

Response ID ANON-3755-S4C1-F

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-12-21 13:58:52

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

Yes

If yes, specify name of organisation:

FODO – the Association for Eye Care Providers

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optical professional/representative body

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

We agree that including this information is unnecessary and adds no value for patients or the public.

We have no evidence that the public searches the register to find an eye care clinician or to be able to find one of a specific gender. In some communities, patients do prefer to see a professional of the same sex/gender for cultural reasons and they have the right to exercise this choice when selecting a practice and practitioners. However, they can easily do this from a website, via a phone enquiry or by personal recommendation, before they book an appointment.

We are pleased however that the GOC will continue to require, collect and hold these data confidentially for other reasons. It is crucial that the sector analyses and monitors these data in aggregate in order to deliver our shared sector DEI objectives and for the purposes of workforce planning. We would therefore urge the GOC to publish these data annually in anonymised aggregate form for these beneficial purposes.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Disability, Gender reassignment, Sex, Sexual orientation

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

There is no reason for a registrant's gender to be included on a public register when this is irrelevant to their registered role. We feel that including this information may unfairly categorise or stereotype individuals. In addition, colleagues who are trans, intersex, non-binary, gender fluid or undergoing 'gender reassignment' may be uncomfortable being labelled with a gender on a public register when it has no relevance to their professional role. Removing this requirement will therefore support and advance our shared sector DEI goals.

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes

Response ID ANON-3755-S44E-M

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-12-06 16:58:10

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

Yes

If yes, specify name of organisation:
LGBT Foundation

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Patient representative charity/organisation

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

As identified in the impact assessment, the GOC is one of few remaining professional bodies who continue to publish information about their registrant's sex, which is indicative of a general move away from public disclosure of this information in professional services. We support the assertion that information about the birth sex of registrants cannot be demonstrated to be within the public interest to an adequate degree and support its removal for this reason.

While we recognise that patients are entitled to request single sex care, in practice, these requests are not fulfilled by referencing the GOC register; they will be completed at the point at which the patient is accessing the service they require, in nearly all instances. The GOC register is therefore irrelevant for the purpose of delivering single sex care.

We also support the proposal to capture gender identity, rather than sex assigned at birth, on internal GOC records, and recommend the inclusion of a variety of gender options, including the ability to self-describe. We remind GOC that a trans or non-binary person does not need to provide any evidence or 'proof' of gender identity to update their gender details and recommend that registrants be able to update their own details (rather than have an administrator do this) where possible.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

This proposal will undoubtedly have a beneficial impact for trans, non-binary, gender diverse and intersex practitioners, who will no longer have to choose a binary sex category to fit their identity. It will also help protect practitioners whose gender expression does not match their assigned sex at birth from potential abuse from patients who may have expected a practitioner with a different gender expression based on their listed details.

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes

Response ID ANON-3755-S44K-T

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-12-06 15:41:11

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

Yes

If yes, specify name of organisation:

TransActual

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Patient representative charity/organisation

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

There is no need to have a registrant's gender on the public register. If an individual has a preference about the gender of their optical professional, they're not going to look for it on the register but will ask about it when booking their appointment.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

This change will benefit trans people in that it will result in there being less publicly available information for a trans registrant to change when they first start transitioning.

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

No

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

In the Human Rights, Equality and Inclusion section, members of the public are classed as high risk. It is unclear why this change would be of high risk to the public, it's simply a removal of unnecessary information.

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-01 16:51:44

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

Gender has no bearing on a practitioners abilities to carry out their role.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment, Sex, Sexual orientation

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

It creates a more inclusive environment. It allows a persons life to be their own without the added stress and aggravation that comes with explaining yourself to those whose business it is none of.

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

There are short term considerations to consider but not of protected characteristics. A sexual assault victim may deliberately seek out a practitioner of the same gender. This should be handled carefully but individual companies should be able to manage this with the proper policies in place. There should be rules in place that prevent a practice from questioning the reasons for a request of this nature.

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes

Response ID ANON-3755-S4BK-8

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-01 10:09:02

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Other

If other, please specify:

IP Optometrist

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

The GOC register is slimming down any useful information. This is further along that track. the GOC register is a live NATIONAL register of professions that have different scope of practice under NHS or private provision in different devolved administrations (DA's) and soem (Dispensing Opticians and CLO's) who are NOT listed anywhere else (e.g. NHS lists).

As such the GOC register is the ONE central resource. It should define title (Dr in the case of PhD), higher qualifications additional to the speciality register and ANYTHING else that the public might find helpful or useful in seeking care. Some patients DO want to be specific about seeking a particular gender to look after them in a health care environment and these requests are legitimate and ought not be deprecated. As such expecting them to ask is an additional burden on someone who may feel vulnerable. I have no interests in what the PSA says or thinks on this matter. Clearly the GMC doesn't either.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Age, Disability, Gender reassignment, Marriage and civil partnership, Pregnancy and maternity, Religion or belief, Sex, Sexual orientation

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

Its obvious ? Some religions do not like different gender attention, someone who has, for example, been raped, may feel threatened when in close proximity to some of the same sex who raped them. It is impertinent to ask and many people may have many different reasons.

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Age, Disability, Gender reassignment, Marriage and civil partnership, Pregnancy and maternity, Race, Religion or belief, Sex, Sexual orientation

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

see my answer above

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

No

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

The GOC register is an information resource. As such data needs to be accessible, accurate and useful. This proposal eliminates a small component without the data being accessible elsewhere ?

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes

Response ID ANON-3755-S4BQ-E

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-31 13:00:34

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Dispensing optician

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Neutral

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

I would suggest we await the GMC decision and follow their lead.

When I search registrant details on the register , will I be able to find the person as easily without stating their sex/gender ?

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Don't know

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-01 16:35:46

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Contact lens optician

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

I have never met anyone who doesn't want me to know what sex they are.

None of the patients that I have encountered over the last 48 years in practice have asked me or any of my staff to hide there gender.

[redacted]

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

No significant impact

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

It might have a small effect on the gender reassignment people.

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

No

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

I think that you, like everyone else in these modern times are being over sensitive about all these issues. It can get to a point where we can lose focus on the fundamental things we are trying to achieve, like our duty of care of patients eyes clinically and optically.

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-02 12:20:17

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

Many patients would prefer to see a particular gender for an eye exam. Many appointments are now booked online or on a central booking line so it is not always possible to ask when booking.
It could be optional for the registrant to declare

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Not Answered

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-31 22:14:15

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-12-20 21:30:21

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Contact lens optician

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

Because I don't believe in these gender issues, you are male or female, end of!

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-12-21 12:39:07

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

it is important to note what % of the workforce is male or female to have an overall view of where optometry is going

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Sex

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

No

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted
]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-30 20:00:42

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

I prefer to be honest and open.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Don't know

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Don't know

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Why don't you just let registrants decide on an individual basis if they want their gender included?

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-28 15:46:53

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

Information is of no use in assuring patient safety.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-17 20:18:32

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Dispensing optician

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

No

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-30 12:49:29

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Other

If other, please specify:

[redacted]

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

I am lawyer, and a transgender man who transitioned in 1975 age 20. I have lived as a man for more than twice the years I lived as a girl (I never made it to 'woman' status).

I now have a gender recognition certificate and new birth certificate. I am out, because I have spent 30 years fighting to protect the human rights of transgender people but given a choice to have been more private about my gender reassignment, I would have preferred that.

I am aware there are lobby groups who wish to force the disclosure of my birth sex in many situations, which I would consider a gross invasion of my human right to privacy concerning my medical history under Article 8 of the European Convention.

My medical history is only of concern to 3 parties: myself, my partner and my doctors. I am certain transgender opticians and optometrists feel the same.

I can see no reason at all for gender or sex to be a matter for public viewing on the optician and optometrist register.

Currently because of an uptick in transphobia and the recent development of a transphobic culture war from right wing commentators and some government ministers, there are actors who would use this information, if they could, to target and out a transgender registrant. This would inevitably result in huge stress to them the registrant, harming their mental and physical health. It could even result in right wing extremists assaulting them, as has happened in the past. .

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

I can see no reason for anyone to know the sex pr gender, or change of gender of a UK registered optician or optometrist.

If a service user prefers a female or male optician or optometrist, for whatever reason, they may request that in advance and most providers will make the effort to provide someone of the preferred sex. Alternatively a service user could ask to have a family member or friend accompany them as a chaperone in the examining room

If a service user requests that they do not see an optician or optometrist who is transgender, it is the responsibility of the optician's or optometrist's employer to advise the service user of the employer's responsibility under the Equality Act 2010 to protect employees who are intending to undergo, are undergoing, or have undergone gender reassignment, which includes social transition, from discrimination or harassment.

The employer can remind the service user that they (the employer) could be held vicariously liable under the Equality Act for any transgender employee, or any employee perceived as being transgender, experiencing discrimination to their detriment or harassment as a consequence of a service user acting negatively because they believe the optician or optometrist is transgender.

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment, Sex

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

The Equality Act makes it clear that is prejudice and potentially discriminatory for a service user to request to not see a person who is transgender (of either or both genders).

If a service user makes that request, it is the responsibility of the optician or optometrists employer to advise them of the responsibility under the Equality act to protect employees who are intending to undergo, are undergoing, or have undergone gender reassignment, which includes social transition. This will reassure transgender opticians and optometrists about their safety and security within their workplace.

Removing gender (sex) from the register will also remove a source of potential unconscious bias against women in the industry

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

I can see no other concerns to be considered or addressed.

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-28 17:47:10

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Student dispensing optician

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

Some members of the public may have preferences to who sees them when they are getting spectacles dispensed to them or undergoing an eye examination. They may feel more comfortable with a certain gender so having that information available to them allows them to feel independent and safer. This would also give them a positive mindset towards the opticians and their appointments as they have that option available for them.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Age, Gender reassignment, Pregnancy and maternity, Religion or belief, Sex

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

For age, small children may have a set person that they would like to be seen by for examples little girls may want to be seen by a woman to feel safe and comfortable and vice versa. For gender reassignment and sex that is also a valid concern as they may prefer being seen by a professional who is of the same gender as them or the opposite gender. This is because people who undergo gender reassignment may have a negative connotation to a certain genders. For pregnancy and maternity, patients may feel more comfortable being around other women as it can be an uncomfortable and hard time but at the same time they may want to have a male professional as they may feel judged by people of the same gender. And lastly with religion and belief, there may be some religions or beliefs that only allow certain genders or people to come into physical contact with each other. Relating to optics its quite a personal and up close profession where the optometrist looks at a patients eyes and the dispenser checks adjustments and takes PD measurements so patients should have the right to see the genders of professionals in order to grant them ease and to make them happy.

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment, Pregnancy and maternity, Race, Sex, Sexual orientation

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

I think it would benefit these people as it removes any stigma or discrimination that they may face by the public. For example by stating that a certain professional is female, that could imply that she has a uterus and is able to get pregnant so some patients may discriminate against that professional. The same for a person who has had their gender reassigned, if their previous gender was stated and now it has changed some patients may be against that. Therefore by not stating the professionals gender this does provide them with security and protection from being discriminated but at the same time, patients would know the gender of a professional when they go to the practice or go for an appointment so it's not much of a barrier against discrimination.

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

There could also be cultural differences where having the gender available to the public allows individuals to choose what professional they want as certain cultures may make people levitate towards a specific gender. On the other hand, some cultures may not have this at all and so people wouldn't mind what gender the professional is so the information would be useless. But this is like a double edged sword where you can look at it from both angles to find points.

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-06 18:52:41

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Contact lens optician

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Neutral

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

I do not see if its relevant if I am male or female on the register.

The Mr / Mrs sort of gives it away?!

However it is important to recognise women in the workplace and professional roles.

There may be people who want to see a male / female practitioner would that aid their information?

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Sex

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

I think it is important to recognise women in the work place and continue gender equality

But I do not necessarily think it's relevant for the public to know

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment, Don't know

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-06 10:27:42

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

I do not believe that including gender on the register is necessary for patient protection

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment, Pregnancy and maternity, Sex

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

The register provides public protection by highlighting qualified registrants. Gender identification has the potential to introduce discriminatory information rather than factual evidence on him a persons ability to practice.

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-26 14:39:00

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Dispensing optician

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Neutral

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

I have no strong opinion either way

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Don't know

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-07 19:01:33

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Dispensing optician

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

When a member of the public needs to make a complaint about a registrant, they can search by name. Many names are gender neutral, and whole communities (such as Sikhs) use the same names for both men and women, so it is helpful for the public to be able to differentiate by gender, so they have a better chance of identifying who treated them.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment, Race, Sex

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

The groups I have identified are at increased risk of harms from poor practice, through a number of well established and understood mechanisms (both unintentional systemic issues, and intentional assaults of various types), so further anonymising practitioners makes it easier to evade accountability.

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

[redacted
]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-07 20:26:12

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

Gender makes no difference to a registrants ability to work and some patients do want to know which sex their optometrist is for example a female may only be comfortable with a female optometrist etc.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

N/A

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Don't know

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Too many options makes it complicated. We should keep it simple as Male, Female or Prefer Not to Say.

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-06 20:58:53

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

I don't find it to be necessary and as stated in the comms, it becomes sensitive for LGBT. While patients regularly request female optometrists that also doesn't take into account that females can be lesbians and also abusive so I don't agree that selecting a different gender based on declared gender is as relevant as it used to be. And as also stated, patients generally phone up and request male/female or a certain optometrist. Certain cultures request same sex care but would they even know to look on the optical register? And just because your genitals are either male or female it doesn't mean you identify as such.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Don't know

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

The proposal is to remove the gender from the register so I don't see why this would discriminate. The only confusion would be where names are unisex.

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment, Sex, Sexual orientation

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

Trans tend to be part of the LGBT sexuality spectrum and it's not necessary for patients to know this information.

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Response ID ANON-3755-S4AQ-D

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-06 22:38:01

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optical patient

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

For some individual's, seeing someone from the same sex as themselves might be important for personal or cultural reasons. Removing references to gender will make it difficult to determine this.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Race, Religion or belief, Sex

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

For the reasons stated above, females in particular, or individuals from minority groups may be more disadvantaged by this. Arguably, these groups as it is don't access services due to existing barriers, so this change may further affect these groups.

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Don't know

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-07 22:38:13

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

Irrelevant

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Don't know

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Don't know

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-31 08:37:36

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Student dispensing optician

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

As stated in the discussion, it is not necessary information. If a patient is concerned about the gender of their optometrist, they can, and most likely will, ask at the local level. In addition, there is a strong likelihood of outing trans members of the GOC, which is both legally and ethically wrong. Even the language used in this consultation ("birth sex") is a probably unconscious concession to the prevalent transphobia in the UK. This same transphobia makes it important that trans registrants are not outed. The current binary options are also very outdated.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment, Sexual orientation

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

As stated above, there is currently a strong current of transphobia in the UK, and putting gender on the register can end up outing trans members of the GOC. In addition, genders such as non-binary are made invisible, which can be distressing to non-binary individuals.

In regards to the other group, publishing a binary sex option means that if members of the public consult the register, they may have expectations of gender presentation that are not matched (often LGBTQ individuals are gender non-conforming).

Overall it just seems very unnecessary.

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Using "birth sex" is unintentionally problematic, and the language used seems to indicate that trans healthcare providers should be informing everyone of their trans status, which is both not legal and ethically wrong. I do understand that this is an evolving area, and language may not indicate intent, but just wished to indicate this anyway.

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-31 19:09:26

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

It is irrelevant in the modern day

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-30 21:22:54

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

If a patient wants to see an optician that's the same gender as them due to religious/cultural beliefs

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-31 17:50:04

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Don't know

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Don't know

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-30 20:52:23

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Dispensing optician

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

Should not be part of the decision making process of the general public

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Sex

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

Some patients will feel more comfortable with a similar gender professional

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Don't know

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Religious beliefs that preclude opposite gender treatment

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-02 10:20:42

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

It's unnecessary.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment, Sex, Sexual orientation

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

Removes the need to identify as any gender and removes a barrier to clear and honest registration.

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-31 11:21:39

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

It is important to know if your patient is biologically male or female. If necessary change the wording to 'sex' instead of gender

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Don't know

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Marriage and civil partnership, Pregnancy and maternity, Religion or belief, Sex

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

[redacted]

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-31 09:16:43

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

Not relevant information

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-31 16:37:45

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

I feel the information should be included unless the registrant chooses to withhold it.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

Those with names that can be applied to more than one gender may have assumptions made about their gender if it is not expressed in the register. Also those who prefer to express a particular gender would be denied the right to do so

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Not Answered

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

For me personally I would wish my entry in the register to express my gender. Whilst I have no problem if certain persons wish to withhold this information I feel we should have the option for gender to be shown in the register.

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-12-22 23:16:35

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Don't know

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Response ID ANON-3755-S4CP-E

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-12-20 08:07:28

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Member of the public

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

Although I would prefer it to list biological sex (which, being immutable, is inappropriately termed 'birth sex'), in the absence of that, what you call 'proxy' information is the next best option. Expecting the patient to have to make the extra effort to ask the right questions at local level flies in the face of patient-first care.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Pregnancy and maternity, Religion or belief

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

Patients in the ticked categories have what I would consider to be a reasonable right to insist on a same biological sex practitioner and the onus should not be on them to raise questions, especially as doing so may be met with hostility by practitioners holding opposing views. It is safer if patients can anonymously assess this information in an easily accessed national register.

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

No

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

The assessment itself is woke. It fails to recognise the impact of the original wrong-headed ideology that saw biological sex replaced with an incorrect application of the term gender. You seem dismissive of the value of 'proxy' information. I would argue that patients using the data in this way is more than reasonable and the GOC should not be looking to put further barriers in front of patients exercising traditional or moral choices in accessing personal healthcare

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Response ID ANON-3755-S4CQ-F

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-12-21 22:51:07

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Dispensing optician

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

I believe it should be optional. My name has often been mistaken for being male and it is frustrating so I prefer to have my gender attached to my name on the register. Perhaps pronouns may be a more appropriate identifier and in keeping with current accepted terms.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-30 17:34:14

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

Yes

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

Gender is an important demographic of a health practitioner that can influence a lot of things both patient and practitioner wise and should not be overlooked

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-30 19:45:47

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

I have noticed some patients ask to see a particular sex practitioner when in the practice. Some other patients may have looked this up beforehand and not asked in person. Both of these group would appreciate knowing the sex of a person they will spend time with in an enclosed space.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Don't know

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

No

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-30 17:44:32

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

Yes

[redacted]

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Student optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

Absolutely not. Gender is part of your identity and I would like to think as an organisation who is protecting the public, they would like to know each individuals gender and identity. I personally would not like to have my identity stripped or hidden away from anyone. I am proud of who I am and who I represent.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Age, Disability, Gender reassignment, Marriage and civil partnership, Pregnancy and maternity, Race, Religion or belief, Sex, Sexual orientation, None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

It will affect everyone.

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

I don't think it will make a difference.

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

No

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

No comment.

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-30 18:41:23

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

Irrelevant information which the arguments against (specifically GRA and GDPR) massively outweigh the argument for.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment, Pregnancy and maternity, Sex

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Response ID ANON-3755-S4NC-C

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-30 19:48:52

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Therapeutic prescribing optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

Some patients wish to know our gender. Some are more comfortable with a man others with a woman. Quite often this is associated with a their past experiences or culture.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-30 19:33:29

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

The public should be able to choose an optometrist of a particular gender if they wish

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Age, Religion or belief, Sex

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

certain religious people may prefer to be seen by a particular gender

people with specific medical conditions may prefer to only see someone of a particular gender

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Don't know

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

No

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Response ID ANON-3755-S4NK-M

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-30 18:51:55

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

Some sectors of society prefer to be seen by a female professional for religious reasons.

The public have a right to choose their professional. Whilst it is incorrect to discriminate against professionals based on gender it is important that we also respect people religious beliefs.

As a professional body we should embrace diversity not run from it nor hide from it.

We can have a balanced approach for both public and professionals

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Race, Religion or belief

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

A Muslim or Jewish woman may only wish to be seen by a female optometrist and would not be accepting of non binary or gender neutral professional. It would be very uncomfortable for the professional. Therefore I believe again we need to embrace diversity celebrate it but allow the public to choose. We there safeguard all right of both the professional and the public

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-30 17:20:33

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Dispensing optician

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

Firstly, gender is not a person's sex as recorded at birth, so is not a protected characteristic. 'Male', 'female' or 'prefer not to say', would be sufficient.

Secondly, if a person would prefer to be treated by a person of a particular sex, this should be accommodated. It would be far less embarrassing for this information to be found on the Register, than asking at practice level and risking refusal to divulge.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Sex

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

People should be able to declare their sex recorded at birth. This is a biological fact. The question can be left blank by a registrant if this is desired.

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Sex

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

See my previous comment.

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

No

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

A person should be able to find out a registrant's sex without having to ask at practice level.

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Response ID ANON-3755-S4NW-Z

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-30 17:37:11

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

We all have a gender, why be ashamed of it?
There are more important things to debate

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Marriage and civil partnership

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

Erosion of respect for marriage and heterosexuality

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

Positive discrimination

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

No

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-10-30 18:14:33

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

I disagree as when patients are in a small dark room with a professional, they may feel more comfortable knowing who that professional is. Same sex care should be a choice the public can make without prejudice. Members of the public should feel comfortable during their eye examination and if they were to feel vulnerable this could lead to a difficult situation for the professional.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-28 13:57:29

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Other

If other, please specify:

GP

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

There is no reason to have it there at all

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment, Pregnancy and maternity, Sex, Sexual orientation

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

I think sex/ gender declaration allows people to conflate the two, and opens the door to misogyny, homophobia, sexism, bi- and transphobia So taking the marker away must be advantageous to those oppressed by gender

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-28 15:53:34

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

It is not relevant to the job we do and should not be used as a reason to see or not see a registrant for an appointment, or as a mechanism for enabling discrimination.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Response ID ANON-3755-S4Z7-C

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-25 12:54:55

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Therapeutic prescribing optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Neutral

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

Difficult question to answer as a female my sex means a lot to me, it's my identity, my journey through life (child bearing, menstruation, menopause). On the other hand sexism is rife and gender discrimination does occur and can be used as a label.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Pregnancy and maternity, Sex

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

As above

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Don't know

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

No

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Would like to see evidence the change is positive (background and context lacking)

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-28 15:58:44

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

It's irrelevant.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment, Sex, Sexual orientation

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-02 17:17:20

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

Lots of nonsense about gender identity going about, shouldn't make any difference to ability to perform job so irrelevant information.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-28 13:56:31

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Member of the public

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

Not necessary

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment, Sexual orientation

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

Will maintain confidentiality

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

NA

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-28 16:07:03

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

Gender does not add to or remove from my ability as an optometrist and therefore is unnecessary to be on the public register

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-29 13:43:36

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

I don't believe it is necessary for the public to have this information, I think the register should only display essential information.

I think displaying it could cause more harm than not displaying it to some members of the GOC registered community and we should act in their best interests.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

I think it 'could' rather than 'would' discriminate but removing the unnecessary information eradicates that potential impact.

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

Removing it as displayed data makes it less of a focus and could make the register feel more inclusive. That could make individuals feel more comfortable.

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-12-03 16:50:47

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Contact lens optician

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Neutral

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

I can't see the need to remove this information as some patients may find it useful and making such changes seem an unnecessary expense and waste of time. Your own text states that the information is available to those who might want it so why make changes for the sake of it.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-29 18:05:31

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Dispensing optician

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

It is totally irrelevant and does not affect the service that we provide to the public.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Response ID ANON-3755-S44N-W

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-12-03 22:11:28

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

- 1) It helps to identify people easier by having the gender present, especially non common names, especially in cases where a patient may want to raise a complaint or locate the same optometrist for further examinations, etc
- 2) No harm all these years so why change it
- 3) Give option of 'prefer not to say' or 'not to show on public register' so everyone wins

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Don't know

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Don't know

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-29 00:41:55

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Student optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment, Sex

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

No

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-28 22:31:29

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Dispensing optician

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Neutral

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

The gender/sex of a practitioner has no bearing on their clinical skills. It is not in the public's interest for it to be listed publicly. Should a patient have a preference about who they see, that is best discussed with the practice. It is unlikely that members of the public will use the register to find a practitioner of their preferred gender. A practitioner's sex/gender in no way limits a patient's access to healthcare.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

This does not fall under the umbrella of discrimination but I felt a great sense of validation when I first saw my gender correctly noted on the register. Transitioning while working as a healthcare professional was incredibly challenging. Seeing my governing body acknowledge who I am was an important milestone. I would feel a little sad if I didn't have that.

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

No

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

In section two part 1.7 you refer to the GMC's comments regarding patient's requests to be treated by someone of a particular "birth sex".

It is important to recognise that UK law does not distinguish between sex and gender.

Both the Equality Act 2010 and the Gender Recognition Act 2004 use the terms gender and sex interchangeably. Neither of these pieces of legislation use the term "birth sex".

There is a growing assumption that "birth sex" is a vital reality while "gender identity" is merely a matter of feelings. The GOC should avoid this assumption and language.

1. A person's sex as recorded on their birth certificate tells you very little. It tells you nothing about the individual's current reality, their endocrine system, primary sexual characteristics, secondary sexual characteristics or how they participate in society and relate to others.

2. It is an unenforceable distinction in the vast majority of situations. I have never heard of an individual who keeps their birth certificate on their person. Outside of very specific legal scenarios, no one is under any obligation to provide a copy of their birth certificate and provide evidence of what their sex recorded at birth was. If the GOC wishes to distinguish between sex and gender, it must consider how it will prove someone's sex.

3. A person who has obtained a gender recognition certificate has their birth certificate replaced with one in their new gender/sex. The Gender Recognition Act 2004 states "Where a full gender recognition certificate is issued to a person, the person's gender becomes for all purposes the acquired gender (so that, if the acquired gender is the male gender, the person's sex becomes that of a man and, if it is the female gender, the person's sex becomes that of a woman)". If the GOC wishes to use language that distinguishes between sex and gender, it must also clearly acknowledge that sex can be changed in accordance with the GRA 2004.

4. The drive to divide gender from sex (with the assumption that sex is what is recorded at birth) is driven by prejudice. It is an attempt to ensure that transgender individuals are removed and estranged from their gender while attempting to circumnavigate the legal protections afforded the protected characteristic of gender reassignment. If a body or institution had a policy of recording an individual's "gender identity" as a distinct characteristic from "sex (at birth)", the body has now created a situation where individuals with differing results in the two fields are now highlighted and labelled as distinct from the rest of the population. It is a potentially harmful act to label a small group against their will. We would not consider it good data practice to label individuals as disabled, from a minority religion or a minority ethnicity without their consent. Transgender people face increasing obstacles and prejudices in our society. The media has generated a moral panic which has resulted in an increase in hate crimes and transgender rights in the UK are falling behind much of the developed world. There is no political will to address this.

I welcome the GOC's intention to simplify the process for registrants to update their gender and I see no potential harm in removing the gender marker from the public register. However the GOC must reconsider it's assumptions about sex and gender. It must carefully consider the language it uses and how it impacts the lives of a small and vulnerable population.

I welcome the GOC's intention to simplify the process for registrants to update their gender and I see no potential harm in removing the gender marker from the public register. However the GOC must reconsider it's assumptions about sex and gender. It must carefully consider the language it uses and how it impacts the lives of a small and vulnerable population.

Question 11 of your diversity questions asks "Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?" My sex registered at birth is legally recorded as being the same as my gender identity (and I have the birth certificate to prove it). I also am transgender and have transitioned. Those two facts are not mutually exclusive. This question is flawed in that respect. I usually select 'no' or 'prefer not to say'. Today I selected 'yes' so my voice is counted amongst the small number trans registrants. However I know that this flawed question is just a contrived polite replacement for "are you a [redacted]?"

Thank you for your consideration.

Thank you for your consideration.

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Response ID ANON-3755-S46B-K

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-28 16:46:27

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Neutral

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

I don't think this has any bearing on the register, it may only help in cases where practitioners have similar names for someone who is looking for their registration information to have an additional bit of information to distinguish between.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

Absolutely none, people that are gender neutral should be allowed to have that option on the register, but it shouldn't take away the rights of other individuals who are happy to be identified, I am happy to be a female practitioner, and I want to be recognised accordingly.

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

There is a duty to the public, for those members who wish to disclose information to the GOC about a registrant, to be able to do so, name alone, particularly in practices where individuals use surnames only, that without the added benefit of additional information, (such as gender) may make it

much harder to identify which person you are reporting on.

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Response ID ANON-3755-S46F-Q

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-28 17:01:01

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

I think a patient has the right to be aware of the sex of the person treating them

They may have fears of a certain sex or feel awkward due to religious reasons and should not be confronted with a problem at the time of attendance

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

I don't understand the question

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

No

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-28 18:55:29

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Dispensing optician

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

The register is there to protect the public by ensuring they have a way to check that a particular optician is registered to practice and where they do so, but I believe and agree that knowing a practitioner's gender has no relevance to that protection, and since there are other easy ways for that information to be obtained there is no place for it on the register.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

If a practitioner has transitioned, and register has not yet been updated, the proposal will protect them from incorrect information about them being available to the public

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Response ID ANON-3755-S46S-4

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-28 18:13:00

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Neutral

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

It is entirely the personal preference of the individual practitioner. If a member of the public has a problem with the gender of the practitioner then that can be dealt with in practice .

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Age, Religion or belief

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

Bigotry and ignorance.

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment, Sexual orientation

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

Non binary people don't mind if you are binary. FYI I am very binary and have 3 kids. I am not bigoted.

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

All ok.

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-28 17:43:15

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

This is totally ridiculous, pandering to the few. Let some people leave their gender off the register, if they wish. It is surely also my right to have my gender identified if I wish?

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Don't know

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Don't know

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Not Answered

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-28 23:45:39

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Student optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

I worry that it will prevent some individuals to present themselves for care if they are concerned about wanting to be treated by a practitioner of the same sex.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment, Religion or belief, Sex

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

Religion/belief - I am concerned that those with beliefs that mean they feel less likely to seek care if they aren't sure they can see a practitioner of the same sex

Gender reassignment - patients who have had gender reassignment have maybe experienced discrimination in the past and have a preference over which sex they would like to see - this will make the patient more comfortable and open

Sex - someone may want to see someone of the same sex as them as it makes them more comfortable for whatever reason I.e previous abuse

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment, Religion or belief, Sex

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

If it will make more members of these groups more comfortable then they will be more likely to seek care and also be more honest and open at the visit

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-28 19:03:04

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

I agree with keeping information to a minimum in the public domain. Gender, does not to me, seem to be necessary for the protection of the public.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-29 21:49:05

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

[redacted]

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

When searching for a registrant, you want to be able to be sure you get it right. There are some unisex names, so by keeping with status quo, less likely to make mistake

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted
]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-12-08 15:36:15

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

There are only two options

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment, Sex, Sexual orientation

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

I am gender non conforming and had very difficult thoughts about gender for most of my life

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted
]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-30 16:22:08

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-29 09:22:15

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Dispensing optician

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

It's unnecessary information.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Sex

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-12-01 13:30:13

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Student dispensing optician

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

I think we should expand the gender identities we can choose from rather than getting rid of it all together and also giving the option to not show it on the register.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment, Sex, Sexual orientation

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

Gender reassignment, Sex, Sexual orientation

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private

Submitted to Consultation to remove reference to a registrant's gender on the public register
Submitted on 2023-11-28 21:00:09

Removing reference to a registrant's gender on the public register

Tell us who you are

1 What is your name?

[redacted]

2 What is your email address?

[redacted]

3 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

No

If yes, specify name of organisation:

4 Which category best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

Optometrist

If other, please specify:

Consultation questions

5 Do you agree that we should remove information about a registrant's gender from the public register?

No

Please explain the reasons for your answer.:

I think it's an important part of a person's identity. Practitioners can decline to specify their gender, but I proudly and confidently believe it's an integral part of my identity.

6 We want to understand whether the proposal may discriminate against or unintentionally disadvantage any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a negative impact on certain individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

7 We also want to understand whether the proposal may benefit any individuals or groups sharing any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 which protects everyone living in the UK including refugees and migrants. Do you think the proposal will have a positive impact on any individuals or groups who share any of the protected characteristics listed below? (Please select all that apply)

None of the above

Please describe the impact on the individuals or groups that you have ticked.:

8 Have we identified and captured the impact accurately within the impact assessment?

Yes

Please provide further detail including if there are other impacts we should consider.:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Consent to publish your response

19 Can we publish your response?

Yes, but please keep my name and my organisation's name private