

Dear

Thank you for your request on 6 March 2023. I've been asked to reply.

As stated within the previous acknowledgement letter, sent on 9 March 2023, we are responding to the non-Freedom of Information questions within the same time frame as the Freedom of Information requests.

You will find a response to the questions that are valid Freedom of Information requests separately. Please find below the responses to your remaining questions.

Yours sincerely,

### **List of questions and responses:**

**1. By what date will the Welsh Government strengthen understanding of the human rights of LGBTQ+ people?**

The Welsh Government LGBTQ+ Action Plan was published on 7 February 2023, and covers the period until the end of this current Senedd term, we aim to have made substantial progress if not full completion of the actions by the end of this Senedd Term.

When we have clearer delivery dates, they will be reflected in the annual report to the Senedd, that may be otherwise publicised.

**2. What is the Welsh government's definition of "strengthen understanding of the human rights of LGBTQ+ people"?**

We believe that this language is clear and is used within its standard everyday sense. Further details on how we will carry out this action, is included in the activities or activity connected with the action and the outcome(s). A glossary of terms that require definition is available as part of the Welsh Government LGBTQ+ Action Plan.

**3. By what date will the Welsh Government improve LGBTQ+ people's understanding of how to assert their human rights"?**

The Welsh Government LGBTQ+ Action Plan was published on 7 February 2023, and covers the period until the end of this current Senedd term, we aim to have made substantial progress if not full completion of the actions by the end of this Senedd Term.

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**4. What is the Welsh government's definition of "improve LGBTQ+ people's understanding of how to assert their human rights"?**

We believe that this language is clear and is used within its standard everyday sense. Further details on how we will carry out this action, is included in the activities or activity connected with the action and the outcome(s). A glossary of terms that require definition is available as part of the Welsh Government LGBTQ+ Action Plan.

**4.1. How does this cross over with Wales a nation of sanctuary and the wellbeing of future generations Act?**

We are committed to making Wales the most LGBTQ+ friendly nation in Europe which is why we have developed a robust and cross-cutting LGBTQ+ Action Plan – one that strengthens protections for LGBTQ+ people, promotes equality for all and helps coordinate ambitious actions across government and beyond.

The Nation of Sanctuary Refugee and Asylum Seeker Plan has always been inclusive of all refugees and asylum seekers. However, the LGBTQ+ Action Plan lays out in more detail how that inclusion applies in the case of LGBTQ+ refugees and asylum seekers.

With regards to the intersection with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, the LGBTQ+ Action Plan contributes to create a more equal Wales, where everyone could participate, reach their full potential and is able to contribute fully to the economy, will enable Wales to be more prosperous and innovative. The development of the LGBTQ+ Action Plan has obvious links to this goal and the More Equal Wales goal. The plan has been developed in line with the sustainable development principle and the 'five ways of working' in section 5 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Most importantly through involvement and collaboration, lived experience of LGBTQ+ people is central to the Plan's content.

**5. By what date will the Welsh government ban all aspects of LGBTQ+ Conversion Practices?**

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**6. What is the Welsh government's definition of "ban[ing] all aspects" and of "LGBTQ+ Conversation Practices"?**

We believe that this language is clear and is used within its standard everyday sense. Further details on how we will carry out this action, is included in the activities or activity connected with the action and the outcome(s). A glossary of terms that require definition is available as part of the Welsh Government LGBTQ+ Action Plan.

**7. By what date will the Welsh Government strengthen LGBTQ+ representation on equality forums?**

The Welsh Government LGBTQ+ Action Plan was published on 7 February 2023, and covers the period until the end of this current Senedd term, we aim to have made substantial progress if not full completion of the actions by the end of this Senedd Term.

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**8. What is the definition of strengthening “LGBTQ+ representation on equality forums”?**

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**9. What equality forums does the Welsh Government mean?**

As stated within Action 4 of the Welsh Government LGBTQ+ Action Plan, the strengthening of LGBTQ+ representation on equality forums will include Welsh Government equality forums (e.g., Faith Forum; Race Equality Forum)

**10. By what date will the Welsh Government involve LGBTQ+ communities in designing public services?**

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**11. What is the Welsh government’s definition of involving “LGBTQ+ communities in designing public services”?**

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**12. What is the Welsh government's definition of devolution of powers in relation to the Gender Recognition Act?**

We believe that this language is clear and is used within its standard everyday sense. Further details on how we will carry out this action, is included in the activities or activity connected with the action and the outcome(s). A glossary of terms that require definition is available as part of the Welsh Government LGBTQ+ Action Plan.

**13. What is the Welsh government's definition of "Provide recognition of non-binary and intersex people"?**

We believe that this language is clear and is used within its standard everyday sense. Further details on how we will carry out this action, is included in the activities or activity connected with the action and the outcome(s). A glossary of terms that require definition is available as part of the Welsh Government LGBTQ+ Action Plan.

**14. By what date will the Welsh government "Provide recognition of non-binary and intersex people", and how does this relate to the ongoing Hostile environment and Wales, a Nation of Sanctuary?**

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**15. By what date will the Welsh government ensure that "International engagement showcases our LGBTQ+ values and support in Wales and globally"?**

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**16. What does it look like for international engagement to showcase LGBTQ+ values in Wales and globally?**

Engaging with countries is an opportunity to develop a platform for further discussion, to raise awareness and to potentially influence a change in approach. We take every opportunity to raise matters of human rights with representatives from overseas governments when we have the opportunity.

These are areas we commit to continue to act upon as part of our LGBTQ+ Action Plan. Our aim, through this plan, is to show our clear commitment to respecting, protecting, and fulfilling the human rights of all LGBTQ+ people in Wales, and project our values of Wales as an LGBTQ+ friendly nation, through diplomatic engagement and our overseas network, including with countries that do not necessarily share these views.

**17. By what date will the Welsh government remove barriers to LGBTQ+ people reporting hate crime?**

The Welsh Government LGBTQ+ Action Plan was published on 7 February 2023, and covers the period until the end of this current Senedd term, we aim to have made substantial progress if not full completion of the actions by the end of this Senedd Term.

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**18. What barriers have the Welsh government identified to LGBTQ+ people reporting hate?**

The Welsh Government aims to identify barriers that LGBTQ+ people face in reporting hate crime through Action 9 of the Welsh Government LGBTQ+ Action Plan. Within this action it is stated that we will 'gather evidence from LGBTQ+ communities of positive and negative experiences with reporting hate crime and understanding any barriers to reporting.'

**19. What are the outcomes of the removal of barriers to LGBTQ+ people reporting hate?**

Through the LGBTQ+ Action Plan we commit to a number of actions to help people feel safer including the removal of barriers to LGBTQ+ people reporting hate crime.

As identified within Action 9 of the Welsh Government LGBTQ+ Action Plan, the removal of barriers to LGBTQ+ people reporting hate crime will see improved levels of reporting and recording of LGBTQ+ hate crime; LGBTQ+ people will be confident in reporting hate crime; and increasing trust in the service for LGBTQ+ people.

**20. By what date will the Welsh government "continue to invest in hate crime prevention programmes across Wales?"**

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**21. What is the definition of continuing to "invest in hate crime prevention programmes across Wales"?**

We believe that this language is clear and is used within its standard everyday sense. Further details on how we will carry out this action, is included in the activities or activity connected with the action and the outcome(s). A glossary of terms that require definition is available as part of the Welsh Government LGBTQ+ Action Plan.

**22. By what date will the Welsh government "counter online and anti-LGBTQ+ attitudes and hate crimes"?**

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**23. What definition is the government using for this work?**

We believe that this language is clear and is used within its standard everyday sense. Further details on how we will carry out this action, is included in the activities or activity connected with the action and the outcome(s). A glossary of terms that require definition is available as part of the Welsh Government LGBTQ+ Action Plan.

**24. By what date will the Welsh Government improve the relationship of LGBTQ+ communities with policing in Wales?**

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**25. What definition of "improvement" is the Welsh Government using when it comes to the improved relationship of LGBTQ+ communities with the police?**

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**26. How will the Welsh Government ensure BAME LGBTQ people have an improved relationship with the police and policing?**

The Anti-Racism Wales Action Plan and the LGBTQ+ Action Plan have actions to improve the relationship between communities, police and policing.

**27. By what date will the Welsh Government "Target violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence (VAWDASV) among LGBTQ+ communities"?**

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**28. What does it look like to target violence?**

Feeling safer in Wales will allow LGBTQ+ people to thrive and live without fear, in their personal life and in society. The LGBTQ+ Action Plan acts as the framework for LGBTQ+ policy development across government and with our partners. It sets out the concrete steps we will take to strengthen equality for LGBTQ+ people, to challenge discrimination, and to create a society where LGBTQ+ people are safe to live and love authentically, openly and freely as themselves.

As such, those actions and activities set out within the Welsh Government LGBTQ+ Action Plan relating to violence and discrimination demonstrate what targeting violence within the context of the LGBTQ+ Action Plan will look like.

**29. By what date will the Welsh government ensure that "Homelessness services are inclusive of the specific needs of LGBTQ+ people."?**

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**30. What definition of inclusivity is the government using for this work? Please provide any documentation.**

We believe that this language is clear and is used within its standard everyday sense. Further details on how we will carry out this action, is included in the activities or activity connected with the action and the outcome(s). A glossary of terms that require definition is available as part of the Welsh Government LGBTQ+ Action Plan.

**31. By what point will the Welsh government "identify, safeguard, and signpost LGBTQ+ people in claiming asylum"?**

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**32. What is the definition of identifying, safeguarding and signposting LGBTQ+ people in claiming asylum?**

We believe that this language is clear and is used within its standard everyday sense. Further details on how we will carry out this action, is included in the activities or activity connected with the action and the outcome(s). A glossary of terms that require definition is available as part of the Welsh Government LGBTQ+ Action Plan.

**33. How many deportations of LGBTQ+ asylum seekers took place in Wales from 2019- 2022?**

We do not hold information on the removal or deportation of refugees and asylum seekers as this is a reserved matter and decisions are made by the UK Government, specifically The Home Office.

**34. What is the Welsh government's definition of "inclusivity" for LGBTQ+ asylum seekers?**

We believe that this language is clear and is used within its standard everyday sense. Further details on how we will carry out this action, is included in the activities or activity connected with the action and the outcome(s). A glossary of terms that require definition is available as part of the Welsh Government LGBTQ+ Action Plan.

**35. By what date will the Welsh government achieve the action point of inclusivity for LGBTQ+ asylum seekers?**

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**36. By what date will the Welsh Government encourage the development of LGBTQ+ only asylum properties in Wales?**

The Welsh Government LGBTQ+ Action Plan was published on 7 February 2023, and covers the period until the end of this current Senedd term, we aim to have made substantial progress if not full completion of the actions by the end of this Senedd Term.

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**37. What is the definition of "encouraging the development" of LGBTQ+ only asylum properties in Wales?**

We believe that this language is clear and is used within its standard everyday sense. Further details on how we will carry out this action, is included in the activities or activity connected with the action and the outcome(s). A glossary of terms that require definition is available as part of the Welsh Government LGBTQ+ Action Plan.

**38. Does the devolution of housing to Wales mean that Wales has decision-making powers over subsistence and accommodation under the Immigration and Asylum Act, or does asylum seeker housing remain subject to Westminster rule?**

Migration policy is not devolved, so solutions to some important issues lie with the UK Government. However, we must make clear our opposition to many

aspects of the Nationality and Borders Act which will have a detrimental impact on Wales and any asylum seekers placed in our communities. We are continuing to liaise with UK Government about these issues.