Jan Gooding
Chair of the Board of Trustees
Stonewall
192 St John St
EC1V 4JY

cc: Jonathan Best

9th October 2018

Dear Jan

You may be aware of our recent letter to The Times newspaper (Thursday 4th October) and the petition that was set up to ask Stonewall to debate the many issues around sex, gender and transgender activism. https://www.ipetitions.com/petition/dear-stonewall-please-reconsider-your-approach

That same day, Thursday 4th October, both Jonathan Best and Ruth Hunt were interviewed on BBC Radio 4's PM Programme. Ruth repeated that "Transwomen are women" and went so far as to say that this is the stated legal position as set out in the Equality Act of 2010. Ruth also stated no debate was necessary.

This was a real disappointment because the whole point of our letter to The Times was to ask Stonewall to start opening up the discussion. We are entirely committed to dialogue, so we would like to meet you to explore possible ways forward. The petition has nearly 6,000 signatures so far and 1,265 comments. Of the people who have left comments, the clear majority have three things in common:

1. A long history of supporting gay, lesbian & transsexual rights
2. A strong belief that all views should be heard on a vital matter of public policy (the GRA Consultation) and therefore Stonewall should change its position and allow debate
3. A sadness – and in some cases anger - that the once respected Stonewall has lost its way and abandoned so many of its former supporters

We urge you to take these comments seriously and to agree to meet us as representatives of a large group of people who want Stonewall to hear them – and consider reforming the current policy.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

Kate Harris

Former Stonewall Supporter