



**Out in
B&NES**



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Out in B&NES!

This booklet is part of a community project led by the Diversity Trust working in partnership with Healthwatch B&NES and a range of partners including health, housing, police, hate crime and victim support services as well as the local voluntary and community sector.

The partnership is led by the Diversity Trust CIC, a community interest company, supporting a wide range of organisations and services to increase diversity and inclusion.

The booklet features some of our partners and friends; and is full of role models and allies who either are LGBTQ themselves or support the local LGBTQ community across Bath & North East Somerset.

Whilst many legal challenges facing the LGBTQ community have been won we still need to work tirelessly to overcome the social challenges facing many in our communities. We hope that this booklet will be part of that social change.

As well as our role models, and

allies, you will find a list of local and national resources which support the local community including social and support groups; as well as our friends and partners working in the voluntary and community sector.

How can I find out more?

You can get in contact by using the contact page at the back of the booklet.

Thank you

This booklet has been

designed by the Diversity Trust CIC and has been made possible through a community-grant from Healthwatch B&NES.



jargon buster

LGBT / LGBT+ / LGBTQ - initials which describe Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Questioning. Sometimes the “Q” stands for Queer used as a reclaimed word. The “+” symbol acknowledges the inclusion of a range of gender and sexual minority identities including: asexual, gender-fluid, intersex, non-binary and pansexual.

SARI

“Stand Against Racism &


Inequality supports victims of any type of hate crime, emotionally and practically. We work throughout the Avon and Somerset area and are funded by Big Lottery to provide a casework service to all victims in B&NES (as well as North Somerset and Somerset).

“We began working in B&NES from our inception in 1991 and in fact one of our founder members, Maya Bahra was a B&NES resident and community activist there. Initially we were a racial harassment charity but in 2012 we changed our Charitable Objectives so we could support victims of all types of hate crime including those faced by LGBTQ+ communities. We did this in response to the wishes of local communities. In B&NES we are supported by the Diversity Trust who have specialist knowledge and understanding of the needs of LGBTQ+ communities.

“We have worked as hard as we can to raise awareness of hate crime among agencies, community groups and residents but we know that we still have huge under-



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reporting of hate crime including from LGBTQ+ communities. We know that there are still victims suffering in silence and we want to stop that. The effects of hate crime are very damaging, can be long-lasting and have serious consequences for victim's mental and physical health.

“SARI is run by a Board with ‘lived experience’ of hate crime and discrimination and that includes LGBTQ+ representatives as well as Black and Minority Ethnic, Faith communities and Disabled representatives. We are also staffed by people with personal understanding of hate crime and who represent the diverse communities we serve. If you need our support in B&NES – just call, e-mail, go to our website to do a referral yourself or get hold of us on Facebook or Instagram – we will be in touch fast and will do all we can.

“Personally, I have my own experience of hate crime and discrimination that galvanised me to join SARI 29 years ago and to stay in this work for the long game.

I want to do all I can to counteract inequality and abuse towards any person just because they want to be who they are!”

**Alex Raikes MBE DL Hon (LLD),
Director (Strategic), Stand
Against Racism & Inequality
(SARI). She/Her/Hers**



POLICE

Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner Sue Mountstevens. She/Her/Hers

“As individuals, we should celebrate our differences; it’s our uniqueness that makes each and every one of us who we are.

“For me, one of the most important things about being your Police and Crime Commissioner is to act as a bridge between the police and local people, including you. It is so important that we always listen, especially to the quiet voices, so we can align our services to your needs. By listening to you, I can drive improvements in your police service to raise awareness and

increase the reporting of hate crime in order to tackle it.

“Let’s work together to encourage an environment across Bath and North East Somerset where being targeted because of your sexual orientation or gender identity will not be tolerated. I would urge anyone who experiences or witnesses hate crime to contact the police and they will do everything they can to bring offenders to justice.

“I want you to know that if you are a victim of hate crime you are not alone, support is available and we are here to help.”



Avon and Somerset Police LGBT+ Team

“Did you know Avon and Somerset Police has a team dedicated to supporting the LGBT+ community?”

“The Avon and Somerset policing area is vibrantly diverse and our policing should reflect the needs of all our individual communities. We have a significant LGBT+ community in our Force area and the area attracts LGBT+ visitors from across the country and abroad.

“We’re looking at new and innovative ways to engage with the LGBT+ community, including the development of a new microsite on our Force website.

“In developing the microsite, we’re gauging the views of the community, our partner agencies and licensees of LGBT+ venues from across the area. Our primary aim is to give people direct contact with our team to access general advice and support.

“We’re deeply passionate about

“LGBT+ issues within the Avon and Somerset policing area and are continuously working together with the community and other agencies to bring about positive change, build stronger and safer communities and achieve better outcomes for LGBT+ victims of crime and anti-social behavior.”



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POLICE & SAFETY



“My name is Dan Wood, Chief Officer (People and Organisational Development) at Avon and Somerset Police. He/Him/His

“Policing can only succeed when it reflects our communities and inspires trust and confidence. Our team of inclusion and diversity outreach workers are helping us engage underrepresented communities, establishing a more diverse workforce and helping to build that confidence and trust.

“We’re currently the only police force in the country to have achieved the National Equality Standard and we’ve been shortlisted by the Employers Network for Equality and Inclusion recognising our work on inclusive culture and neurodiversity. We’re

also Stonewall Diversity Champion and a Disability Confident Employer.

“We’re honoured to have been chosen to host Policing’s national LGBTQ+ conference in 2021.

“I’m proud to be part of the LGBTQ+ community and also to work within a constabulary that counts inclusivity and caring amongst its core values. Every day I try to do my bit to make us an outstanding force.”



“My name is Simon Henwood and my husband’s name is Benjamin Hopkins, we have been together 16 years. He/Him/His

“I work in the Aerospace industry and volunteer as a Special Constable for Avon and Somerset Police where Ben also works as a Talent Acquisition Recruitment Media Specialist. Ben and I are both members of the LGBTQ+ staff network and also support the wider LGBTQ+ community of Avon and Somerset.

“We are both proud to be part of the police family and the small part we play within it. The history behind LGBTQ+ rights can never be changed, but we can learn from it and improve our future by understanding it. Working here at Avon and Somerset Police it feels good to know the organisation is committed to improving everybody’s future, no matter what community they live within. Change is so much stronger through mutual inclusion and education.”



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SAFETY

The Bridge - here, no matter what.

“It doesn’t matter when you were assaulted, where it happened or who did it – we’ll listen to your experience and help you to get the support you choose.

“The Bridge is a Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC). We offer medical care, emotional and psychological support, and practical help to anyone who has been raped or sexually assaulted. We are an inclusive team and welcome referrals for people of all genders and sexualities. We are proud allies, and several of us are proud members of, the LGBTQ+ community, and we aim to make every person’s experience welcoming and comfortable.

“We support adults and children in Bristol, South Gloucestershire, North Somerset, Bath & North East Somerset, and Somerset, as well as children in Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, and Swindon.

“We also offer information and support to friends and family if



someone you care about has been affected by rape or serious sexual assault.

“Call us for free and confidential advice on 0117 342 6999. We’re here 24/7, 365 days a year.”

Melissa Burns, Crisis Worker at The Bridge SARC She/Her/Hers





“I have always been an LGBT ally and it’s never felt more important to me than now, with what feels like an increase in hate and polarising politics. I am incredibly proud to work for Victim Support, which is a top rated Charity by Stonewall.”

**Mark Thompson, Victim Support
He/Him/His**



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LOCAL COUNCILS



and engagement with the local community”.

Councillor Dine Romero, Leader of Bath & North East Somerset Council and Will Godfrey, Chief Executive of Bath & North East Somerset Council.

“Bath and North East Somerset Council is committed to equality of opportunity. The LGBT+ community enriches our diverse community here in B&NES, and contributes to the social and economic prosperity of our area. As a council we welcome LGBT+ job applicants, and try to ensure that the services we provide are relevant and appropriate to LGBT+ service users – and delivered sensitively. We are fortunate to have some great organisations locally that support our LGBT+ communities – including SPACE LGBT+ Youth Group at Off the Record, the Diversity Trust and SARI – who have all helped to guide our equalities work

Lores Savine, Community Safety Officer, Bath & North East Somerset Council

“We all have the right to be safe and able to go about our lives free from discrimination and the limitations imposed by gender and other stereotypes. As a Black woman I want to get to where we no longer talk about our differences but recognise each other as part of one community of people.

“As a community safety officer I feel fortunate to be involved with this work which will raise understanding of LGBT issues. The law may say that we are all equal, however we will only achieve true equality when all people recognise what equal means for themselves and others.”

Lesley Mansell
She/Her/Hers



“I am a Councillor at Westfield Parish Council, the lead representative for Unite the Union at Southmead Hospital, Unite Executive Council (Health seat) member and chair of the South West LGBT+ committee.

“I chaired Freedom Youth (5 years) which supported young people from BANES, and was involved with other local people in



Radstock, becoming the first town to fly the rainbow flag.

“Section 28 was a massive insult to my community and, having led the fight against that, I continued by campaigning for LGBT+ rights through the labour and union movement, setting up the LGBT+ structure in my union and as a founder member of the TUC committee. Some achievements are protection at work, civil partnerships, equal age of consent, and the Gender Recognition Act. All positive legislation thanks to us all working together.

“The TUC recognised my involvement by awarding me the honour of their Women’s Gold badge.”



HOUSING

Julie Evans, Curo She/Her/Hers



“I joined Curo 14 years ago and had already been ‘out’ for many years. However, for gay

people, every time you meet new colleagues for the first time, it’s like coming out again and positive reaction is not guaranteed. Luckily, my sexuality has never been an issue for Curo nor my colleagues. However, coming out as Welsh!...

“Curo has and continues to be welcoming, accepting and warm. I have progressed my career within Curo because of my skills; my sexuality has never been a barrier. I’m proud to fly the Rainbow flag at Curo’s Executive team and hope it inspires LGBTQI people to join Curo and achieve their aspirations.”

Kate Gullon, Curo She/Her/Hers

“I’m proud to be an Ally to my LGBT+ friends and colleagues... and complete strangers too. Being

an Ally is more than just going to Pride events (although they are really important, and usually lots of fun too!). I see an Ally as someone who stands shoulder-to-shoulder with the LGBT+ community: challenging discrimination, and campaigning for change, but also celebrating and cheering loudly for every positive step forward. Being an Ally is also about listening – what can we do more of? And better? As a member of Curo’s senior management team, I love to hear ways that we can improve.”



Katy, right, celebrating at Pride.

Matt Steele, Curo

“Much like many of the issues society have faced recently, I had never been given cause to consider the challenges faced by other members of our community or society. I’ve been ignorant to

difficulties others have faced; purely because I had never faced them myself. I know that's ignorant and that that is wrong. This changed some time ago.

"One day, out of the blue, my parents dropped in one night. Mum was upset. I asked what was wrong? She explained that they



*Ben's wedding day
(L-R: Jason, Me, Ben, Ryan, Adam)*

**My eyes have
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needed to speak to me face to face. Dad stated that my brother Ben is gay. I didn't flinch. Sure, so what? I responded. Mum and dad were over the moon. They were worried that me and the rest of the gang wouldn't accept it. It didn't matter to me. I love Ben unconditionally, always have done and always will. They were worried that because of our background, we wouldn't accept him as we had always done. We haven't changed the way we joke and tease each other; Ben and Ryan wouldn't have it any other way, they didn't want us to change the way we acted around them and we haven't.

HOUSING

“Six months passed and Ryan, my youngest brother, felt comfortable with our reaction that he also decided the time was right to tell us he was gay.

“However, my eyes have been opened to the challenges faced by the gay community even on something as simple as a night out. Heckling, rude comments, shoving, it goes on. They now know of certain places they have to avoid. I hadn’t had to consider these challenges.

“Accepting people for who they are, regardless of creed, gender, sexual orientation... it’s just the decent thing to do isn’t it? You don’t know what struggles people are dealing with internally.

“I couldn’t be prouder of my brothers, they are immense!”

Sara Hayes, Curo She/Her/Hers

“Hi I’m Sara Hayes and I am a M & E Safety Supervisor for Curo. Yep, that’s me (that’s me on the left in green) and that’s how I greet our residents either on the phone or whilst I am out and about carrying out inspections and audits around our schemes.

“I transitioned whilst already employed by Curo and it has been a learning curve for us all. My manager and team have been amazing as have all the colleagues and HR. Curo’s equal, diverse and inclusive open culture means I can bring my whole self to work and its an amazing fuzzy goodness feeling.”





**Helen Bedser, Chief Executive,
Julian House She/Her/Hers**

“I’m the Chief Executive of Julian House, and a proud LGBT ally. At Julian House, we support and empower homeless and socially excluded people to build sustainable independent lives. Tackling inequality and social injustice is fundamental to what we stand for. We are committed to building an organisational culture of respect and equality for all, where everyone can thrive, and where staff and clients from diverse backgrounds are free to be themselves and feel like they belong.”



HOUSING

Rosie Phillips, Chief Executive Developing Health & Independence She/Her/Hers

“Ensuring everyone has the opportunity to achieve their potential is a passion of mine, and Developing Health & Independence (DHI) seeks to turn around the lives of those who are socially excluded. We at DHI know that many LGBTQ+ people face multiple barriers to participating fully in our society.

“Having a safe and stable home is crucial for all of us. But did you know, nearly one in five LGBTQ+ people have experienced homelessness at some point in their lives and a quarter of young homeless people are LGBTQ+. We know that the discrimination, harassment and rejection that LGBTQ+ people face can have a profound impact on health and wellbeing, and can lead to drug or alcohol misuse.

“You might like to watch our recent Facebook Live session where we discuss the difficulties LGBTQ+ clients face during lockdown,



how to stay connected and where to seek help, particularly for those struggling as a result of drug or alcohol use, housing or homelessness.”





UNIVERSITY

Melanie Wortham, Careers Service, University of Bath She/Her/Hers

“As a Careers Adviser at the University of Bath and an LGBT+ ally, I lead on supporting under-represented students at the University. It’s a great privilege to support students and collaborate with other parts of the University Community - the LGBT+ Staff Society - Kaleidoscope and the Student LGBT+ Society to ensure we deliver engaging and relevant sessions for our LGBT+ students.

“Our aim is to bring together employers and speakers from the LGBT+ community to talk to students about their careers in a safe environment, to build student confidence and raise awareness of diversity friendly employers. Students get to hear stories of success and support in the workplace, how speakers coped with “coming out” as well as dealing with discrimination and harassment in the workplace. Our students also get to ask some difficult questions to the panel!”



“One student commented- ‘It was really interesting hearing people’s actual stories rather than generic advice.’

“We are always looking for better ways to engage and support our LGBT+ students, and we have piloted an LGBT+ Careers Café for students. We hope that our work in the Careers Service makes a small contribution to ensuring we continue to move towards a better, diverse and more inclusive society.

**Ceri Calonmôr, Equality Officer,
Bath Spa University She/Her/Hers**

“Being a proud and active member of the LGBTQIA+ community, and Bath Spa University’s Equality Officer, I know what a difference it can make to live your life more authentically. As a queer activist, it’s a premise I attempt to nurture in my own life, and to foster in my place of work.

“I’m also intimately familiar with the anxieties that can surround ‘coming out’; fear of people treating us differently, of facing bias and discrimination, and even worrying about our personal safety. Then there’s the never ending cycle of ‘coming out’ - don’t let anyone tell you it’s a one-time-only event. Each instance is complex and presents its own challenges; navigating an ‘audience’ and deciding upon the most sensible social and professional approaches.

“That’s why I’m a firm believer in a combination of grass-roots advocacy (where our community are proactive and involved from the ground up) and strongly



inclusive leadership; with those in positions of management and influence positioning themselves as vocal allies, willing to call out homophobia, biphobia, transphobia, and bigotry wherever they rear their ugly heads. We are stronger in solidarity.”

HEALTH

Vanessa Scott, Healthwatch Swindon & Healthwatch BANES She/Her/Hers

“We worked with the Diversity Trust previously on a project researching the health needs of the LGBT+ community in the South West of England, so we’re delighted to be able to support them again in bringing the LGBT+ voice to the fore in B&NES.

“I am excited to see how this project develops and its aspirations come to fruition. I think that the positive news stories to be shared in this booklet and the engagement events across B&NES will be invaluable in supporting LGBT+ people, whether young or old, and give them confidence to prosper within their community.

“Ultimately, Healthwatch is here to ensure that people’s voices are heard and that they are able to access health and social care when they need it. We believe that this project is an opportunity to offer greater representation of the LGBT+ community across B&NES to ensure better health outcomes for all.”



**Ultimately,
Healthwatch is
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**Aled Osborne,
Fundraising and
Communications
Manager, Brigstowe
He/Him/His**



“Through all aspects in my life from employment to social I have been ‘out’ and have always received so much support.

“To be visible has allowed me to start and engage in conversation surrounding all issues that affect LGBTQ+ People. These conversations raise awareness and allow education to take place. You never know the impact one conversation may have. The person you speak to may speak to one other and that person one other and so on and the ripple can become a wave.

“The importance of being your authentic self through all aspects of your life should never be underestimated. The opportunities that have I been privileged enough to have been part of only starting happening once I embraced my true authentic self.”



LGBTQ+ ORGS

Harriet Rose LGBTQ+ Service Lead at Off the Record. She/Her/Hers

“I’ve been in this role for over 3 years now, it’s such a privilege to see the young people develop and grow through accessing SPACE. I am a Bath local, and a member of the LGBTQ+ community, there wasn’t anything like this when I was younger, but it’s amazing to see the difference it makes to young local folk. I have been lucky enough to support young people to take part in Prides in both Bath and Midsomer Norton, supported young people to talk to our local Health and Wellbeing board about trans experiences of accessing mental health services, and delivered LGBTQ+ awareness training to many professionals including teachers that taught me as a young person.”



**Colin O'Brien,
GayWest ChairPerson.
He/Him/His**

"I first became involved with GayWest in November 2009 when I went to the GayWest's Saturday morning 'Rainbow Café' in Bath. Now as Chairperson of GayWest the group is celebrating its 50th year an amazing achievement for an LGBT organisation.



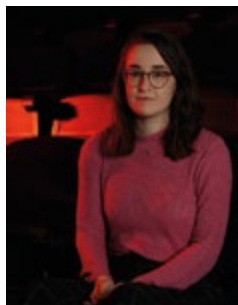
"A social and support group GayWest has around 100 members. I believe that there are very few LGBT organisations in the UK that are run by volunteers and completely self-funded that have survived for 50 years, this says a lot about the passion and enthusiasm of its many members over these years.

"The group has its own Website, Facebook page and Magazine and has now introduced the GW members WhatsApp group. It's easy to join us and become part of an active social and support group by contacting us via our website or email address or phone."

**Ellie Bailey
She/Her/Hers
& Freddie the
Cockapoo**

"I think we can learn a lot from dogs. They do not judge, or discriminate, they love you for you, no matter your sexual orientation, ethnicity or gender. I am proud to be an ally of the

LGBTQ+ community, and I choose to actively support and celebrate diversity. As an ally it is important to keep up with the times and changes in the community, in order to constantly adapt our thinking and be fully supportive of all. It is important to be proactive as an ally, and posting pictures of Freddie wearing his rainbow bandana helps spread the message that being part of the LGBTQ+ community should be celebrated."



DIRECTORY

The Bridge SARC



The Bridge is a Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC). We offer medical care, emotional and psychological support, and practical help to anyone who has been raped or sexually assaulted. We are an inclusive team and welcome referrals for people of all genders and sexualities. <https://www.thebridgecanhelp.org.uk/support/lgbt/>

Brigstowe



Based in Easton, Bristol, Brigstowe are a local HIV Support Organisation who have been supporting people in the Bristol, South Glos and North Somerset areas for nearly 25 years. We support anyone living with or affected by HIV.

Brigstowe's vision is a world in which people living with HIV live long and healthy lives, free from poverty, stigma, prejudice and discrimination. Brigstowe's mission is to enhance the quality of life for

people living with HIV.

We pride ourselves on treating our clients with respect and dignity and with the highest regard for confidentiality. We work hard to ensure that our services are accessible, person-centred, non-judgemental, professional and of high quality at all times. We offer a number of different services; Advice & Support, Migrant & Asylum Support, Peer Mentoring, Group Peer Support, Recently Diagnosed Workshops and HIV Awareness Training.

You can contact us on: 0117 955 5038 or info@brigstowe.org

Curo



A housing association and house-builder based in Bath, Curo provides great homes and high quality care and support services across the West of England. With more than 25,000 customers, we manage over 13,000 homes and are building hundreds of new homes every year. We are one of the largest landlords in the South West, with a diverse portfolio of affordable and market rented homes.

As a housing association we have no paid shareholders. We create profit for purpose, reinvesting the surpluses from our commercial house-building and lettings businesses into our core social purpose.

We're proud to be ranked #36 in the 2020 Sunday Times Top 100 list of Best Not-for-Profit Organisations to work for in the country and hold Gold standard accreditation with Investors in People.

At Curo we've set a Roadmap to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion to ensure we provide fair and equal access to services for our customers, and that we have a diverse colleague profile that's representative of the communities we serve.

Curo is an active member of the Housing Diversity Network which aims to inspire and empower people, promoting equality, diversity and opportunity for all. Change needs leaders to take inclusion seriously and that drive is firmly in place at Curo, with our

Chief Executive Victor da Cunha a lead member of the National Housing Federation's Diversity, Equalities and Inclusion Group whose aim is to support the housing association sector to be vibrant and diverse at all levels. Contacting Curo: 01225 366000 and online at www.curo-group.co.uk/

DHI

DHI works with disadvantaged people and those who need a bit of extra help to be able to live independently. We work with people in a holistic way putting the person's needs at the centre of our approach. The services we offer in B&NES are listed below:



- ★ Adult Drug & Alcohol Treatment service in B&NES. Contact: 01225 329411; TheBeehive@dhibath.org.uk
- ★ Young People Drug & Alcohol service in B&NES. Contact: 01225 463344; office@dhiproject28.org.uk
- ★ Supported Housing: Contact:

DIRECTORY

01225 329411; housing@dhi-online.org.uk

- ★ Home Turf Lettings (DHI's social lettings agency):
Contact: 0117 301 2560; hello@hometurflettings.co.uk
- ★ Reach - Housing Advice and Support: Contact: 01225 422156;
info@dhireach.org.uk
- ★ Community Wellbeing Services:
Contact: 01225 310077;
myscript@dhibath.org.uk
- ★ Families and Carer's Service:
Contact: 01225 329411; family@dhi-services.org.uk

FFLAG



FFLAG is a national voluntary organisation and charity dedicated to supporting parents and their lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans family members. To find out more, check out our website for our news and some personal stories along with details of our newsletters, booklets and posters that can all be downloaded free of charge. You can also find details of local support groups around the country.

Website www.fflag.org.uk

Julian House



Julian House provide a range of accommodation and support services for homeless and socially excluded people in Bath and North East Somerset. You can contact Julian House on 01225 354650 or admin@julianhouse.org.uk website <https://www.julianhouse.org.uk>

Kaleidoscope

Kaleidoscope is the LGBT+ network for staff and postgraduate researchers at the University of Bath. The group was been launched by LGBT+ staff members who wanted to create an inclusive, supportive, and fun community at the University.

The group is open to all staff and postgraduate researchers at the University who identify as LGBT+. We provide varied social events to get to know LGBT+ staff and postgraduate researchers from departments across the University as well as lines of support and contacts for any LGBT+ issues in the workplace. We also provide

representation of LGBT+ interests at University management level.

Website <http://blogs.bath.ac.uk/kaleidoscope/>

Email lgbt-staff@bath.ac.uk



MindLine Trans+

Emotional Support helpline for those who identify as Trans, non-binary & their friends and families. We provide a safe place to talk about your feelings confidentially. We don't record calls nor ask for any personal details. Our listeners will try understand the multitude of feelings and concerns that may be going on for you. We are here to listen and offer our support.

Open Monday & Friday 8pm-Midnight

Phone 0300 330 5468

Off the Record



We support LGBT+ young people aged

10-21 across BANES, (up to 25 with SEND).

SPACE is a weekly youth group in Bath, run for LGBT+ young people and shaped by them, we also offer 1:1 support and LGBT+ counselling. SPACE provides young people with opportunities to build skills, confidence, and sense of identity through trips, workshops, and activities, making like-minded friends and taking part in leadership opportunities, through planning the service, interviewing staff and co-delivering training. In response to the needs of local young people we have also set up Outer SPACE for LGBT+ young people in rural BANES once a fortnight, taking SPACE to the Somer Valley. Just over a year old, Space to Be offers a monthly space for LGBT+/questioning under 13s and their parents.

To find out more or get in touch
Space@offrecord-banes.co.uk
www.offtherecord-banes.co.uk
07487642761 / 07872992879

DIRECTORY

The Riverside Clinic

(Contraception and Sexual Health)
Riverside Clinic offers sexual health and contraceptive advice and support. Riverside provides free, friendly, non-judgemental and confidential testing, treatment and advice for sexually transmitted infections, as well as a wide range of contraceptive options including emergency contraception, contraceptive pills, implants and injections, intrauterine devices/ systems (also known as coils), and condoms. Visit www.ruh.nhs.uk/sexualhealth for more information. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 some treatments are limited and there are no walk-in clinics. If you have symptoms of a sexually transmitted infection or need advice and support, please phone 01225 826855 between 9am and 1pm Monday to Friday.

SAFE BANES

Need sexual health advice? Visit our SAFE BANES website www.safebanes.com. This page has all the latest information on how to access sexual health services in

BANES and advice on looking after your sexual health. On this website you can also find information and advice on: free condoms (C-card) if under 25; contraception; emergency contraception; sexually transmitted infections (STIs); pregnancy; sexual & gender identity; relationships and sexual abuse.

Check out our Covid-19 page - <https://www.safebanes.com/covid-19> This page has all the latest information on how to access sexual health services in BANES when services are limited.

Stand Against Racism & Inequality (SARI)



STAND AGAINST
RACISM & INEQUALITY

Stand Against Racism & Inequality (SARI) provide free, confidential advice and casework support to victims of hate crime and discrimination. If you have been affected because of your race, ethnicity, religion or belief, disability (including mental health), sexual orientation, gender identity or age, please contact us. Even if you don't want any action, we would encourage you to report the incident to us and/ or the police. Website www.sariweb.org.uk

Phone 0117 942 0060

Email sari@sariweb.org.uk

Victim Support



We provide emotional and practical support to victims of crime across Avon & Somerset, we are independent, free, confidential, non-judgemental and will support you whether you have reported the crime to the Police or not. You can contact us locally on 0300 030 1972 or our 24/7 Supportline is available on 08081 689111, with a Live Chat facility if you feel more comfortable not speaking.

Website www.victimsupport.org.uk

VOCAS

Swan Advocacy's Victims of Crime Advocacy Service provides free and confidential

advocacy and support for vulnerable and targeted victims, including those targeted because of their sexuality and gender identity,

Website www.swanadvocacy.org.uk/vocas

Phone 03333 447928



NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Galop

Galop provides Hate Crime, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence support services to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans + victims / survivors. <http://www.galop.org.uk>

Switchboard LGBT

Switchboard is a confidential listening service for the LGBT+ communities. Offering support across their helpline, email and instant messaging, 10am-10pm daily.

<https://switchboard.lgbt>

Stonewall

Stonewall campaigns for the equality of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans people across Britain.

<https://www.stonewall.org.uk>

Further support available from <https://www.diversitytrust.org.uk/further-support/>



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