

SUPPORT AND PROVISION FOR THE LGBT COMMUNITY WITHIN  
HINKCLEY AND BOSWORTH

REPORT OF HEAD OF HOUSING, COMMUNITY SAFETY AND  
PARTNERSHIPS



Hinckley & Bosworth  
Borough Council

*A Borough to be proud of*

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL WARDS

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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform members of the work being undertaken within the Borough in relation to supporting our Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community.

2. RECOMMENDATION

To note the progress being made in relation to the work being undertaken in relation to supporting our LGBT community.

3. BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT

- 3.1. As part of the new arrangements in supporting the development and sustainability of the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) within Hinckley and Bosworth, the authority has set up a new VCS partnership and VCS hub working with Next Generation (NG) as one of the key partners in establishing these new arrangements. As a result, part of the expanded offer to the community via NG is the provision of services to support our LGBT community. However, it should be noted that NG was successful in securing an additional grant in January 2013, to run a twelve month programme of activities in support of their LGBT work.
- 3.2. The following provides an overview of the work being undertaken by NG under the banner of '**Proud Generation**' launched in November 2012. The focus of the work is in relation to raising awareness of our LGBT community to the broader community, and engendering better understanding and relationships:
- Held an event celebrating the LGBT History Month in February 2013, around the life of scientist 'Alan Turing' (official history month chosen subject). This is the first time we have held such an event in Hinckley and Bosworth
  - In March 2013 in partnership with HBBC held an awareness event around IDAHO (international day against homophobia and transphobia crime), comprising four town centre events on board the NG community double decker bus, with a range of partners in the Hinckley Town Centre.
  - The above culminated in an arts/music inspired awareness and networking event entitled 'silent, indifferent, complacent' event in May 2013 at the Atkins Building with a range of partners.
  - An LGBT memorial day for those who have lost their lives due to their life choice will be taking place on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2013
  - Partners who have been engaged and supported the above activities include: HBBC Community Safety and Cultural Services, Leicestershire Police, North Warwickshire and Hinckley College, Trade Sexual Health, Leicester City LGBT Centre and Leicestershire CC.
- 3.3. NG see the achievements of 2013 as a springboard towards a more sustainable work stream going forward, working in partnership with other organisations. They are committed to strengthening ties with strategic partners in considering ways in which they can work collaboratively to ensure that the services that LGTB people receive,

take into account the fact that their needs are not necessarily always the same as those who do not identify as LGBT.

- 3.4. Areas of need that NG feel have identified through the Proud Generation work to date, include, the need to explore the specific health inequalities and the health and wellbeing issues for LGBT people, and the need to look at support and provision specifically for young people.
- 3.5. In addition to the work led by NG, the following provides an overview of specific delivery via the joint Hinckley & Bosworth and Blaby **Community Safety Partnership** in support of the LGBT community
- 3.6. The county wide 'Stop & Tell' hate awareness campaign runs every year to raise awareness around hate incidents, as well as how and where to report in order to improve the number of incidents reported. Each year the campaign has a particular focus and during 2013 this is in relation to hate incidents against people who are LGBT. Hinckley and Bosworth borough council's community safety team were involved in the planning of the county wide campaign and delivering the campaign at a local level. Some of the activities in our borough include:
  - The Leicester LGBT Centre's youth group produced a DVD resource for schools around LGBT hate incidents. This was funded through the Hate Incident Monitoring Project (HIMP), all of the County's District & Borough Councils, Leicestershire Police and Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust. It has been issued to all high schools and colleges in the Hinckley and Bosworth area, as well as other relevant partners. A YouTube was also made available to ensure as many people as possible could access and utilise the resource
  - Displays with information and leaflets around hate incidents and reporting were present in the libraries, community houses, council reception and other community facilities across the borough
  - Publicity materials issued to Parish Councils, Community Groups, Community Houses, Resident Support Groups & Next Generation Project
  - E-learning training around hate incidents and taking reports was launched on the council's learning pool website
  - Promoted awareness via HBBC website including link to Stop & Tell DVD and local web chats
  - Daily Tweets and re-Tweets to raise awareness around hate and how to report.
  - Information and awareness materials issued to local youth groups
  - LGBT awareness events held by Next Generation in Hinckley Town Centre for the first 4 Fridays in March 1-4pm supported by council community safety team
  - 300 LGBT hate awareness leaflets issued to houses in hotspot areas across Hinckley & Bosworth
  - 2 members of staff from HBBC attended the awareness event at County Hall on 22<sup>nd</sup> February.
- 3.7. A further strand of related support is provided via the **Hinckley and Bosworth Community Relations Forum**. The aim of this Forum is to build effective community relationships in Hinckley and Bosworth, and to work towards eliminating discrimination of any kind. In enabling this, twice yearly events are organised, usually around a topical theme, to bring together individuals, groups, statutory and voluntary organisations, businesses - indeed, anyone who has an interest in building good community relationships. The theme for the next Forum event on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2013 is 'Celebrating Our Community', providing an opportunity to hear different perspectives about community and culture, how different people describe their culture/community, the things they value about this, and any challenges/obstacles this presents. The overall aim is to raise our awareness of what 'community' means and represents within the Borough, and to think about building better community

relationships from this perspective. The event will include an input from a member of our LGTB community sourced via the Proud Generation work.

4. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (KP)**

None arising directly from this report

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS [LH]**

None arising directly from this report

6. **CORPORATE PLAN IMPLICATIONS**

The contents of this report relate to and support the following strategic aims:

- Creating a vibrant place to work and live
- Empowering communities
- Supporting individuals
- Providing value for money and pro-active services

7. **CONSULTATION**

The programme of work has been informed through ongoing consultation via Next Generation and the broader work of the Community Safety Partnership, and the proposed future work will be defined through the evidence gathered through these mechanisms and engagement with broader partners.

8. **RISK IMPLICATIONS**

It is the Council's policy to proactively identify and manage significant risks which may prevent delivery of business objectives.

It is not possible to eliminate or manage all risks all of the time and risks will remain which have not been identified. However, it is the officer's opinion based on the information available, that the significant risks associated with this decision / project have been identified, assessed and that controls are in place to manage them effectively.

The following significant risks associated with this report / decisions were identified from this assessment:

Management of significant (Net Red) Risks		
Risk Description	Mitigating actions	Owner
Lack of evidence to help shape specific provision to support the needs of our LGBT community. Further isolation of our LGBT community.	Specific work streams to help define our service provision for the LGBT community, and importantly raise awareness and engender understanding within the broader community	Sharon Stacey

9. **KNOWING YOUR COMMUNITY – EQUALITY AND RURAL IMPLICATIONS**

The work undertaken to date via the Community Safety Partnership has taken into account the specific needs of those living and working in rural areas, and the allocation of provision for those most in need. The future proposed work of NG will also seek to broaden out its work to embrace the rural areas of the Borough.

10. **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:

- Community Safety implications
- Environmental implications

- ICT implications
- Asset Management implications
- Human Resources implications
- Planning Implications
- Voluntary Sector

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Background papers: None

Contact Officer: Edwina Grant, 01455 255629

Executive Member: