



Government Equalities Office

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Damian Eaton
Democratic Services
Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council
Town Hall
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Our Reference: GEO-00623

Your Reference: DE

7 November 2018

Dear Damian,

Thank you for your letter, received on 22nd October 2018, regarding conversion therapy. I am responding on behalf of Penny Mordaunt MP, Minister for Women and Equalities.

Helping people live with dignity and equality is extremely important work and the Minister is honoured to be working on LGBT equality in her role. It is vital that everyone can reach their full potential, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

You mentioned in your letter the Government's recent commitment regarding conversion therapy which was announced as part of the LGBT Action Plan in July. Our position is clear, conversion therapy is wrong and we are not willing to let it continue. That is why we committed to bringing forward proposals to end this abhorrent practice in the UK.

We recognise ending conversion therapy is a complex issue that we need to get right. Officials in the Government Equalities Office are currently working with stakeholders to consider all legislative and non-legislative options and will announce further detail on the matter in due course.

We would like to welcome the steps you are taking to condemn conversion therapy. We believe that it is incredibly important for local government to take leadership on this issue and we would like to thank you for doing so. It is through efforts such as this that we can create a society where everyone can reach their full potential, regardless of who they are or who they love.

Yours sincerely,



Alistair Cooper
Government Equalities Office