



**MEDIA RELEASE: 10 February 2013**

## **REVIEW OF ABS STANDARD WELCOME**

Transgender Victoria (TGV) today welcomed the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) review of its 'Sex Standard' and launched an online survey created in partnership with Ygender, Zoe Belle Gender Centre and Family Planning Victoria.

"One key area the ABS needs to review is a more accurate recognition, and means of counting trans people. The current definitions that focus on 'sex' as a category fail to do this, particularly given that a person's self-identification/expression is an important consideration and is different from 'sex', said TGV spokesperson Sally Goldner.

"The capacity and need to collect information on gender and sex for those that do not identify themselves in line with assignment based on their body at birth is vital."

"TGV believe recognising and improving methods of counting people who are gender diverse will assist in gaining important information to ascertain the need for a range of health and support services", said Sally.

"We encourage individuals and organisations to submit to our brief survey and also make submissions directly to the ABS. This will result in better communication between trans and gender diverse people and the ABS. TGV want to ensure that more information about trans people can be gained in a way that is respectful and that suits their needs".

Sally continued, "there is currently no count of gender diverse people in the Australian census, or National or State data collection on people of all gender identities, so we support the investigation and research (in line with the Diversity in Health report) into how to identify the needs of trans and gender diverse people."

"TGV believe this review is a positive step towards obtaining statistics that will aid research on the trans and gender diverse community into the future. We hope that a large portion of the trans community get involved in this review and strongly encourage people to do so before 28 February 2013", Sally said.

For more information contact Sally Goldner on 0407 946 242

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/absstandard>

<http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/home/Review+of+the+Sex+Standard> (Submissions due 28/2/13)

Transgender Victoria  
Phone (03) 9517 6613  
PO Box 762,  
South Melbourne, Victoria 3205  
[www.transgendervictoria.com.au](http://www.transgendervictoria.com.au)  
ABN: 64 736 020 809  
[Facebook/TransgenderVictoria](https://www.facebook.com/TransgenderVictoria)  
Twitter [@TransGenderVic](https://twitter.com/TransGenderVic)