



ATTORNEY-GENERAL  
THE HON ROBERT McCLELLAND MP

09/31045, MC10/6438

Ms Kathy Anne Noble  
PO Box 897  
CLEVELAND QLD 4163

31 MAY 2010

Dear Ms Noble

I refer to your email dated 3 May 2010 regarding the *Sex Files: The legal recognition of sex in documents and government records*. I appreciate that the transgender community faces particular difficulties, and I would like to acknowledge the important efforts of the Australian Human Rights Commission in undertaking its sex and gender diversity project.

*Sex Files* makes 15 recommendations. To consider the issues which fall within the Australian Government's portfolio, namely recommendations 9-15, I am establishing a federal interdepartmental working group. A date for the first meeting of the working group, as well as its composition, will be settled shortly. The working group will discuss current priorities at its first meeting, including any need to conduct an audit of current requirements for the recording of gender in federal government documents and records.

I am conscious that there are divergent views within the community on the issues highlighted by *Sex Files*. The working group will consider the best ways to build on the community consultation already undertaken by the Australian Human Rights Commission, including direct consultation with community representatives.

I have written to my federal ministerial colleagues seeking their input and support on this issue. I have also written to my State and Territory counterparts, asking them to consider the issues which fall within their portfolios, namely, recommendations 1-9.

I trust this information will be of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert McClelland', written in a cursive style.

Robert McClelland