



WE Party Conference

Kettering 7 – 9 September 2018

Title: Gender recognition act

Proposed by: Amy Killen

Secunder: Chris Paouros

Supported by:

Stella Duffy

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Tabitha Morton

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Madeline Petrillo

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Roseana Pollen

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Type of motion: Policy motion

Motion text:

- 1 The Women's Equality Party recognises the damage done by socially constructed gender
- 2 stereotypes and supports changes to the Gender Recognition Act 2004. The Women's Equality
- 3 Party supports changes to the current process by which transgender people are able to receive
- 4 legal recognition of their changed gender.

- 5 The Women's Equality Party supports a process of legal recognition of changed gender which does
- 6 not require medical reports nor two years' worth of documentation but a process of self-
- 7 determination of gender. The Women's Equality Party supports legal recognition of non-binary
- 8 people.

- 9 The Women's Equality Party calls on the Governments and administrations of the UK to make the
- 10 following changes to the current process as they revise the Gender Recognition Act 2004:

- 11 • Change to the requirement to submit two supporting medical reports, one of a diagnosis of
- 12 gender dysphoria and one detailing treatment received. Change to the requirement to submit
- 13 documentation to prove the person has lived as their acquired gender for two years. Instead
- 14 require a self-determination process to change gender and to obtain a Gender Recognition
- 15 Certificate and new birth certificate.
- 16 • Remove the requirement of spousal consent to obtain legal recognition of changed gender for
- 17 married people.
- 18 • Allow people to change their gender to a third gender option as well as to male and female.

Motion rationale:

- 19 The Women's Equality Party should clarify its position as changes to the Gender Recognition Act
- 20 (GRA) 2004 are being considered by the Governments and administrations of the UK. This change
- 21 would add depth to the already stated Women's Equality Party position of supporting the right of an



22 individual to define for themselves their gender by moving to a legal process of self-determination
23 from a dehumanising, medicalised and intrusive bureaucratic process.^{1,2}

24 Current WE policy is, “WE also recognise that the binary words “woman” and “man” do not reflect
25 the gender experience of everyone in our country, and support the right of all to define their sex or
26 gender or to reject gendered divisions as they choose.” Supporting people to legally change their
27 gender by a self-determination process, including a third gender option and supporting an end the
28 requirement of spousal consent for changing gender would further develop WEP policy.

29 These changes to the GRA would be in line with the recent World Health Organisation changes
30 which have reclassified gender dysphoria (gender incongruence) which will no longer be classified
31 within Mental and Behavioural Disorders.³

32 In Ireland, the Gender Recognition Act passed in 2015 has allowed a change in gender by a simple
33 legal process of self-determination, avoiding the bureaucracy currently required in the UK by the
34 GRA 2004.⁴

References:

1. <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/reform-of-the-gender-recognition-act-2004>
2. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/721725/GRA-Consultation-document.pdf
3. <http://www.who.int/health-topics/international-classification-of-diseases>
4. <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/jan/15/monumental-change-ireland-transformed-transgender-rights>