

Partnership For Young London

***Every LGBT Youth Matters
in London***

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Partnership for Young London

- A strategic regional organisation
- Mission: to promote, support and improve services for young people across London
- Remit: youth work, services for young people and the 14 to 19 agenda
- Members include statutory, voluntary and private sectors, and Connexions
- Work in partnership with regional government and others

What do LGBT young people want? (By no means an exhaustive list)

- Inclusion, to engage actively in their communities, at school/college and in leisure time, without fear of prejudice or bullying
- Access to specialist activities, including space to meet other LGBT young people
- To explore their sexuality in confidence
- Confidential information/support on sexual health
- To have their voices heard

What's on offer? (1) – Where?

- Fewer than half of London Boroughs surveyed commissioned specialist services
- Informal research finds similar numbers of local groups – but not necessarily the same ones as above!
- Sub-regional groups, but not all young people-specific
- Regional organisations – as above

What's on offer? (2) – Services

- Drop-in centres
- Youth groups, including accredited activities
- Advice services, including
 - Health (sexual and mental)
 - Housing
 - Safety
- Telephone help-lines
- Youth action and campaigning

Finding out what's available (not as simple as it sounds....)

- Youth service 'youth offer' sites
- Local authority generic sites
- VCS infrastructure groups
- Regional government sites
- General search engines

Searching isn't simple - be persistent!

Local and regional issues

- Commissioning and local priorities
- Budgets and funding
- Communications
- Emphasis on local services can be unhelpful if young people want discretion

Local area agreements

- Relevant local priorities in London
 - NI 140 - Fair treatment by local services
 - NI 110 Young people's participation in positive activities
 - NI 69 Children who have experienced bullying
 - NI 51 Effectiveness of CAMHS
 - NI 50 Emotional health of children