

Changeling Aspects

Kathy Anne Noble

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To whom it may concern,

The attached is my answer to the Health Minister's Office about our concerns in the Trans community. This is with regard to the E Card and some very pertinent questions so far as we are concerned.

Our main problems lie in the fact that many of us do not wish to have our passed exposed either before or after Sex Affirmation surgery, as it can cause many more problems than many could handle. Some have even been driven to suicide because people have found out about their past. To have details of surgery and medication on the E Card would exacerbate those problems.

One of our big worries is the fact that if we are put onto "Androcur" we are listed as "Sexual Deviants" and this is no where near the truth. We understand that, that wording remains on our records, even after surgery.

Another problem that we face, is the inordinate amount of documentation that we are expected to amend (40 plus items) This of itself places immense pressures on us, and some cannot face all of this added pressure, so again, our health can become impaired due to frustration and depression, that can and does lead to suicidality. Add to this the costs involved for not just surgery, but drugs and hormones and the possibility of not having a job to provide an income that will allow you to pay for these items, and to save for surgery. There is currently no funding for any of our medical needs. I know that we do get rebates after surgery from Medicare and private health if in that. However, if you have no job, then private health is precluded as it cannot be afforded.

I have had several replies from the Minister's Office, but so far, nothing to allay our fears that our full history would be displayed for all to read, as is the current situation in regard to all Government departments and Agencies.

Health Insurance Commission will allow us to be issued with new Medicare and Private health care cards in our new name, but the sex on the central records are not changed until after Surgery. Therefore, if people are unable to have sex affirmation surgery, because of lack of funds, do not wish to or it would be life threatening, their records will not be changed. They may live and be accepted as a woman/man, but the records do not show that when scanned.

Yours Sincerely, Kathy Anne Noble.
President, Changeling Aspects