## BIRMINGHAM LGBT

# ANNUAL REPORT

2021/2

















































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### Chair's Report

Hello,

This is the end of my third year as the Chair of Birmingham LGBT, and what a year it's been.

Although we remain formally within the pandemic, the way of living with Covid-19 has changed since the initial outbreak. Similarly, as our communities increasingly find themselves under threat, with intolerance at times rearing its ugly head, the Centre and the charity ensures that our collective voices are heard loudly as we champion our rights.

The intersectionality you'll see within this report is truly wonderful. It shows Birmingham and region at its best and is genuinely great to see the community coming back together in real-life, with that sense of togetherness, and us all looking out for each other. I think it's important to say clearly here that we stand firmly with those in our trans family.

Further expansion of our services to our diverse city region is key: I hope you'll join me in thanking our dedicated team of staff and volunteers for all that they've done through the last year in the delivery of these services; working closely with our community and ensuring the Centre becomes a beacon of hope and resilience.

Throughout this year we've broadened and further diversified our Board of Trustees to reflect the city region in which we live and to strive to ensure equality for all is at the heart of everything we do.

I'd like to give specific thanks to our Director Steph Keeble. Amongst other things Steph, your tireless fundraising allows our projects and services to continue to be delivered during challenging times. This leads me to thank our many amazing funders. Without you, our organisation wouldn't be able to offer such support to our communities.

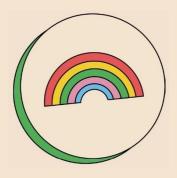
Wider thanks go to the whole Board of Trustees who have been brilliantly keen to engage and great to work with over the last year. Our Trustees rotate and so we say good-bye from the Board to Neil Anderson who stood down after 12 years of working as a volunteer with the charity. Thank you, Neil.

As we head towards the summer of the Commonwealth Games being hosted in Birmingham, although many countries within the Commonwealth are not LGBTQIA+ friendly, I hope we see queer diversity reflected and celebrated in the various ceremonies and within the wider city arts Festival. SHOUT Festival of Queer Arts and Culture, a project of Birmingham LGBT will certainly play its part in engaging with communities.

I look forward to this and to continuing to work closely with Steph and the Board to ensure this most diverse of cities is heard and seen at its best.

Best wishes,

lan Hyde, Chair



### Director's Report

It has been another successful year for Birmingham LGBT with some key achievements and developments. It has also been a year of recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic with Birmingham LGBT being able to reopen all our frontline services and bring back face to face groups at the LGBT Centre in March 2022. During the year, Birmingham LGBT achieved the following:

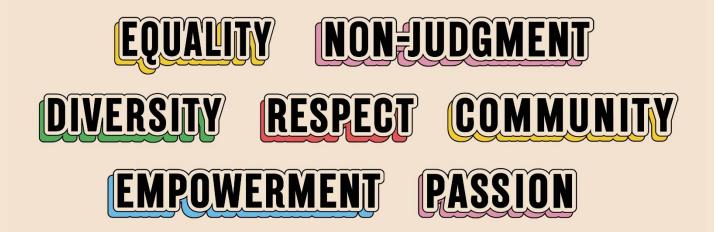
- Developed and delivered sexual health services in Birmingham and Solihull, in partnership with University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust. The nurse led sexual health clinic started again in August and we began delivering HIV point of care tests and assisted self-sampling again. Demand was slow to begin with, but we have seen a steady increase in the need for testing.
- Delivered the Trans Inclusion Project, which included one-to-one support, counselling and trans awareness raising training to health and social care providers.
- Delivered the final year of the Ageing Better LGBT Hub which supported older people to set up peer support groups, activities and events. This included developing a range of legacy materials including resources for older LGBT people and a toolkit for community groups.
- In November we delivered SHOUT Birmingham's Festival of Queer Culture, an Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation, with some digital and some in-person events. This was the first face to face festival since the beginning of the pandemic.
- Ran a volunteering programme and trained and supported a team of volunteers who supported across a number of roles including offering telephone befriending and peer mentoring during the pandemic.
- Provided support and advocacy through the LGBT IDVA service to LGBT victims of domestic violence in Birmingham. We received funding from the Ministry of Justice to extend this service to cover the wider West Midlands, appointing two new members of staff in August and November 2021.
- Continued to deliver support services to LGBT asylum seekers which included access to food parcels, netbooks and data during the pandemic.
- Sustained services to trans young people in the West Midlands which included one to one support, support in schools and a weekly youth group. The youth group started to meet in person again in March 2022.
- We ran an awareness campaign based on research we carried out around Covid-19 and staying safe in partnership with Public Health Birmingham.
- We delivered the Promotion and Prevention Better Mental Health project which involved offering additional counselling alongside training to mainstream mental health workers in LGBT awareness.
- Evaluated our training and counselling service.
- Expanded our LGBT affirmative counselling service during the pandemic and continued to offer therapeutic counselling.

I would like to recognise it has been a challenging time with the global Covid-19 pandemic and to say a big thank you to all the staff, volunteers and board members who have worked so hard

throughout this period to make sure Birmingham LGBT is still delivering crucial services to the community.

I would also like to thank all our partners, stakeholders, supporters, 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 all achieve.

Steph Keeble, Director







### Sexual Health Services

Birmingham LGBT Centre has worked in partnership with University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Trust since 2015 to deliver LGBTQ+ centred and culturally sensitive sexual health services in Birmingham and Solihull as part of the wider Umbrella sexual health service.

In April 2021, the country was still in the throes of the Covid-19 pandemic. This had a significant impact on our ability to deliver across all the sexual health services. We began to rebuild service levels over 2021 though progress was slow over the year. We resumed nurse led clinics back into the centre in June), running one Wednesday a week for the course of the year. Outreach into the bars and clubs began again in earnest in June. Over the course of the year, the sexual health team delivered: 396 point of care tests, 490 assisted STI tests; 2519 specific interventions and 2570 brief interventions to members of the LGBTQ+ community.

### **Touch My Brum**

Birmingham LGBT sexual health team ran a pop-up clinic at Touch My Brum, the national gay rugby tournament hosted by the Birmingham Bulls at Sutton Coldfield RFC on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July. Two members of the team offered HIV Point of Care testing at the club throughout the day, alongside promotion of HIV/STI testing and services. Goody bags, including safer sex resources, were distributed to approximately 200 players on the day.

#### **Pride**

Birmingham Pride returned following Covid on the weekend of the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of September 2021. The sexual health team attended to give out health promotion materials from a stall in the village, alongside marching in the parade. The centre remained closed due to limitations on ventilation, which were resolved soon after when new openable windows were installed.

#### **Christmas Social**

The centre remained closed again for Christmas in 2021 due to an upsurge in case of the Covid variant Omicron. Instead, the centre offered a social space online on Christmas Day with two staff members facilitating. Christmas presents bought in advance of the day could be collected in the run up to Christmas by clients from the centre.

#### **LGBTQ+ Mental Health Awareness Training**

From December 2021 to June 2022 members of the sexual health team supported the delivery of the LGBTQ+ Mental Health Awareness Training, a Birmingham City Council funded project, to provide LGBT awareness training to professionals in mental health settings to increase the cultural competency of those on the frontline. Members of the team delivered 25 sessions across the length of the contract to a range of health and social care organisations in the city.

#### Pop up clinics

The outreach team ran HIV Point of Care Testing throughout the year at Boltz and Clone Zone in the village. These clinics provide community members with the opportunity to test in venues they frequent, as opposed to coming into the centre. Some of these pop ups have regular clients who see the pop-up as their regular testing space.

### **Peer Groups**

Well Body and Mind, a private Facebook group for gay, bi and trans men, continued to run online throughout the year. By the end of the year, the group had approximately 120 members and was looking to launch as a face-to-face social group. The lesbian, bi and trans Women's Forum on Facebook has also continued to prove successful with around 250 members on the page. The group also continued to run online through the year and will be exploring options to return to face to face groups shortly. We have also continued running Crafts and Chronicles, our social and crafting group for LGTQ+ women; the group also ran a special Christmas craft workshop in December.

#### Chemfidential

Chemfidential is Birmingham LGBT's Chemsex support service which aims to support those who may need help relating to chemsex or problematic use of substances (colloquially referred to as chems).

The service continues to support individuals around a multitude of issues, including harm reduction measures such as consent and setting boundaries, approaches to safer sex, awareness of chems and possible detrimental effects, and can facilitate links into counselling, psychosexual services and drug services where needed.

#### **Emerge**

Birmingham LGBT is funded by Children in Need to deliver a youth service for trans, non-binary and gender questioning young people between the ages of 13 and 19 years of age. The groups continued to run online via Discord over the first six months of the year. In October 2021, the group returned to meeting in person at the centre and have continued so.

### **Training**

Over the course of the year, the team received training on Disability Awareness training from the Disability Resource Centre; anti racism training and mental health first aid training. 2 members of staff are training to become mental health first aid trainers.





### **Wellbeing Team**

The Wellbeing Team have worked extremely hard this year to deliver services to the LGBTQ+ community in Birmingham. Moving into the recovery phase of the Covid-19 pandemic created new challenges, and the team stepped up to ensure that we were able to provide culturally competent services for the incredibly diverse range of service users who depend on us for support.

This year saw us move from limited face to face services to fully reopening. Demand for all services increased beyond expectation, and the team adapted to these challenges with a flexible and solution focused approach. Requests for online services has continued, as some people did not feel comfortable engaging in person, while others were keen to return to pre-pandemic methods of interacting.

### **Counselling Service**

The counselling service has seen a major increase in self referrals, signaling that the impact of the pandemic on the community's mental health continued into the recovery phase. The trans specific area of the counselling service created an opportunity for learning about the trans community, as it became clear that many within the community experienced a range of extremely complex mental health issues, including anxiety, depression, suicidal ideation, social isolation. It became apparent that 16 sessions of counselling would not be sufficient for many of the service users, and we were able to agree an adaption to the original offer with the funders.

The waiting list has grown along with the demand for services, and all people waiting were offered wellbeing one to one support from one of the team. Trans specific one to one support sessions were available, as well as broader LGBTQ+ sessions. Most people chose to engage with this option, enabling us to hold them while they waited to access therapeutic sessions.

"I've had various types of therapy/counselling/coaching sessions; however, I can truly say my counsellor at Birmingham LGBT just gets me. I feel I can be my authentic self with no judgement." [service user feedback]

#### **Trans Inclusion Project**

The Trans Inclusion Project continued to deliver high quality trans specific support services, with the Trans Wellbeing Support worker seeing a total of 90 service users for a minimum of 6 sessions each during the year. From October 2021 to January 2022 the service saw an increase in client referrals with 36 clients entering the service over this 4-month period. Of those clients who completed face to face support work and recorded a scale of support, 76% reported an increase in their scale of wellbeing, 70% recorded an improvement in their access to culturally competent support, with a further 36% recording an improvement in emotional wellbeing. 18.6% of all clients recorded an improvement in their coping strategies to manage their emotional and mental wellbeing.

The Trans Awareness Training continued to be extremely popular throughout the year, with a total of 713 participants from a range of health and social care organisations across Birmingham and Sandwell. Most attendees reported learning about the correct terminology to use with trans people as being one of the most important learnings from the session. 84.4% of people rated the training as excellent, and 11 % rated it as good.

### **Ageing Better in Birmingham**

The Ageing Better project came to an end in March 2022 after 7 years, which included an extension year during the pandemic. The project aimed to work with older LGBT+ people and community groups, using capacity building techniques and tools to enable groups to form, develop and effectively self-manage. A legacy project also came out of this work, creating three resources for the services users: a briefing for service providers and commissioners, a toolkit for peer-led community groups and resources for older LGBT+ people. The success of the project has led us to seek funding to extend the work further, as demand for support has continued.

#### **SHOUT Festival**

SHOUT Festival returned in November 21, with a packed programme in venues across the city. Covid safety guidelines meant that we worked to a hybrid model, with a mixture of in person events alongside online and digital offerings. Numbers were restricted in all venues, and while some audiences were keen to return to pre-pandemic engagement, others were hesitant to meet in person. The festival saw us deliver 33 different projects, performances, exhibitions and events across 24 days, with more than 1200 people attending a live event. SHOUT21 saw a more diverse creative programme than ever before, with the festival living up to its aim of capturing the breadth of lived LGBTQ+ experience. The festival embraced queer stories from different perspectives, including South Asian LGBTQ+ artists, community group and arts collectives, international queer stories and a diverse visual arts programme. Learning from the festival will be fed directly into the 2022 programme, with the producing team even more determined to amplify the queer voices of our incredibly diverse city.





### Trans Inclusion Project

### **Training**

Demand for our transgender awareness training remains very high, which has been heartening to see given the growing trans-antagonistic sentiment in the UK over the past couple of years. During this incredibly challenging time for the trans community, it is more important than ever

that organisations receive good advice, guidance, and messaging in order to provide truly trans inclusive services. We have continued to receive very positive feedback with 85% rating the training "excellent" and a further 14% rating it "good".

#### **Policy work**

This year also saw the launch of our transgender policy support and consultancy offer to public health, social care and third sector organisations in Birmingham and Sandwell. Our existing relationships with organisations from the training strand of the project formed a strong basis for this work. This included offering advice regarding patient record keeping that both allow trans people privacy and ensure good care to an NHS Trust; and developing "supporting transgender staff and service user" policies with a third sector mental health provider.

Initially targeting NHS trusts in the area, where a large number of trans patients would be seen, understandable pressures on their resources and time proved a challenge and subsequently. The project has had more success in reaching out to smaller third sector support services which have proved less likely to have existing policy in place.

We'd like to offer a huge thank you to our Trans Advisory Group for their input into the policy support and consultancy package.

#### **Statistics**

Consultancy contact Instances: 46

Consultancy Hours: 5Consultancy Clients: 5

Training Sessions delivered: 26

Total attendees: 620

#### **Select Training Feedback**

- 85% rated the training "excellent" and a further 14% rated it "good".
- 90% responded "yes" to the question "Do you think that anything you have learnt today will result in a change in your own practice?"
- "This training is so essential to altering misperceptions it should become part of the NHS mandatory training package."
- "Fantastic training programme, host was well versed, and explanation well thought out, opportunity for discussions and feedback from those at the session provided excellent insight. This is a course that would benefit all service providers"
- "Genuinely the most thought-provoking training I have attended."
- "I already saw myself as a staunch LGBTQIA+ ally but this session has really helped to develop my understanding"
- "This was the most informative and challenging piece of training that I have undertaken in a long time."
- "Probably the most engaging Zoom session I've been a part of."

### Ageing Better LGBT Hub



- Total new participants = 237 (of all ages)
- Total number of events = around 400
- New groups and activities = 2
- Successful applications to Ageing Better Fund = 2 (groups)
- Existing groups supported = 17

This was the final year of the England-wide Ageing Better programme, which meant a shift in focus for the Ageing Better in Birmingham LGBT Hub. The priority for this year was to create a legacy from the programme, which means having something that can continue after the programme has finished. For the LGBT Hub, this meant creating guidance resources for LGBT+ people aged 50 and over, for community groups who support and include members aged 50+, and for agencies who provide services for LGBT+ people of this age range.

We were able to look back through all of the work of seven years, at what the LGBT Hub has achieved and learned, to inform the creation of these resources. We now have three documents which can be used to support the 50+ LGBT+ community in looking after their own health and wellbeing, be supported by community groups which are welcoming and provided services which are appropriate and respectful.

The LGBT Hub and LGBT+ members of the Age of Experience group (the 'experts-by-experience' group overseeing the programme) were involved in developing a co-production toolkit, and this included us running our own workshop as part of a multi-workshop event to promote its use. The Stronger Together Co-production Toolkit has now been revised and is still available free for those who wish to use it: https://www.syha.co.uk/co-production-toolkit/.

The Ageing Better Fund was still available for part of this year, and we supported two community groups to apply successfully for resources to aid their activities. Trans Central (a group for trans woman) were helped to create marketing materials for the group and Craft and Chronicles (a group for LBTQ+ women) were granted crafting materials to enable them to hold face-to-face sessions. The book group Bards & Books wanted to set up a podcasting project, which was an entirely new direction for them, and the Fund was happy to support this initiative.

We continued to support existing community groups, and connect them with each other and with supportive agencies. Many groups were still having to meet online, but some were moving back to face to face meetings, and we were able to support Journey Asylum Seekers' Group and Rainbow Spirit (a group for GBTQ+ men) to access the Ageing Better Transition Fund, to pay for room hire and transport costs. The mental health peer support group BGLAD were looking for professional support with their meetings, and we were able to broker a new relationship with Birmingham Mind to facilitate this. We helped the Ageing Better LGBT Housing Group (a group of older LGBT+ people and housing and care providers) to develop Terms of Reference for the group, and were invited to attend the AGM of Acting Out (a drama group) as their elections returning officer.

The groups were also connected in other ways: we held a funding workshop, and consultation events so that group representatives could contribute towards the Ageing Better legacy resources that we'd been producing. SHOUT Festival of Queer Culture was looking to involve grassroots communities more, and we worked with them to create relationships with the groups, who were then able to create performances for the Festival itself.

In all, Birmingham LGBT was able to continue to work with 17 groups who provided nearly 400 meetings, events and activities for the LGBT+ community, and attract an additional 237 new members.



The Centre had a number of opportunities to represent the interests of the older LGBT+ community. These included joining the advisory group for LOASCA, a cross-university research project looking at social care assessments for LGBT+ older adults; joining the Stronger Together Stakeholder Panel, Birmingham City Council's advisory group focussing on the legacy of the Commonwealth Games to improved inclusion and support diversity; meetings with Birmingham's Neighbourhood Network Schemes (NNS), multi-agency providers of adult social work, and including a new city-wide NNS in progress. We were also on the steering group of a new Community Development Practice Hub, bringing our experience of good practice that has been learned from working with so many LGBT+ community groups over the past seven years.

As we move into the next year, Birmingham LGBT will still continue to support grassroots LGBT+ community groups, working with them to develop and celebrating their strengths and achievements.



### SHOUT Festival 2021

In a time of unprecedented global change, 2021-22 was a year of change for SHOUT. After 2020's online-only festival, SHOUT roared back to life with an ambitious and diverse 2021 festival and developed a new model working with a team of creative producers. SHOUT 21 showcased a vast array of queer arts with 33 different projects, performances, exhibitions, and events across 24 days, and 17 organisational partners. We supported 70

artists and more than 1,200 people attended one of the live events at SHOUT21.

Moreover, SHOUT21 saw a more diverse creative programme than ever before, with the festival living up to its aim of capturing the breadth of lived LGBTQ+ experience and supporting new community groups and local queer collectives such as Round Lemon and Acting Out. There were five separate events telling queer South Asian tales and presenting the perspectives of South Asian LGBTQ+ artists.

The festival included its biggest-ever visual arts programme, with artists and projects working across mediums including photography, video installation, tapestry, performance art and crafts; and launched a series of online-only commissions, on its YouTube channel and through an audio story walk. SHOUT engaged with LGBTQ+ lives around the world, telling international queer stories from Indonesia, Spain, Israel, India, Romania, and South Africa. SHOUT21 concluded with a riotously successful Vogue Ball and, for the first time in Birmingham, a Family Vogue Ball.

The older LGBTQ+ audience that had been largely absent in 2019 was willing to return to SHOUT, where there were programmes and events that were of relevance to them. This was especially seen in the comedy event at Glee Club, the "Looking Back, Moving Forwards" performance, and Queer Stories from the Home of Metal. We will adjust our audience development and marketing work to reflect these emerging new segments.

The festival took place amid shifting Covid rules, guidance, and public norms, at a time when the public was both confused and exhausted by the pandemic. The events that had commercial appeal were still as successful as expected, however, those that were more esoteric struggled to find audiences. Anecdotal evidence – from SHOUT and from other partners' programmes – suggested that 18 months into the pandemic, audiences were understandably prioritising fun and a good night out over intellectual enrichment.

SHOUT also made good on its stated intention to move towards seeing the festival as the culmination of the year rather than the only activity. We successfully raised funds for two projects that realise our ambitions to work internationally, to work more effectively with communities, and to see high-quality programmes outside the festival period. We participated in the Perform Europe programme, joining a European consortium of five partners that successfully raised EUR85,000 for a project called *Embodied Temporalities*. The UK leg of this saw Berlin-based Lebanese performance artist Ahmad Baba visit Birmingham in February 2022, for a programme of workshops, screening, discussions and performance exploring queer Arab histories and futures. We raised £20,596 from the Creative City Grants programme, for a project called Birmingham's *Smallest Gay Bars* that will be part of the Birmingham 2022 Festival in summer 2022.

We learned some key lessons from the festival, which are being incorporated into planning for 2022 and beyond. We intend to consciously develop the high quality populist work which attracts wider audiences, while continuing to embrace an intersectional diversity that is not found in the commercial gay scene.



### **Volunteering Service**

### **About our volunteering services**

Birmingham LGBT volunteering service falls under the Sexual Health Services and aims to improve wellbeing, sexual health, and opportunities for LGBTQ+ community across Birmingham, Solihull and West Midlands. This

has been a busy and challenging year with two additional roles within the sexual health service being developed, for Public Sex Environments and an Emerge Youth volunteer youth support worker. In total there are thirteen volunteering roles. Volunteering hours given for each role are set out below.

This has been a particularly challenging year for our volunteering service with roles having to be adapted and to consider risk assessment with additional training as we reintroduced in person volunteering back to the centre and outreach work. Online training took place for Meet and Greet, SHO and PSE (male only) volunteers in May, June, July and with support at the centre starting in August. We placed the Meet and Greet role and all outreach roles on hold during December and January to safeguard staff and volunteers as a new strain of COVID was spreading throughout the country. We were able to welcome volunteers and staff back to the centre, as we stopped working in bubbles at the centre as restrictions were lifted at the end of March 2022. SHO volunteers supported staff with outreach at bars in the gay village, Clone zone, Touch My Brum and Public Sex Environments.

Our befriending and mentoring service has been running throughout the year with a mixture of face to face, video and over the phone mentoring. COVID restrictions have been sporadic throughout the year and lifted in September 2021 and at the start of 2022. We reintroduced face to face mentoring sessions. It was difficult to grow the project at a social distance, as some people wanted to wait to be matched to their volunteer mentors/befrienders in person and some people reluctant to engage in person due to social/health anxieties. Refresher training took place for mentors to remind volunteers about the boundaries and administrative aspects of the programme. Four befriending matches were made, with three people receiving calls throughout the year from their volunteer befriender. Face to face mentoring was introduced with the option for sessions to still take place over the phone and online with volunteers supporting people via email, video calls and phone calls. Nine mentoring matches were made throughout the year. People had support with coming out to friends and family, gender affirmation, social isolation/anxiety and reducing anxiety and increasing wellbeing and social networks.

Despite coming in and out of COVID restrictions and an unsettled year for the centre we were able to grow the volunteering service by 64% with an additional 343 volunteering hours given, compared to last year, with almost 1000 volunteering hours for the year.

Admin support was given to the sexual health service and the development of a resource toolkit for volunteer mentors and befrienders.

We were able to participate in Pride with 13 volunteers giving over 70 hours of their time helping us to prepare and distribute 500 goody bags, support staff in promoting our sexual health and wellbeing services in the community village and increasing our presence by walking in the parade

All volunteers follow our recruitment process of completing an application form and attending an informal interview over the phone or via video call and reference checks, before being accepted onto our Core training programme. Three cohorts of volunteers attended online training throughout the year. New volunteers attended three sessions of two hours over three days via Zoom. After

completing core training DBS checks are processed. Additional training for each role is given once reference checks and DBS successfully completed.

### **Key figures**

- No of existing active volunteers prior to March 2021 = 30
- No of volunteers recruited April 2021 March 2022= 23
- Total no of active volunteers = 42
- 11 volunteers had a change of circumstances and had to put volunteering on hold or leave the team
- No of volunteers trained Peer Mentors/befrienders = 11
- Core training (6 hours x 3 sessions) = 18 hours
- Peer mentor/befriender (4 hours x 3 sessions) = 12 hours
- Volunteering hours = approx. 946 p/a: average 79 p/m
- No of volunteer roles = 12
- No of volunteer socials = 2 in person socials: June 2021 to celebrate volunteers' week meal
  at the Loft Lounge with 11 volunteers in attendance. Christmas volunteer social in
  December 2021 at Pad Thai Restaurant and Karaoke Bar with 7 volunteers in attendance.

### **Volunteer Case Study**

Andy volunteered at Pride and supported the Emerge Youth Group

"I wanted to send you an email to say thank you so much for the opportunity to be a part of Pride on Saturday.

I have been suffering with my mental health and the support from the team at Birmingham LGBT have given me the confidence and drive to start getting back to the old me and I want to give back as much as I can to show my gratitude.

I was extremely anxious about walking in the parade and had to fight my anxiety to do it. The warm welcome I received at the centre and how I was made to feel comfortable with everyone gave me the boost to enable me to walk.

It was one of the best experiences I've had and it left me buzzing and in a good place for the rest of the weekend.

I'm looking forward to the next volunteering opportunity I can be a part of, hopefully some of my knowledge and experience will be of help to others and mirror all of the help and support I've received from you and your team over the weekend and the counselling services at Birmingham LGBT

Again thank you so much"



### Independent Domestic Violence Advocates

The IDVA service at Birmingham LGBT continues to provide a vital service for LGBT victims of domestic abuse, forced marriage and honour-based violence. Funded by Henry Smith, our IDVA service provides crisis intervention, advocacy, emotional and practical support to LGBT people who

are experiencing abuse from partners and/or family members. As specialists in LGBT domestic abuse, we understand the unique and specific risks and situations that LGBT people experiencing abuse may go through. We therefore provide tailored and non-judgemental support to ensure that our clients feel safe and also supported to make informed decisions about their situation.

The IDVA service was successful in obtaining funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office to expand the IDVA service from Birmingham and Solihull, into the wider West Midlands in order to also support clients who live in Walsall, Dudley, Sandwell, Wolverhampton and Coventry. The IDVA team therefore welcomed 2 new members of staff. Expanding our service has meant that more of the LGBT community in the West Midlands can access IDVA support.

From April 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022, the IDVA service supported 66 clients. Of this, 7 clients were also at risk of honour-based violence and 3 were at risk of forced marriage. During this period, the Rainbow Project group work programme, which is funded by Comic Relief, was in hiatus, although there was work behind the scenes to set up the second phase of the programme.

#### Feedback from service users

"My IDVA has been so supportive and has really gone out of their way to help me rebuild my life. I feel really listened to and feel more confident asking for help because I know my worker has been really empathetic and supportive. I couldn't have moved on with my life without their support."

"After facing the fear of getting in touch I was made to feel very welcome, safe and in good hands with my IDVA worker. I am thankful that I made the leap and that a specialist LGBT service exists"



### Statement of Financial Activities

Including income and expenditure account

As at 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds general £	Unrestricted funds designated £	Restricted funds	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
						Note 7
Income from:						
Donations and legacies	2	22,624	-	5,108	27,732	28,745
Charitable activities	3	49,802	-	702,199	752,001	778,455
Other income	4	10,524	-	-	10,524	3,464
Investments	5	9,269	-	-	9,269	3,552
Local authority		17,400		69,160	86,560	24,384
Total income		109,619		776,467	886,086	838,600
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	8	33,374	-	794,172	827,546	772,216
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE)		76,245	-	(17,705)	58,540	66,384
TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS		(50,131)	50,000	131	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS			50,000	(17,574)	58,540	66,384
		26,114				
Fund balances at 1 April 2021		240,765	40,000	237,789	518,554	452,170
Fund balances at 31 March 2022		266,879	90,000	220,215	577,094	518,554

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.



### **Balance Sheet**

As at 31 March 2022

		2022		Restated 2021	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets Tangible assets	13		6,045		7,439
Current assets Debtors Current asset investments Cash at bank and in hand	15 16	73,150 200,900 325,645 599,695		50,425 200,050 268,954 519,429	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(28,646)		(8,313)	
Net current assets			571,049		511,116
Total assets less current liabilities			577,094		518,555
Income funds Restricted funds Unrestricted funds – designated Unrestricted funds – general	18 19		220,215 90,000 266,879 577,094		237,790 40,000 240,765 518,555

For the year ending 31 March 2022 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Company Registration No. 0720355



### Thank You

Birmingham LGBT would like to thank the following funders for their support:

University Hospital Birmingham

Arts Council England

National Lottery Community Fund

Henry Smith Foundation

Comic Relief

Children in Need

The Garfield Weston Foundation

The Leathersellers Company

The Heritage Lottery Fund

The Safer Lives Circle Fund

West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner BVSC

Birmingham City Council Public Health Department

Birmingham Pride

The Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games Committee

Legal & General

We would also like to thank our partners, stakeholders, volunteers and beneficiaries.

# BIRMINGHAM LGBT

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