

Office for Women
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
PO Box 6500
Canberra ACT 2600

12 April 2023

To Whom it May Concern,

RE: Submission to the public consultation on the National Strategy to Achieve Gender Equality, coordinated by the Office for Women.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the public consultation on the National Strategy to Achieve Gender Equality. This submission is made on behalf of Children by Choice.

Children by Choice welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on the *National Strategy to Achieve Gender Equality*. We recognise the evidence showing that several areas of gender equality have stalled or slowed, and that this is not only holding women back but is a brake on our progress as a country.

Limiting girls' and women's access to essential reproductive healthcare and their right to make decisions about their own lives also risks reversing progress to achieve gender equality.

Our submission details clear recommendations to ensure access to and availability of reproductive healthcare is considered as vital to achieving gender equality.

Our submission to the Senate inquiry into universal access to reproductive healthcare explores further detail and recommendations and supports the key recommendations in this submission. It can be found online <https://www.childrenbychoice.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/CbyC-Senate-Inquiry-2022.pdf>

Children by Choice consents to this submission being published and shared publicly. We welcome an invitation to speak to the Office for Women regarding this submission.

Kind Regards

Daile Kelleher – CEO

