

**RESEARCH INTO ARRANGEMENTS
IN OTHER COUNTRIES FOR
PEOPLE WHO WISH TO CHANGE
GENDER**

for

The Lord Chancellor's Department

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*Joyce Plotnikoff and Richard Woolfson
Consultants in Management, ICT and the Law
Cheldene
Church Lane
Preston
Hitchin
Herts SG4 7TP
Tel: 01462 457555
Fax: 01462 457229
E-mail: woolfsonR@aol.com*

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RESULTS OF ENQUIRIES

	AUSTRIA	DENMARK	FINLAND	SWEDEN
Authorising body for considering applications	REGISTRAR OF CIVIL STATUS, but questions about transsexual persons in Austria touch the sphere of competence as well of the Bundesministerium für Inneres (Austrian Home Office), of the Bundesministerium für soziale Sicherheit und Generationen (Ministry of Social affairs) and of the Bundesministerium für Justiz (Ministry of Justice).	MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, CIVIL LAW DIVISION Anyone seeking to undergo gender reassignment surgery must apply to the Civil Law Division of the Ministry of Justice	“MAISTRAATTI” (Registry Office)	An independent subsidiary of the National Board of Health and Welfare known as the ‘Legal Council’ or Rättsliga Rådet
Who sits on this body?				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a judge as chairman • 2 or 3 physicians, one of whom is the rapporteur • 1 social scientist, currently a behaviourist • 1 layman
Are they paid?				Yes
How often do they meet?				Every two weeks (they discuss other matters as well as gender change which accounts for about 20 of roughly 100 items discussed each year)
Is there a fee for making an application?	Yes	No		Only the usual health-care fee (amount not known)

	AUSTRIA	DENMARK	FINLAND	SWEDEN
If YES, how much is the fee	Euro 15.10 (about £11) The cost of the entire process is about 4,500.00 (presumably euro, therefore a little over £3,000). This does not include hormone substitution, the cost of the operation, and divorce fees.			
Is change of gender provided for in legislation/statute?	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
What documentary evidence must applicants provide?	Authorisation from the judicial medical authority to proceed with an operation to change gender. After the operation, a petition to change the gender entry in the birth records.	A medical diagnosis for being transsexual	A medical statement signed by two psychiatrists (from the 2 treating university hospitals). This statement has to include the following: the person permanently believes that he/she belongs to the other gender, and he/she leads a life in this gender role, and he/she is sterilized or is for some other reason not able to conceive	An application form Birth certificate & proof of civil status Psychiatrist's opinion and formal report Proof of sterilisation

	AUSTRIA	DENMARK	FINLAND	SWEDEN
What criteria are applied?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • unmarried • the applicant must be living in the desired gender and have undergone detailed psychological assessment and medical examination and a year's hormone treatment (see e-mail in Appendix A for details). The results must have been scrutinised and approved by the judicial/medical Board of Vienna University. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “betydelige sjaelelige lidelser” in English ‘considerable mental suffering’ • unmarried • the applicant must undergo gender reassignment surgery before the new gender is acquired. If the Civil Law Division approves an application, it then “authorises” the operation to take place and informs the Civil Registry who amend the birth certificate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an adult • sterile • unmarried, but if a person is married and the spouse gives an informed consent, the marriage automatically changes into a "rekisteröity parisuhde" at the time of the gender change. This registered relationship means a marriage-like relationship between two people of the same gender. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at least 18 years old • sterile • unmarried • the applicant must have felt born into the wrong gender since youth, have lived in this situation for a long time and can be expected to continue to do so for the foreseeable future • completion of a one-year life test and at least two-year consultation period
Which citizens can apply to change gender?	Austrian citizens resident in Austria and persons without any citizenship resident in Austria	Danish citizens resident in Denmark and citizens of other countries who are resident in Denmark	Finnish citizens (wherever resident) and citizens of other countries living permanently in Finland. Formal gender changes made in another country are accepted in Finland without any Finnish procedures.	Swedish citizens, whether resident abroad or in Sweden
Is there a limit on the number of times an individual can apply to change gender?	No	No	No	No
Is there an appeal against a refusal to	Yes	No	Yes	Yes

	AUSTRIA	DENMARK	FINLAND	SWEDEN
grant an application?				
If YES, what body hears the appeal?	Supreme Administrative Court is the final court of appeal		Firstly to an administrative court and then to the Supreme Administrative Court	A public administrative court
If a successful applicant later wants to revert to their original gender, must they go through the same process again?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes: possibly not the whole process but a decision by the Legal Council is necessary after the usual report and opinion from a psychiatrist
Other information about gender change			Finland enacted legislation on transsexuals and this legislation came into force in January 2003. Diagnosis and treatment are concentrated in two university hospitals. Gender transformation surgery takes place in only one hospital. In each of the hospitals there has to be a multi-professional working group responsible for treatment arrangements. This group is led by a psychiatrist.	Officially, the number of applications granted is between 20 and 25 per year (total number of applicants not known). Proportion of 'male to female' applicants is slightly larger than 'female to male'

APPENDIX A: INFORMATION SOURCES

AUSTRIA

Extract from Annex 4 of the Report of the Interdepartmental Working Group on Transsexual People, July 2000. Respondents have confirmed that it remains accurate

Austria provides for the formal recognition of a change of gender. In order to gain recognition of the acquired gender the person in question must be diagnosed as transsexual and must then undergo psychotherapy treatment for a year (at least 50 hours). They must also have started hormone treatment at that time and take a “real life test” which considers the social aspects of living in their newly acquired gender. This is followed by a psychotherapeutic assessment which, if positive, leads to a decision by the Vienna Medical Examiner as to whether this treatment can be suspended and gender reassignment surgery performed. Before surgery it is necessary to obtain the expert opinion of the Medical Examiner in order to apply for recognition of the change of gender. The Examiner must be satisfied that:

- the applicant has lived for a long time with the compulsive idea of belonging to the opposite sex, and that it has caused him/her to undergo measures of sex reassignment
- these measures have led to a visible approach to the appearance of the opposite sex
- it is probable that his/her feeling of belonging to the opposite sex will not change
- any pre-existing marriage has been dissolved.

The Medical Examiner later confirms that that the operation actually took place and was successful before providing the required documentation to enable the birth certificate to be amended. The amended certificate will then be issued to the transsexual person in their acquired gender.

Following formal recognition of a change of gender, a transsexual person may marry in their acquired gender. The Registry Officer will ensure that the necessary documentation is in order following the operation before a marriage can take place.

Information provided by e-mail by Austrian citizen who has changed gender. Original in German. English translation provided below:

Sehr geehrter Herr Woolfson,
Dear Mr. Woolfson

gerne bin ich Ihnen behilflich und informiere Sie über die rechtliche, medizinische und psychologische Situation für Transgender Personen die eine Geschlechtsanpassung anstreben bzw. durchführen.

I am glad to help and inform you about the legal, medical, and psychological situation for transgender people who hope to have a gender adaptation or indeed go through with it.

Ich sende Ihnen per Post ein kleines Buch das als Leitfaden für Transgender Personen alle erforderlichen Maßnahmen zur Geschlechtsanpassung(Umwandlung) beschreibt. Darin enthalten sind auch alle Adressen von Ämtern, Behörden, Mediziner und Psychologen die sich mit der Thematik beschäftigen.

I am sending you by post a small book that serves as a guide for transgender people, describing all measures required for gender adaptation (sex change).[NB: Vivian uses the term ‘gender adaptation’ but here indicates this is the same as sex change] The guide contains the addresses for all the offices, authorities, doctors, and psychologists who deal with this issue.

Vorweg die wichtigsten Schritte zur Geschlechtsanpassung
To begin with, the most important steps for gender adaptation are:

1. 50 Stunden psychotherapeutische Behandlung und Gutachten
50 hours psychotherapeutic treatment and assessment
2. Psychiatrische Diagnosestellung und Gutachten

psychiatric diagnosis and assessment

3. Psychologische Diagnostik und Gutachten
psychological diagnosis and assessment
4. Endokrinologische und zytogenetische Untersuchung
endocrinology and cytogenetic examination
5. Hormonsubstitution mindestens 1 Jahr und Leben im Wunschgeschlecht (Real Life Test)
hormone substitution for at least 1 year and living in desired gender (Real Life Test)
6. Urologisch-gynäkologische Untersuchung und Befundung\
urological-gynecological examination and medical report
7. Neuerliche psychiatrische Diagnosestellung und Gutachten
Renewed psychiatric diagnosis and expert opinion
8. Prüfung aller vorhergegangenen Befunde und Gutachten durch Gerichtsmedizin der Universität Wien. Es darf keine Ehegemeinschaft bestehen.
Examination of all preceding diagnostics and expert opinions by the judicial/legal medical [board, authority] of Vienna University. There may not be any marriage.
9. Operationsfreigabe durch Gerichtsmedizin
Authorization from the judicial medical authority to go ahead with the operation.
10. Nach Operation Antrag auf Änderung der Geschlechtseintragung im Geburtenbuch. Dieser Antrag erfolgt an das Geburtsstandesamt, das die Ersteintragung nach Geburt vorgenommen hat.
After the operation, petition to change the gender entry in the birth records.
11. Antrag wird an das Ministerium für Innere Sicherheit, Zuständigkeitsbereich Personenstandsangelegenheiten, weitergeleitet. Dieses Amt richtet ein Gutachteransuchen an die Gerichtsmedizin zur Erstellung eines weiteren Gutachten welches die körperliche Anpassung durch Operation untersucht und bestätigt.
The petition is sent to the Ministry of the Interior [? lit: Ministry for Domestic Security], to the authority for family affairs. This office directs a request to the judicial medical authority for another expert assessment, this time to examine and verify the physical adaptation carried out through the operation.
12. Nach positivem Gutachten wird dem Ansuchen durch Ministerium für Inneres im Sinne der Antragstellung stattgegeben und an das Geburtsstandesamt zurückergeleitet.
After a positive assessment, the Ministry of the Interior grants the petition [to change the gender entry on the birth record] and sends it back to the birth registry office.
13. Geburtsstandesamt ändert Eintragung im Geburtsbuch auf das neue Geschlecht und stellt eine Geburtsurkunde mit dem angepaßten Geschlecht aus.
The birth registry office changes the entry in the birth record to the new sex/gender, and issues a new birth certificate with the adapted sex.
14. Damit können nun alle staatlichen Dokumente wie Reisepass auf das angepaßte Geschlecht beantragt werden.
With this, all state-issued documents, such as passport, can be applied for with the right sex.
15. Für die angepaßte Person besteht Rechtsnachfolge, d.h. alle früher vereinbarten Rechtsvereinbarungen behalten ihre Gültigkeit.
For the adapted/adjusted person [sic], legal succession [reversion?] applies, that is, all previous legal agreements remain in force.

Kosten des gesamten Prozesses ca? 4.500,00. Nicht enthalten Hormonsubstitution, Operationskosten und Kosten für Ehescheidung.

The cost of the entire process is about 4,500.00. This does not include hormone substitution, the cost of the operation, and divorce fees.

Ich sende Ihnen eine Kopie meines Rechtsaktes und den Leitfaden für Transgender Personen per Post zu.
I am sending you via Post a copy of my legal dossier as well as the guide for transgender persons.

Zusammenfassung

Summary

Bei Einhaltung der angeführten Schritte wird das Ansuchen auf Geschlechtsanpassung problemlos und zügig erledigt und dem Wunsch des(der) Antragstellers(in) stattgegeben. Bei Abweichung, z.B. bereits erfolgte Operation im Ausland oder fehlende Gutachten, gibt es Probleme bis Ablehnung, da kein eindeutiger Rechtsanspruch auf Geschlechtsanpassung besteht. Es existiert nur ein Erlaß des Ministeriums für Arbeit, Gesundheit und Soziales der den Behandlungsprozeß für transsexuelle Personen empfiehlt.

By adhering to the prescribed steps, the application for gender adaptation is processed efficiently and without problems, and the request of the applicant is granted. Any deviation, however, such as a previously effected operation abroad or missing expert assessments, can lead to problems including refusal, since there is no unambiguous legal right to have a gender adaptation. There is only an order/decreed by the Ministry for Labor, Health, and Social Affairs that recommends the medical treatment process for transsexual persons.

Ein eindeutiges Gesetz war und ist auf Grund der politischen Mehrheitsverhältnisse der österreichischen Gesellschaft nicht durchsetzbar und es wird auch noch einige Zeit so bleiben.

It has been in the past and remains today impossible to pass an unequivocal law on this matter because of the political majorities in Austrian society, and it will stay that way for some time.

Als Betroffene kann ich aber feststellen, daß diese österreichische Lösung eine sehr hilfreiche und erfolgreiche ist und bei Einhaltung der angeführten Schritte problemlos die angestrebte Geschlechtsanpassung ermöglicht.

As an affected party, however, I can say that the Austrian solution is very helpful and successful, and facilitates the desired gender adaptation by adhering to the prescribed steps.

Gerne stehe ich für weitere Informationen zur Verfügung und wünsche Ihnen bei Ihren Bemühungen viel Erfolg.
I remain at your service to gladly provide any further information and wish you much success in your endeavour.

Liebe Grüße
Warmest wishes,

Vivian Happenhofer



LORD CHANCELLOR'S DEPARTMENT

QUESTIONNAIRE ON PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO APPLICATIONS TO CHANGE GENDER

Please put your answers in this column

<p>Country:</p> <p>Authorising body for considering applications (for the formal recognition of the change of gender)</p>	<p>AUSTRIA</p> <p>Registrar of Civil status (The Vienna Medical Examiner gives only expertise on medical questions, which are relevant for the approval of the application)</p>
<p>Is there a fee for making an application (please tick)?</p> <p>If YES, how much is the fee?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <u>YES</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>NO</u></p> <p>Euro 15,10</p>
<p>Please mark all categories that can apply to change gender</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Austrian citizens resident in Austria</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Austrian citizens resident abroad</u></p> <p>+ <u>Persons without any citizenship resident in Austria</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Citizens of other countries resident in Austria</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Citizens of other countries visiting Austria</u></p>
<p>Is there a limit on the number of times an individual can apply to change gender?</p> <p>If YES, how many times can an individual apply to change gender?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <u>YES</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>NO</u></p>
<p>Is there an appeal against a refusal to grant an application?</p> <p>If YES, what body hears the appeal?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <u>YES</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>NO</u></p> <p>Last instance is the Supreme Administrative Court</p>
<p>If a successful applicant later wants to revert to their original gender, must they go through the same process again?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <u>YES</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>NO</u></p>

DENMARK

Extract from Annex 4 of the Report of the Interdepartmental Working Group on Transsexual People, July 2000. Respondents have confirmed that it remains accurate with marked updates

A change of gender will be recognised in Denmark. Anyone seeking to undergo gender reassignment surgery must **apply to** ~~notify~~ the Civil Law Division (CLD) of the Ministry of Justice ~~prior to the operation~~. The CLD **can** ~~will~~ “authorise” the operation to take place and will also inform the Civil Registry who will amend the birth certificate. A person is deemed to have acquired the new gender after gender reassignment surgery. The original entry in the Registry will be struck out and will refer to the new entry giving the new gender. The fact that this was the result of gender reassignment surgery will be noted in the observations.

The CLD also gives the individual the right to apply for a new CPR (civil register) number. This number is normally assigned to each citizen at birth (or on taking up residence in Denmark) and is used as a single ID number for all dealings with the authorities (educational, social, accommodation, tax, etc.). The last number identifies the gender. Citizens or residents who undergo gender reassignment overseas can apply retrospectively for the same recognition on application to the CLD, on provision of relevant medical documentation.



LORD CHANCELLOR'S DEPARTMENT

QUESTIONNAIRE ON PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO APPLICATIONS TO CHANGE GENDER

Please put your answers in this column

Country	DENMARK
Authorising body for considering applications	MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, CIVIL LAW DIVISION
Is there a fee for making an application (please tick)? If YES, how much is the fee?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
Is change of gender provided for in legislation/statute?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
What criteria must be satisfied before an application to change gender is granted?	“betydelige sjælelige lidelser” in English i.e. considerable mental sufferings
What documentary evidence must applicants provide?	Medical diagnosis for being transsexual
Please mark all categories that can apply to change gender	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Danish citizens resident in Denmark <input type="checkbox"/> Danish citizens resident abroad <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Citizens of other countries resident in Denmark <input type="checkbox"/> Citizens of other countries visiting Denmark
Is there a limit on the number of times an individual can apply to change gender? If YES, how many times can an individual apply?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
Is there an appeal against a refusal to grant an application? If YES, what body hears the appeal?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
If a successful applicant later wants to revert to their original gender, must they go through the same process again?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Does an existing marriage have to be ended before an application to change gender is granted?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

FINLAND

Extract from Annex 4 of the Report of the Interdepartmental Working Group on Transsexual People, July 2000. Respondents have confirmed that it remains accurate

Treatment of the transsexual condition or a change of legal gender is not dealt with by legislation, but by established interpretations and different established practices. Current practice is based on a 1988 ruling by the Supreme Administrative Court under which the population Register Centre will change the PIN number designating the gender of a transsexual person. Pre-operative transsexual persons may apply to a Local Register Office (LRO) to change their first name and PIN number (which shows a person's gender and is widely used for identification purposes). They must produce a statement from a psychiatrist treating the person; the psychiatrist may issue a statement once examinations have produced a diagnosis testifying to the person's transsexual condition. Before changing the PIN number the LRO requires the transsexual person to have undergone hormonal treatment for about one year - surgery is not a pre-requirement for changing a person's legal gender.

The registration of same-sex partnerships became legal in Finland on 1 March 2002. This makes it legal for transsexuals to register either heterosexual or same-sex partnerships. Legally, there is no distinction made between pre- and post-operative transsexuals. A transsexual is considered to be the gender that they are registered as in the Population Information System.

A Bill amending the criteria by which people can legally change their sex has gone before Parliament. According to the proposal the Local Register Office can confirm that a person belongs to the opposite sex as to the information on their sex in the Population Information System, if he or she:

- a) presents medical evidence that he or she permanently experiences that he or she belongs to the opposite sex and that he or she lives in the sex role of this sex and that he or she has been sterilised or that he or she of another reason cannot reproduce;
- b) is an adult;
- c) is not married nor in a registered partnership;
- d) is a Finnish citizen or has his or her habitual residence in Finland.

When the Local Register Office has confirmed a person's sex, the Population Information System is updated to take account of the change. This means that that the person will be given a new PIN number. The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health will issue guidelines about any changes in the medical evidence needed for a person to change their sex.

Text of E-mails received from Termi Hermanson

dear Mr Woolfson,

finland enacted legislation on transsexuals and this legislation came into force january 2003. diagnosis and treatment are concentrated into two university hospitals. gender transformation surgery takes place in only one hospital. in each of the hospitals there has to be a multiprofessional working group responsible for treatment arrangements, this group is led by a psychiatrist.

first name can be changed easily but in order to change gender formally following conditions have to be fulfilled: is an adult, is a Finnish citizen or lives permanently in Finland, presents a medical statement signed by two psychiatrists (from the 2 treating university hospitals). this statement has to include the following: the person permanently believes to belong to the other gender, and he/she leads a life in this gender role, and he/she is sterilized or is for some other reason not able to conceive.

formal gender changes made in some other country are accepted in Finland

(without any Finnish procedures).
yours sincerely, Terhi Hermanson, senior medical officer

>1. What is the name of the body that considers
>formal applications to change
>gender?

"MAISTRAATTI", (CITY REGISTRY)

>2. Is a fee charged for making an application? If
> so, how much is it?

I DON'T KNOW

>3. Is there a limit on the number of times an
>individual can apply to change

>gender? NO

>4. Is there an appeal against a refusal to grant
>an application? If so, what

>body hears the appeal? ONE CAN APPEAL TO AN ADMINISTRATIVE COURT AND FROM
THERE TO THE SUPREME ADMINISTRATIVE COURT

>>5. If a successful applicant later wants to

>revert to their original gender,

>must they go through the same process again?

YES

>6. Does an existing marriage have to be ended

>before an application to change

>gender is granted?

BASICALLY, THE PERSON CAN NOT BE MARRIED AT THE TIME OF THE GENDER CHANGE.
HOWEVER, IF A PERSON IS MARRIED AND THE SPOUSE GIVES AN INFORMED CONSENT, THE
MARRIAGE AUTOMATICALLY CHANGES INTO A "REKISTERÖITY PARISUHDE" AT THE TIME OF
THE GENDER CHANGE. THIS REGISTERED RELATIONSHIP MEANS A MARRIAGE-LIKE
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TWO PEOPLE OF THE SAME GENDER.

Terhi Hermanson

SWEDEN

Extract from Annex 4 of the Report of the Interdepartmental Working Group on Transsexual People, July 2000. Respondents have confirmed that it remains accurate with marked updates

Legal provisions are contained in the Act on the Determination of Gender in Certain Cases (1972: 119) last amendment 1995:23. Application for recognition of a change of gender is made to the National Board of Health and Welfare. The Board **and its independent Legal Council** will, in practice, recognise a change of gender after completion of the “one year life test” (the actual time is not laid down in law) but the person must also have been in contact with a psychiatrist and a National Board of Health and Welfare evaluation team **(in one of the Swedish University Hospitals authorised to deal with gender change investigations)** for at least two years before lodging an application for a change of gender. Hormonal treatment can start after nine months of consultation (but in practice is not normally allowed before one year has passed). Applications for gender reassignment surgery are only allowed after the Board has presented its ruling at the end of the ~~two-year~~ **consultation** period. This requires the applicant to be:

- 18 years of age
- unmarried
- sterile
- a Swedish citizen
- “a person who since their youth feels that he is of a gender other than that which is recorded in the Population Register and who for long has lived in this situation and who can be expected to continue to do so for the foreseeable future” (1972:119, chap. Par 1)
- have fulfilled the one-year life test and **at least** two-year consultation period.

Legally the change of gender is recognised only after the new national identity number is obtained following the ruling of the National Board of Health and Welfare.

Following the Board ruling, a transsexual person has legal recognition in their new gender for all purposes, including marriage.

In criminal proceedings, a transsexual person would be required to disclose their previous gender in court if this were relevant eg if the events in question had occurred prior to the change of gender.

A post-operative transsexual prisoner would be sent to a prison for their acquired gender. Problems might arise during the change process but no such cases have actually occurred. Although these potential difficulties have been discussed, it was decided that no “special treatment” should be in place.

RÄTTSLIGA RÅDET
Göran Ewerlöf

Dear Alex Knapton,

I have got an e-mail from You concerning Rättsliga Rådet (RR) in Sweden. I am the chairman of RR and shall try to answer Your questions.

RR is an public authority which deals with a variety of matters. In some matters RR makes decisions for example in matters concerning abortion, sterilization, insemination and changing gender. In other matters RR shall deliver an opinion to courts or authorities for example in medical or psychiatric matters.

RR consists of a chairman who is a judge. I am head of division in the Superior Court of Stockholm (Svea hovrätt). Moreover there are in matters concerning change of gender two physicians, one of whom is the rapporteur, one behaviourist and one layman.

Matters concerning change of gender are classified.

The criteria for the approval of RR is that the matter concerns a person who since his/her youth feels that he/she is of a gender other than that which is recorded in the Population Register and who for long has lived in this situation and who can be expected to continue to do so for foreseeable future. The person must have fulfilled the one-year life test and two-year consultation period.

The charge for change of gender is the usual health-care fee.

By that I hope I have answered Your questions.

Med vänliga hälsningar

Göran Ewerlöf



LORD CHANCELLOR'S DEPARTMENT

QUESTIONNAIRE ON PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO APPLICATIONS TO CHANGE GENDER

Response from The National Board of Health and Welfare

Please put your answers in this column

Country:	SWEDEN
Authorising body for considering applications	THE NATIONAL BOARD OF HEALTH AND WELFARE
Who sits on this body (role, qualifications etc.)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A judge as chairman - 2 physicians one of whom is the rapporteur - 1 behaviourist - 1 layman
Are they paid?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
How often do they meet?	
Is there a fee for making an application (please tick)? If YES, how much is the fee?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES The usual health-care fee <input type="checkbox"/> NO
What documentary evidence must applicants provide?	A report from a physician
Can Swedish citizens resident abroad apply to change gender?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Is there a limit on the number of times an individual can apply to change gender?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
If YES, how many times can an individual apply?	
Is there an appeal against a refusal to grant an application?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
If YES, what body hears the appeal?	County Administrative Court
If a successful applicant later wants to revert to their original gender, must they go through the same process again?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO



LORD CHANCELLOR'S DEPARTMENT

QUESTIONNAIRE ON PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO APPLICATIONS TO CHANGE GENDER

Response from Ombudsman

Please put your answers in this column

Country:	SWEDEN
Authorising body for considering applications	THE NATIONAL BOARD OF HEALTH AND WELFARE <i>and in practice its independent subsidiary "Legal Council"</i>
Who sits on this body (role, qualifications etc.)?	Chairman (a lawyer with judge experience) Three general practitioners (psychiatrists) One social scientists One layman N.B. This said as a general rule
Are they paid?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
How often do they meet?	Every second week (see note a.)
Is there a fee for making an application (please tick)? If YES, how much is the fee?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
What documentary evidence must applicants provide?	Application form (see note b.) Birth certificate and proof of civil status Psychiatrist's opinion and formal report Proof of sterilisation
Can Swedish citizens resident abroad apply to change gender?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Is there a limit on the number of times an individual can apply to change gender?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
If YES, how many times can an individual apply?	
Is there an appeal against a refusal to grant an application?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
If YES, what body hears the appeal?	By a Public Administrative Court
If a successful applicant later wants to revert to their original gender, must they go through the same process again?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES (see note c.) <input type="checkbox"/> NO

- a. Other matters of a general psychiatric character than just gender change are also dealt with within the council. Of around 100 matters per year only about 20 concern gender change.

- b. Not found in a computerised and readable format. For information please contact THE NATIONAL BOARD OF HEALTH AND WELFARE (www.sos.se).
- c. Possibly not the whole process, but a decision by the legal council is necessary after the usual formal report and opinion from a psychiatrist.
- d. Officially the number of applications granted is between 20 and 25 per year in Sweden. It is not possible to give you the total number of applicants. This information could be obtained from those hospitals (Umeå, Uppsala, Huddinge, Linköping, Gothenburg and Lund) that deal with this kind of medical consultation. The proportion MtF is slightly larger than FtM.

APPENDIX B: NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS OF THOSE PROVIDING INFORMATION

Austria

Frau. Vivian Happenhofer
Achtelfeldstraße 1
A-2522 Oberwaltersdorf
Osterreich
Telephone: +43 2253 6323; Mobile: +43 676 504 34 66
E-Mail: *vivian.happenhofer@aon.at*

Mag. Gudrun Dürrigl
Bundesministerium für Justiz
E-Mail: *gudrun.duerrigl@bmj.gv.at*

Denmark

Marianne Holdgaard
Assistant Professor
Department of Private Law
University of Aarhus
Bartholins Allé
DK-8000 Aarhus C
DENMARK
E-mail: *MH@jura.au.dk*

Finland

Terhi Hermanson
Senior Medical Officer, MD, PhD, MSc
Ministry of Social Affairs and Health
Health Department
PO Box 33 (Meritullinkatu 8)
FIN-00023 GOVERNMENT
FINLAND
Telephone: +358 9 160 73901, Fax: +358 9 160 74714
E-mail: *terhi.hermanson@stm.vn.fi*

See also Registry Office website (in English) www.maistraatti.fi/en/index.html

Sweden

Jörgen Nilsson (on behalf of Göran Ewerlöf and Anita Ahlenius)
The National Board of Health and Welfare
SE-106 30 Stockholm
SWEDEN
Telephone: +46 8 555 530 00, Fax: +46 8 555 532 52
E-mail: *jorgen.nilsson@dv.dom.se*
Web page: *www.sos.se*

Hans Ytterberg
HomO (Ombudsman mot diskriminering på grund av sexuell läggning)
Address: Katarina Bangata 79
116 42 Stockholm
SWEDEN
Telephone: +46 8 55 60 95 25, Fax: +46 8 55 60 95 22
E-mail: *homo@homo.se*
Web page: *www.homo.se*