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## Premier of Western Australia

Our Ref: 59-363676

Hon Peter Foster MLC  
Chair  
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs  
Legislative Council Committee Office  
Parliament House  
4 Harvest Terrace  
WEST PERTH WA 6005  
[env@parliament.wa.gov.au](mailto:env@parliament.wa.gov.au)

Dear Mr Foster

### **PETITION NO. 68 - LGBTIQA+ RIGHTS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

Thank you for your letter dated 17 March on behalf of the Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs (the Committee) regarding Petition No. 068 – LGBTIQA+ rights in Western Australia (the Petition). Specifically, the Committee seeks the McGowan Government's response as to the Petition's request regarding a whole-of-government strategy.

I am proud to lead a government that is committed to supporting LGBTIQA+ people living in WA. We have already implemented many positive reforms, including progressing of the Western Australian Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex (LGBTI) Health Strategy 2019-2024 (the Strategy), and establishing and extending funding for the Youth Pride Network until 2025 to support the provision of advocacy services for Western Australia's LGBTIQA+ youth.

We continue to develop and implement policies and legislation that strive to achieve better outcomes for the LGBTIQA+ community. For example, as detailed by Minister Sanderson's correspondence to the Committee, we are progressing fundamental changes to legislation regarding reproductive technology, surrogacy and conversion therapy which will support LGBTIQA+ rights. The Attorney General's correspondence to the Committee highlighted important reforms being progressed through the review of the *Equal Opportunity Act 1984* (WA), and reforms pertaining to the Gender Reassignment Board.

These achievements and reforms reflect a whole-of-government commitment to promoting equality for LGBTIQ+ people in Western Australia. As the Attorney General has stated in his letter to the Committee dated 7 March 2023, whether a whole-of-government strategy would be a more effective approach to achieve positive change for the LGBTIQ+ community requires further consideration. I confirm that consideration of this matter is ongoing.

Thank you again for writing to me. I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark McGowan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark McGowan MLA  
**PREMIER**

- 6 MAY 2023