

House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

30 April 2025

Dear Deborah,

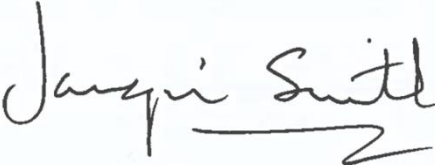
I would like to make a correction to an answer I gave when replying to your remarks during the ministerial statement on the 'For Women Scotland' Supreme Court ruling which took place on Thursday 24th April.

During the debate, I misspoke when I said "but this is a judgment long in the making. It began in 2018 when Scottish Ministers issued guidance on the definition of a woman in the eyes of the Gender Representation on Public Boards (Scotland) Act 2018. That guidance stated that a woman in that Act bears the same meaning as a woman in the Equality Act 2010, and included trans women with a gender recognition certificate."

Instead, I should have said "but this is a judgment long in the making. It began in 2018 when the Scottish Parliament passed the Gender Representation on Public Boards (Scotland) Act. The definition of woman in this Act was overturned by the Scottish courts. Scottish Ministers issued revised guidance on the definition of a woman which stated that a woman in that Act bears the same meaning as a woman in the Equality Act 2010 – and included trans women with a Gender Recognition Certificate."

I have requested that a copy of this letter be deposited in the Libraries of the Houses of Parliament.

Yours sincerely,



Rt Hon. Baroness Smith of Malvern
Minister for Women and Equalities