

What? Identifying the aims, desired outcomes, and actions

Aims: The Rainbow Working Party developed a tagline to sum up its chief aims:

“To establish and provide ongoing support to a self-sustaining, inclusive community group for people with disabilities who identify as LGBTIQ+, and their supporters. Run by the people, for the people.”

The associated aims identified by the working party were:

- To establish a community group/network for people who identify as being LGBTIQ+ and who live with a disability.
- To support the group to become self-sustaining, and led by people with lived experience
- Develop partnerships with stakeholders, such as services and organisations which could provide ongoing support to the Rainbow Working Party and established network/group
- To have people with disabilities/LGBTIQ+ people feel more like a part of the LGBTIQ+ community, disability community, and the wider community.



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As part of this process, the Rainbow Working Party held an event to unite the community in celebration of LGBTIQ+ and disability pride, and consult with them on their needs and wants. Those who attended highlighted gaps in services and supported the concept of a peer-led community group. At that meeting the idea of creating a Facebook page for social connection and event organisation was also raised.

During subsequent meetings, and as members became more involved, they expanded on, and fine-tuned their aims to include the following:

- To build capacity of members of the group to become advocates for change
- To identify and consult on gaps in LGBTIQ+ services, and disability services and to feed this back
- To determine direction, training and support needs
- To advocate/advise on needs and issues for people with disabilities who are LGBTIQ+
- To establish vision and group process/format
- To access social opportunities and support
- To raise awareness and visibility of LGBTIQ+/PWD issues and concerns
- To provide advice and feedback for organisations' Disability and Inclusion Action Plans (DIAPS)
- To improve access and inclusion at LGBTIQ+ venues and events
- To create a safe space for PWD who are LGBTIQ+



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Actions: The Rainbow Working Party went on to develop some broad areas for action to help drive the project forward, and ensure broader consultation with the community.

Key focus areas identified included the need for:

- Promotion
- Stakeholder engagement
- Continued consultation
- Sustainability

Q: Making a list of aims and issues together gives everyone a common purpose. What are the most important aims for your working party? What do you hope the group will have achieved in two years' time?



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