

Questions:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the following information relating to the appointment of members to the Gender Identity Review Group and the Gender Identity Liaison Panel:

1. A copy of any register of interests, declarations of interest, or conflict of interest forms completed by members of:
 - a) the Gender Identity Review Group; and
 - b) the Gender Identity Liaison Panel.
2. Copies of the application forms, expression of interest forms, or equivalent documentation submitted by successful applicants appointed to the voluntary and community sector positions on the Gender Identity Review Group and to the Gender Identity Liaison Panel.
3. Copies of any guidance, criteria, scoring frameworks, or selection documentation used by the Department or the Patient and Client Council when assessing applicants for these positions.
4. Copies of any correspondence between the Department of Health and the Patient and Client Council relating to:
 - a) the recruitment process;
 - b) the criteria for appointment and
 - c) the desired representation or balance of stakeholders on the panels.
5. Copies of any minutes, briefing papers, or internal correspondence discussing the composition of the panels, including any consideration of representation from advocacy organisations, campaign groups or individuals with lived experience.
6. Copies of any documents listing the professional background, experience or organisational affiliations of the appointed panel members where this information was provided during the recruitment process.
7. Copies of any equality screening, impact assessments or governance documents relating to the establishment or membership of the Gender Identity Review Group or Gender Identity Liaison Panel.

Response:

In respect of points 1, 3, 6 and 7 above I can advise that the Department of Health does not hold information to inform a response to these points. The recruitment process was undertaken and managed by the Patient Client Council (PCC).

The PCC may hold information to assist on these aspects of your request – contact details are available on the PCC website at the following link: <https://pcc-ni.net/contact-us/freedom-of-information/>

In respect of points 2, 4 and 5 please find attached Appendices 1 through 57 for the information held relevant to these aspects of your request. Please note you will find some redactions throughout the material attached, primarily to remove identifiable information.

Appendix 35 contains a summary of the responses to a survey. Responses from private individuals have been redacted as it constitutes information provided in confidence. Further detail on the exemptions applied can be found in the Exemption Schedule in Appendix 58.

Appendices may be requested from the Information Management Branch (IMB) if required at the following address:

- FOI@health-ni.gov.uk

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