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**Some background information…**

Birmingham LGBT was set up in 2002, with the aim of reinvigorating the diverse Lesbian and Gay communities in Birmingham. Originally named just Birmingham Pride Trust, reflecting its origins as a breakaway group from Pride festival, it had an initial funding donation from profits from the festival. Several of the former Pride organisers had wanted to do something to improve the quality of life of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans community year-round, not just during the May bank holiday festival.

We have developed a programme of Wellbeing initiatives run from the LGBT Health & Wellbeing Centre in Birmingham, following a successful bid to the Big Lottery Reaching Communities Fund. The centre aims to address significant health inequalities experienced by LGBT people. Programmes include support groups, older people’s service, domestic violence support, volunteering project, sports and fitness, cultural activity and events and support services. We are currently mobilising a new sexual health service as part of the Umbrella sexual health service in Birmingham and Solihull so it’s an exciting time to join the team.

We have successfully mounted numerous community focused events and projects including Pink Picnic, Queer Question Time, Are You Being Served?, Gay Birmingham Remembered and the Shout Festival all aimed at raising the profile and visibility of the community in the city and informing key service providers and stakeholders of the specific needs of the LGBT community.

***Our Vision is a vibrant, diverse lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans community in Birmingham in which individuals can realize their full potential and have equal access to all the city has to offer.***

Our objectives are to raise awareness of the needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans (LGBT) people in Birmingham and beyond, to advocate for their needs to the wider community and to promote opportunities to LGBT people in Birmingham and beyond to enable them to fully participate in the lives of their community.

1. To act as the voice of the LGBT third sector in Birmingham, based on a knowledge and evidence of real need, creating a positive and visible LGBT community.
2. Create a highly skilled LGBT third sector that has opportunities for volunteering and service development.
3. To raise awareness of the needs of the LGBT community in the city and develop appropriate services where needs exist.
4. To challenge negative stereotypes about LGBT people and combat homophobia, biphobia and transphobia.