



**Uniting Church in Australia**  
**ASSEMBLY**  
Assembly Standing Committee

10-12 March 2023

**DOCUMENT 11**

Type of Paper (Information/Decision)	For Decision
Title	SOGICE Task Group Nominations
Assembly or ASC Minute	
Consultation	ASC, ARU
Purpose	Bring Nominations to the ASC for the SOGICE Task Group
Rationale & Findings Summary	A small number of nominations for this Task Group have been found. Discussions with potential TG members as well as those who declined membership suggests that a small motivated group will be able to achieve the goals of this Task Group and so the nominations are brought to the ASC for approval.
Attachments	
Recommendations	<b>That the ASC approve the nominations of Nicole Mugford, Warren Talbot and Kate Barton to the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Change Efforts (SOGICE) Task Group.</b>
Submitted by	Lindsay Cullen

# TASK GROUP NOMINATIONS REPORT

## Introduction

After the last ASC meeting, a number of ASC members helpfully suggested names to be followed up in connection with the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Change Efforts (SOGICE) Task Group. While it has still been difficult to find a significant number of people willing to be members, discussions have indicated that a small, motivated group may well be all that is required to engage with this task. In particular, both prospective members of the Task Group, and a number who declined, pointed to the existence of many helpful resources already available concerning the harmful effects of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Change Efforts and appropriate ways to support and care for those who have been affected by such change efforts or who may be subject to attempts to point them toward such change efforts. Given this, a number of people suggested that the primary task of this group may be to review and highlight appropriate existing resources and perhaps to produce something which helps to frame such resources for the Uniting Church audience, rather than attempting to create a new resource 'from scratch'. Thus the task might be somewhat smaller than initially imagined and may be achieved by a smaller Task Group.

**Please note** that at the time of writing, there is one further possible member of the Task Group but this person has recently suffered a close personal loss and so requested a little extra time to consider membership. I am hopeful of bringing that person's name to the ASC by way of an update to this report before or at the ASC meeting.

## Nominations for the SOGICE Task Group

The following nominations have been received for the SOGICE Task Group:

Nicole Mugford  
Warren Talbot  
Kate Barton

## Recommendations

1. **That the ASC approve the nominations of Nicole Mugford, Warren Talbot and Kate Barton to the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Change Efforts (SOGICE) Task Group.**

**Lindsay Cullen**  
**Assembly Associate General Secretary**

# Expression of Interest Form for Committees and Task Groups

## Basis of Union:

The Uniting Church recognises that responsibility for government in the Church belongs to the people of God by virtue of the gifts and tasks which God has laid upon them.

## Constitution:

The Assembly shall have determining responsibility in matters of doctrine, worship, government and discipline, including the promotion of the Church's mission, establishment of standards of theological education and the reception of ministers from other denominations, and is empowered to make final decisions on all matters related to the Constitution of the UCA.

## PREVENTING HARM FROM SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND GENDER IDENTITY CHANGE EFFORTS TASK GROUP

### Brief description of the Mandate / Terms of Reference for this body:

To provide a national resource for congregations, agencies, and individuals to learn how they can help prevent harm from Sexual Orientation And Gender Identity Change Efforts SOGICE ideology and practice.

### Personal Information:

Affix photo here



Name: Kate Barton

*(Please complete as relevant)*

Congregation: Warwick

Presbytery: The Downs

Synod: Queensland

What skills and experience will you bring to the Committee / Task Group?

I have strong research skills which were built during my time at university  
I have a passion for the wellbeing of LGBTQIA+ people and their experience.  
I have a lived experience of seeing the harm of SOGICE and the prejudices against LGBTQIA+ peoples

What if any relevant experience have you had in the life of the Church?

I lived in Central Queensland ("conservative") and attended a church which was a member of the ACC. I tried to educate about SOGICE, especially the subtle "non-intentional" things people were doing, and the harm it causes.  
I stood up for the LGBTQIA+ community and tried to create safe spaces. I helped start Equal Voices in Mackay, QLD (sadly no longer active).  
I am Queer myself, Bi Asexual, and I have a Trans sister who I saw leave the church because she no longer felt safe.

What if any relevant qualifications do you have?			
No paper qualifications, but I do have the lived experience of being queer, having friends and family who are LGBTQIA+ and seeing what they have experienced in the life of the Church.			
Age range	Under 30	<b>30-59</b>	60+
Ministry category	<b>Lay</b>	<b>Ordained</b>	
Location	Remote	<b>Rural</b>	Regional Centre City
What cultural and linguistic background do you have?			

**Referees:** (Please list the names and contact details of two people to act as referees for you in regard to this role)

1. Steve Molkentin: 0401 709 405
2. Kate Mills: 0449 182 126

If you are not appointed to this body, are you willing for Assembly to retain a copy of this form, and to consider you for appointment to a relevant task group in the future? **YES** / NO

Signature: *Kate Barton*

Date: 28/02/2023

## Warren Talbot

### *Curriculum Vitae* summary

#### Academic qualifications

BA (Philosophy and Political Science), University Melbourne, 1979  
Dip Ed (Religious Education, Social Sciences), University of Melbourne, 1980  
BTh (Systematic and Moral Theology), Melbourne College of Divinity, 1981  
BEdStuds (Social Theory and Policy), University of Melbourne, 1990  
BA (Hons) (Public Administration and Political Science), University of Tasmania, 1991  
MTh (Distinction), (Dissertation – Ethics and Paul Ricoeur), Charles Sturt University, 2020

#### Major professional appointments

Education Officer, Council of Adult Education (Victoria)  
Executive Director, Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations  
Consultant, HIV/AIDS, Tasmanian Department of Health  
Senior Executive, Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care  
Executive Director, LGBTIQ+ Health Australia  
Campaign and Church Engagement Officer, UnitingCare Australia (current)

#### Community and Church engagements

Member, Pitt Street Uniting Church (various Presbytery, Synod and Assembly appointments over time)  
Member, UCA Assembly Sexuality Task Group (1990s)  
Member, UCA Assembly Apology to LGBTIQ Australians Task Group  
National Committee Member and Treasurer, Australia Religious Response to Climate Change (current)  
Local Government Councillor and Deputy Mayor, City of Fitzroy (1980s)