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Mr Michael Tatham  
Clerk  
Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory  
GPO Box 3721  
DARWIN NT 0801

Via email: [Michael.tatham@nt.gov.au](mailto:Michael.tatham@nt.gov.au)

Dear Mr Tatham

Thank you for your letter of 28 November 2018 seeking the Government's response to recommendations 5 and 6 of the Social Policy Scrutiny Committee report 'Inquiry into the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2018' (the report), pursuant to Standing Order 201(1).

Recommendations 5 and 6 of the report relate to the undertaking of consultation in developing a second tranche of amendments relating to compliance of Northern Territory laws with the *Marriage Amendment (Definition and Religious Freedoms) Act 2017* (Cth) and the *Sex Discrimination Act 1984* (Cth).

The Government accepts recommendations 5 and 6 of the report. On 29 November 2018, during the debate on the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2018, I indicated Government's intent that there will be consultation relating to gender categories in the regulations during the second tranche of amendments.

I confirm that consultation will be conducted during the development of the second tranche of amendments. This will include consultation in relation to whether additional categories of sex and gender should be made available under the *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Regulations*.

Yours sincerely

NATASHA FYLES

20 DEC 2018

