



Hart Gables

Charity registered in England number 1109704

Count Me In

A study into the needs, wants and experiences of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community of Hartlepool.

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Executive Summary

This report details the findings of a research project commissioned by Hart Gables and funded by the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund Community Chest. The report explores the needs, wants and experiences of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people in Hartlepool. A questionnaire was used to gather qualitative and quantitative data from the LGBT community. A range of methods were used to distribute this questionnaire in order to reach as many members of the community as possible.

Questionnaire

A hard copy questionnaire was available for completion at Hart Gables. Hard copy questionnaires were also taken by volunteers to various social events and individuals were approached to see if they would like to participate in the research. An online questionnaire was created using services at www.createsurvey.com. The link was posted on the front page of www.hartgables.com, the Housing Hartlepool website and the Hartlepool Borough Council website. The link to the questionnaire was distributed via a range of email networks.

Ninety appropriately completed questionnaires were analysed by descriptive statistics and content analysis. The areas covered were demographics, social, service provision, community involvement and further involvement.

Key findings

Key findings were that the lack of any LGBT specific social provision in Hartlepool limits the ability of service providers to make links with a wide range of members of the LGBT community in Hartlepool. Also, there is a widespread experience of homophobic and transphobic abuse within Hartlepool.

Recommendations

Based on the results from each aspect of this study a number of recommendations are made.

Introduction

Other studies concerned with the needs, wants and experiences of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community of Hartlepool do not exist. Internet searches for any such study return information about Hart Gables and the consultation that Hartlepool Borough Council is conducting with the LGBT community through Hart Gables.

It is extremely difficult to establish firm statistics on the number of LGBT people in Hartlepool. This is as a result of the lack of a gay 'scene' and also the difficulties that many LGBT people face in terms of 'coming out' and revealing their sexuality. In many cities and towns the gay 'scene' is the main route that services providers take to make contact with the LGBT community. Government statistics indicate that as many as ten percent of the population may be LGBT.

Despite recent changes in legislation including civil partnerships, adoption rights and the provision of goods and services, LGBT people still experience discrimination. Bullying is now recognised in school and workplace settings, and the effects of homophobia may explain higher rates of mental distress and alcohol misuse in LGBT populations (e.g. Noret and Rivers, 2003).

This study was highly dependent on the Internet in order to access members of the community who it would be extremely difficult to contact via other methods. Social networking sites such as facebook.com, myspace.com and gaydar.com/gaydargirls.com were used and individuals were approached by volunteers and asked if they would like to participate in the research.

This research is primarily concerned with the thoughts and experiences of LGBT people in Hartlepool. The research has been conducted using volunteer time and it is hoped that this report will act as a launch pad for further research concerning this relatively inaccessible community in Hartlepool.

Methodology

The questionnaire was developed by staff at Hart Gables and the researcher. It was piloted with a small group of 4 individuals from Hart Gables. A hard copy questionnaire was available for completion at Hart Gables. Hard copy questionnaires were also taken by volunteers to various social events and individuals were approached to see if they would like to participate in the research.

An online questionnaire was created using services at www.createsurvey.com. The link was posted on the front page of www.hartgables.com, the Housing Hartlepool website and the Hartlepool Borough Council website. The link to the questionnaire was distributed via a range of email networks; these included existing support and social groups, via statutory and voluntary organisations and via informal networks. These networks included LGBT Network North East and LBi North East as well as a number of non-LGBT organisations.

Results

Questionnaires

Ninety-three completed questionnaires were obtained. One had been completed by a heterosexual individual and was therefore discounted for analysis. Two were identified to have been completed by individuals who had already completed the questionnaire and were therefore also discounted. Forty nine were gathered by volunteers during outreach at various LGBT social groups/events, thirty six were completed online and five were sent electronically via email. Ten hard copy questionnaires were requested via the postal system but none were returned. The ninety valid questionnaires were analysed by descriptive statistics and content analysis, and the following results were obtained.

Demographic Data

Postcodes and Wards

Sixty-two respondents supplied the first half of their postcode and twenty respondents supplied their ward. Only respondents who supplied the first half of their postcode also supplied their ward. Eleven different postcodes were stated and nine different wards were stated. Fifty-four respondents had TS24, TS25 or TS26 as their postcode. For a full list of postcodes and wards of respondents please see Appendix B.

Age

Seven respondents identified themselves as being under 18 years of age. Thirty-six respondents were between the ages of 18 and 25. Thirty of the respondents were between the ages of 26 and 40 and sixteen were between 41 and 60. Finally, there was one respondent who was over 60 years of age.

Gender

The majority of respondents identified as female (sixty). Twenty-nine respondents identified as male and one respondent identified as 'other'.

Sexual identity

Fifty-two respondents identified as 'lesbian', twenty-eight identified as 'gay', seven as 'bisexual' and one as 'bicurious'. One respondent identified as transsexual and one identified as 'other'.

'Out' status

Only four out of the ninety respondents stated that they are out to 'no one'. Twenty-three stated that they were 'out' to either friends, family or at work – or a combination of two or three of these options. Sixty-three respondents stated that they are 'out' to 'everyone'.

Relationship status

Forty-seven respondents stated that they are 'in a relationship'; two of these forty-seven specified that they are in a 'Civil Partnership'. Thirty-eight of the respondents were 'single' and two respondents stated 'other'.

Disability

Seventy-eight respondents answered 'no' when asked if they had a disability or a sensory impairment and two respondents gave no answer. Ten respondents answered 'yes' to having a disability or sensory impairment; the following comments were made by these respondents when asked about their experience of the gay scene/community in relation to their disability/sensory impairment:

- Difficult to access places with a wheelchair
- Lack of both (gay community and gay scene)
- Back Problems
- Gay scene is more discriminating of disabilities than straight scene
- Ok
- Canny
- No problems so far – 2

Ethnic origin

A majority of respondents identified as 'white' (eighty-eight). Two respondents identified as mixed-race. All respondents either did not answer or responded 'no' in relation to whether or not their ethnic origin affected their experience of the gay scene or the gay community.

Employment status

Forty-one respondents stated that they are in full/part time employment and eleven stated that they are in full-time study. There were five respondents who were studying and also employed. Eighteen respondents were unemployed and ten were on long-term sick. One had retired and one was self-employed.

Respondents were asked if there are any groups or representatives in their workplaces or places of study for LGBT people. Twenty respondents did not answer. Nineteen said 'yes' and fifty said 'no'. One respondent said that they are 'not sure'. Respondents were then asked if they thought that having these groups or representatives is useful. Thirty-five offered no response, thirty-four said 'yes' and twenty-one said 'no'.

Social

Hartlepool

Respondents were asked how they socialise in Hartlepool. Eighty-seven respondents visit bars in Hartlepool with frequencies ranging between 'weekly' and 'when I can'. Sixty-seven of the respondents visit nightclubs in Hartlepool with frequencies ranging between 'weekly' and 'when I can'. Forty-eight

respondents stated that they use social or support groups in Hartlepool to socialise. Two respondents answered 'none' and one respondent answered social/support groups only.

Other towns and cities

Respondents were asked what other cities and towns they visit in order to access the gay 'scene'. They were also asked what kind of provision they accessed in these towns and cities. Forty-eight respondents access gay bars and clubs in Middlesbrough. Forty-six respondents access gay bars and clubs in Newcastle. Five respondents mentioned that they access these provisions in Darlington and three respondents named bars in Darlington. Forty-seven of the respondents visited bars in these towns and cities, thirty-nine accessed nightclubs, thirty-three respondents went to annual gay pride events outside of Hartlepool and thirteen stated that they visit social/support groups in these other cities.

For full details of specific venues visited in each town and city please see Appendix C.

Spending

Respondents were asked how much they spend on an average night out. Responses ranged from £5.00 (which was generally younger respondents) to £200.00. The majority of respondents spend between £30.00 and £50.00 on a night out.

What respondents would like to see in Hartlepool

Respondents were asked what would encourage them to get more involved with LGBT community/scene in Hartlepool. These were the responses:

- Gay bar/club – 67
- Gay pride – 42
- Group travel – 24
- Gay centre – 31

Ideas for future provision

Respondents were asked for suggestions/recommendations for future activities for LGBT people in Hartlepool.

- No response – 58
- Gay Café – 4
- Internet/Coffee Bar
- Coffee Bar with Internet access
- Coffee shop
- Coffee shop/drop-in place
- Internet/coffee shop
- Internet café
- Internet/coffee shop
- LGBT Film Festival

- More events for TS girls
- Nothing - there would be nothing but trouble again like Attitude!
- People are too bigoted
- Anything really, I keep meaning to join Hart Gables but it's always shut by the time I get out of college...

Service Provision

Experience of homophobic/transphobic hate crime

All respondents were asked if they had ever experienced homophobic or transphobic physical or verbal abuse. Forty-one respondents said 'yes' and forty-eight said 'no'. One respondent did not answer the question.

Of those who responded 'yes', thirty-two responded 'no' as to whether or not they reported the incidents to the Police. Nine respondents stated that they did report the incident to the Police. These are the comments from these respondents when asked why they did not report the incidents to the Police:

- Don't know
- Too long of a process
- Was in hospital
- Police are useless
- Didn't let it bother me
- Don't want hassle
- No because it seemed pointless, don't know what they could do
- I laughed it off because he then made a fool of himself after I left.
- Lads calling me a fag but I'm not that bothered
- No it happened at school frequently and I didn't consider it important
- No because nothing happening, I didn't know who he was and he was drunk
- Was embarrassed
- Handled locally
- For my own personal reasons
- Have been shouted at once! Was a long time ago but who ever can say what they like to me, makes no difference
- I didn't, it's not worth it, they don't take it serious
- It is not taken seriously, down south is a lot more liberal, no violence and no chew
- No because they would do nothing about it
- No you have got to be kidding they are just as bad.
- No because it was minor stuff from kids. The up-to-15 year olds all know me and they shout stuff at me, as inappropriate questions trying to embarrass me, etc, ... but I just act like I'm not bothered, I don't see the point of doing anything more than reporting it to the library workers when it gets too annoying.
- It's expected
- Let it go over head
- Can't be bothered
- Cos the police don't do a lot about it
- Not worth hassle, I have to live in pool

- Afraid

Health

Respondents were asked about their experience of health provision in Hartlepool. Five respondents did not comment and fifty-three were indifferent stating 'neither good nor bad'. Twenty-one specified that they had had positive experiences and eleven specified that they had had negative experiences.

Comments included:

- My GP is excellent – Dr Eaton
- GP is excellent, hospital is poor
- Good – hospital
- Bad – NHS
- Good – NHS
- Hartlepool GUM is crap, Boro much better

Sexual Health

Gay and bisexual men

Respondents were asked if they had seen sexual health information for gay and bisexual men within Hartlepool. Seven respondents did not answer. Thirty three stated 'yes' and fifty said 'no'. Six respondents stated Hart Gables as the source of this information.

Lesbian and bisexual women

Respondents were asked if they had seen sexual health information for lesbian and bisexual women within Hartlepool. Twenty respondents did not answer. Twenty-seven respondents stated 'yes' and forty-three said 'no'. Seven respondents stated Hart Gables as the source of this information.

There were forty comments on the importance and availability of this material:

- I think the services on offer are adequate - Hart Gables
- I think this information should be covered from school age, intergrated in sex education lessons and also youth groups and doctors surgeries
- Not publicly accessible – a case of knowing where to find it
- I've never seen sexual health stuff in Hartlepool at all, apart from adverts for the health bus, which is a bit of a laughing stock really
- Vital
- It's kinda important yeah because STI's n stuff are increasing but it's totally not available. Shocking
- It is very important – 10
- There should be more of it
- Very important but this is Hartlepool - there'll probably be a riot
- It is very limited and should be advertised for people to be more aware about the matter
- It is found in only one place - Hart Gables
- Very important and I wish health care practitioners would take women's health as seriously as men's

- Essential but currently pretty much non-existent
- I've never needed it
- You can't find it easily enough on the internet
- It needs to be accessible to people within the gay community
- I believe it should be distributed more
- Important for the people concerned
- Very Important, I'm not sure if it is available as I have heard nothing

Housing

Respondents were asked about their experience of housing provision in Hartlepool. Nine respondents did not comment and sixty-four were indifferent stating 'neither good nor bad'. Seven specified that they had had positive experiences and ten specified that they had had negative experiences.

Comments included:

- Bad, not gay friendly
- Housing Hartlepool – good
- Housing Hartlepool - bad

Council

Respondents were asked about their experience of Council provision in Hartlepool. Six respondents did not comment and sixty-six were indifferent stating 'neither good nor bad'. Two respondents did not answer. Eight specified that they had had positive experiences and eight specified that they had had negative experiences.

There were no further comments.

Other services

Respondents were asked if there were any other services in Hartlepool that they would like to comment upon. Eighty-five respondents left no response. Here are the comments that were made:

- Bad (Police) – 2
- What gay friendly services, what gay scene?
- Mind - I have been requesting help but they just don't want to know because I am a TS girl
- Hart Gables REALLY helped me out at one point, but I can't make the group for time reasons

Community Involvement

The respondents were asked what stops them being more involved with the LGBT community. Ten respondents offered no answer. Twenty-one were already involved heavily or enough and three stated that they are involved in non-LGBT activity. Eleven stated that they did not want to be involved. The

main barriers included not having time (twenty-two), not being able to get there (twelve) and finally that the scene is 'too cliquey' (fifteen).

Respondents were given the opportunity to say what they were 'already involved with' and make other comments:

- Past events have swayed me away from getting to heavily involved with LGBT social group etc. however I would attend things such as ignite etc
- I'm at Hartlepool youth choir during the R2B meeting, but other than that... I guess I just haven't got round to getting in to it
- Hartlepool is a rough town...When there was a gay bar in Hartlepool it wasn't a nice place to be and full of fighting lesbians
- Volunteer for TPA, also assist Think Pink
- Hart Gables when I get the chance
- Sometimes attend nights
- I attend LGBT meetings at Hart Gables when I can
- Bears group but not in Hartlepool
- On Hart Gables committee
- I am involved in CBT [Cognitive Behavioural Therapy]
- Hart Gables but being a single parent stops me accessing all support groups
- Hart Gables – 4
- L Birds – 1
- Help organise some events
- Voluntary work in Hart Gables

Further Involvement

Respondents were asked if they would like further involvement in a range of options (see questionnaire, Appendix B). This information has been kept anonymous and forwarded to the appropriate agencies where requested. More than half of all respondents requested further information or involvement with at least one option of those listed in the questionnaire, including information about the outcomes of this research.

Discussion

Demographic Data

This study accessed a wide range of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in terms of age, area of residence, and employment status. Most identified as female and as lesbian but a significant minority defined themselves as gay, bisexual, transgender or other. The majority of participants did not describe themselves as having a disability/sensory impairment, or as being from an ethnic minority. However, the prevalence rate of both of these factors reflected the prevalence rates in wider Hartlepool which suggests that this study has accessed a diverse and representative cross section of the LGBT community in Hartlepool.

Social

The large majority of respondent's access bars, at least, in Hartlepool. More than half of all respondents visit other towns and cities on order to access LGBT-specific bars, clubs and social/support groups. There are no 'gay bars' in Hartlepool. This would explain why so many LGBT people choose to travel elsewhere in order to socialise. The fact that so many of the respondents do actually socialise in Hartlepool suggests that there is no deterrent to doing so in Hartlepool (e.g. extreme homophobia). Also, approximately forty different bars in Hartlepool were mentioned which suggests that LGBT people in Hartlepool are able to access a range of different venues in the town.

The results demonstrate that there is a degree of dissatisfaction with the lack of any 'gay bars' in Hartlepool. Many of the respondents suggested a gay café/internet café as well as selecting the options that were provided on the questionnaire when asked what they would like to see in Hartlepool for the LGBT community. It also seems that there is support for the idea of a Pride event in Hartlepool.

Thirty-one respondents selected 'gay centre' as something they would like to see in Hartlepool. This suggests a lack of awareness amongst some of the community of the existence of Hart Gables which acts as a 'gay centre' in Hartlepool. This could be explained by the lack of a 'gay scene' in Hartlepool; in most major towns and cities in the UK, the scene is used as a route to inform the gay community of LGBT specific service provision. This lack of a scene has also affected this research which has been very dependent upon the internet and LGBT people within Hartlepool acting as a route to other members of the community via word of mouth.

The results suggest very healthy spending power on behalf of the LGBT community in Hartlepool. Much of the 'pink pound' is obviously being taken to

other towns and cities. The lack of any gay bars or a gay scene in Hartlepool suggests that it is highly unlikely that Hartlepool is a social destination for any LGBT people from other parts of the region.

Service Provision

Experience of homophobic/transphobic hate crime

Almost half of all respondents had experienced homophobic or transphobic physical or verbal abuse. Only a small minority of these respondents actually reported these incidents to the police. When asked why, some respondents believed that the police would not be able to do anything about the incident. Many of the respondents said that they did not let the experience affect them or that this kind of abuse is expected. The results to this part of the questionnaire do suggest that Hartlepool is less gay-friendly within the wider community than it is at a service level. The responses from the community are quite apathetic and accepting of this aspect of Hartlepool life. This pattern of not reporting homophobic and transphobic hate crime is common across the UK.

Health

The majority of respondents were indifferent in relation to their experience of health service provisions in Hartlepool. The positive responses were almost double those of the negative responses. This is significant in comparison to responses regarding housing and council provision where there is a more equal amount of positive and negative responses. General Practitioners were praised twice. The NHS is mentioned both positively and negatively.

Sexual Health

A majority of respondents stated that they had not seen sexual health information in Hartlepool for gay and bisexual men or lesbian and bisexual women. Those respondents who did state that they had seen information and included a source, mentioned Hart Gables. Hart Gables is a voluntary sector based charity and is the only LGBT organisation in Hartlepool. Forty comments were made and only one respondent believed that the availability of this kind of material is sufficient. It should also be noted that this respondent had also stated regular involvement with Hart Gables later in their questionnaire.

The comments made show an awareness of the importance of sexual health information. The accessibility and availability of this kind of material is questioned by the respondents. Some recommendations were made by respondents suggesting a genuine frustration with sexual health provision for the LGBT community in Hartlepool – especially in relation to statutory organisations and availability within the wider, non-LGBT community.

Council

An equal number of respondents stated positive and negative experiences of Hartlepool Borough Council. Four of the respondents who stated a positive

experience of HBC were also involved with Hart Gables. Hart Gables works in partnership with the Council on a consultation process with the LGBT community. However, there was not one mention of this consultation throughout the questionnaire responses. The respondents who had had negative experiences were of mixed demographic backgrounds.

Housing

The majority of respondents were indifferent to housing service provision in Hartlepool. One person stated that Housing Hartlepool is not 'gay-friendly'. This is not supported by any other respondent. It is worth noting that this same respondent was the only respondent to have had negative experiences with all of the services mentioned in the questionnaire.

Other services

Only five respondents commented on any other services. Two negative comments were left in relation to the police. These respondents had also made negative comments regarding the police when asked why they had not reported homophobic abuse. One respondent made a general negative comment about the nature of all services in Hartlepool i.e. that the town is not 'gay friendly'.

Community Involvement

Barriers to community involvement were varied. None of the barriers are particularly specific to Hartlepool and are similar to those experienced by people across the UK (not having time, not wanting to be involved, too cliquey). However, 'not being able to get there' is specific to people from Hartlepool because of the need to travel in order to access the gay scene in other towns and cities.

The list of bars visited in Hartlepool is a clear demonstration of the fact that there are LGBT people from a range of different demographic backgrounds across Hartlepool. Also, less than half of the respondents stated that they do not access social or support groups in Hartlepool.

Any work to access the LGBT community in Hartlepool should therefore be multi-agency and not solely depend on Hart Gables reaching all sections of the LGBT community because there are many LGBT people in Hartlepool who do not access Hart Gables.

Further Involvement

The fact that so many people, who are not already involved with LGBT community activity, requested further information/involvement suggests that the community is concerned about issues that affect them. It also presents an opportunity for Hart Gables and other service providers to begin a dialogue with these members of the LGBT community.

Recommendations

Demographic

- Further research to be carried out focusing on single genders
- More representatives and groups in workplaces to increase the visibility of LGBT people in Hartlepool, offer support to employees and to act as a route of reporting homophobic/transphobic incidents

Social

- Town wide support for promotion of the work of Hart Gables
- There is scope for a commercial enterprise for LGBT people in Hartlepool
- Regular subsidised transport to Newcastle and Middlesbrough during evenings over the weekend for LGBT people
- An annual gay pride event to be organised by/in conjunction with Hart Gables and to be supported (including financial support) by all major services in Hartlepool

Service Provision

- Diversity and awareness training around LGBT issues to be encouraged for all local service providers including Housing Hartlepool and NHS services
- Hart Gables to initiate a scheme (possibly online) to inform the LGBT community of 'gay friendly' service provisions in Hartlepool
- Sexual health of LGBT people to be included in wider sexual health information including in schools, youth groups and GP's surgeries
- Homophobia and transphobia to be directly mentioned in all anti-bullying policies across schools and colleges in Hartlepool
- Hartlepool Borough Council to wider publicise their current consultation work with the LGBT community
- Cleveland Police to review their current distribution and publicity of hate crime reporting packs

- Also services to encourage members of the LGBT community to take homophobic/transphobic hate crime seriously and to report it
- More partnership work is needed to target health information at the LGBT community
- A multi-agency approach is required when working with the LGBT community in Hartlepool

Community Involvement

- Hart Gables to contact the individuals who stated in their responses that they would like to access Hart Gables but are unable to for certain reasons

Further Involvement

- Any requests for further information and involvement to be followed up as soon as possible
- The results of this study to be accessible to the LGBT community and other services for the foreseeable future

References

Gaydargirls
<http://www.gaydargirls.com>

Gaydar
<http://www.gaydar.com>

Myspace
<http://www.myspace.com>

Facebook
<http://www.facebook.com>

Stonewall
<http://www.stonewall.org.uk/>

Noret, N. and Rivers, I. (2003) Drug use among a LGBT population. York: York St John College.

Millivres Prowler Group
Diva Magazine, Media Pack
http://www.pinkpaper.com/pinkpaper/pdf/Diva_media_pack.pdf

Hart Gables
<http://www.hartgables.org.uk>

Hartlepool Borough Council
<http://consultation.hartlepool.gov.uk/inovem/consult.ti/LGBT/consultationHome>

Housing Hartlepool
<http://www.housinghartlepool.org.uk>

Glossary

Out – open about one's true sexuality

Scene – a collection of commercial venues or events that are targeted at the LGBT community in any given town or city

Bicurious – a person who is questioning their sexuality, is curious about experimenting and/or feels that they may be bisexual

Appendix A

Hartlepool LGBT Research Questionnaire

We are trying to find out what the lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender community of Hartlepool wants and would like to hear *your* opinions.

About you

Age	Up to 18	18-25	26-40	41-60	Over 60
Do you define as...	Bisexual	Gay	Lesbian	Trans	Other
When did you come 'out'?	Not/Now	1-5yr ago	6-10yr ago	11-20yr ago	Longer
Who are you 'out' to?	Family	Friends	Work	Everyone	No one
Single	Civil Partnership	In a relationship		Other (please say)	
First half of your post code			Ward (if known)		

Do you consider that you have a disability or sensory impairment?		If yes, as a person with a disability or sensory impairment what is your experience of the gay community/gay scene?
Yes		
No		

Are you...	Asian	Black	Mixed Race	White	Other
Does your ethnic origin affect your experience of the gay community/gay scene?					

Social

Where & how often do you go out to socialise in Hartlepool?	Weekly	Every 2 weeks	Monthly	Yearly	When I can
Bars					
Clubs					
Social/support groups					
Other (what?)					

What 'scene' events do you go to? How often?	Weekly	Every 2 weeks	Monthly	Yearly	When I can
Bars					
Clubs					
Pride events					
Social/support groups					
Other (what?)					

For each town please say which bars you go to:	
Hartlepool	
Middlesbrough	
Sunderland	
Newcastle	
Darlington	
Other (please state)	

Have you ever experienced homophobic/transphobic abuse – physical or verbal?	Yes	No
If yes, did you report it to the police?	Yes	No
If no, why not?		
On a typical night out how much do you spend? £		

What would you like to see for LGBT people in Hartlepool that would get you more involved in the gay scene/community?	
Gay Pride Event	
Gay Centre	
Gay Bar/ Club	
Group Travel	
Other (please say)	

Service Provision

What are your experiences of the following services as a LGBT person	Good	Neither Good nor Bad	Bad
Health (Please say which service)			
Housing (Please say which housing provider)			
Council (Please say which service)			
Other (please say)			

Have you seen sexual health info in Hartlepool for LGBT people?	Yes	No
If you are a LBi woman, have you seen info in Hartlepool for LBi women?	Yes	No
What do you think about the availability and importance of this kind of material?		

Work/Education

Are you in:				
Full/Part time employment	Full/Part time study	Retired	Unemployed	Long term sick

Are there any groups/ reps in your work/study place for LGBT people?	Yes	No
Do you think having these reps/groups useful?	Yes	No

Community Involvement

Is there anything that stops you being involved in the LGBT community/'scene'? (please tick)		
I am already heavily involved		I am involved with the following
I am involved a bit/enough		
It is too cliquey		
I can't get there		
I don't have the time		
I don't want to		
I am involved in non-LGBT activity		

Further information

I would like further information about (please tick) To be involved please complete the contact details section	
Social activities/networks for LGBT people in Hartlepool	
Health, Housing or Council related issues for LGBT people in Hartlepool	
Getting more involved in LGBT campaigning and representation	
Ways to get more involved with Hart Gables	
The outcomes of this research	
I would like to be involved in further research	

Name and Address
Landline
Mobile
Email

Any other comments

All of your details will remain anonymous and confidential and you are under no obligation to be involved further.

Thank you for your time

Appendix B

Lists of postcodes and wards of respondents

Postcodes of respondents:

- No reply – 28
- TS – 1
- TS17 – 1
- TS19 – 1
- TS20 – 1
- TS23 – 1
- TS24 – 24
- TS25 – 17
- TS26 – 13
- TS27 – 1
- TS28 – 1
- BN14 – 1

Wards of respondents:

- No reply – 61
- St Hilda - 3
- Dyke House - 1
- **Brus – 1**
- Stranton – 3
- Burn Valley – 2
- West View – 1
- Grange – 2
- Owton – 3
- Headland – 2

Appendix C

Lists of bars and clubs visited in North East towns and cities

List of bars/clubs visited in Hartlepool:

- Number of respondents who socialise in Hartlepool – 87
- No response – 15
- I don't go to bars in Hartlepool – 3
- Anon – 1
- Escobar – 10
- Lloyds – 27
- Nexus – 8
- Kube – 3
- Lighthouse – 3
- New Alma – 5
- Loons – 19
- Bar 1 – 8
- Coast – 9
- Jax/Cactus Jacks – 4
- Bar Paris – 13
- Corner House – 5
- Top End – 3
- Marina – 3
- Yates – 8
- Church Street – 2
- King Johns – 3
- Shades – 6
- Changes – 5
- Coffee Rapport Bar - 2
- **North Star – 2**
- Old West Quay – 1
- Idols – 1
- Royal – 1
- Jackson Arms – 1
- The Nursery – 1
- Flannigans – 1
- Dingos – 1
- Clarendon – 1
- Time and Tide – 2
- Rockies – 2
- Vibes – 1
- **North Star – 1**
- The Irish Bar – 1
- Springs – 1
- BJ's – 1
- Grand – 1

- Pearl – 1

List of bars/clubs visited in Middlesbrough:

- Number of respondents who socialise in Middlesbrough – 48
- No response – 42
- The Oak – 38
- Annie's Bar – 17
- Cassidy's – 4
- The Crown – 6
- The Basement – 9
- The Warehouse – 7
- Onyx – 1
- Empire – 1
- Corner House – 2
- Walkabout – 1
- Lloyds – 1
- Yates – 6
- Falchion – 1
- Sumo – 2
- Blue – 1

List of bars/clubs visited in Sunderland

- Number of respondents who socialise in Sunderland - 5
- No response/none - 85
- T Tonic – 1
- Glass – 1
- Spider – 2
- Black Bull – 1

List of bars/clubs visited in Darlington:

- Number of respondents who socialise in Darlington – 3
- No response/none - 87
- Atlantic – 1
- Turks Head – 2

List of bars/clubs visited in Newcastle:

- Number of respondents who socialise in Newcastle – 46
- No response/none – 44
- All of them – 2
- Powerhouse – 23
- Switch – 24

- The Eagle – 4
- The Yard – 3
- The Dog – 9
- Twist – 8
- Eclipse – 3
- The Loft – 5
- Digital – 2
- The Gate – 1
- Gossip – 3
- Heaven's Above – 5
- The Bank – 2
- Camp David – 3
- Baron and Baroness – 4

List of other social destinations:

- Number of respondents who stated 'other' social destinations - 2
- Stockton – The Fallion – 1
- Blackpool – 1
- Leeds – 1
- Manchester – 1

NB. Please note that numbers of responses do not total 90 as respondents were given the opportunity to state an unlimited number of social destinations.

NB. There are some bars/clubs that have changed name. Some respondents have used the former name of certain bars/clubs. The researcher has not amalgamated the old with the new.

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Published June 2008