



University of Brighton



West Sussex Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, and Unsure (LGBTU) Youth Research Project

Final Report

Rebeka Pope and Nigel Sherriff

International Health Development Research Centre (IHDRC)
Faculty of Health and Social Science
University of Brighton



West Sussex **NHS**
Primary Care Trust



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FOREWORD

This report was written by Rebeka Pope and Dr Nigel Sherriff of the International Health Development Research Centre (IHDRC) at the University of Brighton.

IHDRC is established within the Faculty of Health and Social Science to provide a focus for research, development, and consultancy related to knowledge development and dissemination in salutogenic and socio-ecological aspects of health and well-being. Its location reflects the Faculty's strategic commitment across its schools to perceiving health as a holistic concept. The work of IHDRC is based on a philosophy of health, not just disease, and a belief in participation and empowerment, social justice and equity.

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- Capacity-building in relation to migrant-friendly cross-cultural health
- Healthy cities and integrated settings based approaches to health promotion

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¹ The views expressed in this publication are those of the authors and not necessarily those of West Sussex PCT or the West Sussex Children and Young People's Service.

Executive Summary

Background and Aims

In West Sussex local practitioners have for some time been aware that there is inadequate LGBTU (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and Unsure) youth service provision. This is in the context of LGBTU young people failing to access mainstream services due to discrimination they have suffered in the past (Connexions Service National Unit, CSNU, 2007; see also Fish, 2007; Lee, 2007). Subsequently, there is an urgent need for more research insights and understandings into exploring the current service provision for LGBTU young people in West Sussex and needs assessments with LGBTU young people living in the area. The present study therefore aimed to redress this imbalance, and in doing so, provide a series of recommendations for the future provision of a LGBTU service for young people residing in West Sussex.

Methods

This research consisted of two distinct elements, a scoping study to identify current service provision for LGBTU young people across West Sussex, followed by a series of focus-groups and in-depth individual interviews with LGBTU young people from across West Sussex.

The scoping exercise included a number of informal interviews with regional and local practitioners/service providers (N=17). The initial aim of these interviews was to assist with the identification of LGBTU youth projects and services, and to stimulate the snowballing of further relevant contacts. Following the scoping exercise, qualitative research with LGBTU young people was carried out. A total of 19 LGBTU young people aged between 13-19 years participated in the research and were reached through a number of diverse and complementary strategies.

Summary of Main Findings

The research showed that despite a good range of mainstream services for young people across the county, no service currently exists in West Sussex that provides specific information, advice, or support for LGBTU young people. Findings from local and regional professionals/practitioners as well as LGBTU young people themselves, calls attention to the urgent need for the provision of a LGBTU youth service in West Sussex alongside appropriate training for staff. A brief summary of the findings is presented below.

Scoping exercise

Mainstream youth services in West Sussex

The findings revealed a number of youth organisations/services across West Sussex offering a variety of advice, support, and activities in areas such as mental health, sexual health, housing, employment, and education, for example. Interviews with practitioners revealed that some LGBTU young people in West Sussex occasionally access mainstream support services simply because there is no alternative; however, staff reported that they felt they lacked the skills and training necessary to support LGBTU young people effectively.

LGBTU youth projects/services in West Sussex

Despite a good range of mainstream services for young people across the county, no service currently exists in West Sussex that caters specifically for LGBTU young people's needs. Various attempts to set up a LGBTU youth project in the county have been carried out in the past by both youth workers and LGBTU young people themselves. However, these attempts have failed due to a lack of appropriate and sustained funding to support the service.

LGBTU youth projects/services outside of West Sussex

The scoping exercise revealed a number of LGBTU youth services outside West Sussex located across London, Hampshire, Surrey, and East Sussex, providing a comprehensive range of support, information, and advice for LGBTU young people. Findings from a telephone interview with the project coordinator of the 2BU project in Somerset (a county with a similar geography to that of West Sussex) showed that LGBTU young people tend to have similar difficulties to their counterparts in West Sussex. However, the project also shows that these difficulties can be overcome.

Regional and local practitioners' views on LGBTU provision and training

Interviews with practitioners overwhelmingly highlighted the critical need for an appropriate LGBTU youth service to be provided for young people in West Sussex. It was proposed that such a service would need to provide a social space that was safe, and that could also be used for a variety of both social and more educational activities. However, practitioners/service providers felt that sustained funding was essential if a LGBTU youth service was to be established effectively.

Most local practitioners said that they had not received any training concerning working with, and raising awareness of, LGBTU young people's issues, and that there is a pressing need for more specific training around such issues.

Interviews with young people

Young people's stories about 'coming-out'

Young people revealed that people emotionally close to them such as their parents and friends were the ones who they chose to reveal their LGBTU status to. Trust was felt to be a significant factor in this decision. Most young people reported worries and concerns about 'coming-out' either for the future or retrospectively. Some young people reported positive experiences of 'coming-

out', however, the majority of young people experienced difficulties such as losing friends and experiencing homophobic bullying from peers.

Experiences of being a LGBTU young person

Young people reported very few positive experiences of being a LGBTU young person in West Sussex. All young people we spoke to said they had experienced homophobic bullying of some kind both in-and-out of the school environment. This included verbal and physical abuse, and in some cases, was reported to have led to self-harming behaviours, thoughts of suicide and actual suicide attempts.

Young people's perspectives on services and staff

No young people were aware of the existence of any LGBTU service in West Sussex. Some young people said they had been in contact with LGBTU services in East Sussex (e.g. Allsorts) but had not always followed it up because it was too far from where they lived. All young people said they felt that there was a need for a specific LGBTU youth service to be developed in West Sussex and that this should include, for example, one-to-one support, drop-in sessions, group activities (social and educational), opportunities to meet other LGBTU young people, and the provision of a safe space for young people to 'hang-out'.

With regards staff, young people felt that the characteristics of staff working with LGBTU young people should include consistency, being available, being trustworthy, and being open-minded.

Recommendations

The findings clearly highlight the need for LGBTU young people living in West Sussex to be able to access support appropriate to meet their needs. With this

in mind, a number of broad and specific recommendations on the development of a future LGBTU youth service are proposed.

LGBTU service development for young people

Broad issues

- A clear outcome of this research is that a support service for LGBTU young people living in West Sussex needs to be developed. However, if it is to be successful, long-term and sustained funding must be available in the same way it is for mainstream services for young people.
- The lack of support for LGBTU young people in West Sussex has many parallels with recent national and local debates concerning the need to involve and support young fathers within the wider context of teenage pregnancy. In this arena for example, Sherriff (2007) has argued strongly for the need to develop both specialist and mainstream services to meet the needs of young fathers. The practicalities of implementing such proposals however are clearly complex and need to be considered over the long-term. Based on the findings of the current research, we believe that a similar approach to service provision for LGBTU young people is likely to be required.
- We would argue that all professionals and practitioners working with young people should be required to undertake (diversity) training around LGBTU issues (e.g. school nurses, Connexions staff, teachers, youth workers, supported housing workers etc). Additional specialist training would be required for those working specifically with LGBTU young people (e.g. as part of a LGBTU service).
- The inaccessibility of many mainstream services for young people in West Sussex indicates that such services are failing significant numbers of LGBTU young people from across the county. Such mainstream

services need to conduct 'whole team, whole system' reviews whereby staff teams reflect upon the ways in which LGBTU young people are treated from start to finish (including challenging existing heterosexist assumptions). Such system reviews are time intensive, difficult, and often 'invisible' work. However, they are also essential if systemic changes in how work with LGBTU young people is perceived and carried out, are to occur.

- In developing any new service, consideration must be given to its appropriate geographic location as a single site is unlikely to be effective in the long-term. It would be important for any service to consider flexible support options such as floating-support, 'virtual' support (e.g. websites, access to support on-line, phone service etc), drop-ins, rotating services (e.g. where the service visits different locations in the county on a rotating basis), and so on. For examples and ideas of different practices and approaches to service development that may be suitable for LGBTU service provision, see Sherriff (2007).

More specific issues

- Any LGBTU service provision should consider the role of new technologies which impact on how young people communicate. A dedicated website for LGBTU young people in West Sussex could be established to promote health, offer advice on (homophobic) bullying, and provide an essential portal for information and support around LGBTU issues.
- Alongside other provisions, the development of a 'moderated' e-mail network and message boards (similar to the one run by the Trust for the Study of Adolescence; see www.youngfathers.net) may be appropriate and could be incorporated as a microsite within the larger proposed LGBTU West Sussex website (see above). Such e-mail networks can provide essential and safe (due to moderation) forums for young people

to get in touch and discuss relevant issues. Furthermore, such networks can help reduce feelings of isolation and exclusion, and both start-up and sustainability costs can be relatively low.

- Given the lack of confidence many staff report in terms of working with LGBTU young people, an e-mail forum/discussion board could also be adapted and developed for staff to share ideas, training recommendations, and notions of 'good' or 'promising' practice.
- Any service for young people in West Sussex would need to offer both group and one-to-one opportunities. Whilst group working can be a cost effective way of 'doing something', it is by no means universally appealing and can exclude and alienate some LGBTU young people (e.g. particularly those young people who are Unsure or have not yet 'come-out').
- The combined data set (practitioners and young people's responses) clearly revealed the need for future staff/professional training in working with LGBTU young people. Such training is crucial if the needs of LGBTU young people living in West Sussex are to be appropriately met. Although training on LGBTU issues for professionals and practitioners does already exist outside of the county (e.g. provided by Allsorts, Brighton; fpa, London; Space Youth Project, Bournemouth, and; Anne Hayfield Training and Consultancy, London) it is likely that staff in West Sussex will face different challenges than those working in areas such as Brighton and London.
- Simultaneously with any work to develop a LGBTU service in West Sussex, further in-depth research needs to be conducted in order to develop new training programmes and resource materials for staff working with young people. For example, further interviews with practitioners and young people could be conducted to generate stimulating and real-world material to use in training packs, programmes,

or other resources. Moreover, this work could look at existing training models used, for example, in working with young men to see how they could potentially be applied to working with LGBTU young people.

- It is important to recognise that although our sample was not intended to necessarily be representative of the wider population, socio-demographic data showed that all young people interviewed were White British. Moreover, the sample only included young people who identified themselves as being lesbian, gay and bisexual (LGB). In other words, no young people identified themselves as being trans (T) or unsure (U). It would be important for further research to recruit purposively in order to include young people from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) communities, as well as those who are trans or unsure. Such individuals may well face additional issues which need to be addressed in the development of any service for West Sussex.
- It is important that any future LGBTU provision that is developed in West Sussex is evaluated fully, and that evaluation costs are budgeted in from the beginning. Evaluation can be difficult as measuring outcomes may become increasingly complex as the work progresses. However, it is essential in order to get services right that meet young people's needs; to see what is working, what might need changing, as well as providing valuable information for funders and helping the planning of future work. Involving LGBTU young people should be an integral part of any evaluation strategy. Free practitioner training on how to evaluate is available from some third sector organisations.

1.0 Introduction

Local practitioners have for some time been aware that there is currently inadequate service provision for LGBTU² young people residing in West Sussex. This is located within the broader context of some LGBTU young people failing to access mainstream services due to discrimination they have suffered in the past (Connexions Service National Unit, 2007; see also Fish, 2007; Lee, 2007). Previous attempts to set up LGBTU services for young people in Crawley and Horsham (West Sussex) have been unsuccessful, and this has been attributed (amongst other things) to a lack of clarity regarding job roles and responsibilities, appropriate and sustained funding, and a lack of consultation with LGBTU young people themselves. Consequently, in April 2006 a steering group was convened consisting of stakeholders from the West Sussex PCT, West Sussex Children and Young People's Service, and the Terrence Higgins Trust in order to tackle some of these issues head on. More specifically, it was decided that this should include a scoping of existing service provision (voluntary and statutory), and investigating the needs of LGBTU young people in West Sussex. It was also agreed that consultation with LGBTU young people would be critical in order that any future service developed as a result of this research, is truly both 'needs-and-evidence-based'.

This report therefore presents the findings of a scoping exercise designed to explore the current service provision offered to LGBTU young people living in the West Sussex area. As part of this exercise, informal interviews with regional and local practitioners were also conducted and the findings are outlined briefly. The report also presents the findings from a series of focus-group and in-depth individual interviews with LGBTU young people from across West Sussex. In

² We use the term "LGBT" as it is currently the most commonly used and accepted term by a number of agencies, equality organisations, and some official government documents (e.g. Fish, 2007). However, we also acknowledge the potential divisive nature of the term in that it can be construed as being all-inclusive such that LGBT people are sometimes seen to form a single 'community', and other concerns such as what 'trans' does and does not include. In this research, we add the term 'Unsure' (U) to the acronym to acknowledge and (potentially) include those young people into the study who maybe unsure about their sexuality and/or gender identity.

doing so, LGBTU young people's experiences of local and accessible service provision and/or other support, as well as their current support needs, are presented.

Structure of the report

In section one, the report provides a brief background and rationale for the project. In section two, an overview of the research methodology is provided which outlines details of the research process as well as the research instruments used. Section three presents the main findings of the study including data from the informal interviews carried out with regional and local practitioners, and data from the focus groups and individual interviews with LGBTU young people. In the final section, a series of recommendations and next steps for practice and local policy are proposed.

1.1 Background and rationale

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and unsure (LGBTU) young people frequently experience homophobic bullying, discrimination, and exclusion from society (Department for Children, Schools, and Families, DCSF, 2007; Fish, 2007; Cull *et al.*, 2006; Johnson *et al.*, 2007; Lee, 2007). This is important as research suggests that discrimination (overt or otherwise) has a negative impact on the health and emotional well-being of LGBTU young people. For example, research suggests that LGBTU young people often face social isolation and exclusion (e.g. Connexions Service National Unit, 2007); homelessness (Cull *et al.*, 2006); violence and abuse from peers and family (Hunter, 1990); bullying at school (Hunt and Jensen, 2007); violence in the streets (Bellos, 1998); and mental health difficulties including high rates of suicide, anxiety, depression, and self-harm (DCSF, 2007; Hind, 2004; Johnson *et al.*, 2007; Noret *et al.*, 2006).

Discrimination resulting from homophobia, transphobia, and heterosexism has led to the LGBTU population in the UK (and elsewhere) being hidden. This

means that it is particularly difficult for LGBTU people to 'come-out'³ and access support from their family, friends, local communities, and services (Cull *et al.*, 2006). For LGBTU young people, these issues are often magnified as they face additional difficulties in negotiating and establishing their emerging identities (social, sexual, and gender) within limiting social and cultural boundaries (e.g. relating to status and power, religion, limited freedom of movement, access to transportation, and so on).

Young people's support needs are diverse and complex, and this is reflected in recent government policy documents which locate young people at the centre of the national political agenda (e.g. *Every Child Matters*, 2003; *National Service Framework for Children, Young People, and Maternity Services*, 2004; *Youth Matters*, 2006, etc). To some extent, the need to support LGBTU young people is covertly represented in some of these documents; for example, by the use of generic statements referring to the promotion of health and reduction of health inequalities, the need to respect young people's differences (e.g. sexual orientation, ethnicity, etc) and facilitate access to services for those who are excluded from services by disability, sexual orientation, poverty, ethnicity, and so on. However, what is clear is that to-date, a lack of specificity concerning LGBTU issues has meant that the needs and experiences of LGBTU young people have not been addressed adequately by mainstream support services. In other words, 'fuzzy' and overly inclusive statements have meant that policy has not been translated into practice.

That said, more recently LGBTU issues have become increasingly prominent as the government works towards tackling (homophobic) bullying in schools. For instance, the Department for Children, Schools, and Families (DCSF) has recently published guidance on how schools can tackle homophobic bullying. The report, '*Homophobic Bullying*' (DCSF, 2007) acknowledges the increased risk that children and young people who are gay or lesbian (or perceived to be) face a higher risk of victimisation than their peers. Moreover, the guidance outlines the legal responsibilities of schools to take action and prevent

³ Disclosure of one's sexual and/or gender identity.

(homophobic) bullying behaviour as well as responding to incidents when they occur. This guidance is welcome and represents a large step forward in helping schools to design effective anti-bullying policies and strategies to tackle bullying and protect young people. However, the focus on schools needs to widen significantly such that LGBTU issues for young people are recognised across government departments and within all policies. Homophobic bullying in schools is only one issue that many LGBTU young people have to face in their daily lives, and more research focus is required to recognise the multiplicity and complexity of LGBTU young people's support needs including those from different ethnic, social, religious, and geographical backgrounds.

LGBTU in West Sussex

At a local level, although services for LGBTU young people exist in nearby Brighton and Hove (East Sussex), little is currently known about existing services or their availability and accessibility for LGBTU young people in West Sussex. A recent report exploring homophobic incidents in West Sussex, suggests that there is no generic community support for LGBTU young people living in West Sussex (Lee, 2007). The author proposes that one explanation for such a dearth of support may be the proximity of Brighton and Hove which hosts the largest LGBTU community in the UK (outside of London). Attesting to this idea, a recent study with 819 LGBT people in Brighton and Hove, found that 105 lived outside of the area, but travelled to the city for access to the services. Of these 105, 39 travelled to Brighton or Hove because LGBT(U) services were not available in their own area, and 66 said that they would like LGBT(U) services to be offered where they lived (Browne and Law, 2007).

Unfortunately, as Browne and Law's sample included LGBTU people from across the age-range, it currently remains unknown the extent to which and how often services in Brighton are used by young people from West Sussex. At the time of writing, we are not aware of any research that has addressed specifically the needs of LGBTU young people residing in West Sussex. Nor are we aware of any research that has specifically looked at how many young people are crossing county borders into East Sussex to access LGBTU services

and support in Brighton and Hove. Although it is beyond the remit of the present research to explore the latter issue, our study represents the first attempt to address the former, and in doing so, develop important evidence-based understandings of LGBTU young people's needs in West Sussex.

Challenges for LGBTU young people

LGBTU young people can face a range of challenges that are additional to those experienced by young people more generally, and that are specific to their age. Consequently, the shortage of LGBTU services and spaces for young people in West Sussex is compounded by their age in two ways. Firstly, young people may have limited freedom of movement or access to transportation, making it difficult for them to access services spread regionally and nationally (including those in Brighton and Hove). Many rural areas within the county have no or infrequent bus services, restricting their travel substantially (CSNU, 2007, p.25). Subsequently, young people must rely heavily on their parents to get around, which in most cases can be quite difficult when a LGBTU young person is not 'out' to their family, or members of the family are not supportive of their LGBTU status. Secondly, some LGBTU information and services are available nationally by electronic means (e.g. via the internet or telephone), but young people often do not have full access to these resources. For example, If they have access to a computer at home, school or internet cafes, LGBTU-related websites may be blocked by parental control software packages such as 'Net-Nanny' and 'KidSafe' because words like 'lesbian' and 'gay' are blocked as a standard measure, as well as by some libraries (CSNU, 2007).

These factors (amongst many others) inevitably exacerbate the potential for isolation and social exclusion of young LGBTU people living in the more rural areas of West Sussex, which in turn contributes to the likelihood of young people needing access to support services.

The West Sussex LGBTU youth project

As noted in the introduction, local practitioners⁴ in West Sussex have for some time expressed the need for appropriate LGBTU youth service provision in the area. In addition, LGBTU young people need safe and 'LGBTU-friendly' places to spend time, socialise, and meet other LGBTU people. A small number of LGBTU community organisations/clubs do exist in West Sussex such as the *Arun Gay Society* and the *Worthing Area Gay Society*. However, they do not allow many young people to enter, setting minimum age requirements at either 18 or 21yrs (Browne and Law, 2007). Moreover, there are no similar organisations for lesbians, bisexuals, or trans people (Lee, 2007). In West Sussex, this leaves LGBTU young people without safe venues and spaces for socialising and meeting other LGBTU young people. It can also be difficult for LGBTU young people to access mainstream services that meet their needs, and other researchers have found that LGBT(U) young people fear judgment and breeches of confidentiality, particularly when accessing sexual health services (CSNU, 2007). With such issues in mind, the present study explores specifically the identification of existing (LGBTU) service provision in West Sussex, and examines in some depth, young people's support needs. The research aims to provide the first step toward addressing the complex and diverse needs of LGBTU young people living in West Sussex.

1.2 Research aims and objectives

The aim of this research was twofold:

Firstly, the study aimed to explore the current service provision (voluntary and statutory) offered to LGBTU young people in the West Sussex area. More specifically, this part of the research aimed to both map out the availability of

⁴ Throughout this report for reasons of simplicity, we do not differentiate between the terms practitioner, professional, and service provider. We therefore use these terms interchangeably to refer to those individuals whose role(s) involve either working directly with young people or commissioning/delivering/managing services for young people.

existing LGBTU youth service provision, and identify any gaps and constraints on these services to meet the needs of LGBTU young people.

Secondly, the study aimed to explore LGBTU young people's experiences of local and accessible service provision and/or other support, and in doing so, identify their support needs.

To achieve these aims, the research focused on the following main objectives:

1. To identify and make contact with existing mainstream services in West Sussex that deal with young people (for example, school nurses, Connexions, Youth Information Shops etc) in order to build a picture of what is available for young people generally across West Sussex
2. To identify LGBTU youth projects and/or services in the region (potentially outside of West Sussex), and to form appropriate links with them
3. To search for existing LGBTU youth projects nationally which have a similar geography to West Sussex, and to investigate how their location affects service provision within these areas (e.g. rural location)
4. To assess the needs of the staff working with young people within the context of appropriate service provision
5. To work with local youth services to identify and recruit LGBTU young people from around West Sussex for the purposes of consultation
6. To investigate the support needs of LGBTU young people in West Sussex to inform the development of some form of peer support/youth service provision or support project.

2.0 Methodology

This research consisted of a scoping exercise (including interviews with regional and local practitioners) and a series of focus-group and in-depth individual interviews with LGBTU young people from across West Sussex. The methodological details of these discrete but interrelated aspects of the study are detailed below.

2.1 Scoping exercise

The scoping exercise was conducted between August 2007 and February 2008 and aimed to explore the current service provision offered to LGBTU young people in the West Sussex area. More specifically, this part of the research aimed to map out both the availability of existing LGBTU youth service provision, and identify any gaps and constraints on these services to meet the needs of LGBTU young people.

In the first instance, members of the project Steering Committee (see p. vii) were contacted to provide assistance and advice on the existing key organisations and agencies in West Sussex that provide services for young people. Appropriate links were then made with these agencies and services⁵. At the same time documentary research was conducted based on the available and relevant materials. Such documentation provides a relatively neglected resource for researchers and can be used to access data that are difficult to obtain in other ways (Saks and Allsop, 2007). During this aspect of the scoping exercise, the Department of Health was contacted in order to gain access to documentation that has been recently published or difficult to obtain by other means. Contact was also made with the key authors of past documents and projects undertaken in the area (e.g. Cull *et al.*, 2006; Lee, 2007). In gathering this information, a detailed list of service provisions for young people across

4 Amongst others, links with agencies and services included Information Shops, Connexions, school nurses, community colleges, local health practitioners, West Sussex Youth Service, Horsham YMCA, Primary Care Trusts, Terrence Higgins Trust, and so on. For full details see appendix F.

West Sussex was developed to feed into the broader scoping exercise (see appendix E). Web searches were also carried out to identify additional relevant contacts and organisations/agencies for young people in West Sussex.

To explore potential LGBTU youth projects regionally and nationally (including those which have a similar geography to West Sussex), further searches were conducted in the first instance to locate contacts in the South East (including East Sussex, London, Surrey, Hampshire), and the South West (Somerset). This aspect of the scoping exercise aimed to focus primarily on how transport accessibility affects service provision within these geographic areas, and to see whether LGBTU young people are having to cross county borders in order to access appropriate support.

To supplement the above scoping activities and to add depth and nuance, a number of informal interviews (N=17) were arranged with local (West Sussex), and regional (including London, South East, and the South West) practitioners (see table 1 next page). These interviews included ten local practitioners from West Sussex (Bognor Regis, Chichester, Horsham, Littlehampton, Selsey, Shoreham-by-Sea, and Worthing) and seven regionally based in the South East South West, and London. These interviews aimed initially to assist with the identification of LGBTU youth projects and services and to stimulate the snowballing of further relevant contacts⁶. However, the discussions also provided a useful opportunity to elicit additional details about the particular services offered to young people. Moreover, they enabled the first author to explore other relevant issues such as whether any LGBTU young people were using their services, what links and networks the service/agency have which could potentially be accessed by LGBTU young people, and the needs of staff working with LGBTU young people.

6 Snowballing is a method used for obtaining samples of numerically small groups (e.g. young people) by means of referrals from earlier participants (Arber, 2005; Gomm, 2004; Polit *et al.*, 2001).

Table 1 Details of informal interviews with practitioners

Practitioners	Location	Type of interview	N
Local (West Sussex)			
Young Person's Advocacy Worker	Worthing	Face-to-face	1
Team Leader	Chichester	Face-to-face	1
Youth Manager	Horsham	Face-to-face	2
Neighbourhood Youth Worker	Worthing, Selsey, Bognor Regis, Shoreham-by-Sea, Littlehampton	Face-to-face	5
School Counsellor	Bognor Regis		1
Total			10
Regional			
Project Coordinator	South East (Brighton, Hampshire)	Face-to-face/Telephone	2
Health Promotion Coordinator	South East (Hastings, Eastbourne)	Telephone	1
Connexions Personal Adviser/Project Coordinator	South West (Somerset)	Telephone	1
Youth Worker	South East (Redhill)	Telephone	1
Placement Worker	London	Face-to-face	1
Youth Worker	London	Telephone	1
Total			7
Total N			17

2.2 Qualitative research

Following the scoping exercise, qualitative research with LGBTU young people was carried out across West Sussex during November and December 2007. Such qualitative methods are said to be of particular value when there is a need to explore individual's subjective understandings of their everyday lives' events, beliefs or feelings (see Mason, 2002; McCracken, 1988; Weiss, 1994). In this research, qualitative methods were seen to be particularly appropriate because epistemologically, qualitative interviewing can allow a rich and meaningful way of generating data by gaining access to individuals' narratives and analysing their use and construction of discourse. Moreover, in an area of little previous research, qualitative methods can be particularly appropriate because they allow explanations and findings, perhaps yet anticipated or known, to arise inductively from the data. In the present study, such an approach is particularly

useful in that it can provide rich, detailed, and nuanced understandings of LGBTU young people's needs in relation to the provision of support services.

2.2.1 Sample

A total of 19 LGBTU young people participated in the research and were reached through diverse and complementary strategies. All participants were aged between 13-19 years which falls in line with the government's target age range for youth work as outline in *Youth Matters* (DfES, 2006). Although in the initial research proposal only focus groups were planned to be conducted, the authors felt that it was also important to offer young people the option of being interviewed individually, particularly for those who may feel uncomfortable talking about their experiences of being LGBTU in a group setting. Consequently, in the final sample, a total of seven focus groups and an additional three individual interviews with young people were conducted (*n.b.* one participant requested and subsequently did participate in both a focus group discussion and an individual interview).

As the LGBTU population is hidden and can be particularly hard to reach, a snowballing approach was used to recruit young people. In the first instance, a number of sites and stakeholder networks were approached by the first author including sixth-form colleges, youth clubs, local council, local initiatives, and contacts established during the scoping exercise. Publicity materials (posters and flyers) to raise awareness of the research and encourage participation were also developed and distributed to various LGBTU groups and youth services (see appendix D). Moreover, publicity activities aimed specifically at professionals (e.g. youth workers, academics, teachers etc.) were additionally deployed. These activities included a poster and oral presentation at the Brighton and Sussex Sexualities Network Conference (Pope and Sherriff, 2007), brief articles for *Channel* magazine (University of Brighton) and the *Brighton Graduate Association* magazine, and an outline of the project on IHDRc's (University of Brighton) website (see www.brighton.ac.uk/hss/ihdr/LGBTU.htm). A further conference presentation is

planned for the British Psychological Society's Annual Conference in Dublin in early 2008 (Sherriff and Pope, 2008).

In addition to the focus groups and individual interviews, a quantitative tick-box style questionnaire was issued to young people involved in the study (see appendix B) designed specifically to collect socio-demographic data about the sample. These findings are reported briefly in the paragraph below.

Socio-demographic information

- The majority of interviewees were female (n=13 or 68%).
- 100% (N=19) of LGBTU young people described their ethnic group as being White British.
- 79% (n=15) of young people reported that they did not follow or practice any religion.
- The majority of young people reported having no disability (79% or n=17) and 11% (n=2) reported having cerebral palsy and dyslexia.
- There was a reasonably good spread of ages across the target sample (13-19yrs) with 63% or n=12 of young people being aged between 16-18yrs (see table 2).
- 47% (n=9) of young people reported being lesbian, 32% (n=6) as gay, and 21% (n=4) as bi-sexual.
- No young people identified themselves as being trans exclusively, although one young woman identified herself as being trans "*occasionally*".
- No young people identified themselves as being unsure.

Table 2 Sample Characteristics for LGBTU Young People (N = 19)

Age	N	%	Sexual preference/ Identity	N	%	Religion	N	%	Ethnicity	N	%
13	1	5	Lesbian	9	47	No religion Missing Data	15	79	White British	19	100
14	3	16	Gay	6	32		4	21			
15	1	5	Bi-sexual	4	21						
16	4	21	Trans	0	0						
17	4	21	Unsure	0	0						
18	4	21	Other	0	0						
19	2	11									
TOTAL	19	100		19	100	TOTAL	19	100	TOTAL	19	100

To gain an indication of the geographical and/or socio-economic background of the interviewees, postcode data was analysed using the indices of multiple deprivation (IMD) from the Office for National Statistics⁷. In this research, this analysis revealed that a fairly even spread of scores across bands 2-4 with a small minority of young people (16%) from areas falling into band 1 representing areas of higher than average social and economic deprivation (see table 3).

Table 3 Index of Multiple Deprivation Based on Postcode Data

	IMD Quartile	Frequency	%
Most Deprived	Band 1 (1- 8,655)	3	16
	Band 2 (8,656 – 16,450)	4	21
Least Deprived	Band 3 (16,451 – 26,578)	4	21
	Band 4 (26, 579 – 32,482)	4	21
	Missing Data	4	21
TOTAL		19	100

⁷ Based on postcode data, the IMD can provide an individual score for the area based on where each young person lives. This score is a ranked overall measure of deprivation based on a number of factors such as income, employment, education, health, skills and training, barriers to housing and services and crime. A low score (e.g. 1) indicates great deprivation whilst a higher score indicates the least deprivation (e.g. 32,482). For the purposes of this evaluation, the IMD scores which can range between 1- 32,482 were categorised into four 4 quartiles to give an overview of the kinds of areas participants were drawn from.

It is important to recognise that there are of course limitations to the sampling strategies used in this study. Using a combination of snowballing and key informants to recruit hidden populations to research such as LGBTU young people can often be the only practical and feasible strategy to use. However, such methods have been shown to not generate a sample that shares the demographics of the wider population (e.g. Davies *et al.*, 1993; Martin and Dean, 1993; although this has also been found to occur when conducting qualitative research in general, see for example, Mason, 2002; Cannon *et al.*, 1991). It is also important to acknowledge that when using key informants (e.g. youth workers, LGBTU workers etc) to recruit young people, this can mean gaining access to individuals who are different from those who are not in touch with such informants. For example, Rivers (2000) has proposed that LGBTU young people who access support through lesbian and gay communities may do so as part of a pattern of resilience. Consequently, recruiting in this way means we may fail to include some of the most vulnerable people if we mainly recruit research participants who have accessed some form of (lesbian and gay) support (Cull *et al.*, 2006). In the present research recruitment was unsurprisingly problematic, and it is perhaps unlikely that our sample is representative of the wider LGBTU young people population in West Sussex. Whilst it was not possible within the remit of the present study, different and purposive sampling strategies are required that enable the voices of the hidden LGBTU youth in West Sussex to be heard more fully than could be done here. The creation and development of dedicated LGBTU services across West Sussex will undoubtedly go a long way to achieving this goal.

2.2.2 Focus groups/Individual in-depth interviews

In generating the qualitative data for this research, focus group discussions (and where appropriate, individual in-depth interviews) with LGBTU young people were conducted. Using focus groups with young people can be particularly useful in that group processes may help individuals to talk to one another, ask questions, clarify their views, exchange anecdotes and comment on each other's experiences and points of view (Pope and Mays, 2006). In this study, focus groups were used to explore LGBTU young people's support needs living in West Sussex, and to

explore their aspirations for the development of a potential peer support/youth service provision or future support project. An important aspect of this part of the research was to try and provide a collaborative and 'safe-space' within which LGBTU young people could feel comfortable in order to engage fully in the interview process and disclose details (e.g. concerning their sexual or gender identity) without fear of judgment. As such, the interview schedules for the focus group discussions (and individual interviews where relevant) were designed to act as more of an *aide-mémoire* to remind the researcher of the areas to be covered rather than as a tool to prescribe the actual list and order of questions to be asked. Therefore, in developing lists of categories and questions the intention was to provide a framework to ensure coverage of the same kinds of questions within each focus group discussions, whilst maintaining flexibility in the interview discussion. Specific questions were intended to be used as a guideline for conducting a conversation with young people and to help prompt them to discuss aspects of their experiences with sexual health support services. Young people were asked questions about their background, in terms of their experiences of being LGBTU (e.g. positive and negative including 'coming-out', reactions from friends, families, and significant others, examples of prejudice and discrimination etc). They were asked about their current situations (such as being in school, training, or employment). Young people were asked about their experiences of accessing general support services, and they were also asked about their experiences of using sexual and mental health services. Young people were also asked to comment on their experiences of, and views on, monitoring of sexual identity and gender identity in services and their views on whether or not there was a need for LGBTU specific or specialist support workers.

Each focus group discussion lasted between 30-60 minutes. The purpose and process of the research was explained and all participants signed a consent form before being interviewed. Participants were also given an information sheet about the research and a list of local resources where they could access advice and support (see appendix B). Each session began with an ice-breaker activity and young people were asked to complete a brief socio-demographic questionnaire (see appendix C). The ensuing discussions were semi-structured

but facilitated by the interviewer who used an *aide-mémoire* in case issues identified as important did not arise in the discussion (see appendix A).

2.2.3 Piloting

Before the main data generation took place, a single pilot focus group was conducted at Allsorts in East Sussex with six young people from East Sussex. This focus group aimed to enable a 'dry-run' of the interview schedule (including testing of the recording equipment) and to aid in the development of the themes and issues to be addressed in the main focus group interviews. Following the pilot discussion, minor changes to the interview schedule were carried out (e.g. re-phrasing of certain questions to aid clarity) and minor amendments to the recording procedures to improve the quality of the audio recordings.

2.2.4 Data analysis

All young people who took part in the focus groups/individual interviews agreed to the tape-recording of their discussions. Data from the audio tapes were transcribed verbatim and content analysed⁸. The analysis focused upon the generation and emergence of common themes and explanations derived from the transcripts. In the first instance, the interview data were inspected through iterative listening and reading to ensure there had been accurate transfer of information between the digital audio tracks and transcription. This was a useful exercise as it also facilitated familiarity with the data and allowed the beginnings of an interpretative process. In doing so, a preliminary coding structure was devised as emerging themes were identified within and across the focus group discussions. To assist in the analysis of the material, transcripts were cross-sectionally coded by the researcher using Nud*ist Nvivo to provide a consistent system for cataloguing the data set. Development of the final indexing categories were informed and guided by the project's key research questions,

⁸ The interviewee extracts quoted in this report are generally quoted verbatim. However, in some cases, wording has been removed to assist in the readability of the text, but without changing the context within which it was said.

and also grounded from the data itself (i.e. whereby patterns, themes, and categories of analysis emerge out of the data; Patton, 1990; see also Dey, 1993).

The following conventions were used for the transcription of the interview data: [], background information (including emotions, interruptions, tone of voice, or any contextual or methodological note); “”, direct quotation; ?? inaudible responses; [...], text extract from same interview or extract from a different interview to follow. Throughout, the interviewer (Rebeka Pope) is referred to as RP. All interviewee’s names were anonymised by the use of pseudonyms.

2.2.5 Ethical considerations

The International Health Development Research Centre (IHDRC) is very sensitive to the needs of individuals who participate in our research, and has strict ethical guidelines that are adhered to. The IHDRC has extensive experience of researching and working with vulnerable people (for example, young people, children and families in deprived areas, adults and children with mental health problems). Ethical guidelines address issues such as gaining access to participants, informed consent, care of participants, confidentiality, data protection, disclosure, and feedback. Prior to the start of the research, the proposal was reviewed rigorously by the Faculty of Health and Social Science’s Research Ethics and Governance Committee (FREGC) at the University of Brighton. This Committee meets to ensure the integrity and quality of research proposals in all matters concerned with the management and ethics of research involving human participants, research that draws on secondary data carrying personal or organisational information, and other research which is deemed to present ethical or governance issues. As part of this process, the level of risk involved in research projects is considered (against the Faculty’s agreed criteria) and, where appropriate, recommendations are made at reducing the level of risk.

Prior to the commencement of the interviews (individual and focus group discussions), all participants were assured that any information they provided

would be kept confidential and stored securely. However, it was also explained that if a respondent disclosed that they (or someone else) were at risk of 'serious harm'; the researcher would have an obligation to inform another professional who could then act to protect that individual. Using a participant information sheet (see appendix B), the interviewer (RP) informed young people about the aims of the study and stressed the methods that were to be used which can bestow the status of the 'knower' on each young person involved (Dentith *et al.*, 2007). The researcher then emphasised that there could be no 'right' or 'wrong' answers to the questions, and that each respondent had the right to refuse to answer questions and could terminate the interview at any time. It was explained that the time taken typically to complete an interview or focus group discussion would be about 30-60 minutes.

Participants were informed of how the material from the study could potentially be used (e.g. as quotations to illustrate findings in journal articles or educational materials). The researcher also stressed that all material used would be anonymised by the use of pseudonyms and that feedback would be offered about the results of the interview work on completion of the research. Finally, all interviewees were provided with a booklet containing details of advice and support services (see appendix B) as well as a £5 'thank-you' voucher.

3.0 Findings

3.1 Results of the scoping exercise

The aim of the scoping exercise was to map out the availability of current service provisions for LGBTU young people in West Sussex. The findings of the scoping exercise are presented in two main parts. Part one focuses primarily on the identification of existing mainstream services for young people in West Sussex, as well as more specific LGBTU services (research objective one). In addition, some LGBTU youth projects/services outside the county are also identified, particularly those that have a similar geography to West Sussex (research objective two and three). Part two presents the findings from a series of informal interviews conducted with practitioners and/or service providers concerning their views on the needs of LGBTU young people in West Sussex (research objective six). This also includes a brief exploration of the development needs of staff in working with LGBTU young people (research objective four).

3.1.1 Part one

In this part of the scoping exercise, the research aimed to identify and make contact with existing mainstream services in West Sussex that deal with young people in order to build up a picture of what is currently available. Moreover, it aimed to both identify (and make links with) specific LGBTU youth projects and/or services in West Sussex, as well as projects more nationally, and particularly those with a similar geography to West Sussex (e.g. Somerset).

- **Mainstream services in West Sussex for young people**

The findings indicated that there are a range of statutory and voluntary organisations across the county that offer dedicated support services for young people (e.g. Information Shops, Connexions, youth centres/wings, youth support groups, school counsellors and so on). These mainstream services

offer support, advice, and information to young people in areas such as mental health, sexual health, counselling, education, employment, housing and various youth activities organised in music and sport. In addition, there are also local health practitioners, family planning clinics, and school nurses that provide services such as drop-in sessions and advice/information on specific areas such as safe-sex education. Full details of these services for young people can be found in appendix E. A brief synopsis is provided below:

Information Shops – There are currently six Information Shops for young people in West Sussex located in Worthing, Chichester, Bognor Regis, Shoreham-by-Sea, Burgess Hill, and Horsham. Information Shops provide information, advice, and support in areas such as education, employment and training, environment, family and relationships, health, housing, justice and equality, travel, leisure, and sport activities. The service is specifically aimed at young people between the ages of 13-25yrs.

Connexions - Connexions is the national young person's service providing information, advice, guidance, support, and personal development services for all 13-19 year olds. Connexions services are confidential and there are numerous access points located within the six district councils of West Sussex (Chichester, Arun, Worthing, Adur, Horsham, and Mid-Sussex).

School Nurses - School nurses work with young people across a number of primary and secondary schools in West Sussex. Their duties usually include raising awareness of issues that can have a negative impact on health, promoting healthy living (e.g. diet and exercise, and safe-sex education), and so on. School nurses act as an important link between the school and other services such as Connexions, the police, and social services.

Local Health Practitioners/Family planning clinics - There are a number of family planning clinics spread across West Sussex that provide essential drop-in sessions for young people on a variety of sexual health matters (e.g. condom distribution). There are also health promotion specialists and sexual health advisers who offer services across various schools, although they are not

trained specifically to provide advice to LGBTU young people. During the research, local health practitioners highlighted that although there are a range of services for young people generally across West Sussex no specific information, advice and support is provided to LGBTU young people within existing provision.

Youth centres and youth wings - There are 38 youth centres across West Sussex and an additional 20 youth wings allocated mainly within schools (West Sussex County Council, 2008). The youth centres/wings provide facilities and opportunities for all local young people aged 11-25yrs. However, priority is given mainly to those in the 13-19 age-range to facilitate their personal, social, and educational development to enable them to gain a voice in society. They also undertake a number of different activities related to sport and music and provide an ideal place for young people to learn and relax. Recently, some youth centres have made computer facilities available (including access to the internet) as well as recording studios with musical instruments (e.g. Crawley, East Preston, and Worthing).

Other services – ‘*MIND: for better mental health*’ is a mental health charity in England and Wales that works to create a better life for everyone with experience of mental distress. In West Sussex, MIND offer information, advice, and support for young people between the ages of 11-19yrs who are experiencing mental health problems. Amongst others, the service offers advice and support in areas such as mental health, education, housing, and social services.

Horsham YMCA is a local charity committed to the development of young people by providing unique opportunities that allow young people to develop their mental, physical, and spiritual health regardless of gender, race, sexuality, religion, or ability. Services offered include affordable, safe and secure accommodation for young people, training and personal development, a large conference and banqueting room with multimedia equipment, exhibition space, and free internet access.

The Electric Storm Youth Limited is a registered charity aiming to provide the young people of Lancing and the surrounding area with a warm, dry, attractive facility, which is accessible in every way and is sustainable.

- **LGBTU youth projects/services in West Sussex**

A literature search was carried out and regional and local practitioners across the county were contacted via email, telephone, and face to face to try and identify any service/existing networks for LGBTU young people living in West Sussex. Overall, the research showed that whilst there are a large number of generic support services available for young people in West Sussex, service provision specifically for LGBTU young people is particularly limited. In fact, responses from practitioners revealed that, at the time of writing (February 2008), no formal LGBTU service(s) exist at all for young people in West Sussex (see table 4 next page).

However, one youth worker indicated that a dedicated LGBTU youth project is currently being developed in Chichester and is planning to open its doors to young people shortly. The service/project has been formed by local LGBTU young people themselves, one youth worker, and a team leader. They have met once a month for the past six months to discuss how the project could be set-up. The project will be run by LGBTU young people with the support of a team leader/youth worker. The services offered will include (amongst other things) peer support, self-esteem and self-development, education and training, advice, and perhaps most importantly, a location where LGBTU young people can 'hang-out' and engage in various social activities. To-date, some funding has been received to support the opening of the service. In addition, the youth team leader at the Fernleigh Youth and Community Centre (Chichester) is working alongside the LGBTU young people to try and procure further funds to support the development and sustainability of the project.

Despite no formal LGBTU service provision existing in West Sussex for young people, seven youth services have nonetheless been providing some basic and

informal support to LGBTU young people who attend their youth groups (see table 4 below). As one youth worker commented:

*“I do know a couple of LGBTU young people who do not have anywhere to go for help and so quite often they will come and use our services”
(Neighbourhood Youth Worker, Shoreham By Sea).*

Table 4 LGBTU Projects and Supporting Services in West Sussex as of February 2008

Services in West Sussex	No. of Projects	Projects / Youth Services	No. of LGBTU Young People Attending	Focus of Project	Location
Existing LGBTU Services	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Proposed LGBTU Projects	1	Fernleigh Youth and Community Centre, (Chichester)	6	LGBTU service for young people	Chichester
Youth Services not LGBTU specific but offering some support to LGBTU young people	1	MIND, For Better Mental Health	2	Mental health – self harm and suicidal behaviour.	Worthing
	1	Horsham Youth Centre	1	Support on the issue of coming out	Horsham
	1	The Place	1	Support, information and referrals to appropriate LGBTU youth groups such as Allsorts (Brighton).	Worthing
	1	King's Manor Youth Wing	Not specified	Support, information and referrals to appropriate LGBTU youth groups such as Allsorts (Brighton).	Shoreham-by-Sea
	1	Arun Leisure Centre	1	Support to LGBTU young people on certain issues being faced.	Bognor Regis
	1	East Preston Youth Centre	1	Support and advice, on ways of 'coming-out' and how to deal with homophobic bullying.	Littlehampton
Total N	7		12		

Similarly, several other youth workers (including a Young Person's Advocacy Worker) interviewed, reported that they had also worked recently with some LGBTU young people in West Sussex despite having had no training to do so or funds to support the work (see appendix H):

“There have been recent cases where I have worked with LGBTU young people on topics about self-harm and suicidal behaviour, even though I have not had any training working specifically with LGBTU young people” (Young Person’s Advocacy Worker, Worthing).

“I have worked with a LGBTU young person in the past in areas such as how to overcome bullying in school - within and outside working hours with no funds available or training provided but only holding on to my past experience of working with LGBTU people” (Neighbourhood Youth Worker, Littlehampton).

Further discussions with local practitioners revealed that some LGBTU young people are using generic mainstream services for young people as an alternative, simply because there is not a specific place providing information, advice, and support for LGBTU young people. However, the provision of this informal support to LGBTU young people is in the minority as most generic youth services in West Sussex do not provide any support. As one youth worker in Worthing commented:

“I don’t know...[PAUSE], I have not come across any particular service that would provide any support...basically, or anything for LGBTU young people in West Sussex” (Neighbourhood Youth Worker, Worthing).

Despite the lack of current provision, support for LGBTU young people living in West Sussex has been attempted in the past. For example, Horsham Youth LGBT website was created by a few LGBTU young people living in Horsham to provide a chat-space for LGBTU young people as well as offering relevant information concerning LGBTU issues. The website has been disabled for sometime due to a lack of funding for its hosting and maintenance.

Furthermore, discussions with practitioners in Horsham and Worthing revealed that there used to be a LGBTU project (now closed) based in Crawley called ‘Hundreds and Thousands’ for young people up to 26yrs. At that time, the project was run by a (LGB) member staff offering support via a free-phone

helpline, text, and email to young people living in West Sussex. The Hundreds and Thousands project used to provide a weekly drop-in service for LGBTU young people running on a Thursday evening between 7.00-9.30pm at a safe and confidential venue in the area of Crawley. Several attempts have been made by the authors to identify why the service closed. However, to date we have not been able to verify the details with the relevant individuals.

- **LGBTU youth projects/ services outside West Sussex including those with a similar geography to West Sussex.**

The scoping exercise revealed that there are numerous LGBTU services for young people outside of West Sussex. However, for young people in West Sussex, access to these services is severely restricted due to (amongst other things) transport difficulties and the associated financial costs (e.g. money for bus and train fares). Consequently, the scoping exercise also looked for examples of LGBTU specific projects immediately outside of West Sussex including London, Hampshire, Surrey, and East Sussex. Moreover, it also scoped for any specific LGBTU youth projects in Somerset, a county with a similar geography to that of West Sussex (i.e. rural) to look at how issues such as transport have been dealt with, and could potentially be applied to a new service in West Sussex. These findings are presented briefly in the paragraphs below. Further details including an annotated list of the LGBTU youth services mapped for this research is provided in appendix I:

London

A relatively cursory examination revealed a number of LGBTU youth services across London including amongst others: Shape Up, Blaze, Vibe, Your Zone, GALLY, Court Out, O.O.T, Identity, SNAP, Chillin' Out, Tribe etc. (See appendix I for further details of other LGBTU youth projects in London). These services appear to provide a fairly comprehensive range of support for young people including, for instance, support for victims struggling with homophobia, transphobia, and heterosexism; mental health issues; sexual health and HIV; substance misuse; comfort with sexual orientation; provision of weekly

programmes and LGBTU drop-in youth centres; 1-2-1 services; confidential phone lines and e-mail addresses for information; advice and support; workshops and training sessions; referrals, and so on.

Hampshire

Scoping of Hampshire revealed the Breakout youth project located in Southampton, funded by the Southampton City Youth Service and the Southampton City Primary Care Trust. The project started in 1992, and is a service specifically for young people who identify themselves as LGBTU between the ages of 13-25yrs. The group usually meets every Thursday between 7:00-9:30pm at a safe and confidential place in Southampton. Annual events are also undertaken such as residential trips that young people can chose to take part in. See appendix I for further details of this project.

Surrey

In Surrey there are also a number of group projects including Out Crowd, NRG project, OMO Youth Group, WOW-We're Out West, G&B Men u25, and Sutton Youth Group for LGBTU young people. These youth projects offer a safe and confidential place for young people to meet and share experiences, provide information on areas such as sexual health, explore ways of 'coming-out' and also provide referrals on education, careers, and counselling. In addition the youth projects run a series of activities and workshops including music and creative writing, visits to other groups, holiday weekends, and trips to festivals.

East Sussex

As Brighton and Hove hosts the largest LGBTU population outside of London, there are numerous and comprehensive services for LGBTU people located in the city. For young people, one of the largest and best known projects is Allsorts which runs weekly from 5:30-8:30pm every Tuesday. The project offers a range of services including one-to-one support and advocacy, workshops and training sessions for young people as well as professionals working with young people,

a website, and a LGBT youth lending library. More importantly the project offers a safe place for young people to chat, catch up and get to know new people.

However, although services in Brighton and Hove are comprehensive, outside of the city (e.g. east of the county towards Kent) services are scarcer and fewer transport links are available - meaning young people can have similar difficulties to those in West Sussex regarding transport and access. The 'Anything But' project for instance, operating in Hastings, has reported similar difficulties. The project started around six years ago and was initially called the 'Gay and Lesbian Support Social Network' (GLYSSN) and changed recently its name to 'Anything But'. The project provides information and support to LGBTU young people from 14-26yrs. It runs a range of social events from video nights to trips out, as well as sessions on aspects of being gay such as 'coming-out', sexual health, trans issues, and self-esteem. One-to-one time with workers is also available. 'Anything But' runs on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month in Hastings between 6:00-8:00pm.

Somerset

To search for existing LGBTU youth projects nationally which have a similar geography to West Sussex, and to investigate how their location affects service provision within these areas (e.g. rural location), Somerset was identified as a suitable and comparable county. Investigation via phone, internet, and e-mail led to the identification of the "2BU" project currently located in Wells, Somerset. The project initially started in 2002 as a youth group (involving three members) to support and help gay and lesbian people aged 15-18yrs. A telephone interview with the project coordinator of 2BU project revealed that LGBTU young people in Somerset tend to have similar difficulties to their counterparts in West Sussex in terms of geographic isolation and problems with transport to access services. However, the 2BU project has attempted to tackle these issues head-on. Since its beginnings, the project has grown in size and has expanded to include a total of three 2BU youth groups across the Somerset area based in Wells, Yeovil, and Taunton. The 2bu project is therefore accessible by LGBTU young people living in different sites of Somerset

including those in rural areas. The youth groups are run twice a month between 6:30-8:30pm and provide social interaction and peer support, along with more in-depth advice and support if needed. The 2BU groups also run interactive workshops and a number of social events such as excursions to London, for example.

3.1.2 Part two

Regional and local practitioners' views on LGBTU provision for young people in West Sussex

As a reminder, although beyond the original scope of this report, 17 informal interviews were conducted during the scoping exercise with regional and local practitioners from local, regional, and national locations (see table 1, p.18; see also appendix G for contact details of the interviewees). These interviews aimed initially to assist with the identification of LGBTU youth projects and services and the further snowballing of contact with relevant individuals. However, the discussions also provided a useful opportunity to elicit further details about the particular services offered to young people. Moreover, they enabled the first author to explore other relevant issues such as whether any LGBTU young people were using their services, what links and networks the services/agencies have which could potentially be accessed by LGBTU young people, and to identify some of the needs of staff working with LGBTU young people. In this section, we therefore present a very brief snapshot of some of the practitioners' views on the above issues.

Lack of LGBTU services in West Sussex, and crossing county borders

Supporting the findings of part one of the scoping exercise, all 17 of those interviewed reported that they were unaware of the existence of any specific service LGBTU service provision for young people (including support networks) to meet the growing needs of LGBTU young people living in West Sussex. For instance, a neighbourhood youth worker from West Sussex commented:

“As I am working in Worthing I know that there are two social gay clubs - however, these are mainly for adults and I would think they would be quite difficult for young people to access. Regarding other areas, I can’t say much as I have not heard anything about any social space or a service specifically for LGBTU young people in West Sussex” (Neighbourhood Youth Worker, Worthing).

Perhaps more importantly, local practitioners felt strongly that there was a “definite need” to develop a service provision for LGBTU young people in the county:

“West Sussex is an area where LGBTU young people feel reluctant and insecure to open up to someone about their needs as the support has not been there for quite sometime. I also think that there is definitely a need for a service to develop for LGTBU young people living in West Sussex” (Neighbourhood Youth Worker, Littlehampton).

“There is a definite need for a visible service for young people in West Sussex. I have come across young people experiencing issues surrounding their sexuality – and they don’t like to be exposed as they fear the consequences of what might happen if they come out. Some who ‘come-out’ at an early age don’t know how to cope with it. In the youth wing I am working at there are at least 7-8 young people who come along quite regularly, and all of them face the circumstances I mentioned earlier” (Neighbourhood Youth Worker, Shoreham-by-Sea).

Given the lack of LGBTU services in West Sussex, it is perhaps not surprising that some interviewees reported that young people appear to be crossing county borders (e.g. into East Sussex) in order to access support and/or services to meet their needs. For example, three local practitioners in particular said that they had referred young people from West Sussex to established LGBTU services in Brighton (East Sussex) and London. Contacts made with the project coordinator of Allsorts youth project in Brighton show that there have been a number of young people accessing the service outside the area.

“There used to be 6-7 young people every year accessing the Allsorts project from the area of West Sussex - however, currently, I have only come across 2-3 LGBTU young people” (Project Coordinator, Brighton).

However, whilst crossing borders may be an option for those young people who live close to the county borders or where there are good transport links, individuals who reside in more rural areas of West Sussex are at a much greater disadvantage both in terms of both access and financial cost. As one team leader from Chichester commented:

“Young people have reported that these services are quite difficult to access due to the lack of transportation, and also the cost of the journey to get to those services” (Team Leader, Chichester).

Staff needs in working with LGBTU young people

During the interviews, local practitioners said they felt that LGBTU young people's needs were not being treated as a priority in West Sussex, and that this was reflected in the lack of specialist services and appropriate funding. More specifically, it was reported that there is a need for long-term sustainable funding in order to develop appropriate services for LGBTU young people. The short-term and irregular nature of funding can lead to low staff morale and difficulty in long-term planning especially in relation to partnership working (Sherriff, 2007). Setting up support for LGBTU young people can take a long time to establish, and when it does get started, or is just about, to funding often then runs out meaning that valuable learning is often lost. As one practitioner commented:

“...even though funding will probably be available in the future, there is a need for a long-term LGBTU service for young people - in many cases funding will be available for six months to one year and by the time the initial work has been put in - it is forced to end due to a lack of resources” (Team Leader, Chichester).

A further clear theme that emerged from the data was the perception that there is a concerning lack of available and relevant training for staff about LGBTU young people's issues and needs. Most respondents suggested that there should be on-going specialist LGBTU (diversity) training available to all individuals who work with young people (i.e. not just youth workers but also school nurses, teachers, Connexions workers and so on). Moreover, some interviewees felt that in developing and setting up LGBTU services, young people themselves should also be able to access appropriate training in order for them to be able to contribute fully to the process. In the words of one practitioner:

“...training should be provided to those local practitioners and young people working or developing a gay and bisexual friendly service in the future from policy formation to actual service provision for LGBTU young people themselves” (Neighbourhood Youth Worker, Selsey).

During the interviews a number of topic areas for potential training were proposed by practitioners and/or service providers. These areas included training on: how to understand and addressing the social and psychological issues that affect LGBTU young people's lives; how to understand better the 'coming-out' process; sexual health information; the law (e.g. clarity regarding Section 28); homosexuality; homophobia, and; bullying.

Section 28

Section 28 was raised by two neighbourhood youth workers and a school counsellor on different occasions. Section 28 of the Local Government Act 1988 prohibited local authorities in England and Wales in promoting homosexuality by teaching or by published material. However, even now that Section 28 has been repealed (July 2003) it still causes a great deal of confusion. As one service provider commented:

“The existence of Section 28 has caused uncertainty in a number of schools and health care professionals working with young people on

what they can say and do - and whether they can help young people dealing with homophobic bullying and other issues related to the area” (Neighbourhood Youth Worker, Shoreham-by-Sea).

Indeed two professionals we spoke to were unsure about Section 28:

*“I can’t recall what section it is, section 18 or section 64?”
(Neighbourhood Youth Worker, Bognor Regis).*

“I thought that the Government has moved on from Section 28 but still I’m not sure if I have to be wary about this” (School Counsellor, Bognor Regis).

Such findings pertinently highlight the need for individuals working with young people in West Sussex to have access to appropriate training around LGBTU issues. We would argue strongly that this is important for **all** professionals working with young people, and not just those who may have day to day contact with LGBTU young people (e.g. as part of a LGBTU youth project).

3.1.3 Summary

Findings from the scoping exercise revealed a number of voluntary and statutory organisations throughout West Sussex offering a variety of mainstream support services for young people. Amongst others, these services include advice, support, and information on areas such as mental health (e.g. MIND), education, employment, and personal development (e.g. Connexions), sexual health (e.g. family planning, school nurses), and housing, relationships, travel, and leisure (e.g. Information Shops). However, at the present time, no service specifically for LGBTU young people appears to exist in the county, despite the growing need (and evidence) for such provision.

Interviews with a number of regional and local practitioners/service providers also revealed the need for practitioner training programmes to be developed which would address LGBTU issues for those working with young people

(whether LGBTU or not). In practice, it is likely that different training would be required for those working specifically with LGBTU young people (e.g. in a LGBTU project), compared to those working with young people in other settings who may or may not be LGBTU (e.g. schools, youth workers, and Connexions workers).

3.2 Interviews with LGBTU young people

This section of the report outlines the main findings from the focus groups and individual interviews conducted with LGBTU young people (research objectives five and six). The preliminary findings focus on three main themes elicited from the data:

- Young people's stories about 'coming-out'
- Experiences of being a LGBTU young person
- Young people's support needs, and perspectives on services and staff

3.2.1 Young people's stories about 'coming-out'

Following a series of 'warm-up' questions at the start of the focus group discussions and individual interviews, young people were asked about their experiences of 'coming-out' as being LGBTU to their friends, parents, siblings or significant others. Perhaps unsurprisingly, young people revealed that people emotionally close to them such as their parents and friends were the ones who they chose to reveal their LGBTU status to. Narrative data showed that although there were generally a range of responses to this question, most of the young people interviewed (n=17 or 89%) said that they had 'come-out' to both their parents or, in some cases, just one parent specifically:

"I told my mum and then the rest of my family" (Female, 14, Bognor Regis).

“My mum was fine when I said I was lesbian - I think she always knew though. My dad just went mad actually the other day – he turned around to me and said ‘I have accepted it now but I just don’t understand it’ ” (Female, 17, Chichester).

“I have told my dad only, I approached him over the phone and he was shocked, I don’t know why. My mum does not know. She would flip out and her reactions would be really bad if she finds out though” (Male, 19, Bognor Regis).

“Everyone knows, well, I haven’t – the further that has gone in my family is people that I’m living with, so that’s my mum, my stepdad and my sister but not my grandparents” (Female, 14, Southwick).

Some young people said that when ‘coming-out’, their parents (mainly mothers) had already realised that their child was possibly LGBTU before the young person themselves had come forward to make the disclosure:

“My mum knew I liked girls” (Female, 16, Chichester).

“My mum already knew I was a lesbian - and when I told her she said that she already knew and just wished I could have told her sooner” (Female, 18, Horsham).

A few young people said that they had disclosed their LGBTU status to their friends as people they could trust:

“My friends were just fine about it when I told them simply because they are good friends and I trust them, deep down I knew they were going to understand” (Male, 16, Worthing).

“Everyone I know but not my family, oh they don’t know but I am thinking telling them soon” (Female, 16, Midhurst).

Concerns about the reaction of others

A recurring theme that arose during the interviews included worries and concerns about how other people (mainly parents and friends) would react about the young person disclosing that they were LGBTU. For example, one young person reported that he had not yet revealed he was gay to his parents because of worries about their reactions.

“My parents...they don’t know yet simply because I don’t know how to bring up the point - and I have no idea how they will react about it” (Male, 16, Worthing).

Similarly, some young people interviewed who were already ‘out’, recalled their feelings and concerns about fear of rejection from significant others:

“The fact that I would be classified as a freak and not seen as normal by a straight person so it’s a bit like ...I don’t know. However, you do think back - you are who you are and you just got to deal with it. So in the end it was just fear of rejection I suppose like ‘oh you are not a friend of mine anymore, you’re a freak’ and that kinda thing. Also, the biggest fear was people’s reactions being blown-out [REJECTED] for being or remembered as the gay guy and not the funny kid - the one that had the good jokes but still the gay kid” (Male, 16, Angmering).

“I was worried because I didn’t know whether they [PEOPLE] would have accepted or how everyone was going to take it” (Female, 14, Bognor Regis).

“It was harder to tell my dad cos I didn’t know how he would react or anything, if he was gonna flip or anything so that was really difficult for me” (Male, 19, Bognor Regis).

Positive/negative experiences in 'coming-out'

During the discussions, young people shared some of their experiences about 'coming-out' in terms of whether it was a generally positive and supportive experience, or whether it was more negative and difficult. For instance, some young people said that 'coming-out' had been a positive experience in that it meant they had managed to make new friends and access new forms of peer-support which didn't exist before:

"I think overall they [THINGS] have changed for good. At the beginning it was quite – it was a bit of a hard time, got in a little trouble with the kids but I mean you do gain a lot of respect from it because people just start imagine facing themselves so they look up to you and have a lot of respect for you, so overall it has made it a lot easier...so came to the good so you know there is a hard time through it.... but you make a lot of new friends through it" (Female, 14, Southwick).

"I did have a hard time but in the end I just didn't care what people said and how they reacted about me being lesbian and to be honest it made it a lot easier" (Female, 18, Horsham).

"Well, at first it was like really hard to deal with because I got bullied - people being narrow minded - but after you show them that you don't care what they say and showing that you are stronger then that, you should rather be with the person you are with rather than listen to what they say and that just made it easier and then they stopped cos they realised they were embarrassing themselves" (Female, 14, Bognor Regis).

"Since 'coming-out' things have changed for good cos I didn't have that big secret to tell my friends anymore. In the end I lost a couple of friends cos they didn't stick by me so that was probably a good thing as you find out who your real friends are" (Male, 19, Bognor Regis).

However, it is important to recognise in the above examples that although young people felt 'coming-out' had turned out positively in the end, their initial experiences were still difficult to deal with and included being bullied and losing erstwhile friends. Moreover, not all young people interviewed reported that their personal circumstances had improved for the better since 'coming-out'. Some LGBTU young people drew on examples of where they had felt 'coming-out' had been hard to cope with, and reported a continuation of feelings of distress and disappointment by other people's reactions:

"It is worse now that I have come out because unless I'm socialising with straight people, I can't go out or anything. It's that bad that if I go out my parents are like 'where are you going?' and 'with who?' and I have to make up girls' names to go out the house you know" (Male, 16, Angmering).

"The first person I told I was lesbian was a girl I fancied at the time, as I wanted to be honest with her. So I sat her down and said 'look I don't know what is going on but I really like you', and she freaked out and since the next four years of high school she decided to make a hate campaign against me" (Female, 18, Horsham).

"I told my closes friends first and then they spread it across the school and everything and now everyone knows I'm lesbian and then my mum knows because she found my diary and she read through it so yeah that's basically it" (Female, 15, Bognor Regis).

As part of these discussions, young people were asked about what had made it possible for them to disclose their LGBTU status, and for those who had not yet 'come-out', what barriers they experienced. Responses showed that trust was a crucial aspect of whether or not, and to whom, some young people decided to disclose their LGBTU status. In particular, having a friend/or a family member who was also LGBT(U) was an important factor that empowered some young people to talk about their own situations:

"My friends cos I trust them, however, they kinda realised that I am gay and when I told them they were fine with it and they didn't really comment on anything" (Male, 16, Worthing).

"It was easy as most of my friends were either gay or bisexual" (Female, 17, Chichester).

"I saw a poster that said LGBT in the youth wing and I said to myself 'oh I wish I had that' cos it had a phone number at the bottom and my friend turned around and said 'oh I'm bisexual too' and that was cool" (Female, 17, Chichester).

Nonetheless, as the following comment illustrates, sometimes disclosure occurred simply because the young person's confidant was just in "in the right place and at the right time":

"My youth worker, my sister and my best friend at the time who I liaise with - and I think it was just kind of they were in the right place and at the right time so I just felt like telling them" (Female, 14, Southwick).

3.2.2 Experiences of being a LGBTU young person

During the interviews we also asked young people about some of the positive and negative experiences they had encountered as a LGBTU young person residing in West Sussex. Regrettably, young people reported having very few positive experiences. Specific responses in relation to being LGBTU centred on the presence and acceptance of supportive friends, as well as experiencing their first LGBT relationship:

"The support from my friends and getting to know more people who are the same and think the same as I do" (Female, 17, Selsey).

"Probably this is really stupid but having my first girlfriend" (Female, 17, Chichester).

More commonly during these discussions, young people reported a variety of negative experiences related to being a LGBTU young person in West Sussex. For example, one young gay person expressed his hatred of having to conceal his own sexuality and hide behind a heterosexual persona:

“Hiding my own sexuality to my parents and everyone else to me is a negative experience as I have to pretend to be another person who goes out with girls only and so on which is something that I really hate” (Male, 16, Worthing).

(Homophobic) Bullying

Many of those interviewed talked about a number of specific incidents where they had been subjected to bullying including homophobic insults and physical abuse because of their LGBTU status. Such incidents usually occurred within the boundaries of the school environment and examples within the dataset were ubiquitous:

“At school, it is a very dangerous ground to be in - as you can be in the guys changing room and people would go ‘oh you perve looking at me like that’ and I’m like ‘what?’ and they would carry on saying things” (Male, 16, Angmering).

“You get people bullying all the time when you walk in corridors in schools and they will be like ‘lesbian, lesbian’ and I just turn around to them saying ‘so you are the observers, well done’ and carry on walking” (Female, 18, Horsham).

Bullying was by far the most common theme emerging from the interviews with young people talked animatedly about their unpleasant school experiences. Common verbal pejoratives directed towards LGBTU young people included words such as ‘gay’, ‘perve’, ‘queer’, ‘faggot’, and ‘poofter’.

“It’s all that name calling and I still get all the usual crap and words thrown at me like ‘poofter’ ” (Male, 19, Bognor Regis).

“Just like name calling, when I first came out you could hear people saying – oh she is gay” (Female, 14, Bognor Regis).

“People shouting lesbian, lesbian and I just say well done you are not telling me anything new” (Female, 18, Horsham).

Interestingly, one young person reported a positive outcome of being at the receiving end of verbal bullying in school:

“You get all that name calling such as ‘you gay’ or ‘you faggot’ and it was then that it first came to me that maybe I am gay cos everyone says I am and it turned out that I actually am gay and really do like it” (Male, 16, Angmering).

Furthermore, another respondent added that the gossiping and inappropriate questions asked by pupils within the school about other LGBTU pupils (or those presumed to be LGBTU) also felt like bullying at times because of its intrusiveness:

“There was a lot of comments being made and things being thrown around school and then when you do come out is just....I mean you can get a lot of questions like ‘what’s it like?’, and sometimes that’s fine and sometimes questions go a little bit too far and it’s like... you know... ‘hey...I don’t want to discuss my personal life that much with you’ ” (Female, 14, Southwick).

Experiences of homophobia amongst the LGBTU young people we spoke to were common both in the individual interviews and focus group discussions. For instance:

"It's been very difficult with some friends because they are very homophobic - and the person I fancied that time didn't like it which in a way didn't really help, so yeah" (Female, 18, Horsham).

"The homophobia and the criticism that you get, the way people tease or bully just because I am different" (Female, 14, Felpham).

More specifically, homophobia often took the form of verbal and/or physical abuse by either individuals or groups of young people, not just within school but on the streets too:

"People shouting and stuff. This boy came up to me once and called me a ginger dyke. Whereas, someone else once tried to hit me and called me a dyke, and I just turned and hit him back" (Female, 16, Midhurst).

"I got my head kicked in, there were about five blokes all jumped on me and I didn't go into school the next day" (Male, 16, Angmering).

As the above quotes demonstrate, the consequences of being subjected to these homophobic incidents for LGBTU young people can be severe leading to retaliatory violence, absenteeism from school, and physical injury. Even more significant and of great concern, was the responses of three individuals who reported having self-harmed, having suicidal feelings, and having attempted suicide on more than one occasion.

"I have tried twice to kill myself because of bullying and people hating me for who I am" (Male, 18, Lancing).

"I have tried to kill myself seven times though not just because I was discriminated during my childhood and teenage life but the overall bullying was too much to take" (Male, 16, Angmering).

"I'm a self-harmer and I was very suicidal" (Male, 13, Bognor Regis).

Such accounts are deeply disturbing and add to the growing evidence that LGBTU youth are overly represented amongst suicide rates for young people as a whole (see Carolan and Redmond, 2003; Cull *et al.*, 2006; Johnson *et al.*, 2007; see also the *Metro*, 2007 which reports on the recent suicide of a 14yr old lesbian girl from West Sussex).

Discrimination

Young people were asked to talk about whether they felt they had experienced discrimination themselves, and whether they felt discrimination concerning sexual orientation and/or gender identity was a problem for LGBTU people more broadly:

“I think young people do suffer from discrimination and also think that discrimination is quite a serious thing, cos if you look on the TV it is all about straight, straight, straight...I also think discrimination happens quite a lot in schools or at work - behind your back though cos people think that there are more laws to protect us then there are for straight people” (Male, 16, Angmering).

“In public and stuff we would get treated differently and not like everybody else” (Female, 15, Bognor Regis).

Some responses to this question raised wider issues about society failing to accept that being LGBTU was as normal as being heterosexual. As one respondent put it:

“People don’t like change, people mmm....people don’t see it as being normal and if it’s not, and if it’s different to what they do, they don’t agree with it” (Female, 14, Southwick).

“Well, I think that prejudice and discrimination are quite common in LGBTU people’s lives because when your sexuality is different you do

get discriminated from people as well as young people to which I consider as immature” (Female, 14, Bognor Regis).

3.2.3 Young people’s perspectives on services and staff

In this section, we asked young people if they were aware of any services specifically for LGBTU young people in West Sussex:

“I haven’t heard of any LGBTU service here in West Sussex – you often just find yourself confiding amongst friends” (Female, 18, Horsham).

I don’t know if there is a place for LGBTU young people to go in West Sussex – I’ve not heard of anything” (Male, 16, Worthing).

“I have never known of any, nothing published or posted, nothing at school” (Female, 14, Bognor Regis).

“I used to go to Allsorts over in Brighton but then stopped as I have to travel from Bognor to Brighton and also due to the service running in the evening so that is zero possibility” (Female, 15, Bognor Regis).

“In Brighton, I do know the Allsorts project but I didn’t actually get in contact with them because I thought it is too far from where I live and I don’t have enough time to go back and forth. Apart from that the only place I can go around here is the youth wing near my school” (Female, 14, Southwick).

Young people were also asked about whether they had accessed more general (mainstream) services in West Sussex for support. Ten young people reported accessing the Information Shops for condom distribution, youth centres/youth workers for support and advice, and the counselling service in schools.

“Just the Information shop, here in Bognor Regis for condoms” (Male, 19, Bognor Regis).

“Apart from the youth centre over here in Chichester where I come all the time, I have not been in touch with any other service for LGBTU young people” (Female, 17, Selsey).

A number of positive and negative responses were provided from young people who had experienced counselling sessions. For example, three respondents reported:

“I have had counselling sessions a couple of times before but I just didn’t like it as she (the counsellor) didn’t know how I felt so...but I had to go as my parents had organised it” (Female, 17, Chichester).

“I am currently doing counselling and it is really good as I find it as one of the most helpful things and one of the best decisions I have ever made” (Female, 14, Bognor Regis).

“I have had counselling in my school because of all the bullying and what was happening to me then but it was useless, absolutely useless. I’m not being funny or anything but it is. You just sit there and you tell the person your problems and he/she doesn’t do anything apart from taking notes and in the end he/she says ‘is that it?, ok then I’ll see you next week’. It’s like a brick wall, better talking about our problems in front of a mirror rather than talking to a counsellor” (Male, 16, Angmering).

Young people’s perceptions on the ‘ideal’ LGBTU youth service

Young people were asked to reflect upon what they felt would be an ‘ideal’ LGBTU service for young people in West Sussex. Young people’s narratives were extremely enthusiastic and confirmed local practitioners’ views that there is certainly a need to develop a service for LGBTU young people. As one young person expressed:

“We definitely need one, because there are lots of people that I know that don’t have anything to go to cos...if they go to a normal youth club

they just get....don't know....but basically... get shit..." (Female, 17, Chichester).

Some specific suggestions from young people on what a LGBTU youth service might look like included:

"Just someone or like a base you can go to which have experience in this...times where you can have like one-to-one and talk about what you have been through before" (Female, 14, Southwick).

"A confidential place where young people can feel safe and happy to go to and just hang out" (Female, 17, Selsey).

"Just something local, it can be started as a group and then work it up by promoting it at the right places and to the right people" (Female, 17, Lancing).

"We need a gay bar - a gay youth social club" (Male, 13, Bognor Regis).

"We need a social place that would provide a cup of tea and a hug and say that everything will be OK" (Female, 18, Horsham).

"Something like a normal youth club but just adding bits into it, doing activities such as stage performance, so just simple things that young people like doing but then again not making it too childish cos I think you will push quite a lot of people out" (Male, 16, Angmering).

"I would like to see in the future a service where LGBTU young people can hang out and make new friends as other young people do" (Female, 15, Bognor Regis).

Further analysis of the interview data revealed a number of common features that an 'ideal' LGBTU youth service might have. These features included well-trained staff that were aware of LGBTU issues (but did not have to be LGBTU

themselves), a safe and confidential place to meet, and opportunities to meet new people:

“Obviously staff - knowing that someone is there, meeting new people- people that you don’t know, providing some information on different areas and it would also be nice to have like a centre – so like a base that young people can go to, sort of separate club that is somewhere and you can just ...you know drop in if you need to ...that would be good (Female, 14, Southwick).

“Meeting new people like us and understanding what they have been through and being there for one another” (Female, 16, Midhurst).

“The creation of a poster to advertise the project in the future with a phone number or email without providing the actual location where it is based” (Male, 16, Angmering).

“A setting/place to get to know new people that are LGBTU and have like pictures of each member up the wall, a dating wall” (Male, 13, Bognor Regis).

“Things going on during the day as well as in the afternoon or evening” (Male, 19, Bognor Regis).

“A building open 24/7 if someone is kicked out from home, which might be useful, with doors open all the time. It doesn’t matter if no one is there” (Male, 16, Angmering).

“Having someone such as a ‘buddy person’ allocated to you on the first day you go to the place so you don’t feel all alone” (Female, 17, Bognor Regis).

“A confidential place as there will be young people with different circumstances and all sort of experiences” (Male, 18, Lancing).

“A service which can run once a week or very two weeks for about two or three hours, not weekends though as people have their own things to do but something like after school” (Female, 14, Bognor Regis).

Participants were asked about what specific services they would like a LGBTU youth project to offer. Responses included counselling, one to one support, information, advice, drop-in sessions with health professionals, and activities such as cooking classes and social/residential trips.

“I think counselling should be involved in it as young people find it hard to talk to someone and it will make it a lot easier for any LGBTU young person” (Female, 14, Southwick).

“Having health professionals coming along to the centre for advice” (Female, 17, Lancing).

“A Free phone line for advice, support and information” (Male, 16, Angmering).

“Residential trips and being part of UK Gay pride and Brighton & Hove Gay pride festivals happening every so often, stuff like these” (Male, 13, Bognor Regis).

“Books, brochures for gay people, like a library thing” (Male, 19, Bognor Regis).

“We can have some activities such as cooking ‘cooking for gays’ and camping” (Female, 14, Bognor Regis).

“Watching movies, DVDs, that will be brilliant” (Female, 14, Bognor Regis).

In thinking about an ‘ideal’ LGBTU youth service, young people were asked to think about some of the personal and professional qualities they felt staff should

have in running such a service. Young people raised a number of qualities or characteristics that they thought were key including consistency, being available, trustworthy, and being open-minded:

“Being really open minded and trust them” (Female, 16, Midhurst).

“Trust I suppose” (Female, 17, Chichester).

“Someone that understands what young people are going through, so they have experience and are trained to work with LGBTU young people” (Female, 15, Bognor Regis).

“We need designated and caring staff” (Female, 18, Horsham).

“Staff should be friendly, easy to chat to, and have experience of working in the area previously” (Male, 19, Bognor Regis).

Some young people reported that it would be useful (but not essential) for staff to have some experience of working with LGBTU young people. Furthermore, some felt that it would be beneficial if workers were LGBT themselves. Although again, this was not seen as being crucial, rather having the ‘right skills’ and understanding what a young person goes through was seen as being more important.

“I think a little bit of both (having the skills and having had experienced it and having been though themselves). I think they [STAFF] need to have he right skills to work with LGBTU young people but they [STAFF] need to have some experience knowing what the young person is going through” (Female, 14, Southwick).

Location of a LGBTU youth service

Given the rural nature of West Sussex and the difficulties that this can present for young people in the area, we asked LGBTU young people where a LGBTU

youth service might be appropriately located e.g. town or geographic area as well as more specifically such as within a youth club, GP service or community centre for example. As would be expected, there were mixed responses to this question with discussions focusing mainly around the notion that any service needs to be somewhere local or close to where LGBTU young people live, preferably near good transport links (e.g. train station or bus route), and somewhere that is manageable in terms of travel expenses. As some young people commented:

“Preferably locally such as Shoreham, Lancing or Southwick” (Female, 14, Southwick).

“I would think somewhere close to where I live like Chi [CHICHESTER],...yeah somewhere close...I don’t know really ...it doesn’t really matter as long as we have one” (Female, 17, Chichester).

“Mainly in towns, in a sociable place where you can target young people as young people will usually be in towns for shopping, with friends” (Male, 19, Worthing).

“Somewhere, where it’s easy to get to, like near transport links” (Male, 18, Lancing).

“I think it should be located in a youth centre and where the need is required so where the concentration of LGBTU young people is - like Chichester cos is not hard to get either” (Male, 16, Angmering).

4.0 Summary of Main Findings

This research had two overarching aims: to explore current service provision (voluntary and statutory) offered to (LGBTU) young people in the West Sussex; and to explore LGBTU young people's experiences of local and accessible service provision and/or other support, and in doing so, identify their support needs. In research terms, this meant conducting a two-part scoping exercise to map out the availability of existing LGBTU youth service provision, and identify any gaps and constraints on these services to meet the needs of LGBTU young people. In doing so, interviews with practitioners and/or service providers were conducted to facilitate this process, and explore staff needs in working with LGBTU young people. Moreover, to meet the second main aim, a number of focus group discussions and individual interviews were conducted. These collective findings are summarised briefly below:

Scoping exercise

Mainstream youth services in West Sussex

- The findings revealed a number of youth organisations/services across West Sussex offering a variety of advice, support, and activities in areas such as mental health, sexual health, housing, employment, and education, for example.
- Interviews with some regional and local practitioners revealed that some LGBTU young people in West Sussex occasionally access mainstream support services simply because there is no alternative; however, staff reported that they felt they lacked the skills and training to support LGBTU young people effectively.

LGBTU youth projects/services in West Sussex

- Despite a good range of mainstream services for young people across the county, no service currently exists in West Sussex that caters specifically for LGBTU young people's needs.
- Various attempts to set up a LGBTU youth project in the county have been carried out in the past by both youth workers and LGBTU young people themselves. However, these attempts have failed due to a lack of appropriate and sustained funding to support the service.

LGBTU youth projects/services outside of West Sussex

- The scoping exercise revealed a number of LGBTU youth services outside West Sussex located across London, Hampshire, Surrey, and East Sussex, providing a comprehensive range of support, information and advice for LGBTU young people.
- Findings from a telephone interview with the project coordinator of the 2BU project in Somerset (a county with a similar geography to that of West Sussex) showed that LGBTU young people tend to have similar difficulties to their counterparts in West Sussex. However, the project also shows that these difficulties can be overcome.

Regional and local practitioners' views on LGBTU provision and training

- Interviews with regional and local practitioners overwhelmingly revealed the urgent need for an appropriate LGBTU youth service to be provided for young people in West Sussex.
- It was proposed that such a service would need to provide social space that was safe, and that could also be used for a variety of both social and more educational activities.
- However, practitioners felt that sustained funding was essential if a LGBTU youth service was to be established effectively.

- Local practitioners reported referring LGBTU young people to services in other counties (London and East Sussex) the distance of which for some young people can pose significant difficulties.
- Interviews revealed that Section 28 is still problematic (despite its repeal in 2003), and that further information/training is required for individuals working with (LGBTU) young people.
- Most local practitioners we spoke to said that they had not received any training concerning working with, and raising awareness of, LGBTU young people's issues.
- Most local practitioners reported that although they felt the skills and knowledge base for individuals working with young people in the county is generally high, there is still a pressing urgent need for more specific training around issues affecting LGBTU young people in West Sussex.

Interviews with young people

'Young people's stories about 'coming-out'

- Young people revealed that people emotionally close to them such as their parents and friends were the ones who they chose to reveal their LGBTU status to. Trust was felt to be a significant factor in this decision.
- Most young people reported worries and concerns about 'coming-out' either for the future or retrospectively.
- Some young people reported positive experiences of 'coming-out' because they had been able to make new friends, form new relationships, and access new forms of peer-support that did not exist before.
- However, in general, most young people we spoke to experienced difficulties in 'coming-out', for example, by losing former friends and experiencing homophobic bullying from peers (often in school settings).

Experiences of being a LGBTU young person

- Young people reported very few positive experiences of being a LGBTU young person in West Sussex. However for some, positive experiences included the presence and acceptance of supportive friends, as well as experiencing their first LGBT relationship.
- All young people we spoke to said they had experienced homophobic bullying of some kind both in-and-out of the school environment. This included verbal and physical abuse, and in some cases, was reported to have led to self-harming behaviours, thoughts of suicide and actual suicide attempts.
- All young people said that they felt discrimination was an important problem for LGBTU young people, and arose because of perceptions concerning the norm of heterosexuality.

Young people's perspectives on services and staff

- No young people were aware of any LGBTU service in West Sussex.
- Some young people said they had been in contact with LGBTU services in East Sussex (e.g. Allsorts) but had not always followed it up because it was too far from where they lived.
- Some young people said they had accessed more mainstream youth services in West Sussex including counselling, youth workers, and Information Shops.
- All young people reported that there was a need for a specific LGBTU youth service to be developed in West Sussex and that this should include, for example, one-to-one support, drop-in sessions, group activities (social and educational), opportunities to meet other LGBTU young people, and the provision of a safe space for young people to 'hang-out'.
- Young people felt that the characteristics of staff working with LGBTU young people should include consistency, being available, being trustworthy, and being open-minded.

- Young people said the location of any service should be easily accessible by public transport, and close to where they live.

5.0 Recommendations

This research has explored the current service provision (voluntary and statutory) for LGBTU young people living in West Sussex. Through a process of exploration, the research has identified a number of related experiences, concerns, worries and above all the support needs of LGBTU young people living West Sussex. These accounts provided by local and regional practitioners/service providers and LGBTU young people, will be of use to local policy makers and practitioners working in planning the development of a future LGBTU youth service. The findings clearly highlight the pressing need for LGBTU young people residing in West Sussex to be able to access appropriate support to meet their needs.

LGBTU service development for young people

Broad issues

- A clear outcome of this research is that a support service for LGBTU young people living in West Sussex needs to be developed. However, if it is to be successful, long-term and sustained funding must be available in the same way it is for mainstream services for young people.
- The lack of support for LGBTU young people in West Sussex has many parallels with recent national and local debates concerning the need to involve and support young fathers within the wider context of teenage pregnancy. In this arena for example, Sherriff (2007) has argued strongly for the need to develop both specialist and mainstream services to meet the needs of young fathers. The practicalities of implementing such proposals however are clearly complex and need to be considered over the long-term. Based on the findings of the current research, we believe that a similar approach to service provision for LGBTU young people is likely to be required.

- We would argue that all professionals and practitioners working with young people should be required to undertake (diversity) training around LGBTU issues (e.g. school nurses, Connexions staff, teachers, youth workers, supported housing workers etc). Additional specialist training would be required for those working specifically with LGBTU young people (e.g. as part of a LGBTU service).
- The inaccessibility of many mainstream services for young people in West Sussex indicates that such services are failing significant numbers of LGBTU young people from across the county. Such mainstream services need to conduct 'whole team, whole system' reviews whereby staff teams reflect upon the ways in which LGBTU young people are treated from start to finish (including challenging existing heterosexist assumptions). Such system reviews are time intensive, difficult, and often 'invisible' work. However, they are also essential if systemic changes in how work with LGBTU young people is perceived and carried out, are to occur.
- In developing any new service, consideration must be given to its appropriate geographic location as a single site is unlikely to be effective in the long-term. It would be important for any service to consider flexible support options such as floating-support, 'virtual' support (e.g. websites, access to support on-line, phone service etc), drop-ins, rotating services (e.g. where the service visits different locations in the county on a rotating basis), and so on. For examples and ideas of different practices and approaches to service development that may be suitable for LGBTU service provision, see Sherriff (2007).

More specific issues

- Any LGBTU service provision should consider the role of new technologies which impact on how young people communicate. A dedicated website for LGBTU young people in West Sussex could be

established to promote health, offer advice on (homophobic) bullying, and provide an essential portal for information and support around LGBTU issues.

- Alongside other provisions, the development of a ‘moderated’ e-mail network and message boards (similar to the one run by the Trust for the Study of Adolescence; see www.youngfathers.net) may be appropriate and could be incorporated as a microsite within the larger proposed LGBTU West Sussex website (see above). Such e-mail networks can provide essential and safe (due to moderation) forums for young people to get in touch and discuss relevant issues. Furthermore, such networks can help reduce feelings of isolation and exclusion, and both start-up and sustainability costs can be relatively low.
- Given the lack of confidence many staff report in terms of working with LGBTU young people, an e-mail forum/discussion board could also be adapted and developed for staff to share ideas, training recommendations, and notions of ‘good’ or ‘promising’ practice.
- Any service for young people in West Sussex would need to offer both group and one-to-one opportunities. Whilst group working can be a cost effective way of ‘doing something’, it is by no means universally appealing and can exclude and alienate some LGBTU young people (e.g. particularly those young people who are Unsure or have not yet ‘come-out’).
- The combined data set (practitioners and young people’s responses) clearly revealed the need for future staff/professional training in working with LGBTU young people. Such training is crucial if the needs of LGBTU young people living in West Sussex are to be appropriately met. Although training on LGBTU issues for professionals and practitioners does already exist outside of the county (e.g. provided by Allsorts, Brighton; fpa, London; Space Youth Project, Bournemouth, and; Anne

Hayfield Training and Consultancy, London) it is likely that staff in West Sussex will face different challenges than those working in areas such as Brighton and London.

- Simultaneously with any work to develop a LGBTU service in West Sussex, further in-depth research needs to be conducted in order to develop new training programmes and resource materials for staff working with young people. For example, further interviews with practitioners and young people could be conducted to generate stimulating and real-world material to use in training packs, programmes, or other resources. Moreover, this work could look at existing training models used, for example, in working with young men to see how they could potentially be applied to working with LGBTU young people.
- It is important to recognise that although our sample was not intended to necessarily be representative of the wider population, socio-demographic data showed that all young people interviewed were White British. Moreover, the sample only included young people who identified themselves as being lesbian, gay and bisexual (LGB). In other words, no young people identified themselves as being trans (T) or unsure (U). It would be important for further research to recruit purposively in order to include young people from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) communities, as well as those who are trans or unsure. Such individuals may well face additional issues which need to be addressed in the development of any service for West Sussex.
- It is important that any future LGBTU provision that is developed in West Sussex is evaluated fully, and that evaluation costs are budgeted in from the beginning. Evaluation can be difficult as measuring outcomes may become increasingly complex as the work progresses. However, it is essential in order to get services right that meet young people's needs; to see what is working, what might need changing, as well as providing valuable information for funders and helping the planning of future work.

Involving LGBTU young people should be an integral part of any evaluation strategy. Free practitioner training on how to evaluate is available from some third sector organisations.

6.0 Conclusions

This research explored the current service provision for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and unsure young people living in West Sussex. Moreover, it explored qualitatively, LGBTU young people's experiences of local and accessible service provision and/or other support, and in doing so, identified their support needs. The research showed that despite a good range of mainstream services for young people across the county, no service currently exists in West Sussex that provides specific information, advice, and support for LGBTU young people. Youth workers and LGBTU young people themselves have tried several times in setting up some form of LGBTU youth service provision. However, due to a lack of appropriate and sustained funding to support such developments, these attempts have failed. Narrative data from local and regional professionals/practitioners as well as LGBTU young people, calls attention to the urgent need for the provision of a LGBTU youth service in West Sussex alongside appropriate training for staff.

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Appendix A – Interview schedule



University of Brighton



West Sussex
Primary Care Trust



West Sussex Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Unsure (LGBTU) Youth Research Project

Interview Schedule for Young People

Location/Project:

Interviewer: Rebeka Pope

Date:

Introduction

[Things to be mentioned at the start of the focus group/individual in-depth interview]

We would like to tape this discussion

Obtain informed consent

No names are attached to any report, all anonymous

My role is to guide the discussion

Feel free to talk to each other

There are no wrong answers, only differing points of view

You don't need to agree with others, but you must listen respectfully as others share their views

We will be done by

Rules for turning off or silencing mobile phones

The project report will be produced in February 2008

Ask young people if they would like a summary of the findings.

Reminder of project (for the interviewer)

The aim of this research is twofold: First, the study aims to explore the current service provision (voluntary and statutory) offered to LGBTU young people in the West Sussex area. More specifically, this part of the research aims to both map out the availability of existing LGBTU youth service provision, and identify any gaps and constraints on these services to meet the needs of LGBTU young people. Second, (and of importance for these interviews), the study aims to explore LGBTU young peoples' experiences of local and accessible service provision and/or other

support, and in doing so, identify their support needs. To achieve these aims, the research will focused on the following six main objectives:

1. To identify and make contact with existing mainstream services in West Sussex that deal with young people (for example, school nurses, Connexions, Youth Information Shops, etc) in order to build a picture of what is available for young people generally across West Sussex;
2. To identify LGBTU youth projects and/or services in the region (potentially outside of West Sussex), and to form appropriate links with them;
3. To search for existing LGBTU youth projects nationally which have a similar geography to West Sussex, and to investigate how their location affects service provision within these areas (e.g. rural location);
4. To assess the needs of staff working with young people (see objective 1) within the context of appropriate service provision;
5. To work with local youth services to identify and recruit LGBTU young people from around West Sussex for the purposes of consultation; and
6. To investigate the support needs of LGBTU young people in West Sussex to inform the development of some form of peer support/youth service provision or support project.

Ethics, consent, and demographics

Your responses will be strictly confidential (i.e. private) and will only be used in the research. Nothing you say will be told to anyone else and no individual will be identified. I would like to tape record our conversation – no one else will hear it – it's just in case I don't have time to write everything that you say down. Is this OK? Before we start can you please complete this form – it just tells me a bit about you such as age, gender ethnic group etc.

There'll be 4 sections to the interview, and on average, it usually lasts for about 30-60 minutes.

SECTION ONE

Intro – warm up - I'd like to start off asking you a bit about your backgrounds.

- Where are you from?
- Where do you go to school, college, etc?
- Do you work Full-Time/Part Time?
- What kinds of things do you like to do in your spare time? (e.g. sports, hanging out with friends, etc).

SECTION TWO

'Coming out' examples, stories

- Who were the key people?
- What made it difficult/easy?

- What would have made it easier?
- Who knows about your LGBTU status? (e.g. friends, colleagues, health professional, family, etc).
- If you haven't 'come-out' to your family yet, when do you think you might?
- How have things changed since 'coming-out'? (e.g. lifestyle, stress, self-esteem, etc).

SECTION THREE

Positive and negative experiences

One of the things we are interested in is about young peoples' experiences of being LGBTU in West Sussex. Can you give me an example of when:

- You have had a positive experience of being LGBTU?
 - Can you tell me about this – what or who made it a positive experience?
- You have had a negative experience of being LGBTU? (e.g. bullying, violence, insults, etc?).
 - Can you tell me about this – what or who made it a positive experience?
- Do you think LGBTU young people suffer from prejudice and discrimination? (Explain the difference between the terms).
- Have you experienced prejudice and discrimination because of your sexuality?

SECTION FOUR

Services and staff

- Have you ever contacted services that are specifically for LGBTU young people? If no, go to question 17. If yes, see below:
- Can you tell me about these services? (Where are they, name, what did you attend for, do you feel it met your needs, how would you improve the support provided, etc).
- What would be your idea of a perfect LGBTU support? What personal characteristics, skills, and experiences would they have? Why?
- What is the most important thing to you about staff? (E.g. consistency, being available, skills, qualifications, etc).

- Thinking about your situation now, what would be the three main characteristics of your ideal service for LGBTU young people?
- Where would this ideal service be? I.e. geographical location as well as less literally (e.g. located in a youth club, GP service, community centre etc). Is there anywhere you would not want a LGBTU service to be? (i.e. what would stop you from attending such a service).
- What would you like this service to offer?
[Prompt list of possible interventions]
 What About:
 - Counselling
 - Mentoring
 - Advice and support
 - Listening
 - A place where LGBTU young people can go and socialise
 - Publicity of to raise awareness of LGBT issues
 - LGBT member staff

Do you have any ideas for other projects/pieces of work that might help young LGBTU people in West Sussex?

Interview end

Thank you for talking to me today, we are now at the end of the interview. Is there anything else you think you would like to talk about, or anything you would like to say about taking part in this project? Thank you for your time and completing the forms. To say thanks, here is a £5 gift voucher. If you want to talk about anything around being involved in the project or any concerns, you can contact Rebeka Pope (Research Officer) or Dr Nigel Sherriff (Research Fellow) at the University of Brighton. Our contact details are on the back of the voucher.

For further details (after the completion of the LGBTU project) please contact:

Kenny Glasspool

Address: Dormans Youth Arts Centre

Dormans, Crawley,

West Sussex, RH11 8HZ

Tel: 01293 526388

Email: DYAC@westsussex.gov.uk or Kenny.Glasspool@westsussex.gov.uk

Appendix B – Ethical consent form and participant information

Consent Form

I agree to participate in the focus group which is being conducted as part of the 'West Sussex LGBTU Youth Project, and run by the University of Brighton.

The researcher has explained to my satisfaction the purpose of the study and the risks involved.

I have had the principles and the procedures explained to me and I have also read the information sheet.

I am aware that I will be required to participate in a focus group.

I understand that any confidential information will be seen only by the researchers and will not be revealed to anyone else.

I understand that I am able to withdraw from the study at any time (for example if I am uncomfortable with the discussion).

I understand that I am under no obligation to disclose personal information during the focus group.

I agree not to disclose any of the information discussed during the focus groups to 'outside' parties.

Name (please print).....

Signed.....

Date.....



University of Brighton

Participant Information Sheet

Title of the research project

West Sussex Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, and Unsure (LGBTU) Youth Research Project

Invitation to participate

You are invited to participate in this exploratory piece of research. Before you decide it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully, discuss it with others if you wish, and ask questions to clarify any queries you may have.

Purpose of the study

The University of Brighton (International Health Development Research Centre, IHDR) is working with West Sussex Primary Care Trust (PCT) and West Sussex Youth Service to try to understand better the needs of LGBTU young people living in West Sussex. This study is necessary because currently there is little provision for LGBTU young people, for example, in terms of social clubs and advisory centres. Some LGBTU young people are known to visit Brighton to access services such as ALLSORTS, however, it is thought that the rural location of West Sussex and poor transportation links does not make this very easy.

The LGBTU youth research project has been funded by the West Sussex PCT and West Sussex Youth Service, and is overseen by a Steering Committee consisting of professionals from both of these organisations, as well as from the Terence Higgins Trust, Brighton.

The research project aims to scope out the current provisions for LGBTU young people in West Sussex; and identify the specific needs of LGBTU young people in West Sussex in relation to the potential provision of an LGBTU youth project.

Do I have to take part?

It is up to you whether or not to take part. If you do decide to take part, you will be given the information sheet to keep and asked to sign a consent form. You will also be given a list of organisations you can contact if any issues come up within the group that you would like to follow up once the group has finished. At the beginning of the group, we will put together a group agreement to ensure everyone in the group feels comfortable to take part and agrees that any discussion that takes part within the group remains confidential to the group in the room. If you decide to take part, you are free to withdraw at any time without giving a reason. A decision to withdraw, or a decision not to take part will not affect you in any way.

What will happen to me if I do decide to take part?

If you agree to take part, you will be invited to attend a focus group and to talk about your thoughts and experience of being a LGBTU young person, living in West Sussex. You will be asked about how you spend your spare time, for example, the clubs you go to, use of the internet, for example and whether the kind of services you would like to access at a local level are in fact available, and if not, then what you would want from a new service. The informal group discussion will last approximately 30-60 minutes. Between 5 and 7 young people will attend each of the focus groups. There will be 3-4 focus groups held in total. The group discussion will be recorded for use by the researcher only, and the participants will not be identified by name in the research report.

What are the possible disadvantages of taking part?

It is possible that some of the topics discussed during the group will be of a sensitive nature or will be embarrassing. When we make the group agreement at the beginning of the group, we will ensure that everyone feels comfortable and safe about being open and honest. If you feel uncomfortable at any point, you may leave the group. Another disadvantage to recognise is that not all of your needs may be met following the study, although the expectation is that that they will all be taken into account, and considered in light of the available resources. If you feel that you need support after the focus group has taken place, please refer to the 'Useful Contacts' sheet which will be handed out at the group, and get in touch with the relevant organisation. Alternatively, you may contact the researcher, who will put you in touch with the relevant person to offer support.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

The information gained from this study will be used by the local service providers (for example - PCT and youth service) to ascertain whether more service provision is needed for young people, and what kind of service this could be. This study increases the possibility of a new service being set up that is according to your needs. The service would be for you and so it is therefore important that you are consulted in this process.

What if something goes wrong?

If you do not feel happy with the discussion you can leave the group at any time. If you have any kind of complaint, you can also contact me afterwards, or my colleague, j.k.davies@brighton.ac.uk. Alternatively, if there are any issues raised within the group on which you wish to seek more information, or which you may not have wanted to discuss fully within the group, you can contact any of the organisations on the resource sheet.

Will my taking part in the study be kept confidential?

Confidentiality is of highest priority. We will devise a group agreement at the beginning of the session in which you will be asked to agree that all discussion will be kept confidential, and agree that you will not share personal information about others outside of the group. I will tape record the group discussion – this will help with my data analysis. I may use some quotes from the group during the study, and will destroy the tapes after use. No names will be mentioned in the research report and you will not be identified in any way.

The definition of confidentiality that I will work to will mean that the discussion within the group will be kept confidential unless someone discloses something to me that means they have been or are at significant risk of harm, either physically or emotionally. This is because it is my responsibility as the researcher to ensure your safety. Should this happen I would have to inform my manager and refer to the appropriate organisation (such as Social Services), however you would be informed of this and the process involved at every step.

Participants under the age of 16 are also entitled to the same level of confidentiality as set out above. Any disclosure about under 16s which suggested that you or someone else was at risk of serious harm would be treated very seriously. This issue will be discussed in further detail during the group agreement at the start of every focus group.

Reimbursement of transport costs.

If your participation in the focus group has cost you money in public transport fares, these will be reimbursed to you by the researcher. Please provide a receipt – reimbursements can not be given without one.

What will happen to the results of the research study?

The results will be put together into a report which will then be reviewed by the project steering committee, and used to inform the potential development of service provision for LGBTU young people. You will not be identified in any report/publication.

Who has reviewed the study?

Both the Steering Committee established in 2006 to set up this piece of work, as well as the University of Brighton Faculty of Health Research Ethics and Governance Committee have reviewed the study and given it their support.

Contact for further information

r.pope@brighton.ac.uk – Rebeka Pope, Research Officer

n.s.sherriff@brighton.ac.uk – Dr Nigel Sherriff, Research Fellow

J.K.Davies@brighton.ac.uk – Professor John Kenneth Davies, Director, IHDR

You are invited to keep a copy of this sheet for your information.

The group will take place on:

At:

THANK YOU FOR TAKING PART IN THIS STUDY.

Useful Contacts

Local Organisations

Allsorts Youth Group: drop-in for young LGB and unsure people, under 26 years. Meets Tuesday evenings.

Phone: 01273 721211 or 07932 852533

Web: www.allsortsyouth.org.uk

Brighton Lesbian & Gay Switchboard and Counselling Project:

Confidential telephone help line and low cost counselling service (for 16 years and over).

Helpline (5 - 11pm): 01273 204050

Counselling project: 01273 202384

The Clare Project: a self help group for people dealing with issues around gender. Drop-in every Tuesday afternoon.

Phone: 07776 232100

Web: www.clareproject.org.uk

Claude Nicol GUM Clinic: Confidential sexual health clinic based at The Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton. Young person's drop-in clinic every Thursday from 3.30 - 5.30pm. Self-referral, no need to go through a GP.

Phone: 01273 664721

Warren Brown GUM Clinic: Confidential sexual health clinic based at Southlands Hospital, Shoreham. Self-referral, no need to go through a GP.

Phone: 01273 461453

Mindout LGBT Mental Health Project: Support groups and social activities for people age 16 and over. They are planning to run a group for young people in the near future.

Phone 01273 739847

Web: www.lgbtmind.com

Terence Higgins Trust and Street Outreach Service: Sexual health and HIV prevention services.

Phone: 01273 764200

Web: www.tht.org.uk

The Information Shops: Drop-in service for young people (13-25) including counselling service. Centres exist across West Sussex, to find your nearest one:

Phone: 01243 839093

Web: www.informationshopchi.org.uk

Hove YMCA's Youth Advice Centre: Drop-in centre for young people (13-25) based in Blatchington Rd, Hove. Pan Sussex counselling services are also available.

Tel: 01273 889292

Web: www.hoveymca.org.uk

Connexions Direct: anonymous and confidential helpline offering information, advice and guidance to all 13 - 19 year olds. They can also be contacted through chat rooms on the website.

Tel: 080 800 13219

Text: 077664 13219

Web: www.connexions-direct.com/

Childline: Free and confidential help line.

Phone: 0800 1111

Web: www.childline.org.uk/

Useful Websites

www.fflag.org.uk - Information and support for families and friends of lesbians and gay men.

www.itstimetoaccept.org.uk - For people who are black and gay.

www.regard.dircon.co.uk - REGARD is a national organisation for disabled LGBT people.

www.stonewall.org.uk - National organisation for LGB equality.

LGBTU people of faith

www.lgcm.org.uk/ - Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement

www.al-fatiha.org - Muslim LGB support organisation

www.safraproject.org - Muslim lesbian, bisexual and transgender women

www.questgaycatholic.org.uk - Catholic LGB support organisation

www.jglg.org.uk/ - Jewish Gay and Lesbian Group

Appendix C – Socio-demographic questionnaire



West Sussex Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Unsure (LGBTU) Youth Research Project

Please complete this form by ticking the appropriate boxes. All information you provide will remain private and confidential.

1. What is your sex?

- a) Female Male
- b) Do you identify yourself as being trans?
- Yes No

2. How old are you?

- | | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 13 yrs | 15 yrs | 17 yrs | 19 yrs |
| 14 yrs | 16 yrs | 18 yrs | |

3. How would you describe your ethnic group?

- | <u>White</u> | <u>Asian or Asian British</u> | <u>Black or Black British</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| White British | Indian | Black Caribbean |
| White Irish | Pakistani | Black African |
| White (Other) | Bangladeshi | Black Other |
| | Chinese | |
| | Other | |
| <u>Mixed Race</u> | | <u>Other Ethnic Group</u> |
| White & Black Caribbean | | Unknown |
| White & Black African | | Other Ethnic Group |
| Other | | If Other please state/explain: |
-

4. Do you have a religion that you follow or practice?

Yes

No

If yes, which religion?

5. Do you consider yourself to have a mental/physical disability?

Yes

No

If yes, what is your disability?

6. How would you describe your sexual preference?

Lesbian

Gay

Bi-Sexual

Trans

Heterosexual

Unsure

Other

If Other please explain:

7. Please can you provide us with the first part of your postcode?

For Example: TN22

8. Would you like to receive feedback about the findings of this research? If yes, please write your name and home address below.

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM!

Appendix D – Awareness and recruitment posters for young people and practitioners/service providers

LGBTU Youth Project

Do you live in West Sussex?

Would you like to be involved?

The LGBTU Youth Project aims to identify better the needs of LGBTU young people living in the West Sussex area.

Get in touch, contact us:

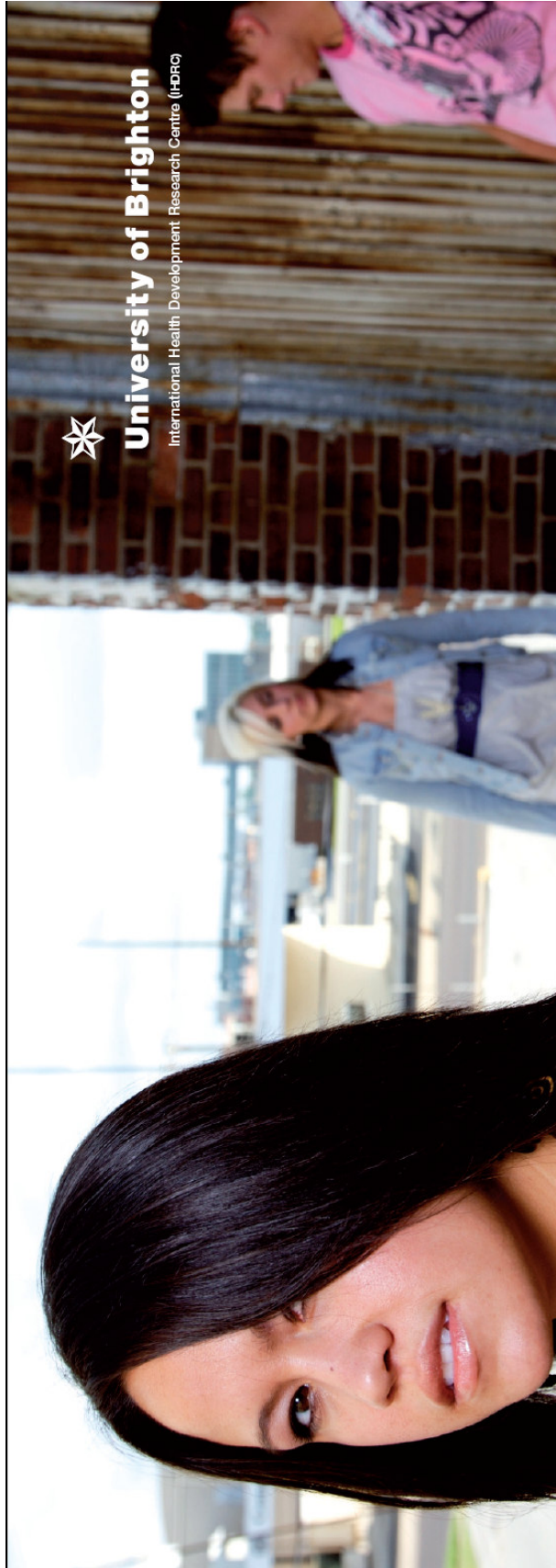
Rebeka Pope (Research Officer) - r.pope@brighton.ac.uk

Dr Nigel Sherriff (Research Fellow) - n.s.sherriff@brighton.ac.uk

International Health Development Research Centre (IHDRC)
Room 242, Mayfield House,
Falmer, Brighton
Tel: 01273 644536
Web: www.brighton.ac.uk/health/ihdrc



University of Brighton



University of Brighton

International Health Development Research Centre (IHDC)

The West Sussex LGBTU Youth Research Project

Aims

- To scope out the current service provisions for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual, and Unsure (LGBTU) young people in West Sussex
- To identify the specific needs of LGBTU young people in West Sussex in relation to the potential provision of an LGBTU youth project.

Methods

- A mapping exercise of existing service provision
- Focus groups and individual in-depth interviews with LGBTU young people (13–19 yrs).

Outcomes

- Identification of the support needs of LGBTU young people
- Map of existing LGBTU support services
- A series of recommendations for the development of new services
- A peer reviewed publication on the needs of LGBTU young people.

For further details contact **Rebeka Pope** r.pope@brighton.ac.uk or **Nigel Sherriff** n.s.sherriff@brighton.ac.uk

The LGBTU Youth Research Project is funded by the West Sussex PCT and the West Sussex Youth Service. The project runs from August 2007 to February 2008.



West Sussex
Primary Care Trust

LGBTU Youth Project

Do you know, or have you come across any service provision or youth project in the West Sussex area that provides information, support, and services for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, and Unsure (LGBTU) young people?

If yes, then we would like to know about it.

Please contact either Rebeka or Nigel (see below):


Rebeka Pope (Research Officer) - r.pope@brighton.ac.uk

Dr Nigel Sherriff (Research Fellow) - n.s.sherriff@brighton.ac.uk

International Health Development Research Centre (IHDRC)
Room 242, Mayfield House,
Falmer, Brighton
Tel: 01273 644536
Web: www.brighton.ac.uk/health/ihdrc



University of Brighton

Authors:	 University of Brighton Rebeka Pope and Nigel Sherriff
Title:	Summary: West Sussex Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Unsure (LGBTU) Youth Research Project
Abstract:	<p>The International Health Development Research Centre (University of Brighton) located in the Faculty of Health and Social Science, is working with West Sussex Primary Care Trust (PCT) and West Sussex Youth Service to try to understand better the needs of LGBTU young people living in West Sussex.</p> <p>Local practitioners have for some time been aware that there is inadequate LGBTU youth provision in West Sussex, for example, in terms of social spaces and advisory centres. This is set within the broader context of many LGBTU young people failing to access mainstream services within the county, which is likely to be due to discrimination they have suffered in the past. Also, some LGBTU young people are known to visit Brighton to access services such as ALLSORTS; however, it is thought that the rural location of West Sussex and poor transportation links do not make this very easy.</p> <p>The LGBTU Youth Research Project has been funded by the West Sussex PCT and West Sussex Youth Service. The project began in August 2007 and will run until February 2008.</p> <p>The research project aims to scope out the current provisions for LGBTU young people in West Sussex; and identify the specific needs of LGBTU young people in West Sussex in relation to the potential provision of an LGBTU youth project.</p> <p>The research will consist of two distinct elements: First, a scoping study to identify current service provision for LGBTU young people across West Sussex; and secondly, work with local youth services to identify and recruit LGBTU young people from around West Sussex for the purpose of investigating their needs.</p> <p>Expected outcomes of the LGBTU youth research project are likely to be a series of evidence based recommendations to inform the development of service provision for LGBTU young people in West Sussex.</p>
Contact:	<p>Rebeka Pope (Research Officer) - r.pope@brighton.ac.uk</p> <p>Dr Nigel Sherriff (Research Fellow) - n.s.sherriff@brighton.ac.uk</p> <p>International Health Development Research Centre (IHDRC) Room 242, Mayfield House, Falmer, Brighton Tel: 01273 644536 Web: www.brighton.ac.uk/health/ihdrc</p>

Appendix E – List of mainstream services for young people in West Sussex

West Sussex Youth Cabinet Address: County Hall, Chichester, PO19 1RQ Tel: 01243 777100 Mob: 07764 793106 Email: pandora.ellis@westsussex.gov.uk	West Sussex County Council Address: County Hall, West Street, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1RQ
West Sussex Youth Offending Team	
Address: County Buildings County Buildings, East Street, Littlehampton, BN17 6AP Tel: 01903 718739	Address: West Way, Volunteer Unit, 45a Westway, Wick, Littlehampton, BN17 7NA Tel: 01903 730188
Address: Regent House 190a Three Bridges Road, Crawley, RH10 1LN Tel: 01293 643450	
Social Services	
Worthing Family Centre Address: 35 Parkfield Road, Worthing, West Sussex, BN13 1EP	Cissbury Lodge Address: Durrington Lane, Worthing, West Sussex, BN13 2QQ
Worthing Social Services Address: Centenary House, Durrington Lane, Worthing, West Sussex, BN13 2QB	Cedar House Address: 51 Chesswood Road, Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 2AA
The Burnside Centre Address: Victoria Rd, Burgess Hill, West Sussex RH15 9LH	Arts Development Service Address: 41 West Way, Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 7NA
The Laurels Day Centre Address: Sheep Fold Avenue, Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN16 3SQ	Social & Caring Services Address: Elizabeth House, 83 Victoria Drive, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO21 2TB
Beechfield Secure Unit Address: Effingham Road, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 3HZ Tel: 01342 712309	Lancing Close Address: 21 Lancing Clo, Crawley, West Sussex, RH11 0DJ Tel: 01293 526501
The Family Centre Address: 41 West Way, Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 7NA	Crawley Social Services Address: Centenary House/County Buildings, Woodfield Road, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 8GN Tel: 01293 895100
Crawley Family Centre Address: 40 Teasel Close, Crawley, West Sussex, RH11 9DZ	Vernon House Family Centre Address: 29 Richmond Avenue, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO21 2YE
Social Services Address: 24-26 West Street, Pulborough, West Sussex, RH20 4EE	Horsham Social Services Address: Talbot Ho 20-22 East St, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 1HL Tel: 01403 213100
Penn Crescent Family Centre Address: 51 Penn Cr, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH16 3HP Tel: 01444 457913	Phoenix Quality Care Address: Forum House Business Centre Stirling Rd, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 7DN Tel: 01243 673700
Mental Health Services	
Address: Durban House Durban Road, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO22 9RE Tel: (01243) 642400	Address: Chanctonbury 24/26 West Street, Storrington, RH20 4EE
Address: Centenary House County Buildings, Woodfield Road, Crawley, RH10 8GN	Address: Oaklands Oaklands Road, Haywards Heath, H16 1SU Tel: 01444 446100
Address: 44, High Street, Littlehampton, BN17 5ED Tel: 01903 738900 Fax: 01903 738989	Address: St John's House Springfield Road, Horsham, RH12 2PJ Tel: 01403 213100

Address: 1a East Row Chichester, PO19 1PD: (01243) 752999 Fax: (01243) 752644	Address: Centenary House Durrington Lane, Worthing, BN13 2QB Tel: 01903 839100
Address: Glebelands Middle Road, Shoreham, BN43 6GA Tel: 01273 268800	
<h2>Youth Services</h2>	
Youth Service - Adur, Arun and Worthing Address: Centenary House, Durrington Lane Worthing, West Sussex, BN13 2QB Tel: 01903 839231 Fax: 01903 839233 Email: david.chilton@westsussex.gov.uk	Youth Service - County Address: County Hall, West Street, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1RF Tel: 01243 777772 Fax: 01243 753788 Email: carole.aspden@westsussex.gov.uk
Youth Service - Crawley Address: County Hall, West Street, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1RF Tel: 01243 756760 Fax: 01243 753788 Email: jane.melvin@westsussex.gov.uk	Youth Service - Horsham, Mid Sussex and Chichester Address: 40, North Street, Chichester West Sussex, PO19 1LX Tel: 01243 776322 Fax: 01243 521918 Email: hilary.mason@westsussex.gov.uk
Horsham YMCA – The Y Centre Address: Albion Way, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 1AH Tel: 01403213400 Email: info@horshamymca.org.uk	
<h2>Referral Units</h2>	
39 Club (PRU) (Medical) (Bognor Regis) Address: Church Path, Glamis Street Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO21 1DB Tel: 01243 867068 Email: educationlink39club@hotmail.com	Branch Class South (PRU) (Flora McDonald) (KS 1+2) (Littlehampton) Address: Whitelea Road, Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 7JL Tel: 01903 739611 Fax: 01903 731998
The Link (Medical) (Crawley) Address: Worth Annexe Turners Hill Road, Worth, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 7RW Tel: 01293 888128 Fax: 01293 888128 Email: kwillis@wsqfl.org.uk	Burgess Hill PRU (Excluded) (Burgess Hill) Address: Cuckfield Road, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, RH15 8RE Tel: 01444 232771 Fax: 01444 870229 Email: burgesshill@northernpru.w-sussex.sch.uk Web: www.outofschoollearning.org/
Branch Class (PRU) (KS 1&2) c/o Waterfield First School (Crawley) Address: Waterfield Gardens, Bewbush, Crawley, West Sussex, RH11 8RA Tel: 01293 541131 Email: waterfieldsleo1@aol.com	Short Stay Class (Burgess Hill) Address: Cuckfield Road, Burgess Hill West Sussex, RH15 8RE Tel: 01444 253668 Fax: 01444 253668
Crawley PRU (excluded) Address: Worth Annexe, Turners Hill Road, Worth, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 7RW Tel: 01293 883209 Fax: 01293 886833 Email: cathy.meyer@westsussex.gov.uk	
<h2>HIV/AIDS Service</h2>	
Address: Centenary House Durrington Lane, Worthing, West Sussex, BN13 2QB Tel: 01903 839455 Fax: 01903 839869 Email: specialist.healthcare.team@westsussex.gov.uk	

Substance Misuse Service	
Address: 2-4 City Gates Chichester West Sussex, PO19 8DJ Tel: 01243 382943	
Information Shops	
Adur Information Shop Address: 20 High Street Shoreham by Sea, West Sussex, BN43 5DA Tel: 01273 452462 Fax: 01273 452462 Email: adur.youth.information.shop@westsussex.gov.uk Web: www.informationshoppchi.org.uk/links.html	Worthing information shop Address: 34 Colnade House Warwick Street, Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 3DH Tel: 01903 210315 Email: wothing.youth.information.shop@westsussex.gov.uk Web: www.informationshoppchi.org.uk/links.html
Chichester Information Shop Address: 40 Fernleigh youth and community centre North Street, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1LX Tel: 01243 839093 Fax: 10243 839093 Email: Chichester.youth.information.shop@westsussex.gov.uk Web: www.informationshoppchi.org.uk/links.html	Burgess Hill Information Shop Address: 18 Church road Burgess Hill, West Sussex, RH15 9AH Tel: 01444 243922 Email: burgesshill.youthinformationshop@westsussex.gov.uk Web: www.informationshoppchi.org.uk/links.html
Bognor Regis Information shop Address: Waterloo Square Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO21 1TA Tel: 01243 865533 Email: 8Project@aol.com Web: www.informationshoppchi.org.uk/links.html	Horsham Information Shop Address: 16 East Street Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 1HL Tel: 01403 270345 Fax: 01403 270345 Email: Horsham.youth.inormation.shop@westsussex.gov.uk
Youth Centres/ Wings	
39 Club Address: Church Path, Bognor Regis West Sussex, PO21 1DB Tel: 01243 864366 Email: 39.club.youth.bognor.regis@westsussex.gov.uk	Adur Detached Project Address: Shoreham Police Station, Ham Road Shoreham By Sea, West Sussex, BN43 6DB Tel: 01273 665866 Email: cyps.adur.detatched.project@westsussex.gov.uk
Arundel Youth Centre Address: Surrey Street, Arundel West Sussex, BN18 9DT Tel: 01903 885377 Email: arundelyouthclub@aol.com	Beacon Centre Address: Ockley Lane, Burgess Hill West Sussex, RH15 0BP Tel: 01273 844813 Fax: 01273 844813 Email: beacon.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk
Albemarle Centre (Oathall Youth Wing) Address: Appledore Gardens, Haywards Heath West Sussex, RH16 2AQ Tel: 01444 450492 Fax: 01444 443617 Email: albemarle.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk	Angmering School Address: Station Road, Angmering Littlehampton, West Sussex BN16 4HH Tel: 01903 772351
Bewbush Youth Centre Address: Breezehurst Drive, Crawley West Sussex, RH11 8XP Tel: 01293 511356 Fax: 01293 511356 Email: june.selby@westsussex.gov.uk	Bognor Regis Youth Centre Address: Westloats Lane, Bognor Regis West Sussex, PO21 5JZ Tel: 01243 823702 Email: bognorregis.youthcentre@westsussex.gov.uk
Bognor Regis Youth Wing Address: Westloats Lane, Bognor Regis West Sussex, PO21 5LH Tel: 01243 871049 Fax: 01243 871011 Email: clair.goddard@westsussex.gov.uk	Boundstone Youth Wing Address: Upper Boundstone Lane, Sompting Lancing, West Sussex BN15 9QZ Tel: 01903 755706 Fax: 01703 755706 Email: boundstone.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk

Chichester Youth Wing Address: Kingsham Road, Chichester West Sussex, PO19 8AE Tel: 01243 786193 Fax: 01243 786193 Email: chichester.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk	Crawley Youth Centre Address: Longmere Road, Crawley West Sussex, RH10 8ND Tel: 01293 550010 Fax: 01293 550010 Email: crawley.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk
Dormans Youth Arts Centre Address: Dormans, Crawley West Sussex, RH11 8HZ Tel: 01293 526388 Fax: 01292 526388 Email: dyac@westsussex.gov.uk	Felpham Community College Youth Wing Address: Lashmar Road, East Preston Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN16 1ES Tel: 01903 772689 Fax: 01903 772689 Email: east.preston.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk
Flintstone Centre Address: East Street, Littlehampton West Sussex, BN17 6AW Tel: 01903 714305 Email: flintstone.youthcentre@westsussex.gov.uk	Forest Youth Wing Address: Comptons Lane, Horsham West Sussex, RH13 5NW Tel: 01403 269286 Fax: 01403 217150 Email: forest.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk
Horsham Youth Centre Address: Hurst Road, Horsham West Sussex, RH12 2DR Tel: 01403 210388 Fax: 01703 262584 Email: horsham.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk	Ifield Youth Wing Address: Crawley Avenue, Crawley West Sussex, RH10 8BA Tel: 01293 450506 Email: ifield.youth.wing.ed@westsussex.gov.uk
King's Manor Youth Wing Address: Kingston Lane, Shoreham By Sea West Sussex, BN43 6YT Tel: 01273 598204 Fax: 01273 598204 Email: kings.manor.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk	Konnect Address: Church Path, Bognor Regis West Sussex, PO21 1DB Tel: 01243 840794 Fax: 01243 840794 Email: konnnect@oneTel.com
Littlehampton Youth Wing Address: Elm Grove Road, Littlehampton West Sussex, BN17 6AH Waiting for reply Tel: 01903 713614 Fax: 01903 713614 Email: littlehampton.youthwing@westsussex.gov.uk	Manhood Youth Wing Address: School Lane, Selsey Chichester, West Sussex, PO20 9EH Tel: 01243 602767 Fax: 01243 604097 Email: manyouthwi@aol.com
North Bersted Youth Centre Address: 14, North Bersted Street, Bognor Regis West Sussex, PO22 9AD Tel: 01243 830765 Email: north.bersted.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk	Oriel High School Youth Wing Address: Maidenbower Lane, Maidenbower Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 7XW Tel: 01293 887852 Email: ed.oriel.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk
Roffey Youth Centre Address: Godwin Way, Horsham West Sussex, RH13 6SQ Tel: 01403 754511 Fax: 01403 754511 Email: roffey.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk	Rose Green and Pagham Youth Centre Address: Hawkins Close, Rose Green Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO21 3LW Tel: 01243 264439 Email: rose.green.&.pagham.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk
Sidney Walter Centre/St Wilfred's Youth Wing Address: Sussex Road, Worthing West Sussex, BN11 1DS Tel: 01903 237343 Fax: 01903 237343 Email: sidney.walter.centre.ed@westsussex.gov.uk	Steyning Youth Wing (Cuthman Centre) Address: Old Horsham Road, Crawley West Sussex, RH11 8PG Tel: 01293 419996 Email: st.wilfrieds.youth.wing.ed@westsussex.gov.uk
The Rosie, Durrington Youth Centre Address: Littlehampton Road, Worthing W Sussex, BN13 1QY Tel: 01903 529922 Fax: 01703 241971 Email: rose.wilmot.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk	Thomas Bennett Youth Wing Address: Ashdown Drive, Tilgate Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 5AD Tel: 01293 866816 Fax: 01293 514437 Email: thomas.bennett.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk
Witterings Youth Centre Address: Church Road, East Wittering Chichester, West Sussex, PO20 8PS Tel: 01243 372446 Fax: 01243 372446 Email: witterings.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk	Bourne Youth Wing Address: Park Road, Southbourne Emsworth, Hants, PO10 8PJ Tel: 01243 375691 EXT 260 Fax: 01243 379286 Email: bourne.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk

<u>Boundstone Youth Wing</u> Address: Upper Boundstone Lane, Sompting Lancing, West Sussex, BN15 9QZ Tel: 01903 755706 Fax: 01703 755706 Email: boundstone.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Cuckfield Youth Club</u> Address: London Lane, Cuckfield Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH17 5BD Tel: 01444 450438
<u>Crawley Youth Centre</u> Address: Longmere Road, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 8ND Tel: 01293 550010 Fax: 01293 550010 Email: crawley.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Fernleigh Centre</u> Address: 40, Fernleigh Youth And Community Centre North Street, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1LX Tel: 01243 789500 Email: fernleigh.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Felpham Community College Youth Wing</u> Address: Lashmar Road, East Preston Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN16 1ES Tel: 01903 772689 Fax: 01903 772689 Email: east.preston.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Henfield Youth Centre</u> Address: Deer Park, Henfield West Sussex, BN5 9JQ Tel: 01273 492161 Email: henfield.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Forest Youth Wing</u> Address: Comptons Lane, Horsham West Sussex, RH13 5NW Tel: 01403 269286 Fax: 01403 217150 Email: forest.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Interact</u> Address: 24, Marine Place, Worthing West Sussex, BN11 3DN Tel: 01903 216464 Fax: 01903 219512 Email: interact.ed@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Ifield Youth Wing</u> Address: Crawley Avenue, Crawley West Sussex, RH10 8BA Tel: 01293 450506 Email: ifield.youth.wing.ed@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Lancing Youth Centre</u> Address: Penhill Road, Lancing, West Sussex, BN15 8HA Tel: 01903 754901 Fax: 01903 754901 Email: lancing.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Konnect</u> Address: Church Path, Bognor Regis West Sussex, PO21 1DB Tel: 01243 840794 Fax: 01243 840794 Email: konnect@oneTel.com	<u>Midhurst Youth Wing</u> Address: North Street, Midhurst West Sussex, GU29 9DT Tel: 01730 819734 Fax: 01730 816765 Email: midhurst.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Manhood Youth Wing</u> Address: School Lane, Selsey Chichester, West Sussex, PO20 9EH Tel: 01243 602767 Mob: 07712 537044 Fax: 01243 604097 Email: manyouthwi@aol.com	<u>Park Centre</u> Address: 60, Park Road, Burgess Hill West Sussex, RH15 8ET Tel: 01444 235560 Fax: 01444 243912 Email: park.centre@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Oriel High School Youth Wing</u> Address: Maidenbower Lane, Maidenbower Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 7XW Tel: 01293 887852 Email: ed.oriel.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Rustington Youth Centre</u> Address: Woodlands Avenue, Rustington Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN16 3HB Tel: 01903 778899/01903772689 Fax: 01903 778899 Email: east.preston.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Rose Green and Pagham Youth Centre</u> Address: Hawkins Close, Rose Green Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO21 3LW Tel: 01243 264439 Email: rose.green.&pagham.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Sylvia Beaufoy Centre</u> Address: Midhurst Road, Petworth West Sussex, GU28 0ET Tel: 01798 344880 Email: sylvia.beaufoy.youth@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Steyning Youth Wing (Cuthman Centre)</u> Address: Old Horsham Road, Crawley West Sussex, RH11 8PG Tel: 01293 419996 Email: st.wilfrieds.youth.wing.ed@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Wallis Centre</u> Address: De La Warr Road, East Grinstead West Sussex, RH19 3BS Tel: 01342 321585 Fax: 01342 321585 Email: wallis.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Thomas Bennett Youth Wing</u> Address: Ashdown Drive, Tilgate Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 5AD Tel: 01293 866816 Fax: 01293 514437 Email: thomas.bennett.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Yapton Youth Centre</u> Address: Main Road, Yapton Arundel, West Sussex, BN18 0EU Tel: 01243 545233 Email: yapton.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk

<u>Worthing Youth Wing - Glynn Owen Centre</u> Address: South Farm Road, Worthing West Sussex, BN14 7AR Tel: 01903 202013 Fax: 01903 202013 Email: glynn.owen.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>East Preston Youth Centre</u> Address: Lashmar Road, East Preston Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN16 1ES Tel: 01903 772689 Fax: 01903 772689 Email: east.preston.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Chichester Boys Club</u> Address: 34, Little London, Chichester West Sussex, PO19 1PL Tel: 01243 782462 Fax: 01243 782462 Email: chichester.boys.club.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Dolphin Youth Project (Formerly BYTES Youth Cafe)</u> Address: Appledore Gardens, Haywards Heath West Sussex, RH16 2AQ Tel: 01444 458538 Email: dolphin.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Holbrook Youth Centre</u> Address: Holbrook School Lane, Horsham West Sussex, RH12 5PP Tel: 01403 263832 Fax: 01403 263832 Email: holbrook.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Ferring Rifers Youth & Community Centre</u> Address: 1 Greystoke Mews, Greystoke Road Ferring, Worthing, West Sussex, BN12 5JL Tel: 01903 775040 Email: ferringrifers.youthcentre@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Westergate Community School Youth Wing</u> Address: Lime Avenue, Westergate Chichester, West Sussex, PO20 3UE Tel: 01243 545233 Email: westergate.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Needles Youth Centre</u> Address: Three Acres, Horsham West Sussex, RH12 1RS Tel: 01403 248499 Fax: 01403 248499 Email: needles.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Langley Green Youth Centre</u> Address: Lark Rise, Crawley West Sussex, RH11 7QG Tel: 01293 521355 Fax: 01293 521355 Email: langley.green.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Quayside Youth Centre</u> Address: Penhill Road, Lancing West Sussex, BN15 8HA Tel: 01903 532684 Fax: 01903 532684 Email: quayside.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Crawley East Neighbourhood Youth Centre/Hazelwick Youth Wing</u> Address: The Link @ Hazelwick, Hazelwick Mill Lane, Three Bridges, Crawley, RH10 1SX Tel: 01293 510693 Email: the.link@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Rydon Youth Activities Centre</u> Address: Rock Road, Storrington Pulborough, West Sussex, RH20 3AA Email: Julie.chapman@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>The Place</u> Address: 24, Marine Place, Worthing West Sussex, BN11 3DN Tel: 01903 234116 Fax: 01903 234116 Email: marine.place.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Weald Youth Wing</u> Address: Station Road, Billingshurst West Sussex, RH14 9RY Tel: 01403 787255 Fax: 01403 787202 Email: mgrant@theweal.org.uk
Other Youth Services in West Sussex	
<u>Horsham YMCA</u> Address: The Y Centre, Albion Way Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 1AH Tel: 01403 213400 Email: info@horshamymca.org.uk	<u>Outset (Youth Action) Youth Project</u> Address: County Office, Lodge Hill Centre, Watersfield, Pulborough, RH20 1LZ. Tel: 01798 831153 Fax: 01798 831156 Email: outset@btconnect.com
<u>Someone to speak for you</u> Address: 35 Worthing Road, East Preston Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN16 1BQ Tel: 0800 859929/01903 859929 Email: enquiries@icis-info4life.org.uk	<u>Mid Sussex Body Positive</u> Address: The Diva Centre, 194 Three Bridges Road, Crawley, RH10 1LR. Tel: 01293 552111 Email: diva@msbp.demon.co.uk
Connexions	
<u>Horsham Connexions Centre</u> Address: Malborough House, 50 East Street, Horsham, RH12 1HN Tel: 01403 261464 Email: horsham.careers@vtplc.com	<u>Crawley Connexions Centre for Young People</u> Address: 37 Queens Square, Crawley, RH10 1HA Tel: 01293 843344 Email: Pat.wickes@westsussex.gov.uk

<p><u>Chichester Connexions Centre</u> Address: 1-3 The Chambers, 28 Chapel Street, Chichester, PO19 1DL Tel: 01243 771666 Email: chichester.career@vtplc.com</p>	<p><u>Worthing Connexions Centre</u> Address: Revenue Chambers, Chapel Road, Worthing, BN11 1BG Tel: 01903 205612 Email: worthing.careers@vtplc.com</p>
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Appendix F – List of practitioners/service providers contacted for the scoping exercise

LOCAL	
Graham Hill Neighbourhood Youth Worker Address: West Sussex Youth Development Service Centenary House, Durrington Lane, Worthing, West Sussex, BN13 2QB Tel: 01903 839867 Email: graham.hill@westsussex.gov.uk	Claire Allwright Young Person's Advocacy Worker Address: MIND, For Better Mental Health 45 Rowlands Road, Worthing, BN11 3ND Tel: 01903 233145 Email: claire.allwright@mindcharity.co.uk
Sophie Rider Senior Administrator Address: Worthing CVS Colonnade House, Warwick Street Worthing, BN11 3DH Tel: 01903 528620 Email: sophie.wcvs@btconnect.com	Dominic White Chief Executive Officer Address: Electric Storm Youth Limited 34 Seaside Avenue, Lancing, West Sussex, BN15 8BY Tel: 01903 752842 Email: etiwhcniomod@hotmail.com
Corinne Nagle Extended Schools Consultant Address: Second Floor, Southfield House, 11 Liverpool Gardens, Worthing, BN11 1RY Tel: 01903 703561 Email: corinne.nagle@westsussex.gov.uk	Clare Ebelewicz Youth and Older Person's Officer for Horsham District Council Address: Park North, North Street, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 1RL. Tel: 01403 215137 Email: clare.ebelewicz@horsham.gov.uk
Carole Perry West Sussex PCT Locality Manager Children and Young Peoples Service Arun East and West Locality Tel: 07984 918487 Email: carole.perry@wsx-pct.nhs.uk	Stevie Graves Residential Housing Manager Address: Hove YMCA The Office Flat 3 10/12 Goldstone Villas Hove BN3 3RF Tel: 01273 722306 Email: stevie.graves@hoveymca.org.uk
Venessa Neylen Primary Care Development Manager North East Area West Sussex PCT, West Sussex PCT, The Causeway, Goring by sea, West Sussex, BN12 6BT Tel: 01293 600300 ext 3112 Email: Venessa.Neylen@mspct.nhs.uk	Sarah Heale Primary Care Development Manager Address: South East Area Office, West Sussex PCT, The Causeway, Goring by sea, West Sussex, BN12 6BT Tel: 01903 708470 Email: Sarah.Heale@mspct.nhs.uk
Ruth Cottington Community Partnership Manager Address: Planning & Partnerships Directorate Primary Care Trust, The Causeway, Goring by Sea, West Sussex. BN12 6BT Tel: 01903 708472 Email: ruth.cottington@aaw.nhs.uk	Sue Skarstein Student Welfare Officer Address: Central Sussex College, College Road, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 1NR Tel: 01444 456281 Email: sskarstein@central.sussex.ac.uk
Carole Druce School Nurse and Family Planning Nurse in the Bognor and Chichester Tel: 07825 754948 Email: carole.druce@wsx-pct.nhs.uk	Bonita de Boer Information Officer Address: AVERT, 11-13 Denne Parade, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 1JD Tel: 01403 210202 Email: info@avert.org
Adur Information Shop Address: 20 High Street Shoreham by Sea, West Sussex, BN43 5DA Tel: 01273 452462 Fax: 01273 452462 Email: adur.youth.information.shop@westsussex.gov.uk Web: www.informationshoppchi.org.uk/links.html	Burgess Hill Information Shop Address: 18 Church road Burgess Hill, West Sussex, RH15 9AH Tel: 01444 243922 Email: burgesshill.youthinformationshop@westsussex.gov.uk Web: www.informationshoppchi.org.uk/links.html
Bognor Regis Information shop Address: Waterloo Square Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO21 1TA Tel: 01243 865533 Email: 8Project@aol.com Web: www.informationshoppchi.org.uk/links.html	Horsham Information Shop Address: 16 East Street Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 1HL Tel: 01403 270345 Fax: 01403 270345 Email: Horsham.youth.information.shop@westsussex.gov.uk

<u>Worthing information shop</u> Address: 34 Colonnade House Warwick Street, Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 3DH Tel: 01903 210315 Email: wothing.youth.information.shop@westsussex.gov.uk Web: www.informationshoppchi.org.uk/links.html	<u>Chichester Information Shop</u> Address: 40 Fernleigh youth and community centre North Street, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1LX Tel: 01243 839093 Fax: 10243 839093 Email: Chichester.youth.information.shop@westsussex.gov.uk Web: www.informationshoppchi.org.uk/links.html
<u>The Arun Gay Society</u> Address: PO Box 11 Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO22 6NT Email: info@tagsonline.org.uk	<u>East Preston Youth Centre</u> Address: Lashmar Road East Preston, Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN16 1ES Tel: 01903 772689 Fax: 01903 772689 Email: east.preston.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>39 Club</u> Address: Church Path, Bognor Regis West Sussex, PO21 1DB Tel: 01243 864366 Email: 39.club.youth.bognor.regis@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Adur Detached Project</u> Address: Shoreham Police Station, Ham Road Shoreham By Sea, West Sussex, BN43 6DB Tel: 01273 665866 Email: cyps.adur.detached.project@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Albemarle Centre (Oathall Youth Wing)</u> Address: Appledore Gardens, Haywards Heath West Sussex, RH16 2AQ Tel: 01444 450492 Fax: 01444 443617 Email: albemarle.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Arun Leisure Centre (ALC)</u> Address: Felpham Way, Bognor Regis West Sussex, PO22 8ED Tel: 01243 830765 Email: maria.parton@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Arundel Youth Centre</u> Address: Surrey Street, Arundel West Sussex, BN18 9DT Tel: 01903 885377 Email: arundelyouthclub@aol.com	<u>Beacon Centre</u> Address: Ockley Lane, Burgess Hill West Sussex, RH15 0BP Tel: 01273 844813 Fax: 01273 844813 Email: beacon.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Bewbush Youth Centre</u> Address: Breezehurst Drive, Crawley West Sussex, RH11 8XP Tel: 01293 511356 Fax: 01293 511356 Email: june.selby@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Bognor Regis Youth Centre</u> Address: Westloats Lane, Bognor Regis West Sussex, PO21 5JZ Tel: 01243 823702 Email: bognorregis.youthcentre@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Bognor Regis Youth Wing</u> Address: Westloats Lane, Bognor Regis West Sussex, PO21 5LH Tel: 01243 871049 Fax: 01243 871011 Email: clair.goddard@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Boundstone Youth Wing</u> Address: Upper Boundstone Lane, Sompting Lancing, West Sussex, BN15 9QZ Tel : 01903 755706 Fax: 01703 755706 Email: boundstone.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Bourne Youth Wing</u> Address: Park Road, Southbourne Emsworth, Hants, PO10 8PJ Tel: 01243 375691 Fax: 01243 379286 Email: bourne.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Chichester Boys Club</u> Address: 34, Little London, Chichester West Sussex, PO19 1PL Tel: 01243 782462 Fax: 01243 782462 Email: chichester.boys.club.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Chichester Youth Wing</u> Address: Kingsham Road, Chichester West Sussex, PO19 8AE Tel: 01243 786193 Fax: 01243 786193 Email: chichester.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Crawley Youth Centre</u> Address: Longmere Road, Crawley West Sussex, RH10 8ND Tel: 01293 550010 Fax: 01293 550010 Email: crawley.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Cuckfield Youth Club</u> Address: London Lane, Cuckfield Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH17 5BD Tel: 01444 450438 Email: cuckfield.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Dolphin Youth Project (Formerly BYTES Youth Cafe)</u> Address: Appledore Gardens, Haywards Heath West Sussex, RH16 2AQ Tel: 01444 458538 Email: dolphin.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk

<u>Dormans Youth Arts Centre</u> Address: Dormans, Crawley West Sussex, RH11 8HZ Tel: 01293 526388 Fax: 01292 526388 Email: dyac@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Felpham Community College Youth Wing</u> Address: Lashmar Road, East Preston Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN16 1ES Tel: 01903 772689 Fax: 01903 772689 Email: east.preston.youthcentre@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Fernleigh Centre</u> Address: 40, Fernleigh Youth And Community Centre, North Street, Chichester West Sussex, PO19 1LX Tel: 01243 789500 Email: fernleigh.youthcentre@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Ferring Rifers Youth & Community Centre</u> Address: 1 Greystoke Mews, Greystoke Road Ferring, Worthing, West Sussex, BN12 5JL Tel: 01903 775040 Email: ferringrifers.youthcentre@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Flintstone Centre</u> Address: East Street, Littlehampton West Sussex, BN17 6AW Tel: 01903 714305 Email: flintstone.youthcentre@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Forest Youth Wing</u> Address: Comptons Lane, Horsham West Sussex, RH13 5NW Tel: 01403 269286 Fax: 01403 217150 Email: forest.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Henfield Youth Centre</u> Address: Deer Park, Henfield West Sussex, BN5 9JQ Tel: 01273 492161 Email: henfield.youthcentre@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Holbrook Youth Centre</u> Address: Holbrook School Lane, Horsham West Sussex, RH12 5PP Tel: 01403 263832 Fax: 01403 263832 Email: holbrook.youthcentre@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Horsham Youth Centre</u> Address: Hurst Road, Horsham West Sussex, RH12 2DR Tel: 01403 210388 Fax: 01703 262584 Email: horsham.youthcentre@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Ifield Youth Wing</u> Address: Crawley Avenue, Crawley West Sussex, RH10 8BA Tel: 01293 450506 Email: ifield.youth.wing.ed@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Interact</u> Address: 24, Marine Place, Worthing West Sussex, BN11 3DN Tel: 01903 216464 Fax: 01903 219512 Email: interact.ed@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Westergate Community School Youth Wing</u> Address: Lime Avenue, Westergate Chichester, West Sussex, PO20 3UE Tel: 01243 545233 Email: westergate.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>King's Manor Youth Wing</u> Address: Kingston Lane, Shoreham By Sea West Sussex, BN43 6YT Tel: 01273 598204 Fax: 01273 598204 Email: kings.manor.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Konnect</u> Address: Church Path, Bognor Regis West Sussex, PO21 1DB Tel: 01243 840794 Fax: 01243 840794 Email: konnect@oneTel.com
<u>Lancing Youth Centre</u> Address: Penhill Road, Lancing West Sussex, BN15 8HA Tel: 01903 754901 Fax: 01903 754901 Email: lancing.youthcentre@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Langley Green Youth Centre</u> Address: Lark Rise, Crawley West Sussex, RH11 7QG Tel: 01293 521355 Fax: 01293 521355 Email: langley.green.youthcentre@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>Littlehampton Youth Wing</u> Address: Elm Grove Road, Littlehampton West Sussex, BN17 6AH Waiting for reply Tel: 01903 713614 Fax: 01903 713614 Email: littlehampton.youthwing@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Manhood Youth Wing</u> Address: School Lane, Selsey Chichester, West Sussex, PO20 9EH Tel: 01243 602767 Fax: 01243 604097 Email: manyouthwi@aol.com
<u>Midhurst Youth Wing</u> Address: North Street, Midhurst West Sussex, GU29 9DT Tel: 01730 819734 Fax: 01730 816765 Email: midhurst.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Needles Youth Centre</u> Address: Three Acres, Horsham West Sussex, RH12 1RS Tel: 01403 248499 Fax: 01403 248499 Email: needles.youthcentre@westsussex.gov.uk
<u>North Bersted Youth Centre</u> Address: 14, North Bersted Street, Bognor Regis West Sussex, PO22 9AD Tel: 01243 830765 Email: north.bersted.youthcentre@westsussex.gov.uk	<u>Oriel High School Youth Wing</u> Address: Maidenbower Lane, Maidenbower Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 7XW Tel: 01293 887852 Email: ed.oriel.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk

Park Centre Address: 60, Park Road, Burgess Hill West Sussex, RH15 8ET Tel: 01444 235560 Fax: 01444 243912 Email: park.centre@westsussex.gov.uk	Quayside Youth Centre Address: Penhill Road, Lancing West Sussex, BN15 8HA Tel: 01903 532684 Fax: 01903 532684 Email: quayside.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk
Roffey Youth Centre Address: Godwin Way, Horsham West Sussex, RH13 6SQ Tel: 01403 754511 Fax: 01403 754511 Email: roffey.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk	Rose Green and Pagham Youth Centre Address: Hawkins Close, Rose Green Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO21 3LW Tel: 01243 264439 Email: rose.green.&pagham.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk
Rustington Youth Centre Address: Woodlands Avenue, Rustington Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN16 3HB Tel: 01903 778899/01903 772689 Fax: 01903 778899 Email: east.preston.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk	Rydon Youth Activities Centre Address: Rock Road, Storrington Pulborough, West Sussex, RH20 3AA Tel: 01903 815515 Email: Julie.chapman@westsussex.gov.uk
Sidney Walter Centre St Wilfred's Youth Wing Address: Sussex Road, Worthing West Sussex, BN11 1DS Tel: 01903 237343 Fax: 01903 237343 Email: sidney.walter.centre.ed@westsussex.gov.uk	Steypning Youth Wing (Cuthman Centre) Address: Old Horsham Road, Crawley West Sussex, RH11 8PG Tel: 01293 419996 Email: st.wilfrieds.youth.wing.ed@westsussex.gov.uk
Sylvia Beaufoy Centre Address: Midhurst Road, Petworth West Sussex, GU28 0ET Tel: 01798 344880 Email: sylvia.beaufoy.youth@westsussex.gov.uk	The Place Address: 24, Marine Place, Worthing West Sussex, BN11 3DN Tel: 01903 234116 Fax: 01903 234116 Email: marine.place.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk
The Rosie, Durrington Youth Centre Address: Littlehampton Road, Worthing W Sussex, BN13 1QY Tel: 01903 529922 Fax: 01703 241971 Email: rose.wilmot.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk	Thomas Bennett Youth Wing Address: Ashdown Drive, Tilgate Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 5AD Tel: 01293 866816 Fax: 01293 514437 Email: thomas.bennett.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk
Wallis Centre Address: De La Warr Road, East Grinstead West Sussex, RH19 3BS Tel: 01342 321585 Fax: 01342 321585 Email: wallis.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk	Weald Youth Wing Address: Station Road, Billingshurst West Sussex, RH14 9RY Tel: 01403 787255 Fax: 01403 787202 Email: mgrant@theweal.org.uk
Witterings Youth Centre Address: Church Road, East Wittering Chichester, West Sussex, PO20 8PS Tel: 01243 372446 Fax: 01243 372446 Email: witterings.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk	Worthing Youth Wing - Glynn Owen Centre Address: South Farm Road, Worthing West Sussex, BN14 7AR Tel: 01903 202013 Fax: 01903 202013 Email: glynn.owen.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk
Yapton Youth Centre Address: Main Road, Yapton Arundel, West Sussex, BN18 0EU Tel: 01243 545233 Email: yapton.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk	Crawley East Neighbourhood Youth Centre/Hazelwick Youth Wing Address: The Link @ Hazelwick, Hazelwick Mill Lane, Three Bridges, Crawley, RH10 1SX Tel: 01293 510693 Email: the.link@westsussex.gov.uk
REGIONAL	
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<p>Rose Hall LGBT Project Worker Address: MindOut, The Allen Centre, 60 Sackville Gardens, Hove, BN3 4GH Tel: 01273 739847 Email: rose.hall@mindcharity.co.uk</p>	<p>Arthur Law Coordinator (Spectrum) Address: 6 Bartholomews, Brighton, BN1 1HG Tel: 01273 723123 Email: info@spectrum-lgbt.org Web: www.spectrum-lgbt.org</p>
<p>Stevie Graves Residential Housing Manager Address: Hove YMCA, The Office Flat 3 10/12 Goldstone Villas, Hove, BN3 3RF Tel: 01273 722306 Email: stevie.graves@hoveymca.org.uk</p>	<p>Dr. Kath Browne Senior Lecturer Address: School of the Environment, Cockcroft Building, Lewes Road, Brighton, BN2 4GJ Tel: 01273 642377 Email: k.a.browne@brighton.ac.uk</p>
<p>Emma Blundell Communications Officer Address: Channel magazine, University of Brighton Mithras House, Lewes Road Brighton, BN2 4AT Tel: 01273 644756 Mob: 07718 522477</p>	<p>Georgina Voss Associate Tutor Address: SPRU, Freeman Centre, University of Sussex, Brighton BN1 9QE, UK Tel: 07796 951709 Email: georgina.voss@sussexuniversity.ac.uk</p>
<p>The Crew Club Address: 26 Coolham Drive Whitehawk, Brighton, BN2 5QW Tel: 01273 608607 Fax: 01273 608413 Email: crew_club@yahoo.co.uk Web: www.crewclub.co.uk</p>	<p>Mary Lukins Project Coordinator Breakout Youth Project Address: City Youth Service, 100 High Street Southampton, SO14 2AA Tel: 07860 444673 Mob: 07860 444673 Email: mary.lukins@southampton.gov.uk</p>
<p>Tadhg Crozier Health Promotion Co-ordinator Address: Terrence Higgins Trust Rooms 9-14 Dyke House 110 South Street, Eastbourne, BN21 4LZ Tel: 01323 649927 Email: tadhg.crozier@ttht.org.uk</p>	<p>Selwyn Jones Project Coordinator Address: Reachout, P O Box 75, Reading, RG1 7DU Tel: 07841 721483 Email: reachout@reading.gov.uk Web: www.reachoutonline.co.uk</p>
<p>RAGS Redhill Area Gay Society Tel: 01737 763227</p>	<p>Andrew Wilson Project Coordinator 2BU Gay youth group Tel: 01823 320012 Web: www.2bu-somerset.co.uk</p>
<p>NATIONAL</p>	
<p>Mary Whitley Placement Worker Address: The Albert Kennedy Trust Unit 305a Hatton Square 16/16a Baldwins Gardens, London EC1N 7RJ Tel: 020 78316562 Fax: 020 74056929 Email: pwlondon@akt.org.uk Web: www.akt.org.uk</p>	<p>London Freestyle Address: Consortium of LGBT Voluntary & Community Organisations, Unit J414 Tower Bridge Business Complex 100 Clements Road, London, SE16 4DG Tel: 0207 0648383 Fax: 0207 0648283 Web: www.freestylelondon.org.uk/youth</p>

<u>Helen Ward</u> Administration Assistant Address: Parliamentary and Public Affairs Team, Equality Ltd, Tower Building, York Road, London SE1 Tel: 020 75931850 Fax: 020 75931877 Email: helen.ward@stonewall.org.uk Web: www.stonewall.org.uk	<u>Sharon Holder</u> Young Leaders Participation Officer Address: Terrence Higgins Trust 43 Pembroke Street, Oxford, OX1 1BP Tel: 01865 243389 Fax: 01865 792210 Email: sharon.holder@ttht.org.uk
<u>Caroline Early</u> Youth Services Manager Address: Terrence Higgins Trust Lighthouse South London 14-15 Lower Marsh, Waterloo London, SE1 7RJ Tel: 020 78031660 Fax: 020 78031661 Email: caroline.early@ttht.org.uk	<u>NRG (Croydon)</u> Address: Lesbian Gay and Bisexual Young People, London Borough of Croydon Taberner House, Park Lane Croydon, CR9 3JS Tel: 020 78031684 Mob: 07771 858057 Email: nrg@ttht.org.uk
<u>Helen Wright</u> Project Coordinator Address: Space youth project, Over The Rainbow, 27 St. Michaels Road, Bournemouth, BH2 5DP Tel: 01202 257478 Mob: 0797 3405280 Email: info@spaceyouthproject.co.uk Web: www.spaceyouthproject.co.uk	<u>Lukaz Barnet</u> Project Coordinator Mosaic (Brent) Tel: 07931 336668 Email: info@mosaic-youth.org.uk Web: www.mosaic-youth.org.uk
<u>O.O.T (Hammersmith)</u> Tel: 0800 1694318 Email: info@outonthursday.org.uk Web: www.outonthursday.org.uk	<u>Young Men's Free Counselling Service (Southwark)</u> Tel: 020 78121777

Appendix G – Details of the practitioners/ service providers interviewed

LOCAL	
<p>Claire Allwright Young Person's Advocacy Worker Address: Mind, For Better Mental Health 45 Rowlands Road, Worthing, BN11 3ND Tel: 01903 233145 Email: claire.allwright@mindcharity.co.uk</p>	<p>Stevie Graves Youth Manager Address: Hove YMCA The Office Flat 3 10/12 Goldstone Villas Hove BN3 3RF Tel: 01273 722306 Email: stevie.graves@hoveymca.org.uk</p>
<p>Ann Ball Youth Manager Address: Horsham Youth Centre Hurst Road, Horsham West Sussex, RH12 2DR Tel: 01403 210388 Fax: 01703 262584 Email: horsham.youthcentre@westsussex.gov.uk</p>	<p>Shirley Robinson Neighbourhood Youth Worker Address: The Place 24, Marine Place, Worthing West Sussex, BN11 3DN Tel: 01903 234116 Fax: 01903 234116 Email: marine.place.youthcentre@westsussex.gov.uk</p>
<p>Andy Moreman Team Leader Address: Fernleigh Centre 40, Fernleigh Youth And Community Centre, North Street, Chichester West Sussex, PO19 1LX Tel: 01243 789500 Email: fernleigh.youthcentre@westsussex.gov.uk</p>	<p>Keith Martin Neighbourhood Youth Worker Address: Manhood Youth Wing School Lane, Selsey Chichester, West Sussex, PO20 9EH Tel: 01243 602767 Mob: 07712537044 Fax: 01243 604097 Email: manyouthwi@aol.com</p>
<p>Aimee Humphrey Team Leader Address: King's Manor Youth Wing Kingston Lane, Shoreham By Sea West Sussex, BN43 6YT Tel: 01273 598204 Fax: 01273 598204 Email: kings.manor.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk</p>	<p>Cherrylee Harris Team Leader Address: East Preston Youth Centre Lashmar Road, East Preston, Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN16 1ES Tel: 01903 772689 Fax: 01903 772689 Email: east.preston.youthcentre@westsussex.gov.uk</p>
<p>Maria Praton Neighbourhood Youth Worker Address: Arun Leisure Centre Felpham Way, Felpham, Bognor Regis West Sussex, PO22 8EL Tel/Fax: 01243 827272 Email: Maria.Parton@westsussex.gov.uk</p>	<p>School Counsellor Address: Felpham Community College Felpham Way, Felpham, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO22 8EL Tel: 01243 826511 Fax: 01243 841021 Email: fcc@felpham.org.uk</p>
REGIONAL	
<p>Jess Wood Project Coordinator Address: Allsorts Youth Project. 69 Ship St, Brighton, East Sussex, BN1 1AE Tel/Fax: 01273 721211 Mob: 07932 852533 Email: info@allsortsyouth.org.uk Web: www.allsortsyouth.org.uk</p>	<p>NRG (Croydon) Youth Worker Address: Lesbian Gay and Bisexual Young People, London Borough of Croydon, Taberner House, Park Lane Croydon, CR9 3JS Tel: 020 78031684 Mob: 07771 858057 Email: nrg@tht.org.uk</p>
<p>Tadhg Crozier Health Promotion Coordinator Address: Terrence Higgins Trust Rooms 9-14 Dyke House 110 South Street, Eastbourne, BN21 4LZ Tel: 01323 649927 Email: tadhg.crozier@tht.org.uk</p>	<p>Andrew Wilson Connexions Personal Adviser/Project Coordinator Address: 2BU LGBTU Project Tel: 01823 320012 Web: www.2bu-somerset.co.uk</p>

<u>Mary Lukins</u> Project Coordinator Address: Breakout Youth Project (Southampton) City Youth Service, City Base 100 High Street, Southampton, Hampshire, SO14 2AA Tel: 023 80223344 Mob: 07860 444673 Fax: 023 80226549 Web: www.breakoutyouth.co.uk	<u>Mary Whitley</u> Placement Worker Address: The Albert Kennedy Trust Unit 305a Hatton Square 16/16a Baldwins Gardens, London EC1N 7RJ Tel: 020 78316562 Fax: 020 74056929 Email: pwlonon@akt.org.uk Web: www.akt.org.uk
<u>RAGS</u> Youth Worker Address: Redhill Area Gay Society Tel: 01737763227	

Appendix H – List of youth services offering some support to LGBT(U) young people in West Sussex (not specific LGBTU)

<p><u>MIND. For Better Mental Health</u> Address: 45 Rowlands Road Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 3JN Tel: 01903 233145 Email: claire.allwright@mindcharity.co.uk</p>	<p><u>King's Manor Youth Wing</u> Address: Kingston Lane Shoreham By Sea, West Sussex, BN43 6YT Tel: 01273 598204 Fax: 01273 598204 Email: kings.manor.youth.wing@westsussex.gov.uk</p>
<p><u>Horsham Youth Centre</u> Address: Hurst Road Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 2DR Tel: 01403 210388 Fax: 01703 262584 Email: horsham.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk</p>	<p><u>Arun Leisure Centre</u> Address: Felpham Way Felpham, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO22 8EL Tel: 01243 830765 Email: maria.parton@westsussex.gov.uk</p>
<p><u>The Place</u> Address: 24 Marine Place Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 3DN Tel: 01903 234116 Fax: 01903 234116 Email: marine.place.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk</p>	<p><u>East Preston Youth Centre</u> Address: Lashmar Road East Preston, Littlehampton, West Sussex BN16 1ES Tel: 01903 772689 Fax: 01903 772689 Email: east.preston.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk</p>
<p><u>Fernleigh Centre</u> Address: 40, Fernleigh Youth And Community Centre North Street, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1LX Tel: 01243 789500 Email: fernleigh.youth.centre@westsussex.gov.uk</p>	

Appendix I – List of LGBT(U) youth projects nationally by region

London	
Hillingdon Youth Service (Uxbridge) Tel: 01895 465574	NRG (Camden) Tel: 020 78031684 Mob: 07771 858 057 Email: nrg@ttht.org.uk
NRG (Croydon) Tel: 020 78031684 Mob: 07771 858057 Email: nrg@ttht.org.uk	Blaze (Walthamstow) Tel: 020 85093898
LGBT Youth Group (Barking and Dagenham) Tel: 020 87241184	Young Men's Free Counselling Service (Southwark) Tel: 020 78121777.
Shape Up (Newham) Tel: 020 85093898 Email: shop@elop.org	LGBT Youth Project (Hackney) Tel: 020 85332174 Email: joy.kahumbu@hackney.gov.uk
Vibe (Bexley) Tel: 020 82653311 Email: anne@t-metro.co.uk	LGB Youth Project (Westminster) Tel: 020 76414435 Email: dbarnes@westminster.gov.uk Web: www.wlgb.org.uk
Your Zone (Ealing) Tel: 020 88963673 Email: stephyourzone@yahoo.co.uk	GALLY (Lewisham) Mob: 07730 63 157 Email: gallymembers@hotmail.com
NRG K & R (Kingston and Richmond) Tel: 020 78031684	Court Out (Kensington and Chelsea) Tel: 020 73732335 Email: courtout@thespacekc.org
O.O.T (Hammersmith) Tel: 0800 1694318 Email: info@outonthursday.org.uk Web: www.outonthursday.org.uk	Identity (Chiswick and Hounslow) Tel: 020 87422381 Email: identitylgbbyouthuk@yahoo.co.uk
Chillin' Out (Greenwich) Tel: 020 82653311 Email: ben@t-metro.co.uk	SNAP (Bromley) Tel: 07811 440694 Email: anne@t-metro.co.uk
Tribe (Greenwich) Tel: 07980 633945 Email: neil@t-metro.co.uk	Shout (Merton) Tel: 07903 988146 Email: shoutmerton@shoutyouthgroup.org
NRG Group (Vauxhall) Tel: 020 78031684 Email: nrg@ttht.org.uk	Beau Belles (Leyton) Tel: 020 84307090 Mob: 07887 650654 Email: karenf2f@hotmail.com
Outzone (North London) Web: www.outzone.org	Mosaic (Brent) Call/Text: 07931 336668 Email: info@mosaic-youth.org.uk Web: www.mosaic-youth.org.uk
Step Out (Tower Hamlets) Tel: 020 77393082 Email: Scott@stepforward-web.org	Urban Youth (Tower Hamlets) Email: info@urbanyouth.org.uk
North West	
Lesbian and Gay Youth (Manchester) Tel: 0161 2737838 Email: info@lgym.org.uk Web: www.lgym.org.uk	POUT! Group (Lancashire) Tel: 0800 7831524 Email: pout99@hotmail.com Web: www.lancsycs.org/pout
MVFM (Blackpool) Tel: 01253 476679 Email: info@mvfm.org Web: www.mvfm.org	GYRO Group (Liverpool) Tel: 0151 7071025 Email: gyro@ypas.org.uk Web: www.gyro.org.uk

Young Gay Sefton (Liverpool) Tel: 0870 9908996 Mob: 07789 927276 Email: phil.yates@armistead.nwest.nhs.uk	The Base (Stockport) Tel: 0161 4774096
Outset (Crewe) Tel: 01270 653156 Web: www.outrite.org	Utopia (Chester) Tel: 0151 3485628 Email: info@utopialgb.org.uk Web: www.utopialgb.org.uk
PyRO - Proud youth R Out (Lancaster) Tel: 07717 301821 Email: pyro@ed.lanscc.gov.uk	B.yoU (Leigh) Tel: 01942 203363 Email: j.henry@wiganmbc.gov.uk
Open Minds (Wigan) Tel: 01942 203363 Email: antony.a@antonysimpson.com	Outpost (Macclesfield) Tel: 01270 653156 Email: www.outrite.org
Halton G Space (Halton) Tel: 0151 422 5503 Mob: 07789 332880 Email: haltonspace@hotmail.co.uk	Gay Knowsley (Liverpool) Tel: 0870 9908996 Mob: 07799 418675
Peer Support Project (Manchester) Tel: 0161 2744664	LGB Youth Group (Bolton) Tel: 01204 387442
Halton G Space (Halton) Tel: 0151 422 5503 Mob: 07789 332880 Email: haltonspace@hotmail.co.uk	LGBT Youth Group (Pendle) Tel: 07825 931312 Email: pendlelgbt@hotmail.co.uk
South West	
Respect (Devon) Tel/Text: 07929 829578 Email: respectlgbu@yahoo.co.uk	Space (Bournemouth) Tel: 01202 257478 Mob: 0797 3405280 Email: info@spaceyouthproject.co.uk Web: www.spaceyouthproject.co.uk
Out Youth (Plymouth) Tel: 07791 652486	Proud Start (Cheltenham) Tel: 01452 306800
Freedom Youth (Bristol) Tel: 0117 377 3677 Web: www.freedomyouth.co.uk	Gay youth group (Somerset) Tel: 01823 320012 Web: www.2bu-somerset.co.uk
Kushbai (Torbay) Tel: 07876 377391	Pride Youth (Swindon) Mob: 07766 872565 Email: info@prideyouth.org.uk Web: www.prideyouth.org.uk
South East	
Freeways (Bracknell) Mob: 0790 9502887 Email: freeways@hotmail.co.uk	Allsorts Youth Project (Brighton) Tel: 01273 721211 Email: info@allsortsyouth.org.uk Web: www.allsortsyouth.org.uk
Anything But (Eastbourne and Hastings) Tel: 01323 649927	Reachout (Reading) Tel: 07841 721483
Q:Youth (Milton Keynes) Tel: 01908 214528 Mob: 0793 1867344 Email: kim@qalliance.org.uk	Way Out Group (Oxford) Tel: 01865 243389
Breakout Youth Project (Southampton) Address: City Youth Service, 100 High Street Southampton, SO14 2AA Tel: 07860 444673 Mob: 07860 444673 Email: mary.lukins@southampton.gov.uk	Outcrowd (Woking) Email: info@outlinesurrey.org

Brighton and Gay LGBT Switchboard Youth Project (Brighton & Hove) Tel: 01273 204050 Email: www.switchboard.org.uk/brighton/youth	
West Midlands	
Out Central (Birmingham) Email: maypolelgbbyouth@hotmail.com	X2Y Youth Group (Wolverhampton) Tel: 0800 0730233
GYGL (Godiva Young Gays and Lesbians) (Nuneaton and Coventry) Tel: 024 7622 9292 Email: gygl@ttht.org.uk	I-MIX (Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin) Tel: 01952 221412 Mob: 07766 523506 Email: i-mix@ttht.org.uk
Space Youth Group (Burton and Lichfield) Tel: 01543 419002 Email: youth@mesmen.co.uk	
East	
2BYOU (Peterborough) Mob: 07808 189158 Email: lara@dhiverse.org.uk	2BYOU face2 face (Cambridge) Tel: 07808 189158 Email: lara@dhiverse.org.uk or info@2byouth.co.uk
Romford Gay Youth (Romford, Essex) Tel: 01708 768512 Email: anythingbutstr8@hotmail.com	The Youth Group (Peterborough) Tel: 01733 311 555 Mob: 07778 599817 Web: www.theyouthgroup.org.uk
North East	
MESMAC Young Gay and Bisexual Men's Group (Newcastle) Tel: 0191 2331333	Durham University LGBT Association (Durham) Web: www.lgbta.dsu.org.uk
Junior Tees Gay Valley (Teesside) Tel: 01642 804400	CSI (Cramlington Sexual Identity) (Cramlington) Tel: 0191 2331333
Yorkshire and Humber	
Out 2 25 (Leeds) Tel: 0113 2453588	Fruitbowl (Wakefield) Tel: 01924 211116
GALYIC (Calderdale) Tel: 01422 320099 Email: getintouch@galyic.org.uk	BLAGY (Bradford) Tel: 01274 744224 Email: blagy@mesmac.co.uk Web: www.blagygroup.com
Lesbian and Gay Youth Initiative (Sheffield) Email: gayandlesbianyouth@hotmail.com	LGBT Youth Group (York) Tel: 07767 318175 Email: info@lgbbyouthyork.org.uk
LGB Group (Rotherham) Tel: 01709 821523	One in Ten Youth Group (Doncaster) Tel: 01302 320111
LGBT Youth Group (Kirklees) Tel: 01484 223374 Mob: 07900 890259 Email: claire.townend@kirklees.gov.uk	Fruitbowl (Sheffield) Tel: 0114 2261750 Email: fb@lqbsheffield.co.uk Web: www.lqbsheffield.co.uk



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