

BEING ME

INCLUSIVE AGED CARE

COUNTRY REPORT: UNITED KINGDOM



University of Ljubljana



Foreword

The **BEING ME** project aims to support the social inclusion of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) older people who use care and wellbeing services. As the population of Europe is ageing, more and more older people are in need of care and support. This will include older LGBT people, who often need more professional care and support as many may not have children or the traditional support networks of the general population. Research has demonstrated that older LGBT people experience social exclusion while interacting with care providers and that their life stories and relationships are overlooked and undervalued. In some cases, they experience direct discrimination within health and social care environments.

This project aims to promote and support the social inclusion of older LGBT people in receipt of care through positive interaction with educational institutions that prepare future professionals to work with older people. By exchanging good practices, including good practice in teaching and learning and by developing tailored educational resources and pedagogies, we aim to improve the knowledge and competencies of future care professionals in the area of LGBT affirmative practices. By enhancing skills, knowledge and competencies, practitioners will be in a position to develop a culture of support, openness and respect for LGBT identities, which is essential to older LGBT people's inclusiveness in care environments.

www.beingme.eu

@beingme_project



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

About this report

The first stage of the BEING ME project was to compile information about issues that affect older LGBT people and health and social care provisions for them in each of the partner countries involved in the project. This report presents an overview of the findings of that review and includes information about good practices in working with older LGBT where applicable.

This report was compiled by:

Trish Hafford-Letchfield
Sandra Connell
Alfonso Pezzella
Middlesex University, UK
www.mdx.ac.uk
Contact: p.hafford-letchfield@mdx.ac.uk



Table of Contents

Introduction and Background	4
LGBT Population	5
LGBT rights in country	6
Main barriers to inclusive health and social care for older LGBT people	8
Current state of education of health and social care professionals on older LGBT issues in the UK.....	10
Example of good practice, in education of health and social care practitioners on older LGBT issues in the UK	10
Example of good practice, if any, in care on older LGBT issues in country	12
Conclusion.....	12
References	13
Appendix 1	16
Core organisations/stakeholders involved in older LGBT in the UK	16
Appendix 2	24
List of other activities/ projects in relation to LGBT people in the UK	24

BEING ME COUNTRY REPORT: UNITED KINGDOM

Introduction and Background

Location	The UK is an island separated from the European mainland by the English Channel and North Sea. It comprises the nations of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland which borders with the Republic of Ireland.
International affiliations	A member of the European Union since 1973.
Political	The UK is a unitary state with devolution governed within a parliamentary democracy under a constitutional monarchy. Executive power is exercised by the British Government on behalf of and by the consent of the monarch.
Population	65.6 million projected to reach over 74 million by 2039. Births outnumber deaths and immigration outnumbers emigration, resulting in a growing population. There is an ageing population (18% aged 65+; 2.4% aged 85+), 81.2 % of the population is urban with a median age of 40.3 years (ONS 2017)
Surface	242,495 km ²
Capital	London (8.136m residents)
Border countries	There is a 'soft' border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.
Languages	English is the main language and 140,000 residents of the UK do not speak English with the the most widely spoken languages after English being Polish (546,000), Welsh and Gaelic. More than 300 different languages are now spoken in British schools (Bengali, Somali, Gujarati, Arabic, Tamil and the Afghan language Pashto).
Ethnic groups:	The 2011 Census shows that in England and Wales, 80 per cent of the population were white British. Asian (Pakistani, Indian, Bangladeshi, other) 'groups' made up 6.8 per cent of the population; black groups 3.4 per cent; Chinese groups 0.7 percent, Arab groups 0.4 percent and other groups 0.6 percent. In Northern Ireland the four main ethnic minorities are the indigenous travelling community, and the Chinese, Indian and Pakistani communities.
Religions	In the 2011 Census, Christians had the oldest age profile of the main religious groups (22% aged 65+) and Muslims had the youngest age profile (48 % aged under 25yrs). Those with no religion were 39 per cent.
Urban population	In 2016, about 82.84 percent of the total population in the United Kingdom lived in cities.
Way of life	The third largest economy in Europe after Germany and France (estimated GDP of \$2.88 trillion, 2017). Since 2008, government public deficits and debt levels have become one of the highest in the G7. One report (JRT, 2017) estimates that 14 million people live in poverty in the UK, including 1.9 million pensioners. Whilst progress had been made over the last 20 years, this is beginning to unravel as a result of reductions of state support for many of those on low incomes which is falling in real terms, increasing rents, and rising unemployment.
Policy on women	Significant progress has been made in many areas of women's equality, evidenced by increasing economic activity, and academic achievements. Law and policy on women's equality are regarded good practice internationally with independent bodies in place to monitor and enforce compliance and to offer guidance and support. More work is needed to change sexist cultural norms about gender that demean women, that are supportive of male violence and that act to limit the horizons of women and girls. These include the undervaluing of caring and domestic work which together represent 56 per cent of GDP. New patterns of transnational migration need attention for gender equality as well as women and girls disadvantaged and vulnerable through race and disability.
Suicide rates	There were 6,188 suicides registered in the United Kingdom in 2015 the highest rate being for men aged 40 -44. While female suicides have decreased in Scotland they have risen in

	other jurisdictions. The rates of suicide in Northern Ireland have increased by 82% over the last 30 years. While men continue to be the most affected by suicide, the rates appear to be decreasing with a simultaneous increase in female suicide. The rate of suicide is 10.4 per 100,000 (Samaritans Suicide Statistics Report 2017). It is difficult to assess the rates of self-harm but some reports indicate that the UK has the highest rate of self-harm in Europe with increasing rates among teenage girls especially those between the ages of 13 and 16 (Mental Health Foundation 2018, Morgan et al. 2017).
--	--

LGBT Population

There are no reliable estimates of the numbers of LGBT people in the UK, not least in the ageing population over 65 years. Census figures are not available regarding sexual or gender identities. Concerns have been cited about the issue of privacy, acceptability, accuracy, conceptual definitions and “the effect that such a question could have on the overall response to the Census” (Census, 2011). The national campaigning organisation Stonewall regularly publishes updated facts and figures about the UK LGBT population <https://www.stonewall.org.uk/media/lgbt-facts-and-figures> and estimates that 5-7% of the population is gay or lesbian, and this is generally accepted by government agencies. The total population of people over the age of 55 living in the UK is estimated at 17,421,000 (based on 2009 mid-year statistics) and so 5-7% of this figure provides an estimate of 871,045 - 1,219,470 LGBT older people (Age UK, 2013). Older lesbian and gay people therefore make up a very sizeable minority community but their views are rarely sought as a distinct group. The English Longitudinal Survey of Ageing (ELSA) which assesses household relationships provides a limited mechanism of identifying those who are in same-sex relationships, their identities, behaviour, attraction, and relationships. These variables capture related dimensions of sexual orientation but none of the measures completely address the concept (Aspinall, 2009). In summary there is a lack of any meaningful comparison of the level of relative inequality faced by LGBT people and less so by older people, including the differences between the groups at both a national and local level.

This disparity is further complicated when bisexual and trans people are included. Gender Identity Research and Education Society (GIRES) is a UK wide organisation whose purpose is to improve the lives of trans and gender non-conforming people of all ages, including those who are non-binary and non-gender. They publish reports on the Trans population <http://www.gires.org.uk/>. The position paper on national prevalence of trans people in the population was issued by the ONS (2009).

To understand the needs and experiences of LGBT people, the UK Government Equalities Office (2016) commissioned the National Institute of Economic and Social Research to undertake a systematic review of the existing evidence base on the inequalities experienced by the LGBT communities in the UK. Their report (Sharp and Metcalf, 2016) found it difficult to assess the situation of LGBT people due to the lack of robust and representative evidence but revealed that compared to their heterosexual peers, LGBT people face discrimination, bullying and harassment in education and at work, hate crime, and higher inequalities in health satisfaction and outcomes. In 2017 the UK Government ran a national survey to understand the experiences of LGBT people, including those who identify with a minority

sexual orientation, gender identity or variation in sex characteristics (Government Equalities Office, 2018). Specific experiences surveyed includes accessing public services and living in the UK. With 108,000 responses it was the largest national survey of its kind, and highlighted a number of areas for change including healthcare, the workplace, education, the law, and safety. Overall, the report demonstrates a commitment to placing LGBT people's needs at the heart of the NHS, ensuring LGBT people feel safe whether that be in education or in their homes or communities, that transgender people be treated with dignity and respect, and that more is done to understand the issues faced by people who are intersex or identify as non-binary. With regards to healthcare specifically, one significant figure showed that 80% of trans respondents cited long waiting times for gender identity clinics as the most common barrier. The report highlights the allocation of £4.5 million in funding to ensure that necessary action plan is delivered.

LGBT rights in the UK

Developments in employment, crime, civil partnership, same-sex marriage and family law have gone some way to transforming the everyday lives and experiences of older LGBT people who will have witnessed significant changes in their lifetime. Substantial legislative changes in the past 10-15 years include:

- **Sexual Offences Bill 1967**, decriminalised homosexual acts between two men over 21 years of age *in private* in England and Wales but not in Scotland (decriminalised homosexuality in 1980) or Northern Ireland (decriminalised in 1982). The Sexual Offences (Northern Ireland) Order 2008 reduced the age of consent to 16 in line with the UK.
- **Criminal Justice Act 2003**, which provides the same legal protection against harassment for LGBT people as for heterosexual people.
- **Employment Equality (Sexual Orientation) Regulations 2003**, which makes discrimination against lesbians, gay men and bisexuals in the workplace illegal.
- **Sexual Offences Act 2003**, which provides legal protection against rape for gay and bisexual men.
- **Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004**, which affords more protection from violence within LGBT relationships.
- **The Civil Partnership Act 2004**, which allowed lesbians and gay men to register as civil partners and have their relationships legally recognised.
- **The Gender Recognition Act 2004 (GRA)** provided transgendered people 18-plus with legal recognition of their acquired gender via the gender recognition certificate (GRC). The GRA does not require that the person has undergone gender reassignment treatment to qualify. Obtaining a GRC provides entitlement to state benefits; occupational pension schemes; a new birth certificate and eligibility to marry someone of the opposite sex or enter into a civil partnership with someone of the same sex.

- **Mental Capacity Act 2005**, civil partners are treated the same as heterosexual married couples. Lasting and enduring power of attorneys granted to same-sex partners, as well as family or close friends.
- **Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008**, which gave protection against incitement to hatred on grounds of sexual orientation.
- **The Equality Act 2010**, outlaws discrimination when providing any goods, facilities and services on the grounds of someone's sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation and gives transgendered people similar protection against discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation as in their acquired gender they may identify as LGB. This includes protection against discrimination against the person they are associated with who has a protected characteristic under the terms of the act. The public sector equality duty also requires organisations delivering public services to act to eliminate discrimination, encourage equality of opportunity and foster good relations and to publish equality objectives which outline how they plan to tackle inequalities faced by LGBT populations.
- **Protection of Freedoms Act 2012** allows men with historic convictions for consensual gay sex to apply to have them removed from their criminal record.
- **Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013** in England and Wales and for Scotland in 2014. Section 2 of the Act provides protections from any liability for individuals and religious organisations that choose not to "opt in" to solemnise same-sex marriages, including through amending the Equality Act 2010. It amended the Gender Recognition Act 2004 to enable existing marriages registered in England and Wales or outside the UK to continue where one or both parties change their legal gender and both parties wish to remain married. It amended the GRA to enable a civil partnership to continue where both parties change their gender. Northern Ireland remains the only part of the UK where same-sex marriage is still banned. A private members bill passed its first parliamentary stage in the House of Lords in March 2018.

Same sex couples, for certain benefits, have the same rights as heterosexual couples although this may have some financial disadvantages by reducing means-tested benefits such as pension credit, universal credit, housing benefit (rate relief in Northern Ireland) or council tax support because a partner's income will be included as part of the overall assessment. The older person can nominate someone to benefit. In relation to widow's benefit, lesbian or bisexual women who have previously been married and are being paid a widow's pension lose this if they enter into a civil partnership. There are also tenancy rights in a civil partnership.

Main issues facing LGBT people in the UK

The UK Household Longitudinal Study found that gay men, bisexual men and women experience some degree of material disadvantage as compared to heterosexuals. Lesbian disadvantage may be more related to their status as women, as opposed to sexual identity. Recommendations refer to alleviating sexuality related homelessness, school bullying, health inequalities, earning disparities and social care needs in old age (Urig, 2014).

In the last 12 months, Stonewall (2017) reported that twenty-one percent of LGBT people (forty-one per cent for trans people) reported that they experienced a hate crime or incident because of their sexual or gender identity. Home Office data (2015-17) shows that 3,535 asylum applications were made by people fleeing persecution at least partly based on their sexual orientation, amounting to 6 percent of asylum claims and more than two-thirds of these were rejected, particularly from Iran, Afghanistan, Zimbabwe, Kenya and Jamaica.

Traditionally, religion has been a major source of institutional support and well-being for Black people in the UK via opportunities for social interaction, cohesion and a sense of belonging. There are over 1,500 black churches in England with 40% from Nigeria. However, when juxtaposed against sexuality, research suggests that non-heterosexuals often abandon structured religion for spirituality due to the homonegativity perpetuated through religious institutions. This has influenced political debate in the UK on the issues of homophobia and equal marriage. The TUC (2016) found that 40% of homeless young people between ages 16-25 were LGBT from which 77% were from the Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) community. Many of these young people cited religious homophobia as one of the main fundamental explanations for their homelessness.

Main barriers to inclusive health and social care for older LGBT people

A summary of the issues impacting on LGBT ageing are:

- Twenty-four percent of patient-facing staff have heard colleagues make negative remarks about LGB people and twenty percent about trans people. Nine percent of health and social care staff are aware of colleagues experiencing discrimination or poor treatment because they are trans. Twenty-six percent of LGB staff have personally experienced bullying or poor treatment from colleagues in the last five years based on sexual orientation (Summerville, 2015).
- Older LGBT people have lived through a period in which homosexuality was seen as an aberration (and still may be) and/or illegal, the prospect of using health and social care services and 'coming out' may cause anxiety or, worse still, force people to return to the closet. Given the emphasis on prevention, early diagnosis and intervention within ageing, and particularly with dementia, research has shown the ways in which carers have to mediate such disclosures, and the response can colour their future experience of accessing and providing care (Hafford-Letchfield, et al, 2018). While there is a liberal pendulum, service providers' reactions are demonstrated as being characterised by, at best, a broad acceptance through to pervasive disregard of their needs and outright discrimination (Willis et al, 2016; Willis et al, 2018).
- LGBT older people and their carers have encountered heterosexist responses and heteronormative assumptions from health and social care professionals in a one-size fits all approach (Hafford-Letchfield, 2018; Willis et al, 2018).
- LGBT people may feel that lots of the information and advice they are given about dementia, or much of the support available, isn't right for them. This may be

because of their experiences, living arrangements, the support they receive and who they have around them including carers (LGB&T Partnership, 2017) which are not always receptive to diversity in sexuality and sexual identity. These may vary, for example, some services may explicitly demonstrate a general understanding of LGBT culture whereas others may be seen or actually be outright hostile. Most services are framed within heterosexual assumptions (Cronin et al, 2011; Fish, 2006).

- Documented invisibility of LGBT identities of people living in residential/nursing home settings and lack of attention to their ability to express and fulfil sexual and intimacy needs (Simpson et al, 2017; Gerwitz-Maedan et al, 2018).
- Problematisation of those with mental ill-health that does not recognise or capitalise on resilience and coping strategies from having experienced mental health issues associated with their sexual identity (Guasp, n.d; King et al, 2008).
- Insufficient attention given to care provision for people in later life with HIV/AIDS and AIDS-related dementias who may include LGBT service user/carers (Terrence Higgins Trust).
- Lack of theoretical engagement with the dynamics and pressures of LGBT caring relationships and care practices which recognise ‘families of choice’ and different family structures, friendship networks, and differences in caring in which reciprocity and giving care are not always kinship based. These relationships may not be recognised, particularly if not validated in legal terms such as through civil partnerships and same-sex marriage (Fish, 2006; 2012).
- The need to engage LGBT people in service development and participation by gathering narratives, finding the means to consult and involve them, and adopting the right methods to do so. Capturing users’ and carers’ own expectations in the context of their cultural experiences is essential to developing responsive services (see SCIE website).
- Dealing effectively with discriminatory treatment experienced by both caregivers and care recipients in same-sex relationships (Westwood and Price, 2016).
- A lack of tailored care and resources given that broader concerns of personal identity and sense of self can easily be undermined in environments unsympathetic to diverse lifestyles, needs and preferences. A number of studies show that LGBT communities are the place for social and emotional support, particularly in rural areas (Fenge and Jones, 2012).
- The ability of services to respond to LGBT people with specific issues such as dementia and following bereavement, where peers and partners are no longer able to continue caring (Almack et al, 2017). These often unrecognised losses in care relationships heighten older LGBT people’s isolation and can lead to them needing paid care workers from outside familial social networks.

- Need for provision of spaces, practices, languages and symbols that suggest that services for LGBT older people are provided in genuinely non-discriminatory environments and that the professionals they will be involved with are informed and sensitive (Knocker 2012).
- Little is known about older bisexual people in the UK (Jones et al., 2018) and a review of data reveals that the bisexual population are one of the highest risk groups for poor mental health (Colledge et al, 2015).

Current state of education of health and social care professionals on older LGBT issues in the UK

LGBT equality is generally embedded into more wider equality and diversity training and this is true for most of the caring professions. There is a lack of appropriate, user-led or evidence-based learning materials or forums and networks where practitioners, LGBT older people and their carers can access a wider network of information, advice and support. For example there is no specific guidance in the NMC Code, HCPC professional codes on LGBT Older People, diversity, individuality etc. In addition, these are not specific to ageing.

In 2017, the British Association of Social Work was commissioned by the Department of Health to publish the skills and capability statements for social work with older people for five different levels in any settings of a social work career, based on the levels in the Professional Capabilities Framework (PCF) for social workers in England. This includes “I challenge limitations on older people’s choices, for example about sexuality, sexual identity and gender identity” (p.11, BASW and DH, 2017).

Example of good practice, in education of health and social care practitioners on older LGBT issues in the UK

We have provided links to many of these in the appendices and cite a selection of key ones here:

1. Pride in Practice <https://lgbt.foundation/who-were-here-for/pride-in-practice> - a quality assurance support service that strengthens and develops Primary Care Services relationship with their lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans (LGBT) patients within the local community. It is aimed at all Primary Care Services, including GP Practices, Dentists, Pharmacies and Optometrists and endorsed by The Royal College of GP’s, Pride in Practice is a support package that enables professionals to meet the needs of LGBT patients and meeting the requirements of your Clinical Commissioning Group, the Care Quality Commission and other bodies.

2. Opening Doors London (ODL) (<http://openingdoorslondon.org.uk/>) - large charity providing information and support services specifically for older Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans* (LGBT*) people in the UK. A membership organization providing regular social opportunities across the capital to help develop networks and communities for LGBT* people, aged over 50 and has a national influence. They provide 2 memory café’s for LGBT people with dementia and their carers.

3. **Tonic** <http://www.tonichousing.org.uk/brochure> responding to the lack of LGBT-specific housing for older people in the UK with vision to develop housing and services with a distinct LGBT identity and ethos, and in doing so to provide the older LGBT community with greater choice and control over services that are more supportive, safe, and culturally appropriate.

4. **Government Women and Equalities Committee Report** on Transgender Equality <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmselect/cmwomeq/390/390.pdf> made 35 recommendations in relation to a wide range of areas including cross-Government strategy, the Gender Recognition Act 2004, the Equality Act 2010, NHS services and on tackling everyday transphobia. They highlighted that transgender individuals experience worse mental health than the general population resulting in the recommendations of the National Suicide Prevention Strategy.

5. **Public Health England and the Royal College of Nursing** <https://www.rcn.org.uk/library/subject-guides/lgbt-health> developed two toolkits for nurses and health practitioners to support the mental health and well-being of LGB&T young people.

6. The Social Care Institute for Excellence has a good suite of freely available online learning resources.

<https://www.scie.org.uk/socialcaretv/topic.asp?t=workingwithlesbiangaybisexualandtransgenderpeople>

7. **Care Home Challenge: Developing inclusive environments for LGBT&I older people living in care homes** with Anchor produced several resources for care home staff. <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/315759153> **The Care Home Challenge Developing an inclusive environment for LGBTI older people living in Care Homes: Final Report on the Anchor Pilot Project and Resource Pack**

8. **NHS national end-of-life care programme (2012)** produced guidance for improving end-of-life care for LGBT people (<http://www.nhs.uk/resource-search/publications/eolc-rtg-lgbt.aspx>). Identifies the importance of encouraging LGBT people to be confident in being open about their relationships and emotional needs during end-of-life care and bereavement. A research study **The Last Outing: exploring end of life experiences and care needs in the lives of older LGBT people** has also been used to inform care services <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/301682578> **The Last Outing exploring end of life experiences and care needs in the lives of older LGBT people**

9. **Putting Policy into Practice** a project <http://www.esrc.ac.uk/my-esrc/grants/RES-189-25-0189/read> about the lives of older LGBT people, including their experiences of services included work with service providers to empower them to improve their services with older LGBT people in.

10. **Looking both ways: bisexual ageing case studies that can be used in learning and teaching** <https://kar.kent.ac.uk/59528/>

Example of good practice, if any, in care on older LGBT issues in the UK

Care Quality Commission (2017) Human Rights Guide England has promoted LGBT ageing issues in their new resource [Equally outstanding: Equality and human rights – good practice resource](#)

Hafford-Letchfield, T. (2016) *Practice Guide: Social Work with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Older People*. Community Care Inform (Adults). ISSN 0307-5508

Stonewall's 'plain English' guidance on sexual orientation monitoring (2009), 'What's it got to do with you?', <https://www.stonewall.org.uk/resources/whats-it-got-do-you> provides 10 reasons why LGBT people should fill in boxes in forms, and has proved a popular aid to enable organisations to explain why it is important to take part in sexual orientation monitoring.

Report on health issues impacting on the Trans population

<https://www.bournemouth.gov.uk/councildemocratic/Statistics/Documents/JSNA/GenderReassignment.pdf>

Policy briefing <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/policybristol/policy-briefings/inclusive-care-homes/> Developing inclusive care homes for older people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans (LGBT).

Conclusion

There has been significant changes in legislation and policy in the UK over the last decade although these have not yet permeated professional and vocational education and training which is having a secondary effect on the delivery of quality support and fair access for LGBT older adults. There are however a range of very good well established LGBT ageing networks and older people's organisations are beginning to be far more inclusive in their advice, advocacy and guidance for LGBT populations and there are some good resources that can be pulled together. Many potential gains have also been undermined by austerity and cuts to these important services. There is a good trend towards the engagement of older people in education and training but this has yet to include LGBT older people in any significant way.

References

- Age UK (2013) *Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender: Planning for later life*, Money Matters London, Age UK.
- Aspinall, P (2009) Estimating the size and composition of the lesbian, gay, and bisexual population in Britain. Manchester, Equality and Human Rights Commission.
- BASW., DoH (2017) *Professional Capabilities Statement for social work with older people*. Birmingham, British Association of Social Workers, Department of Health.
- Colledge, L. Hickson F, Reid D, Weatherburn P. (2015) Poorer mental health in UK bisexual women than lesbians: evidence from the UK 2007 Stonewall Women's Health Survey, *Journal of Public Health*, 37(3), 427-37.
- Commission for Social Care Inspection (2008) *Improving sexual orientation monitoring Putting people first – equality and diversity good practice bulletin about sexual orientation*. London, CSCI.
- Concannon, L (2009) 'Developing inclusive health and social care policies for older LGBT citizens' *British Journal of Social Work*, 39(3), 403-17.
- Cronin, A; Ward, R; Pugh, S; King, A; and Price, E (2011) 'Categories and their consequences. Understanding and supporting the caring relationships of older lesbian, gay and bisexual people' *International Social Work*, 54(3), 421-435.
- Davies, P, and River, R. (2006) *Being Taken Seriously: The Polari in Partnership project – promoting change for older lesbians, gay men and bisexuals*. London, Polari
- Fenge, L.-A, and Jones, K (2012) 'Gay and pleasant land? Exploring sexuality, ageing and rurality in a multi-method performative project' *British Journal of Social Work*, 42(2), 300-317.
- Fish, J. (2006) *Heterosexism in Health & Social Care*. Basingstoke: Palgrave.
- Fish, J. (2012) *Social work and lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans people: Making a difference*. Bristol: The Policy Press.
- Gewirtz-Meydan, A., Hafford-Letchfield, T., Ayalon, L., Benyamini, Y., Biermann, V., Coffey, A., Jackson, J., Phelan, A., Voß, P., Geiger, M., Zeman, Z. (2018) How do older people discuss their own sexuality? A systematic review of qualitative research studies, *Culture, Health and Sexuality*, Published online first <https://doi.org/10.1080/13691058.2018.1465203>.
- Government Equalities Office (2018) *LGBT Action Plan. Improving the Lives of Lesbian, Gay Bisexual and Transgender People*. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/lgbt-action-plan-2018-improving-the-lives-of-lesbian-gay-bisexual-and-transgender-people>

- Guasp, A. (n.d) *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual People in Later Life*. London, Stonewall.
- Hafford-Letchfield, T (2008) 'What's love got to do with it? : Developing supportive practices for the expression of sexuality, sexual identity and the intimacy needs of older people' *Journal of Care Services Management*, 2(4), pp389-405
- Hafford-Letchfield, T., Simpson, P., Willis, P. B., Almack, K. (2018) Developing inclusive residential care for older lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans (LGBT) people: an evaluation of the Care Home Challenge action research project. *Health and Social Care in the Community*. 26, 2, p.e312-e320
- Heaphy, B. (2003) *Lesbian and gay lives over 50*. York House Publications, Nottingham Trent University,
- Heaphy, B (2009) 'Choice and its limits in Older Lesbian and Gay Narratives of Relational Life' In *Older GLBT Family and Community Life* (eds) Fruhauf, C A, and Mahoney, D London and New York, Routledge.
- Home Office (2017) *Asylum claims on the basis of sexual orientation: Experimental statistics*. London, Home Office.
- ILC-UK (2011) *The last taboo A guide to dementia, sexuality, intimacy and sexual behaviour in care homes*. London, ILC.
- Jones, R., Almack, K., Scicluna. R. (2018) Older bisexual people: Implications for social work from the 'Looking Both Ways' study. *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*, 61 (3); 334-347.
- JRT, (2017) *UK Poverty 2017*. York, Joseph Rowntree Foundation.
- King, M., Semlyen , J. ,Tai, S., Killaspy, H. Osborn, D. Popelyuk, D., Nazareth, I. (2008) A systematic review of mental disorder, suicide, and deliberate self harm in lesbian, gay and bisexual people. *BMC Psychiatry* 8:70.
- Knocker, S. (2006) *The whole of me... Meeting the needs of older lesbians, gay men and bisexuals living in care homes and extra care housing* London, Age Concern
- Knocker, S. (2012) *Perspectives on ageing: lesbians, gay men and bisexuals*. York, Joseph Rowntree Foundation.
- The national LGB&T Partnership (2017) *Reducing health inequalities and improving access to health and social care for LGB&T people*. Available from: <https://nationallgbtpartnership.org/the-dementia-challenge-for-lgbt-communities/>
- National Council for Palliative Care (not dated) *Open to all? Meeting the needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people nearing the end of life*. London, National Council for Palliative Care and the Consortium of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Voluntary and Community Organisations.

ONS (2009) *Trans position paper*. London, Office for Public Sector Information (OPSI) and Office for National Statistics. Available from:
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/methodology/classificationsandstandards/measuringequality/genderidentity/genderidentityupdate>

Price, E (2012) 'Gay and Lesbian carers: ageing in the shadow of dementia' *Ageing and Society*, 32(3), 516-532.

Sharp, N.H., Metcalf, H, (2016) *Inequality among lesbian, gay bisexual and transgender groups in the UK : a review of evidence*, London, National Institute of Economic and Social Research

Nodin, N., Peel, E., Tyler, A., Rivers, I. (2015) *The RaRE research report: Mental health, risk and resilience explored*. London, PACE.

Samaritans (2017) *Samaritans Suicide Statistics Report 2017*. Samaritans, Ewell. Available at:
https://www.samaritans.org/sites/default/files/kcfinder/files/Suicide_statistics_report_2017_Final%282%29.pdf

Simpson, P, Brown Wilson, C, Brown, L., Dickinson, T., Horne, M. (2017) 'We've Had Our Sex Life Way Back': Older Care Home Residents, Sexuality and Intimacy. *Ageing & Society*, 18 (1). 33-43.

Stonewall (2017) *LGBT hate crime in Britain (2017)*. London, Stonewall.

Sommerville, C. (2015) *Unhealthy attitudes to the treatment of LGBT people within health and social care services*. London, Stonewall.

Taylor, J. (2012) *Working with older lesbian, gay and bisexual people: A Guide for Care and Support Services*. London, Stonewall.

TUC (2016) *Housing, homelessness and young LGBT people: Solutions to a crisis for LGBT youth*. Equality & Strategy Department, London, Trade Union Council

Uhrig, S.C. (2014) An Examination of Poverty and Sexual Orientation in the UK. *Working Paper Series*. Institute for Social and Economic Research. University of Essex.
www.iser.essex.ac.uk

Westwood S and Price E (eds) (2016) *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans* Individuals Living with Dementia: Concepts, Practice and Rights*, London, Routledge.

Willis, P., Maegusuku-Hewett, T., Raithby, M., Miles, P., (2016) Swimming upstream: the provision of inclusive care to older lesbian, gay and bisexual (LGB) adults in residential and nursing environments in Wales. *Ageing and Society*. 36, 02, 282-306

Willis, P., Almack, K., Hafford-Letchfield, T., Simpson, P. (2018) Turning the Co-Production Corner: Methodological Reflections from an Action Research Project to Promote LGBT Inclusion in Care Homes for Older People. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. 15, 4, , e695

Appendix 1

Core organisations/stakeholders involved in older LGBT in the UK

Organisation/group Name	Mission of organisation/group Please indicate if organisation is specific to older LGBT people or LGBT people across the life span	Key Contact in organisation	Website address
CONSORTIUM	National membership organisation focusing on the development and support of LGBT groups, projects and organisations; so they can deliver direct services and campaign for individual rights.	E-mail: admin@lgbtconsortium.org.uk	http://www.lgbtconsortium.org.uk/ Also has a members directory to check for advice, groups and services in a local area. http://www.lgbtconsortium.org.uk/directory
S.P.I.C.E	Black & Minority Ethnic Lesbian, Bisexual, Trans & Queer Women	spicebradford@gmail.com	http://www.spicebradford.wordpress.com
PACE	An LGBT+ mental health charity offering face to face and online services across England including counselling, group work and advocacy. PACE also carries out research and work with mainstream services to improve their LGBT+ clients'	www.pacehealth.org.uk	info@pacehealth.org.uk

	experiences.		
Stonewall	<p>National campaigning and advocacy organisation</p> <p>Has the following relevant resources</p> <p>Prescription for Change</p> <p>LGB People in Later Life – research and guide</p> <p>Stonewall Health posters</p> <p>Some People are Trans/Gay/Bi posters</p> <p>Different Families Same Love</p> <p>Different Families Same Care</p> <p>Gay and Bisexual Men's Health Survey</p> <p>10 Steps to LGBT Inclusive Communications</p>	info@stonewall.org.uk	<p>https://www.stonewall.org.uk/</p> <p>For resources on health and social care</p> <p>https://www.stonewall.org.uk/search/social%20care</p> <p>Also provides resources for all educational settings on a number of issues</p> <p>https://www.stonewall.org.uk/our-work/education-resources</p> <p>Specific guide on LGBT ageing - Working with older lesbian, gay and bisexual people: A guide for Care and Support Services</p> <p>https://www.stonewall.org.uk/sites/default/files/older_people_final_lo_res.pdf</p>
Gender Identity Research and Education Society (Gires)	UK wide organisation whose purpose is to improve the lives of trans and gender non-conforming people of all ages, including those who are non-binary and non-gender.	http://www.gires.org.uk/contact-us/	www.gires.org.uk

	<p>GIRES is a volunteer operated membership charity that, in collaboration with the other groups in its field, hears, helps, empowers and gives a voice to trans and gender non-conforming individuals, including those who are non-binary and non-gender, as well as their families.</p>		
cliniQ	<p>Community Interest Company. We are an holistic sexual health and well-being service for all trans people, partners and friends. We are a trans-led team, who offer a safe, confidential space for those who may not feel comfortable accessing mainstream services. In recognition for our unique approach to service ...</p>	<p>https://cliniq.org.uk/about/the-team/</p>	<p>cliniq.org.uk</p>
Scottish Transgender Alliance	<p>Equality Network project to improve gender identity and gender reassignment equality, rights and inclusion in Scotland</p>	<p>sta@equality-network.org info@scottishtrans.org</p>	<p>www.scottishtrans.org</p>
Age UK: see	<p>National organisation identify relevant sources of advocacy which are LGBT-friendly or -led.</p> <p>Examples are http://www.ageuk.org.uk/health-wellbeing/relationships-and-family/older-lgbt-communities/</p> <p>‘Safe to be me’ -Resource guide to help health and care professionals meet the</p>	<p>https://www.ageuk.org.uk/contact-us/</p>	<p>http://www.ageuk.org.uk</p>

	<p>needs of older LGBT people: https://www.ageuk.org.uk/globalassets/age-uk/documents/booklets/safe to be me.pdf</p> <p>How can I look after my health as an LGBT older person? https://www.ageuk.org.uk/information-advice/health-wellbeing/relationships-family/lgbt-information-and-advice/</p>		
LGBT Foundations	<p>LGBT Foundation has a quality assurance support service that strengthens and develops Primary Care Services relationships with their lesbian, gay bisexual and trans (LGBT) patients within the local community. Subscription only, not specifically/exclusively older people.</p>	info@lgbt.foundation	https://lgbt.foundation/who-were-here-for/pride-in-practice
MIND	<p>Provides specific advice on mental health issues for LGBT people which recognises that mental health issues can be exacerbated or directly linked to harassment or bullying http://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/guides-to-support-and-services/sexuality-and-mental-health/</p>	https://www.mind.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/	http://www.mind.org.uk
LGBT Health and Wellbeing	<p>Community initiative that promotes the</p>	https://www.lgbthealth.org.uk/contact-	http://www.lgbthealth.org.uk

	<p>health, wellbeing and equality of lesbian, gay bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people in Scotland.</p> <p>LGBT age audit tool: a guide for services and organisations working with older people to becoming more LGBT inclusive</p> <p>http://www.lgbthealth.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/LGBT-Age-Audit-Tool-final.pdf</p>	us/	
National Care Forum	<p>Produced document: Foundations for the future: dementia care for LGBT communities</p> <p>http://www.nationalcareforum.org.uk/documentLibraryDocument.asp?ID=1608</p>	http://www.nationalcareforum.org.uk/contact-us.asp	http://www.nationalcareforum.org.uk
Anchor UK	<p>One of the largest providers in the UK of care homes and sheltered housing and support.</p> <p>Anchors Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans Advisory Group (LGBT+) was set up as a direct result of listening to our customers and aims to tackle concerns that moving into sheltered housing or a care home as an older LGBT person may be a lonely and isolating experience”</p> <p>http://www.anchor.org.uk/why-anchor/diversity/lesbian-gay-bisexual-trans-group</p>	https://www.anchor.org.uk/contact-us	http://www.anchor.org.uk

<p>ILC (The International Longevity Centre(ILC- UK)</p>	<p>Independent, non-partisan think tank aimed at addressing issues of longevity, ageing and population change.</p> <p>They were commissioned to develop a guide to dementia, sexuality, intimacy and sexual behaviour in care homes (ILC-UK, 2011). They also produced a toolkit and report on an intergenerational project bringing younger and older LGBT people together across three projects nationally http://www.ilcuk.org.uk/index.php/publications/publication_details/intergenerational_projects_for_the_lgbt_community)</p> <p>There is also a policy brief from 2008 on Older Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual People in the UK http://www.ilcuk.org.uk/files/pdf_pdf_68.pdf</p>	<p>http://www.ilcuk.org.uk/index.php/contact</p>	<p>http://www.ilcuk.org.uk</p>
<p>TONIC</p>	<p>Tonic have been responding to the lack of LGBT-specific housing for older people in the UK, and few positive examples where the needs of older LGBT people are meaningfully considered when new housing policy or provision is being developed. Tonic’s vision is to develop housing and services with a distinct LGBT identity and ethos, and in doing so to provide the older LGBT</p>	<p>http://www.tonichousing.org.uk/contact/</p>	<p>http://www.tonichousing.org.uk</p>

	community with greater choice and control over services that are more supportive, safe, and culturally appropriate. Their research report from 2015-16 (http://www.tonichousing.org.uk/brochure).		
Terrence Higgins Trust	http://www.tht.org.uk/myhiv/Staying-healthy/Living-with-HIV-long-term/Ageing-and-HIV	http://www.tht.org.uk/our-charity/Get-help-now/THT-Direct	http://www.tht.org.uk
Peter Tatchell Foundation	Seeks to promote and protect the human rights of individuals, communities and nations, in the UK and internationally, in accordance with established national and international human rights law. The PTF seeks to raise awareness, understanding, protection and implementation of human rights, in the UK and worldwide. This involves research, education, advice, casework, publicity and advocacy for the enforcement and furtherance of human rights law.	Pliny Soocoormanee: Pliny@PeterTatchellFoundation.org	http://www.petertatchellfoundation.org
Public Health England	PHE has supported the publication of health factsheets with the National LGB&T Partnership and a range of other projects on LGB&T health. These have been prepared with the interests and well-being of all members of the	enquiries@phe.gov.uk	https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england

	<p>transgender community. Recommendation 30 said that Trans issues (and gender issues generally) should be taught as part of Personal, Social and Health Education. (Paragraph 361). (See https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/535764/Government_Response_to_the_Women_and_Equalities_Committee_Report_on_Transgender_Equality.pdf)</p>		
--	--	--	--

Appendix 2

List of other activities/ projects in relation to LGBT people in the UK

Organisation/group/activity Name	Focus /description	Key Contact in organisation	Website address/reference
Alzheimer's Society	Factsheet supporting lesbian, gay and bisexual people with dementia available from:	https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/info/20028/contact_us	http://www.alzheimers.org.uk/site/scripts/download_info.php?fileID=1833
Broken Rainbow	Harassment, discrimination, safeguarding and mental capacity issues. Broken rainbow enable victims of domestic abuse within their relationships who are more reluctant to report this because of uncertainty about how it will be dealt with.		http://www.brokenrainbow.org.uk/
Scottish Transgender Alliance:	<p>The Scottish Trans Alliance project (Scottish Trans for short) has been funded by the Scottish Government Equality Unit since 2007.</p> <p>We assist transgender people, service providers, employers and equality organisations to engage together to improve gender identity and gender reassignment equality, rights and inclusion in Scotland. We strive for everyone in Scotland to be safe and valued whatever their gender identity and gender reassignment status and to have full freedom in their gender</p>	https://www.scottishtrans.org/about-us/contact-us/	www.scottishtrans.org

	expression.		
Gendered Intelligence	Gendered Intelligence is made up of a host of highly skilled freelance workers who are facilitators, practitioners, youth workers, mentors, writers, researchers, trainers, educators, artists and designers, cultural commentators, social media-ites and all round talented folk.	http://genderedintelligence.co.uk/contact/email	genderedintelligence.co.uk
RCN: Royal College of Nursing	Guidance for nursing staff on dealing with next of kin issues for LGBT patients	https://www.rcn.org.uk/contact	https://www.rcn.org.uk/-/media/royal-college-of-nursing/documents/publications/2016/may/005592.pdf
Skills for Care	Independent charity in workforce development, working as a delivery partner for the Department of Health and works closely with related services such as health and housing in the adult social care workforce .	information.team@skillsforcare.org.uk	https://www.skillsforcare.org.uk Equality diversity principles document: https://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/Documents/Topics/Equality-and-diversity/Common-core-strategic-equality-and-diversity-principles.pdf
British Association of Social Workers	Capabilities Statement for social workers in England who work with older people October 2017	https://www.basw.co.uk/contactus/	https://www.basw.co.uk/england/older/docs/Capabilities%20Statement%20for%20social%20workers%20in%20England%20who%20work%20with%20olde

			r%20people.pdf
Opening Doors	<p>Charity providing information and support services for older LGBT people in the UK. They offer specialist training and consultancy for care homes, hospitals etc. to help them understand the needs of older LGBT people.</p> <p>They have published a checklist for social care organisations working with older Lesbian, Gay,, Bisexual & Transgender people (see http://openingdoorslondon.org.uk/odl-resources/).</p>	http://openingdoorslondon.org.uk/contact-us/	http://openingdoorslondon.org.uk
Stonewall Housing	<p>Specialist lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) housing advice and support provider in England. We provide housing support for LGBT people in their own homes, supported housing for young LGBT people, as well as free, confidential housing advice for LGBT people of all ages. We also research and lobby for LGBT housing rights,</p>	info@stonewallhousing.org	http://www.stonewallhousing.org/