“It’s a good initiative and helped me in ways I can’t explain”  
*Service User*
Chairs Word

ANDREW HITCHES-DAVIES

One of the highlights of my year as Chair of the board of trustees was accepting, with Steph Keeble, a GSK Impact Award on behalf of Birmingham LGBT. This is a really significant achievement for the charity; these awards are only made to the very best and most innovative voluntary sector providers.

The award was a recognition of our broad health and wellbeing offer, which includes a pioneering sexual health service, genuinely designed with the needs of all LGBT people at its centre. The service is now open 80 hours a week. Our partnership with University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust continues to flourish.

Our work in partnership with BVSC to deliver services to older LGBT people has continued to make a difference to a less visible section of our community. In 2018 we will launch Ageing with Pride to build on this work.

We were delighted to be named as an Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation. The funding and longer-term security for the SHOUT Festival that Arts Council support provides will mean SHOUT will only get bigger and better.

All of these successes are a credit to our dedicated team of volunteers and staff. Our team has continued to impress. Every one of them has my thanks for their continued dedication. I also want to thank my fellow board members for their commitment and the talent and experience that they bring.

Steph Keeble, our director, has again dedicated so much to Birmingham LGBT this year, and by extension the community we serve. Thank you, Steph.

As the great work we do is increasingly recognised by prestigious national organisations and our services continue to develop, it is worth restating the organisation’s commitment to the grassroots community groups that are such an important part of a healthy LGBT community. Over 20 community groups continue to meet regularly at the LGBT Health and Wellbeing Centre.

I am grateful to the donors, sponsors and funders that have identified with our values and given their generous support. We would not be able to do what we do without that support: it is essential. I remain proud of what we have collectively achieved and I feel very privileged to be a part of it.

They give emotional support that really means a lot in the 21st century.

Service User
Directors Report

STEPH KEEBLE

IT HAS BEEN ANOTHER AMAZING AND SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR BIRMINGHAM LGBT, WITH SOME KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AND DEVELOPMENTS.

The period from 1st April 2017 - 31st March 2018 has been a great year for Birmingham LGBT. Whilst continuing to deliver our core services, including the LGBT Health and Wellbeing Centre, SHOUT Festival of Queer Culture, the Umbrella sexual health contract, Activate (our sports and fitness project), our wellbeing support service, the LGBT domestic violence project, and the Ageing Better LGBT Hub, Birmingham LGBT also developed new services, enabling us to further expand our service offer to the lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans community in the city.

We were successful in a tender to Ageing Better Birmingham to deliver the Ageing with Pride campaign - a year-long campaign aimed at raising awareness of the issues LGBT people face as they age - and developed the marketing plan for the campaign. We were also successful in securing some Erasmus Plus funding, which has enabled us to offer opportunities for training and job shadowing in Europe to our staff. In March 2018, two trustees and the Director went to Copenhagen for strategic development training. Further trips are being planned in 2018/19.

Our wellbeing support services developed, and we became able to offer one-to-one appointments for support. This service has proved to be very popular. We also programmed a range of wellbeing events, including confidence building activities over the Birmingham Pride weekend, mindfulness classes, and the annual Pink Picnic. Birmingham LGBT continued to develop SHOUT Festival, and were excited to announce that we were successful in a bid to Arts Council England to become a National Portfolio Organisation, securing four years’ core funding for 2018-2022.

We also continued to offer domestic violence services, which included delivering training to professionals and support to victims/survivors.

Birmingham LGBT continued to develop and expand our sexual health services, in partnership with University Hospitals Birmingham Trust. We developed a number of new sexual health services, including launching the Well Woman Clinic, and expanded our outreach offer, with new pop-up clinics in venues across the scene. We also had another successful HIV testing week.

We also continued to expand our training offer, delivering a programme of LGB and T training to Heart of England Foundation Trust, and a Leadership Programme to health, social care, and third sector leaders.

We have continued to be a member of the national LGB and T Strategic Partnership, and work with a wide range of local partners, including local government, health, third sector, and criminal justice partners. We have also continued to support LGBT community groups, providing them with free meeting space at the LGBT centre. Over twenty groups continued to meet at the centre throughout the year.

We saw a number of changes in staff over the year, including losing David Viney, the Health and Wellbeing Manager, who had worked for us for ten years. I would like to say a big thank you to Dave for all of his hard work, dedication, drive, and commitment and the difference he has made to the LGBT community in the city.

For me, one of the biggest highlights of the year was being one of the 8 GSK Kings Fund Impact Award winners - we were thrilled to be successful in achieving this prestigious award.

I would like to finish by saying a big thank you to all the staff, volunteers, and board members, who have worked so hard over the last twelve months to make Birmingham LGBT such a great organisation. I would also like to thank all our partners, stakeholders, donors, and funders, who have been committed to the vision and values of Birmingham LGBT, and enabled us to develop our service offer to the local LGBT community. I am extremely proud of the LGBT Health and Wellbeing Centre, and everything we have achieved.

Finally, I would like to say a big thank you to the members of the LGBT community who use and value the LGBT centre and our services.

The GSK IMPACT Awards

The GSK IMPACT Awards, run in partnership with The King’s Fund, are designed to recognise the outstanding work of community-based health care charities. This year, alongside 7 others, Birmingham LGBT was announced as a winner of this prestigious, nationally recognised award.

Alongside a donation of £30,000, Birmingham LGBT was invited to send senior staff members on specialist leadership training, which was followed by a black-tie dinner hosted by GSK and the Kings Fund celebrating this years winners.

To find out more about the Impact Awards, visit their website at www.kingsfund.org.uk
Our Services
WE RUN A RANGE OF SERVICES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE LGBT COMMUNITY

I came in for testing and found a lot more. Now I come for the coffee morning.
Service User

SEXUAL HEALTH & WELLBEING (Umbrella)
A range of free options for HIV and STI (Sexually transmitted infection) testing available 7 days a week. The sexual health team also run an array of specific clinics, including for Chemsex, PrEP, Lesbian and Bi Women. Trans people and pop-ups in community spaces across the city.
The service also offers peer mentoring and a number of support

WELLBEING SUPPORT SERVICE
The service helps people to improve their individual wellbeing and tackles isolation. The service encourages a greater understanding around wellbeing, coping strategies and resilience to support service users.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (LGBT IDVA)
Delivering independent domestic violence advocacy and support for LGBT people in the West Midlands, this is the first LGBT-specific IDVA service based in the Midlands, and is a much needed addition to the area.

ACTIVATE
Activate, a project designed to encourage LGBT people in the area to try new sports, and challenge homophobia, biphobia and transphobia in sport. started its fourth and final year of programme delivery during the reporting period.

Ageing Better (LGBT Hub)
Ageing Better supports people of all ages to set up new groups and activities which will be attractive to people who are 50 and over. The programme also proactively tackles isolation for older LGBT people.

LGBT Asylum Seeker Support
Birmingham LGBT supports LGBT asylum seekers by offering a range of activities including social groups and specialist legal advice provided by UK Lesbian & Gay Immigration Support Group (UKLGIG).

Queer Arts and Culture
SHOUT – Birmingham’s Queer Arts Festival – is an annual, nationally recognised event that was founded by Birmingham LGBT in 2009. SHOUT’s gravitas has increased dramatically during the reporting period, with the awarding of National Portfolio Organisation status by Arts Council England.

LGBT Leadership
The unique leadership programme aims to develop LGBT leaders of the future and equip them with the skills and knowledge of effective leadership as managers in the workplace. The programme is nationally endorsed by the Institute of Leadership and Management (ILM).

Community Groups
Birmingham LGBT hosts a wide range of independent social groups organised by LGBT people for LGBT people: The offering is wide and varied, ranging from ‘Rainbow Bridge’ – a drop-in coffee morning for LGBT people and allies that provides information about LGBT activities and events – to ‘Hidayah’ – a group that exists to increase the visibility, acceptance and equality for Muslim LGBT people across the

Training and Consultancy
Birmingham LGBT offers training to a wide range of professionals. The training provided gives organisations and businesses a cost effective solution to improve staff members’ knowledge and understanding. We provide a participative approach to learning which seeks to raise confidence and competence in dealing with LGBT issues.
Key Statistics 2017-18

Below are some of our key outputs for this reporting period

- 1074 Individual Participants Ageing Better
- 331 Activate Exercise Sessions
- 4,388 Brief Interventions (Sexual Health)
- 8000 Visitors to the LGBT Centre
- 506 Ageing Better Network Meetings
- 25 Wellbeing Events
- 54 Sexual Health Outreach Sessions
- 152,162 Condoms Distributed
- 38 Shout Festival Events/Exhibitions over 11 days
- 331 Activate Exercise Sessions
- 4,388 Brief Interventions (Sexual Health)
- 8000 Visitors to the LGBT Centre
- 506 Ageing Better Network Meetings
- 25 Wellbeing Events
- 54 Sexual Health Outreach Sessions

Impact

What our Service users said

- A big thanks to the IDVAs for all your help and support. I will never forget how you have helped me in my journey. I am now able to live freely away from abuse.
- Coming to the wellbeing centre has helped me in so many ways, it has given me confidence to be myself and not be judged in anyway. I also feel relaxed and at ease and talk about the things that I need to talk about. In all I think this service is very good indeed.
- Efficient service, well presented and friendly
- Thank you for creating such a welcoming, inclusive & friendly atmosphere. I’ve met loads of new people & loved having music in the bar.
- Excellent. Really good day. Stimulating presentations and questions. Good company on the trip with loads of social contact.
- Thank you for being there for me on a day where I felt so low about myself and my situation. It has made such a difference getting support from a service that understands how hard it can be for LGBT people in abusive relationships.
Sexual Health

**We deliver a diverse range of sexual health services**

I would just like to say how professional at all levels of the service, thank you. Keep doing what you are doing at the moment, great service very friendly and professional. *Service User*

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**LGBT Community Access to Sexual Health Services**

Birmingham LGBT centre is open for 80 hours per week over 7 days. Our Umbrella funded sexual health services are staffed during all of these hours with walk in access to dedicated specific LGBT sexual health services as well as access to all other free services offered by the organisation, offering an overall holistic health and wellbeing offer to community members.

**Sexual Health Outreach and Pop Up STI Testing services**

Our sexual health outreach team carry out regular off-site sexual health promotion and testing opportunities directly to the LGBT community in a variety of settings through their outreach activities. The majority of our outreach activities take the form of pop up clinics. These are off-site sessions carried out in venues such as gay bars, clubs and other venues including saunas and sex-on-premises venues. In this way we take sexual health services out directly to the community and potentially access people who may not otherwise access sexual health or STI testing services.

**National HIV Testing Week 2017 Campaign**

One of our key annual sexual health promotion campaigns is National HIV Testing Week (NHTW) which occurs each year around the last week of November in the lead up to World AIDS Day which occurs on 1st December. Our aim was to maximise awareness of HIV testing and the various options for testing available 7 days a week via our service, and to educate via factual up-to-date information via a dedicated campaign webpage. We ran a month-long awareness campaign with activity throughout, but with concentrated promotional activity during NHTW itself between 18th to 24th November.

**Volunteering and Peer Mentoring Services**

Umbrella funds Birmingham LGBT to provide and coordinate a peer mentoring scheme to the LGBT community in order to better support the sexual health needs of the community. The current way mentoring works is via regular sessions between a trained peer mentor and a mentee. Sessions between mentors and mentees generally take place every fortnight for 1.5 hours with 30 minutes supervision for volunteers directly after a session. 6-8 sessions are offered though this can be extended dependent on need.

**Chemfidential – Chemsex Support**

Chemfidential is Birmingham LGBT’s Chemsex support service which aims to support LGBT people (although the issue would appear to presenting in gay and bisexual men) who may need support relating to chemsex or problematic use of substances (colloquially referred to as chems). The Chemfidential service was set up by Birmingham LGBT’s sexual health service and is offered jointly with CGL (the city’s drug and alcohol rehabilitation service) and Birmingham LGBT (Umbrella service delivery partner), with direct links into other services as appropriate e.g. Umbrella counselling services, sexual violence services etc.

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All staff here are caring, friendly and put you at ease. *Service User*
Clinical Services

Specialist Sexual Health Clinics

LGBT Nurse Led Sexual Health Clinics
A nurse-led LGBT sexual health clinic runs from the Birmingham LGBT centre every Wednesday from 9.30am to 3pm and every Thursday from midday to 7.15pm. These clinics are now established and can become extremely busy and, at times difficult to access for walk in patients due to demand.

PrEP Advice Clinic and PrEP Impact Trial Birmingham Launch
PrEP Advice Clinics run weekly, mostly at the Birmingham LGBT centre on Thursday mornings between 9am and midday (once per month, this clinic is held at Whittall Street).

Clinic Trans
The specifically targeted Trans sexual health clinic, Clinic Trans, has continued to run on a monthly basis every 4th Friday between 4-7pm.

Lesbian & Bisexual Women’s Clinic
The Well Woman Sexual Health Clinic launched in February 2018 and will run on a monthly basis on the first Wednesday of the month from 4-7pm. This clinic is aimed at providing a dedicated space for lesbian, bisexual and queer women to access sexual health services in a dedicated LGBT space. There is an additional offer with this clinic whereby women can also access smear testing.

IDVA Service

Independent Domestic Violence Advocate

The Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy (IDVA) service at Birmingham LGBT provides support for people who identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender, who are experiencing abuse from their partners, ex-partners, or family members.

Domestic abuse is not restricted to physical violence. It is a pattern of controlling or coercive behaviour that may escalate in frequency and severity. It may also consist of psychological, emotional, sexual and financial abuse.

The IDVA service is therefore a safe place for people to discuss their situation. LGBT people can access advocacy, advice, information, and emotional and practice support following disclosures of abuse. The IDVA service also provides support to LGBT people who may be at risk of forced marriage and honour-based violence.

From April 2017 to April 2018 the IDVA service supported 48 new service users, in addition to providing ongoing support to current clients.

This consisted of supporting 23 service users experiencing intimate partner abuse, 13 experiencing abuse by ex-partners, 12 experiencing abuse by family members and 7 service users at risk of honour based violence and forced marriage. Safety planning is integral to the IDVA service and so all service users were provided with a safety plan.

I feel like a heavy burden has just been lifted after talking to the IDVAs. No one knows about my sexuality and so I feel so free finally being able to talk about it without being judged.

Service User
A successful Year

This period marks the second year of the Ageing Better LGBT Hub, which has really consolidated its position in the development of the LGBT communities; providing support, resources and access to funding to both new and pre-existing grassroots LGBT community groups; alongside more intensive community development training. The focus, as ever, is to combat isolation in the 50+ age range and to understand fully the different forms this isolation can take, looking at the quality of people’s social connections to each other in safe, LGBT-affirming spaces, even if they are not ‘out’ to their family, friends or work colleagues.

We worked with groups whose interests included crafting, debating, walking and networking; whose focus was on trans issues, autism and other neuro-diversity, bisexuality, mental health, housing and the South Asian communities.

Our influence within other sectors meant we were able to broker new opportunities for trips, visits and special events, and we raised our profile with local radio by organising interviews in time for Birmingham Pride, and celebrating 50 years’ since partial decriminalisation, as well as creating the first ‘Ageing Better’ float in the Pride Parade. We will continue to build new partnerships across the city and beyond, and celebrate the strength, ingenuity and heart of members of the LGBT communities of all ages.

A wonderful day out! There is a camaraderie that develops on a day out like this. Well done National Trust! (Participant of visit to Hanbury Hall)
Thank you for creating such a welcoming, inclusive & friendly atmosphere. I’ve met loads of new people & loved having music in the bar. Also the exhibition is transformative!

SHOUT 2017 Audience Data:

- 95% of audiences rated their experience of the SHOUT programme positively, excellent (73%) and good (22%)
- 76% of audiences were more likely to attend another SHOUT event as a result of coming to SHOUT 2017
- 66% of audiences had never previously been to a SHOUT festival event

Audiences were asked to describe the 2017 festival in 3 words, answers included:

- ‘Uncompromising. Unrelenting. Fabulous’
- ‘Celebratory, Diverse, and Multi-platformed’
- ‘Bold, Transgressive, Articulate’

SHOUT 2017

Joining the Arts Council National Portfolio

In June 2017 Birmingham LGBT received the news that we had been successful in our application to join Arts Council England’s National Portfolio, funding the festival activity from 2018-2022. Becoming a National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) will allow SHOUT to take a significant step forward in our work, our partnerships, and in delivering the festival.

In addition to securing the festivals funding until March 2022, this investment from the Arts Council will allow us to expand our work into new areas; to support and develop emerging artists, to work with venues to make them more accessible and inclusive for our communities, to commission new artistic work, and to bring the highest quality queer art to the city.

SHOUT Festival 2017

The 2017 Festival was the largest SHOUT to date, with over 35 events, performances, workshops, screenings, and exhibitions taking place and audiences of over 50,000 people enjoying queer arts at venues across the city between 9th-19th November. The festival opened with David Hoyle’s Diamond at the Midlands Arts Centre, a powerful review of the last 50 years of gay history, and closed on November 19th with two performances from the Winner of RuPaul’s Drag Race Season 5 Jinkx Monsoon, at Birmingham Hippodrome. Highlights from the 2017 festival included Cuncrete - a socialist-feminist drag king punk gig in a converted factory, an eat-a-long screening of the infamous Pink Flamingos, an explosive exploration of Jamaican Dancehall and homophobia in Rachel Young’s OUT and a new exhibition of previously unseen documentary photography of the Birmingham Gay Liberation Front in the 1970s which was on display at the Midlands Arts Centre from November 2017-Jan 2018.

SHOUT Year Round

In addition to the 2017 Festival we hosted a number of events and performances throughout the year building on our offer delivering high quality queer art to audiences in Birmingham outside of the main festival programme. We presented archive screenings of the first televised same-sex kisses at Flatpack Film Festival and hosted Birmingham’s first ever Drag Queen Story Time at the Birmingham Children’s Library to an audience of 250 people as part of the Birmingham Weekender.

In February 2018 we hosted the second Birmingham LGBT History Festival with a range of screenings at venues across the city exploring the history of LGBT representation on film, and played host to the National LGBT History Festival, Outing the Past inviting a panel of speakers to a hugely popular day of talks at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery.
Statement of Financial Position

2017/2018

BIRMINGHAM LGBT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

AS AT 31 MARCH 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Unrestricted funds</th>
<th>Unrestricted funds</th>
<th>Restricted funds</th>
<th>Total 2018</th>
<th>Total 2017</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td>general</td>
<td>designated</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>100</td>
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<td>675,309</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>30,242</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds</td>
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<td>Fund balances at 31 March 2018</td>
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<td>458,062</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>402,176</td>
<td>402,176</td>
</tr>
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</table>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

BIRMINGHAM LGBT

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2018

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tangible assets</td>
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<td>56,245</td>
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<td>Current assets</td>
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<td>Debtors</td>
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<td>Cash at bank and in hand</td>
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<td>283,793</td>
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<td>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</td>
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<td>(22,521)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net current assets</td>
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<td>294,772</td>
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<td>Total assets less current liabilities</td>
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<td>402,176</td>
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<tr>
<td>Income funds</td>
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<td>Restricted funds</td>
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<td>Unrestricted funds – designated</td>
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<td>Unrestricted funds – general</td>
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<td>143,291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net current assets</td>
<td>401,817</td>
<td>294,772</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total assets less current liabilities</td>
<td>458,062</td>
<td>402,176</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2018. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these accounts.
| The trustees’ responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.
| These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies’ regime.
| The accounts were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on ________________

Mr A Hitches-Davies (Chair)
Trustee

Company Registration No. 07203554
Organisational Map