

Community of Practice
Forum 6; Wednesday 8th September 14:00-16:00
Over Zoom
Minutes

Topic- LGBTQI+ inclusivity

Notes

Gallop-

Thomas presented the work that Gallop do to support survivors of abuse and violence

The service support around 7000 people per year.

3 core service-

- hate crime advocacy service
- Domestic abuse support service
- Sexual violence support service

Full details can be found in the PowerPoint presentation.

Question

By drawing attention to a person identity, can we be making things harder for some people? Can it be beneficial to not ask and normalise difference?

This is a good question which has been discussed for a long time. For some their experience of diversity is very traumatic and will be different for each of us. Really the focus is on creating space that is safe and open to allow people to talk about their needs, including struggles around things like family relations related to 'coming out'. Gallop for instance run Youth groups where young people can discuss and question how to approach this with friends and family.

What does the perfect service look like? What is the picture of inclusivity?

During this part of the session, we used Jamboard to think in small groups to consider what a perfectly inclusive service might look like. Some of the discussion is illustrate in the comments on the board and please feel free to add your own

<https://jamboard.google.com/d/1Jg26e0cB7DBc3Vv3QCvLiW1KRtqKRK8kcBLYJodWBiw/edit?usp=sharing>

This board will be closed for additions October 1st

Survey results

Participants completed a short survey identifying topics for future meetings and briefly reviewing the CoP meetings. Thank you to all who participated; sadly, due to technical issues the results cannot be shared. However, I can say that the responses were very positive and participants felt that the CoP was a useful platform and the themes covered reflected the need of local services.

Future CoP themes with the most votes are Offending and Domestic abuse. As such, these will be the topics covered in upcoming meetings.

Mosaic LGBT+ Young Persons' Trust-

Lukasz presented the work that the trust do; details can be found in the presentation circulated with these minutes. Some of the key elements covered include

The underpinning methodology that underpins they all of the work that the service does [PERMA]
An outline of some of the many events and groups that that the service runs
Short videos that illustrate the experience of those with lived experience.

Questions

Where do events happen?

Mosaic events are centralised for the moment, but they are looking for Brent based sites to hold events in the future.

How can services refer?

there is not a process for professionals to refer as this is not a process that is often done with the young person- but too them. Young people are encouraged to make contact and the details will be shared in the PowerPoint and on the website.

Micro Rainbow-

Lara outlined how the service supports LGBTQI+ asylum seekers and refugees; details can be found in the presentation circulated with these minutes.

3 programmes that the service run are:

- **Safe housing-** many are abused by peers and staff in home office accommodation and hotels. Safe houses in London, West Midland and Leeds- 20,000 bed spaces a year- 15 safe houses.

1 NRPF safe house in Leeds.
- **Social inclusion-** a space to build community and networks. Therapeutic workshops like dance and music- a social space to build friendships not focus on experience. Also run informative session. Currently online- and started to move to in person
- **Moving on-** supporting those leaving the home office accommodation.

In addition

Immigration advice service- non-UK nationals who are having difficulty getting information about their status.

Lara notes that where we ask people about their identity, we make sure that when we ask a question, we know how to respond to the answer and where to refer people to if appropriate.

Questions

How long can people stay at the accommodation?

For the duration of their claim.

If a person is given 28 days' notice to leave home office accommodation and benefits applications can take 6 weeks- what happens then?

British red cross has been campaigning for years about this [Refugee move-on period | British Red Cross](#) with limited changes. Most people sofa surf and where possible Local authorities will be possible. Ros noted a recent case where she was able to access for a family to access NRPF provision with Brent LA.

Where can one go to find services that are LGBTQI+ friendly?

LGBT switchboard is a great resource.

[Switchboard LGBT+ Helpline](#)

Deep dive

In small groups initially, participants to use a JAMBoard to create two lists

- How can we measure ourselves to ensure that we are inclusive services? What question do we need to ask ourselves and our beneficiaries? What signs should we look for?
- **Also...**
- What can be done to improve barriers/make services more accessible?

We did not get to this in session, but please feel free to add any points to the Jamboard link as above [slide 6>] to answer this question.