**THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002**

**REFUSAL NOTICE**

**Request Number:** 120

**Date: 1 August 2022**

This refusal notice is provided in accordance with section 16 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (“the Act”).

You have requested certain information which we are not providing to you as it is otherwise accessible. The accompanying letter describes where the information you seek is available.

Section 16 of the Act requires us to complete a refusal notice when we are not providing information which is otherwise accessible. The details we are required to include in this refusal notice are set out below.

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| **Information which is the subject of the request** | “Please provide a copy of the analysis undertaken in 2019-20, and any supporting information held by the Commission, providing the basis for the statement by Barbara Bolton to the Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee on 21 June that:  “The commission’s position is that we have now looked at the issue carefully on two occasions. We looked it in 2019-20… we take very seriously concerns that are raised about possible harmful effects on others - in this case, women and girls in particular. When we looked at it in 2019-20, we were not able to identify any objectively evidenced real and concrete harm that is likely to arise as a result of the reforms that are proposed””. |

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| **Information which is otherwise accessible** | *Consultation Response on the Gender Recognition Reform (Scotland) Bill*, 17th March 2020, published by the Scottish Human Rights Commission.  This information is available on our website here: [Policy & Publications | Scottish Human Rights Commission](https://www.scottishhumanrights.com/publications/). |

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| **Exemption(s)** | Section 25 - Information otherwise accessible |
| **Why exemption(s) applies** | The information is publicly available on the website of the Scottish Human Rights Commission. |
| **Public interest (where relevant)** | A Public Interest Test is not required under this exemption. |