



The Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP

Prime Minister
Prime Minister's Office
10 Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AA

29th March 2023

Dear Prime Minister

Ongoing Delay in Banning Conversion Practices

We write as a broad coalition of survivors, medical health professionals, service providers, charities, legal academics and lawyers to urge you to publish the long-awaited legislation to ban conversion practices for all LGBTQ+ people in the UK.

It is now nearly five years since the Conservative Government first announced it would ban these harmful practices, a promise that has been reiterated by each of your predecessors and by your own Government. We have been given repeated assurances that your Government is working "at pace" to bring forward this legislation, but we still have not seen a draft Bill. It has been an exceptionally long road, with unexplained delays in both the publication of the Government's research as well as the results from your public consultation.

These delays only serve to embolden perpetrators and result in ongoing harm to many LGBT+ people, particularly young people, as your own research has concluded. For the avoidance of doubt, we recognize conversion therapy as any practice that is aimed at an individual or group of individuals which has a predetermined purpose that seeks to change, "cure", or suppress a person's sexual orientation and/or gender identity, practices which continue unchecked today.

We are perplexed by these continued delays and can only conclude that your Government is reluctant to protect some of the most vulnerable members of society from this abuse.

Time is now running perilously short for this legislation to be passed before the end of the fourth session, particularly given your desire for pre-legislative scrutiny. Whilst we agree this important legislation requires careful scrutiny, we would suggest that the sooner this Bill comes before Parliament, the longer both Houses will have to carefully consider and debate it.

We therefore call on you to commit to a timetable that will ensure this legislation is passed by:

- Publishing a draft Bill in April
- Commencing the pre-legislative scrutiny (PLS) process as soon as the Bill is published
- Concluding the PLS process so that the Committee's report is published in September
- Announcing the final Bill in the King's Speech in November and tabling it shortly thereafter

The LGBTQ+ community has waited for far too long for the protections that have been repeatedly promised to us. The cost of this delay has been borne by those least able to bear it. That is why we call on you to now act, once and for all, to end all forms of this appalling abuse.

Yours sincerely,

The Ban Conversion Therapy Coalition

Chaired by Jayne Ozanne

Signed and supported by:

Aderonke Apata	Founder and CEO	African Rainbow Family
Patrick Corrigan	Head of Nations & Regions	Amnesty International UK
Stiofan O'Ceallaigh	Founder	Balaclava.Q
Oscar Hoyle	Founder & Director	Blossom LGBT CIC
Claire Prosho	Founder	Claire's Trans Talks
Katie Neeves	Founder	Cool2BTrans
Jane-ann Clark and Karyn Wood	Trustees & Project Manager	Cumbria LGBT Pride OutREACH Cumbria
Dr Liam Hackett	CEO	Ditch the Label
David Wheeler	Steering Group Member	Families Together London
Natacha Kennedy	Co-Chair	Feminist Gender Equality Network
Caroline Paige and Craig Jones MBE	Chief Executives	Fighting With Pride
Leni Morris	CEO	Galop
Darren Knight	CEO	George House Trust
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Rania Vamvaka	Co-Chair	Glitter Cymru
Mo Nadat	Secretary	Hidayah LGBT+
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Anjum Mouj	Trustee	Imaan Muslim LGBTQI+
Andy Hunt	CEO	Intercom Trust
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Max Cohen	Director	It's All About You Wellbeing CIC
Dominic Arnall	CEO	Just Like Us
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Alan Mercel-Sanca	Lead Officer	LGBT+ Network for Change
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Danielle St James	Chief Executive	Not A Phase
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Jeremy Marks	Founder	Post Courage
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Lisa Harvey-Nebil	CEO	The Proud Trust
Jamie Wareham	Director	QueerAF
Gerard Swan	Chair	Quest
John O'Doherty	Director	The Rainbow Project
Drew Dalton	Chair	ReportOUT
Pritpal Bhullar	Founder	Sikh LGBT+ Inclusion
Helen Walsh	CEO	Space Youth Project
Vicki Mulligan	Chair	Sparkle - The National Transgender Charity
Karen Skipper	CEO	Spectra
Nancy Kelley	CEO	Stonewall
Sarah Macadam	CEO	Thames Valley Positive Support
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Shash Appan	Co-Founder	Trans Aid Cymru
Dr Ben Vincent	Coordinator	Trans Learning Partnership
Steph Richards	Director	TransLucent
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Lucy and Avril Clark	Founders	Trans Radio UK
Daniel Browne	Chair	Warwickshire Pride
Riley Milligan	Trustee	Wolverhampton LGBT+
Lisa Power MBE	Activist	

Cc Rt Hon Kemi Badenoch MP, Secretary of State for Women and Equalities
Stuart Andrew MP, Minister for Equalities