of sex, sexual orientation and gender reassignment.

21 Nov 2022 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 82157

Date tabled: 08 Nov 2022 | **Date for answer:** 21 Nov 2022 | **Date answered:** 21 Nov 2022

[HIV Infection: Drugs](#)

Asked by: Lucas, Caroline

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what steps the Government plans to take to increase access to PrEP for (a) heterosexuals, (b) women, (c) Black African and Black Caribbean communities and (d) transgender and non-binary people; and if he will make a statement.

Answering member: Neil O'Brien | **Department:** Department of Health and Social Care

The HIV Action Plan sets out continued investment in pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) through the Public Health Grant and to develop a plan to improve the delivery of and access to PrEP in specific population groups. We are currently gathering evidence to understand why some population groups who would benefit from PrEP are under-represented and to identify potential barriers to access. This evidence will be considered by the PrEP Access and Equity Task and Finish Group.

16 Nov 2022 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 82229

Date tabled: 08 Nov 2022 | **Date for answer:** 14 Nov 2022 | **Date answered:** 16 Nov 2022

[EU Countries: LGBT+ People](#)

Asked by: Doughty, Stephen

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, what steps the Government is taking to (a) protect and (b) advocate for LGBT+ rights in Europe.

Answering member: Leo Docherty | **Department:** Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office

Since 2018, the UK has committed over £13 million in programmes to support LGBT+ rights. In Europe, this has included targeted interventions to respond to hate crime in the Western Balkans, and support LGBT+ organisations in Poland, Hungary and Serbia.

Within the Council of Europe, the UK have co-chaired the European LGBTI Focal Points Network, and have played an important role in establishing a new Council of Europe LGBT+ working group.

As the Prime Minister's Special Envoy for LGBT+ Rights, Lord Herbert of South Downs works with our diplomatic network to respond to the challenges faced by LGBT+ people in Europe. Most recently, he met Ukrainian and Polish civil society organisations at the joint Warsaw-Kyiv Pride, and supported efforts to ensure a successful EuroPride in Belgrade.

17 Oct 2022 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 59751

Date tabled: 10 Oct 2022 | **Date for answer:** 12 Oct 2022 | **Date answered:** 17 Oct 2022

[LGBT+ People: Finance](#)

Asked by: Baroness Barker

To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to place the UK as a leading funder of LGBT+ rights.

Answering member: Baroness Stedman-Scott | **Department:** Women and Equalities

As a country with a proud history on LGBT equality, and with one of the world's most comprehensive and robust legislative frameworks, the UK Government continues to be a leading funder of work to protect LGBT rights.

The Government has provided over £6 million in funding to prevent and respond to bullying in schools, including LGBT-related bullying, of which £1 million was announced this year. The Government continues to invest in relevant healthcare, including over £20 million to deliver the HIV Action Plan with the goal of eradicating new transmissions in the UK by 2030. We are providing up to £360,000 for the new conversion practices support service; have extended funding for the existing LGBT domestic abuse helpline with an uplift of £80,000 for 2022/23; and last year we provided £2 million for specialist 'by and for' victim support organisations, including LGBT victim services.

Internationally, in June, we announced a further £2.7 million to support human rights defenders and advance equalities and freedom across the Commonwealth. Since taking over as Chair-In-Office in 2018, the Government has invested over £11 million in the promotion and protection of LGBT rights across the Commonwealth.

25 Jul 2022 | Written questions | Answered | House of Lords | HL1665

Date tabled: 12 Jul 2022 | **Date for answer:** 26 Jul 2022 | **Date answered:** 25 Jul 2022

[Asylum: Rwanda](#)

Asked by: Webbe, Claudia

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether she plans to publish guidelines that protect LGBT+ refugees in relation to her proposals to offshore refugees to Rwanda.

Answering member: Tom Pursglove | **Department:** Home Office

There are currently no plans to publish any LGBT+ specific guidance for individuals considered for relocation to Rwanda as part of the Migration and Economic Development Partnership.

The Home Office published a Country Policy and Information Note (CPIN) for Rwanda on 9 May 2022, which provides an assessment on the Rwandan asylum system and various human rights aspects. It supports decision-makers as they consider relocating an individual to Rwanda. In the CPIN, it states that 'there are not substantial grounds for believing that a person, if relocated, would face a real risk of being subjected to treatment that is likely to be contrary to Article 3 ECHR by virtue of their sexual orientation or gender

identity/expression.’ However, it acknowledges that this may be different for trans individuals.

The decision to relocate an individual to Rwanda will be taken on a case-by-case basis and no one will be relocated if it is unsafe to do so.

17 Jun 2022 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 14662

Date tabled: 08 Jun 2022 | **Date for answer:** 13 Jun 2022 | **Date answered:** 17 Jun 2022

[LGBT Armed Forces Personnel: Courts Martial](#)

Asked by: Luke Pollard (Plymouth, Sutton and Devonport) (Lab/Co-op)

Before Labour lifted the ban on LGBT personnel serving in our armed forces, thousands of LGBT personnel were hounded out of service, removed and abandoned after serving with pride. I welcome Ministers allowing sacked personnel to wear medals, but there are further restrictions, including written orders from commanding officers saying that the sacked personnel will not be able to wear headwear or insignia as veterans. Does the Minister agree that until all restrictions are lifted on those personnel, and pension issues resolved, the MOD will remain in breach of the military covenant?

Answered by: Leo Docherty | **Department:** Defence

Of course, I absolutely agree and I am pleased to say that the scope of the review will be very broad and that the Government will listen with compassion and sincerity to the recommendations of the independent reviewer. We hope that will provide a path towards delivering justice.

13 Jun 2022 | Oral questions - Supplementary | Answered | House of Commons | 716 c6

Date answered: 13 Jun 2022

[Monkeypox: Health Education](#)

Asked by: Brown, Ms Lyn

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what steps he is taking to prevent the emergence of stigma around monkeypox transmission in the UK for (a) LGBT+ communities and (b) communities with close links to African countries where monkeypox is endemic in rodents.

Answering member: Maggie Throup | **Department:** Department of Health and Social Care

The United Kingdom monkeypox incident currently has a high proportion of cases identifying as gay and bisexual men and men who have sex with men. We are asking these groups to be aware of the symptoms and organisations such as the Terrence Higgins Trust, are working with the UK Health Security Agency to develop specific health communications.

The majority of recently confirmed monkeypox cases in the UK have no travel links to a country where monkeypox is endemic. This has been reflected in information shared with the media, public and other stakeholders. As the nature of this cluster differs from those previously reported in the UK, we are ensuring all communications are updated and more diverse imagery is sourced.

06 Jun 2022 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 7949

Date tabled: 24 May 2022 | **Date for answer:** 06 Jun 2022 | **Date answered:** 06 Jun 2022

[Armed Forces: LGBT+ People](#)

Asked by: Peacock, Stephanie

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what steps his Department is taking to help encourage research examining the long-term impact of military sexual assault on LGBTQ+ survivors.

Answering member: Leo Docherty | **Department:** Ministry of Defence

The Ministry of Defence (MOD) does not recognise the term ‘military sexual assault’, nor the associated term ‘military sexual trauma’ and has, therefore, no plans to encourage research of the type described.

The MOD is committed to the welfare of all its people. The Armed Forces promote equity in Service for all those affected by sexual assault and abuse, and there are multiple forms of support and assistance available, both within and external to Defence, for all our personnel, including the LGBTQ+ community, both during and post-service.

Whilst in service, available support includes unit welfare officers, the chain of command, and pastoral support via the chaplaincy. Further assistance is also available via the *Aurora* service which provides confidential independent support to any serving member who is experiencing sexual violence, domestic abuse, or stalking. There is also *Togetherall*, an independent digital mental health support tool operated by the NHS in partnership with the MOD, through which Service personnel, veterans, and their family members can anonymously access tailored self-help courses.

Independent support is also available via the charitable sector. For example, SSAFA (The Armed Forces Charity) provides help to all Service personnel and veterans with any mental or emotional health concerns. SSAFA can signpost individuals to specific organisations for further targeted support. The MOD also works with The Samaritans and other charities to support Serving personnel, veterans, and their families.

For LGBTQ+ personnel specifically, *Galop*, for instance, operates helplines which facilitate access to caseworkers who can design tailored assistance for LGBTQ+ personnel who have experienced abuse and violence. *Fighting with Pride* also signposts sources of help for LGBTQ+ veterans, and works with a wide range of organisations.

23 May 2022 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 1528

Date tabled: 13 May 2022 | **Date for answer:** 17 May 2022 | **Date answered:** 23 May 2022

LGBT+ People

Asked by: Dodds, Anneliese

To ask the Minister for Women and Equalities, what the status is of the Government's LGBT Action Plan.

Answering member: Mike Freer | **Department:** Women and Equalities

Earlier last year, the Minister for Women and Equalities set out her top LGBT policy priorities, which we are making good progress towards delivering. We have launched a public consultation on our plans to ban Conversion Therapy; we are digitising the Gender Recognition Certificate application process, having already reduced the fee, and are improving healthcare for trans people. In December 2021, we published the HIV Action Plan, whilst also announcing the end of the ban on HIV+ people joining the UK armed forces. This month we have announced an independent review into the impact of the pre-2000 ban on homosexuality in the armed forces on LGBT veterans, as part of the Veterans' Strategy Action Plan.

We have appointed Iain Anderson as LGBT Business Champion, and the Prime Minister has appointed Lord Herbert of South Downs as Special Envoy on LGBT rights, with both an international and domestic focus. The UK will also be hosting its first global LGBT conference in June, *Safe To Be Me*, which will bring together government representatives, businesses, civil society and international parliamentarians to address the safety of LGBT people at home and abroad.

The UK Government regularly updates GOV.UK to improve the experience and accessibility of users. The update on 4 January 2022, regarding the 2017

National LGBT Survey and 2018 Action Plan, was to support user access to existing, previously published, documents.

20 Jan 2022 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 106861

Date tabled: 18 Jan 2022 | **Date for answer:** 20 Jan 2022 | **Date answered:** 20 Jan 2022

5.5 Committee material

Inquiry: [Work of the Minister for Equalities on LGBT+ matters.](#) - Women and Equalities Committee – Oral evidence transcripts

Inquiry: [Reform of the Gender Recognition Act.](#) - Women and Equalities Committee – Report, oral and written evidence transcripts

6 Media

6.1 Press releases

[Draft prayers of thanksgiving, dedication and for God's blessing for same-sex couples published](#)

Church of England

20 January 2023

[Statement on the UK government move to block the Scottish Gender Recognition Reform Bill](#)

Fair Play for Women

18 January 2022

[Statement on the UK Government's decision to block Scotland's Gender Recognition Reform Bill](#)

Stonewall

16 January 2023

[Our letter to the Prime Minister](#)

LGB Alliance

16 January 2023

[Update on the Inclusion of Transgender Participation in Athletics](#)

British Athletics

02 December 2022

[WRU updates gender participation policy](#)

Welsh Rugby Union

07 September 2022

6.2

Articles and blogs

[Why do we still need LGBTQ+ history month](#)

The University of Law

01 February 2023

[LGBTQ+ History Month: a time to look to the past to inform our future](#)

Law Society Gazette

01 February 2023

[LGBT+ History Month 2023: When is it and how did it start?](#)

Evening Standard

01 February 2023

[Ireland has had trans self-ID laws for years. The simple reality is there's no risk for women](#)

Pink News

01 February 2023

[What is conversion therapy and when will it be banned?](#)

BBC

24 January 2023

[The Guardian view on the C of E and same-sex marriage: kicking the can down the road](#)

Guardian

24 January 2023

[Church of England bishops refuse to back gay marriage](#)

BBC News

18 January 2023

[What are the plans for gender reforms in Scotland?](#)

BBC News

17 January 2023

[Britain vows new law to ban conversion therapy for LGBT people](#)

Reuters

17 January 2023

[Mind welcomes inclusive conversion 'therapy' ban](#)

Mind

17 January 2023

[Responding to government's 'conversion therapy' ban announcement](#)

Christian Concern

17 January 2023

[Gender recognition certificates: self-identification and the row over it explained](#)

The Conversation

12 January 2023

[Census data reveals LGBT+ populations for first time](#)

BBC News

06 January 2023

[Sexual orientation census undercounts older people and those who shun labels](#)

Guardian

06 January 2023

[Michael Foran: Sex, Gender, and the Scotland Act](#)

UK Constitutional Law Association

21 December 2022

[LGBT+ Britons are twice as likely to see themselves presented negatively in media](#)

YouGove

30 June 2022

[LGBT+ Britons more likely to report suffering with mental health conditions](#)

YouGov

05 July 2022

[Transgender athletes: What do the scientists say?](#)

BBC

11 May 2022

[Explainer: What is 'conversion therapy'?](#)

Open Democracy

01 April 2022

7 Further reading

7.1 House of Commons Library and POST

[The Secretary of State's veto and the Gender Recognition Reform \(Scotland\) Bill](#), 27 January 2023

[2021 census: What do we know about the LGBT+ population?](#) 16 January, 2023

[Section 35 of the Scotland Act and vetoing devolved legislation](#), 16 January, 2023

[FIFA men's football world cup Qatar 2022: FAQs](#), 18 October, 2022

[Performance, Inclusion and Elite Sports – Transgender Athletes](#), 10 October 2022

[UK aid for LGBT+ inclusion](#), 13 July, 2022

[50 years of Pride in the UK](#), 27 June, 2022

[Same-sex marriage in the UK's Overseas Territories](#), 04 April, 2022

[Non-binary gender recognition: law and policy](#), 31 March, 2022

[LGBT+ rights and issues in Europe](#), 28 February, 2022

[Gender Recognition Act reform: consultation and outcome](#), 18 February 2022

[International LGBT+ rights and issues in 2020/21](#), 21 December, 2021

[LGBTQ+ Afghan refugees](#), 16 September, 2021

[Backbench business: Pride Month](#), 30 June, 2021

[Debate on an E- petition relating to LGBT conversion therapy](#), 04 March, 2021

7.2 Government, public agency and organisation

[Statement of reasons related to the use of section 35 of the Scotland Act 1998](#), Equality Hub, Office of the Secretary of State for Scotland, and Government Equalities Office, 17 January 2023

[Sexual orientation and gender identity: Census 2021 in England and Wales](#), Office for National Statistics, 06 January 2023

[Gender equality and promoting and protecting the rights of LGBT+ people](#), Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, 26 August 2022

[UK announces new support for Commonwealth LGBT rights campaigners](#), Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street, 24 June 2022

[Public statement on prosecuting homophobic, biphobic and transphobic hate crime](#), Crown Prosecution Service, 03 March 2022

[Gender Recognition Reform \(Scotland\) Bill](#), Scottish Parliament

[New funding to combat bullying in education - Everything you need to know](#), the Education Hub, Department for Education, 16 November 2021

[Conversion therapy: consultation and research reports](#), Government Equalities Office and Equality Hub, 29 October 2021

7.3

Other Organisation

[Bishops propose prayers of thanksgiving, dedication and for God's blessing for same-sex couples](#), Church of England, 18 January 2023

Lottie Moore, [Gender identity ideology in the NHS](#), Policy Exchange, 02 January 2023

Flora Renz & Davina Cooper, [Reimagining Gender Through Equality Law: What Legal Thoughtways Do Religion and Disability Offer?](#) Feminist Legal Studies, 30, pages129–155 (2022)

[Gender Recognition reform](#), Murray Blackburn Mackenzie

[Conversion Therapy](#), Stonewall

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