

FOR WOMEN SCOTLAND

For Women Scotland is a grassroots women's group founded in 2018 in response to growing unease about how women's rights would be affected by the Scottish Government's plans to reform the Gender Recognition Act to allow for self-declaration of sex.

About Us:

- ➔ Our directors are **Marion Calder**, **Susan Smith** and **Trina Budge**. Members are all volunteers, we do not receive any public money, and the group is not aligned to any political party.
- ➔ We challenge the ongoing push from Government funded lobby groups to overwrite sex-based rights in legislation and public policy with the undefined and unscientific concept of gender identity. We work to highlight the devastating impact such policies have already had on the lives of ordinary women and girls in Scotland – in hospitals, schools, prisons, sports, public spaces and especially in women's sector organisations such as Rape Crisis or Women's Aid. Our work is informed by the experiences of frontline workers in these services and by the women and girls they provide for.
- ➔ We believe that there are only two sexes, that a person's sex is not a choice, nor can it be changed. Women are entitled to privacy, dignity, safety and fairness. Our legal rights should be protected and strengthened.
- ➔ We campaign on a positive, pro-women basis and call for evidence based discussion and legislation.

What we do:

- ➔ Canvas women's views and submit responses to Scottish and UK Government [consultations](#). These have included the Census Amendment Bill, Hate Crime Bill and Gender Recognition Reform Bill, on which we also gave oral evidence to the Parliament Committees.
- ➔ Raise public awareness by holding well-attended public meetings and contributing speakers to events throughout Scotland. We have held several well supported demonstrations at Holyrood.
- ➔ Speak with MPs/MSPs and cross-party groups to promote women's rights and campaign for consultation and amendments to Bills progressing through Parliament.
- ➔ Initiated the [#SixWords](#) campaign that led to a change in the Forensic Medical Services Bill to allow victims of rape and sexual assault to request a medical examiner by their sex (and not gender).
- ➔ In 2022 we won the appeal of our first [judicial review](#). The court ruled that the Scottish Ministers exceeded their powers by including transwomen in the definition of woman in the Gender Representation on Public Boards (Scotland) Act 2018. The decision stated provisions in favour of women must, by definition (in the Equality Act), exclude those who are biologically male. A separate judicial review on the GRPBA statutory guidance will be heard by the UK Supreme Court in November 2024.



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