



**Hon Amber-Jade Sanderson MLA
Minister for Health; Mental Health**

Our Ref: 76-24381
Your Ref: A1022258 Petition No. 68

Hon Peter Foster MLC
Chair Legislative Council Committee
Parliament House
4 Harvest Terrace
WEST PERTH WA 6005

By email: env@parliament.wa.gov.au

Dear Mr Foster

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peter".

Thank you for your letter of 12 May 2023 regarding Petition No. 068 – LGBTIQ+ rights in Western Australia (WA).

I note that the petition calls for an amendment to Western Australian laws to stop deferable medical interventions on people born with variations of sex characteristics without the informed consent of that person, in line with the Darlingtong Statement.

I recognise the diverse experiences of people born with variations of sex characteristics and acknowledge that some people have expressed that the medical interventions they received as children, do not align with interventions they would consent to as adults.

The Western Australian Government has a strong track record in delivering legislative change to support the rights of the WA LGBTIQ+ community. Fundamental changes continue to be progressed, including a new framework for access to assisted reproductive technology, including an expansion to eligibility criteria and access to reciprocal IVF, and banning LGBTIQ+ conversion practices.

At this stage, the Western Australian Government is not able to commit to further legislative changes but remains committed to the implementation of the *Western Australia Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex (LGBTI) Health Strategy 2019-2024* to support the health and wellbeing of the LGBTIQ+ community.

Further to this, I note that the petition calls for a whole of government approach to LGBTIQ+ matters, and for the establishment of an Advisory Body. I acknowledge that LGBTIQ+ matters span the breadth of the remit of the State Government. As such, a decision to establish a whole of government Advisory Body would be a consideration for the Premier and Cabinet Ministers.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A Sanderson', written in a cursive style.

**HON AMBER-JADE SANDERSON MLA
MINISTER FOR HEALTH; MENTAL HEALTH**

01 AUG 2023