

Correspondence between ONS and Fair Play For Women (FPFW)

Email from FPFW to ONS, 24 June 2020, 15:29

From: [REDACTED] Fair Play For Women <[REDACTED]> On Behalf
Of [REDACTED] [@fairplayforwomen.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@fairplayforwomen.com)
Sent: 24 June 2020 15:29
To: Bell, Iain <Iain.Bell@ons.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Roundtable Agenda - Wednesday 24 June; 10:00am to 11:30am

Dear Iain,

Today's roundtable meeting to discuss the guidance to accompany the sex question included both data users and stakeholder group representatives.

As I noted at the meeting, the meeting included 4 LGBT representatives. Two of the LGBT representatives came from public bodies (GEO and NHS). I was the only attendee representing the views and needs of the female sex. I find this odd considering the point of the meeting was to discuss the guidance on the question about sex.

Can you tell me the criteria you used to decide which stakeholder representatives were invited to the meeting and who were not.

And was it ONS who specifically requested the LGBT representatives from the GEO and NHS, in which case why did you not also request representatives for women and girls. Or was it the GEO and NHS decisions to send LGBT representatives and not women's representatives.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [Fair Play For Women](#) Ltd

LGBT representatives:

[REDACTED], LGBT Foundation
[REDACTED], LGBT policy & GEO Operations
[REDACTED] LGBT National Health advisor
[REDACTED] Stonewall

Email from ONS to FPFW, 30 June 2020, 09:51

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of Bell, Iain

Sent: 30 June 2020 09:51

To: [REDACTED]@fairplayforwomen.com'

Subject: RE: Roundtable Agenda - Wednesday 24 June; 10:00am to 11:30am

Hi [REDACTED]

Apologies for the delay in replying

Thank you for joining us at the round table and for your contributions.

In approaching the attendees to be invited to the round table, ONS sought to include a broad range of organisations with an interest in the sex question guidance for the 2021 census 2021. Our view was that the invited attendees and organisations would reflect a broad range of views about the guidance and the format would give all the opportunity to make their views clear and contribute to the discussion. No formal criteria was applied to decision making other than an overarching aim to ensure as many areas as possible with an interest were represented, which we consider we achieved. With regard to your question around representatives from the GEO and NHS, these are the topic experts in the sex question and gender topic areas that we considered would be able to provide views at the meeting and represent GEO and NHS.

Kind regards

Iain