

Office for
Equality and
Opportunity

Rt Hon Bridget Phillipson MP
Minister for Women and Equalities
Cabinet Office
70 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2AS

Karen Adam MSP
Convener Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice
Committee By e-mail:
EHRCJ.committee@parliament.scot

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Dear Karen,

Thank you for your e-mail of 17 April 2025 regarding the UK Supreme Court's ruling in the case of *For Women Scotland Ltd (Appellant) v The Scottish Ministers (Respondent)*.

The ruling makes clear that "woman" in the Equality Act 2010, which applies to the whole of Great Britain, is a biological woman - and trans women also continue to have their acquired gender recognised in law. Those with a Gender Recognition Certificate are still recognised in their acquired sex and gender in other circumstances unless specific exceptions apply, and there of course remain protections in place for trans people to live free from discrimination and harassment.

The UK Government has always supported the protection of single-sex spaces based on biological sex. This ruling brings clarity and confidence, for women and service providers such as hospitals, refuges, and sports clubs.

We are considering the full implications of this judgment across government; my team would be happy to follow up on this with you at a later date.

Best wishes,

Rt. Hon Bridget Phillipson MP
Minister for Women and Equalities and Secretary of State for Education