

14th February 2023

Dear Iain,

First of all, congratulations on becoming Chair of Stonewall. I am the chair of another gay charity, LGB Alliance - and I'm sure we can agree that neither of us has an easy gig here. But I am also assuming we are both doing our charitable jobs to do some good for humanity.

I listened with great interest to your interview with Nick Robinson last week. I note that you believe in a Big Tent philosophy and that you don't dismiss people who disagree with you as transphobic.

Please understand that everyone I work with at LGB Alliance has only one objective and that is to help gay, lesbian and bisexual people to have a good life free from discrimination and harassment. And although we don't represent trans people (nor Q+) we recognise the suffering of people with gender dysphoria and respect and uphold their rights to a good life free from discrimination and harassment too.

Everyone calls this a toxic debate but I honestly believe things can get better for everyone if well-intentioned people are able to discuss things.

I know we may never agree on many things - but as a fellow Scot, who also set up and ran a successful business, I feel we have many things in common.

Would you be prepared to meet up without any set agenda and totally confidentially if you wish, to see if two chairs of charitable organisations can start to mend the divides?

Your sincerely,



Eileen Gallagher OBE
Chair of LGB Alliance