



Dear Kemi Badenoch,

9 January 2024

Request for a meeting to discuss LGBT+ issues

There have been reports of your limited interaction with prominent LGBT+ organisations – that you have not met with them or not for a prolonged period, despite saying that you have met “extensively” with “numerous” LGBT+ groups.

If true, this is worrying and I am sure you’d want to put it right by meeting with a broad cross section of LGBT+ organisations to hear their concerns.

In your capacity as the Women and Equalities Minister, you possess the unique ability to contribute to the establishment of a fairer and more just society for the LGBT+ community in the UK.

There is a majority consensus among LGBT+ people that the Government needs to do more to support trans people, tackle homophobic hate crime and ban LGBT+ conversion practices.

Under successive Conservative governments, the UK’s ranking in the European LGBT+ rights league table has fallen from first to 17th place. This is very disturbing and merits urgent rectification. A similar decline in health or education would rightfully be deemed a national disgrace.

Regrettably, reported instances of homophobic and transphobic hate crime are on the rise, propelled by often inflammatory, divisive and intolerant rhetoric.

Addressing these diverse issues is crucial to ensure the safety and well-being of our LGBT+ citizens.

To this end, I propose arranging a meeting with you, facilitated by the Peter Tatchell Foundation.

This gathering would provide you with the opportunity to engage - without strings or obligations - with representatives from esteemed organisations such as Galop UK, Stonewall, Mermaids, Trans in the City, Ozanne Foundation, Ban Conversion Therapy Coalition, Peter Tatchell Foundation and others.

By listening to the perspectives of a range of LGBT+ organisations, it will, I hope, help inform you and your policy making, as well as shape your input to the Conservative manifesto for the upcoming general election.

We are more than willing to organise a closed-door session at a location, date and time of your convenience. Simply inform us of your preference, and we will take care of the arrangements.

Promoting a more free and equal society is our aspiration and, I hope, yours. I believe this meeting could help advance that goal.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Tatchell". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Peter Tatchell

Director, Peter Tatchell Foundation

Email: Peter@PeterTatchellFoundation.org

Phone: 07795 077 065