LGBT+ INCLUSIVE EDUCATION FOR ALL
# Contents

## The basics

- Your role and key responsibilities  
  4 - 5
- LGBT+ Labour  
  6 - 7
- Labour’s legacy  
  8 - 9

## Building the grassroots

- Reaching out to LGBT+ members in your area  
  10
- Taking Labour to the LGBT+ community  
  11
- Pride  
  12

## Campaigning

- Local campaigning  
  13
- The big picture  
  14

## Events

- Key events calendar  
  15
- LGBT+ History Month  
  16
- Best practice  
  17
- International work  
  18

## Resources

- Key resources and contacts  
  19
Your role

The LGBT+ Officer is the key representative of LGBT+ members in the CLP, and works to ensure that LGBT+ people are actively involved in the Party at a local level. They also make sure that the Party reaches out and connects with LGBT+ people locally by campaigning on the issues that are important to them.

The role is varied and exciting and you can make a real difference to your local party as LGBT+ Officer. You can choose how to focus your role and what to make your priority, but try to make what you do reflective of what your local LGBT+ members want to see.
Your key responsibilities

- Making sure that LGBT+ members are included in all of the party’s activities and that meetings and events are fully inclusive of LGBT+ members
- Reaching out to LGBT+ people through local campaigns and working with organisations in the constituency to engage voters, highlight issues and get a better deal for LGBT+ people
- Bringing LGBT+ members together to empower each other and break down the barriers to getting involved
- Acting as CLP link with LGBT+ Labour and encouraging members of your CLP to get involved with LGBT+ Labour nationally, and in the regions and nations
- Running events for LGBT+ members, including policy development, social events and training
- Working to recruit more LGBT+ members into the Labour party and helping to make sure that those members make the jump from member to activist to leader
- Listening to LGBT+ people’s views and ensuring they are reflected in Labour’s policy making
- Welcoming new LGBT+ members to the CLP, through emails, phone calls or social events

Thanks to LGBT+ Labour and our members lobbying in the democracy review, LGBT+ officers now have expanded rights in their CLP’s. This means that you sit on your Executive Committee and have full voting rights. Make sure you use this role to represent the LGBT+ members in your areas by raising their suggestions and concerns at your Executive’s meetings.
Our history

LGBT+ Labour has a long and proud history of campaigning for LGBT+ rights.

From the repeal of Section 28, to the delivery of Civil Partnerships and the passing of the Equality Act, we have fought both inside the Labour party and with the Labour party to defend and extend the rights of LGBT+ people for over 40 years.

Who we are

LGBT+ Labour is a membership organisation, made up of LGBT+ people from across the UK who are either members of the Labour Party or who agree broadly with the values of the Labour Party.

At the AGM each year, LGBT+ Labour Members elect the volunteers who will lead LGBT+ Labour through the following year. LGBT+ Labour also has regions and nations groups across the UK. You can find out who sits on the National Committee, and who your regional and national representatives are on our website: lgbtlabour.org.uk/committee
What we do

LGBT+ Labour exists to strengthen the Labour Party’s commitment and action on LGBT+ struggles from the inside, and to give the UK the Labour government it deserves, to ensure that this country works for the many, not the few.

As part of that effort, we campaign on issues that matter to LGBT+ people across the country, from access to PrEP, to LGBT+ inclusive relationship and sex education, trans rights and GRA reform.

LGBT+ Labour works to make every level of government representative of the country we live in. Ensuring that LGBT+ voices are represented across the country by supporting LGBT+ candidates in their elections. We raise money for our Chris Smith list which we then donate to LGBT+ candidates’ campaigns, as well as arranging door knocking sessions for LGBT+ people who are Labour candidates.

In partnership with the Local Government Association Labour Group, LGBT+ Labour also run a LGBT+ Councillors Network. The Network exists to support Labour candidates and councillors who identify as LGBT+, and to encourage Labour run councils and Labour Groups in opposition to work towards making their local authorities more LGBT+ inclusive.
1975 - The Gay Labour Caucus was formed. This later became the Labour Campaign for Lesbian and Gay Rights, and eventually LGBT+ Labour

1976 - Maureen Colquhoun became the first openly LGBT+ MP after being outed as a lesbian by the national press.

1984 - Chris Smith MP speaks openly about his sexuality and becomes the first openly gay MP

1985 - Labour Party Conference votes for a resolution committing the party to Lesbian and Gay rights. This move was following the solidarity shown by LGSM with mineworkers, and was in part down to the block vote of the National Union of Mineworkers

1989 - Alongside Sir Ian McKellen and Lisa Power MBE, future Labour politician Lord Cashman CBE co-founds Stonewall in response to the introduction of Section 28 by Thatcher

1997 - The New Labour government introduces the Unmarried Partners Concession, which committed the UK to ending discrimination against gay and lesbian couples for immigration purposes

1997 - Stephen Twigg MP and Ben Bradshaw MP become the first MPs to be selected and then elected for Labour

1997 - Angela Eagle MP comes out during an interview and becomes the first woman MP to voluntarily come out

1997 - The Labour Government signs the Treaty of Amsterdam on behalf of the UK, which gave the EU powers to end discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation

1997 - Lord Michael Cashman CBE becomes the first openly gay UK member elected to the European Parliament

1998 - Lord Waheed Alli becomes the first openly gay member of the House of Lords, and one of a few openly gay Muslims in national politics

1997 - The Labour Government signs the Treaty of Amsterdam on behalf of the UK, which gave the EU powers to end discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation

1999 - Lord Waheed Alli becomes the first openly gay member of the House of Lords, and one of a few openly gay Muslims in national politics

2000 - The Labour Government lifted the ban on lesbians, gay men and bisexual people serving in the armed forces
1998 - Lord Waheed Alli becomes the first openly gay member of the House of Lords, and one of a few openly gay Muslims in national politics.

1999 - Lord Michael Cashman CBE becomes the first openly gay UK member elected to the European Parliament.

2000 - The Labour Government lifted the ban on lesbians, gay men and bi people serving in the armed forces.

2001 - Labour passed The Sexual Offences Act, lowering the age of consent for those in same sex relationships from 18 to 16.

2003 - Labour repeals Section 28. The homophobic clause introduced by the Thatcher govt banned councils & schools from “promoting homosexuality”.

2004 - Labour produced and implemented the Gender Recognition Act, allowing Trans people to have their true gender recognised in law.

2004 - Labour passes the Civil Partnership Act, granting civil partnerships in the UK.


2009 - The Labour government awarded statutory rights for fertility treatment for lesbians and bi women on the NHS.

2010 - Labour introduces the Equality Act.

2015 - Emily Brothers stood in the Sutton and Cheam constituency in the 2015 General Election. She is the first openly transsexual Labour Party candidate to run to be a Member of Parliament for the United Kingdom.

2018 - Lloyd Russell-Moyle is the first MP to reveal his HIV status in the Commons Chamber.

2018 - Emily Brothers stood in the Sutton and Cheam constituency in the 2015 General Election. She is the first openly transsexual Labour Party candidate to run to be a Member of Parliament for the United Kingdom.
Getting LGBT+ people involved: Our six step guide to encouraging and supporting LGBT+ members to get more involved. Think about getting more LGBT+ members actively involved in your constituency in the following ways:

**Get in touch**

Having someone introduce themselves can be the first step in encouraging people to get more involved. Reach out to members of your constituency through an all member email, introducing yourself as the LGBT+ officer, providing your contact details and laying out the things you’d like to work on with LGBT+ members throughout your term.

**Run a LGBT+ social event**

Having someone introduce themselves can be the first step in encouraging people to get more involved. Reach out to members of your constituency through an all member email, introducing yourself as the LGBT+ officer, providing your contact details and laying out the things you’d like to work on with LGBT+ members throughout your term.

Don’t worry if turnout is low initially, depending on where your CLP is, members may feel nervous about coming to events, and outing themselves. Keep persisting, and try different things to help ensure people feel like they are in a safe place.
Training

Encourage LGBT+ people to participate in training programmes. A wide variety of training is provided by the Labour Party and affiliated organisations. The LGBT+ Labour Councillors Network ran a ‘Be a Councillor’ session by and for trans members, and the Local Government Association run similar sessions across the country all the time. Keep an eye out for training like this in your regions and encourage LGBT+ people in your constituency to go along.

Invite LGBT+ speakers

Having someone who is openly LGBT+ come to your constituency and talk to members, may help members feel more open about who they are, and more willing to engage with the work you are doing. Try contacting your regions or nations LGBT+ Labour group, any LGBT+ councillors in your region or nation and even a Member of Parliament to come and speak.

Start a campaign

Work with local charities and your members to think of an issue that matters to LGBT+ people in your area and run a campaign on the issue to make change in your community. If you’re not sure where to start or want some tips on how to run a campaign, reach out to your regional LGBT+ Labour group who will be able to make some helpful suggestions.

Inspire members to stand

It is vital that LGBT+ people are visible, represented and actively engaged in all areas of society, and you can help to make this happen. Encourage LGBT+ people to get involved in public life by supporting them to grow confidence and then to run in elections.
Taking Labour to the LGBT+ community

Delivering a fairer society for LGBT+ people was at the core of Labour’s agenda while in government and we saw massive improvements to LGBT+ people’s lives. Now, while in opposition, the Labour Party, alongside LGBT+ Labour works to stop those hard fought rights from being reversed.

However, with many LGBT+ rights secured, some in our community are complacent. It’s important for you to play a role in encouraging local LGBT+ members to understand the importance of keeping up the fight to extend and defend our rights, and encouraging LGBT+ people to see the Labour Party as the natural home for them.

Build networks

Start exploring local connections, and seeing how your Constituency Labour Party can engage with LGBT+ people locally. Think about making contact with local branches of LGBT+ charities and voluntary organisations, setting up consultation meetings, exchanging speakers and running a joint campaign in the local community. You could also get in touch with your local trade union branches to set up a meeting to discuss how you can work together.

Pride

Pride is an excellent opportunity to take the Labour Party to LGBT+ people. If you have a local pride, you should try and organise a Labour presence. To help, LGBT Labour have pride packs available for your local Labour Party to purchase in different sizes which you can find on our website.

While there are hundreds of prides across the country, not every constituency will have one. If you feel like setting up a whole parade is too much of a task in the early days of getting your constituency group up and running, why not attend a bigger pride in your region? Regional LGBT+ Labour groups should have a presence at all of the main prides, so as an alternative, think about getting a group of members from your constituency together and attending a pride where there will already be a Labour presence.
Key events calendar

There are many important days in the LGBT+ calendar that are used to highlight identities, to stand against discrimination and in remembrance of those who have come before us. Make sure you keep an eye out for any LGBT+ related local events that you can share with your members.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FEBRUARY</td>
<td>LGBT+ HISTORY MONTH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31ST MARCH</td>
<td>INTERNATIONAL TRANSGENDER DAY OF VISIBILITY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26TH APRIL</td>
<td>LESBIAN VISIBILITY DAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17TH MAY</td>
<td>INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHobia, BIPHobia AND TRANSPHobia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28TH JUNE</td>
<td>STONEWALL RIOTS ANNIVERSARY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23RD SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>BI VISIBILITY DAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11TH OCTOBER</td>
<td>NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20TH NOVEMBER</td>
<td>TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1ST DECEMBER</td>
<td>WORLD AIDS DAY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LGBT+ History Month

LGBT+ History Month is a time for LGBT+ people to celebrate how far we have come, and to come together and work out how to extend our rights and reach fully equality.

It also marks the perfect opportunity for you to ramp up events and campaigns for your members, and get your whole CLP involved. You could run an event looking at the history of the Labour Party on LGBT+ rights, run a LGBT+ focussed quiz night or do a showing of the film ‘Pride’.

There should be at least one regional event put on by your regional LGBT+ Labour group in history month, so keep an eye out and consider going along with other activists from your constituency.

Use your constituencies contacts to highlight the month and increase turnout at your events. Your constituency Secretary should be able to help you send an email to all members during the month, and if your local Party has any social media, make sure you utilise those too.

Why not apply for funding from the Labour Party?

A Labour Party fund was established in 2011 for local parties to apply for money to support their activities. This is a brilliant way to help fund your LGBT+ events and activities. To find out how your local Party can make a bid for funding, visit: labour.org.uk/development-fund
Edinburgh Labour Students ran an event to fundraise for the Chris Smith list. They held a club night at their University that raised £1,000. If this wouldn’t work in your constituency, why not run a bake sale at a local school for a local LGBT+ charity?

In a London constituency activists were concerned about transphobia in the local party, and in response they invited LGBT+ Labour’s trans officer to talk to members about changes to the Gender Recognition Act and how they would improve her life.

When Southend Pride relaunched after fifteen years, the local constituency Party made sure they had a big presence, with the local constituency banner, vote Labour placards and even some LGBT Labour merch!

Manchester Withington Constituency Labour Party, passed LGBT+ Labour’s model motion on inclusive relationship and sex education following the high profile debate on the inclusion of LGBT+ relationships in the curriculum in Birmingham.

To raise the voices of local LGBT+ activists on the issues that matter to them, the Cardiff Central LGBT+ officer set up a twitter account for the constituencies LGBT+ members [@CarCenLabLGBT]. The twitter account is a huge success, connecting members with each other and enabling them to have conversations
International work

LGBT+ Labour is proudly internationalist in its outlook, and works with sister parties across Europe and beyond to advance LGBT+ equality.

We are a member of Rainbow Rose, the LGBTI Network of members of the Party of European Socialists, as well as involved in a number of international initiatives with partners including the International Union of Socialist Youth and Young European Socialists.

Some ways you and your members can get involved are:

Rainbow Rose

There are opportunities for LGBT+ Labour members to get involved in international exchanges with Rainbow Rose, including the annual Europride.

Queer Easter

LGBT+ Labour is an active partner in Queer Easter, an annual seminar for 18-30 year olds held in Berlin over the Easter holidays. Each year, we take a delegation of young members to take part and provide subsidised participation through Erasmus+. 
Key resources and contacts

Resources

The LGBT+ Labour website has loads of handy resources here: lgbtlabour.org.uk

You can access the LGBT+ Labour shop for materials here: lgbtlabourshop.co.uk

Have a look at our handy trans myth busting flyers here: lgbtlabourshop.co.uk/product-page/trans-myth-buster-leaflets-50

The Labour Party has lots of useful tools for activists here: labour.org.uk/members/activist-area/tools-for-activists/

Access Stonewall’s campaigning resources here: www.stonewall.org.uk/get-involved/community-resources

Key contacts

If you have any questions about how to get involved in LGBT+ Labour, want more advice or support, contact LGBT+ Labour on lgbtlabouruk@gmail.com

If you have any questions about your role or want to report any issues, you can contact your Regional or National Office whose details you can find at: labour.org.uk/contact/

Have your say in the development of Labour Party policy: Policyforum.labour.org.uk