



# LEEDS BECKETT STUDENTS' UNION

making students' lives better

**POL-2012/13-002**

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**Seconded:** Meg Robinson

Passed: 2012/13

Retained: October 2016

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## SELF-DEFINITION OPTIONS FOR NON-BINARY GENDERS

### Union Notes

1. A Home Office funded study published by the equality and human rights commission estimate the number of Trans people in the UK to be between 300,000 and 500,000.
2. Data disclosed to the Higher Education Statistics Agency includes a category for 'indeterminate', which does not refer to Trans or non-binary people, but to intersex people.
3. There are transgender, intersex, and non-binary gendered students on campus.
4. Some people define outside of the gender binary altogether and may wish to describe their identity using words including (but not limited to) genderqueer, bi-gender, androgynous, third gender, or genderfluid.
5. Terms used to describe non-binary gender are specific and should not be used interchangeably.
6. When completing compulsory paperwork or surveys that request demographic information students may be asked to state their gender.

### Union Believes

1. There is no reason, legal or otherwise, for students' registered gender to be based on their recorded sex or assigned gender.
2. Many online forms cannot be submitted without selecting a gender option.
3. Being forced to select from binary gender options of male or female can alienate students and discourage participation.
4. Students should be able to freely define their own gender.

### Union Resolves

1. To provide the option for students to specify their own non-binary gender identity on Union surveys.
2. To provide the option 'prefer not to select' where possible in Union surveys.
3. To lobby the University to take an equivalent approach.