

OPENING DOORS LONDON



GOVERNMENT EQUALITIES OFFICE

"We will ensure LGBT people's needs are taken into account in health and social care regulation. The Care Quality Commission will embed LGBT equality issues into the methodology used by inspectors".

Government Equalities Office 2018

Government Equalities Office

> LGBT ACTION PLAN

IMPROVING THE LIVES OF LESBIAN, GAY BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER PEOPLE

JULY 2018



Revised Strategic Aims from Spring 2021
(1) Meet greater individual needs
(2) 'Smarter' regulation (inc. apps/online)
(3) Safe care for <u>all</u> people
(4) CQC assisting agency improvements







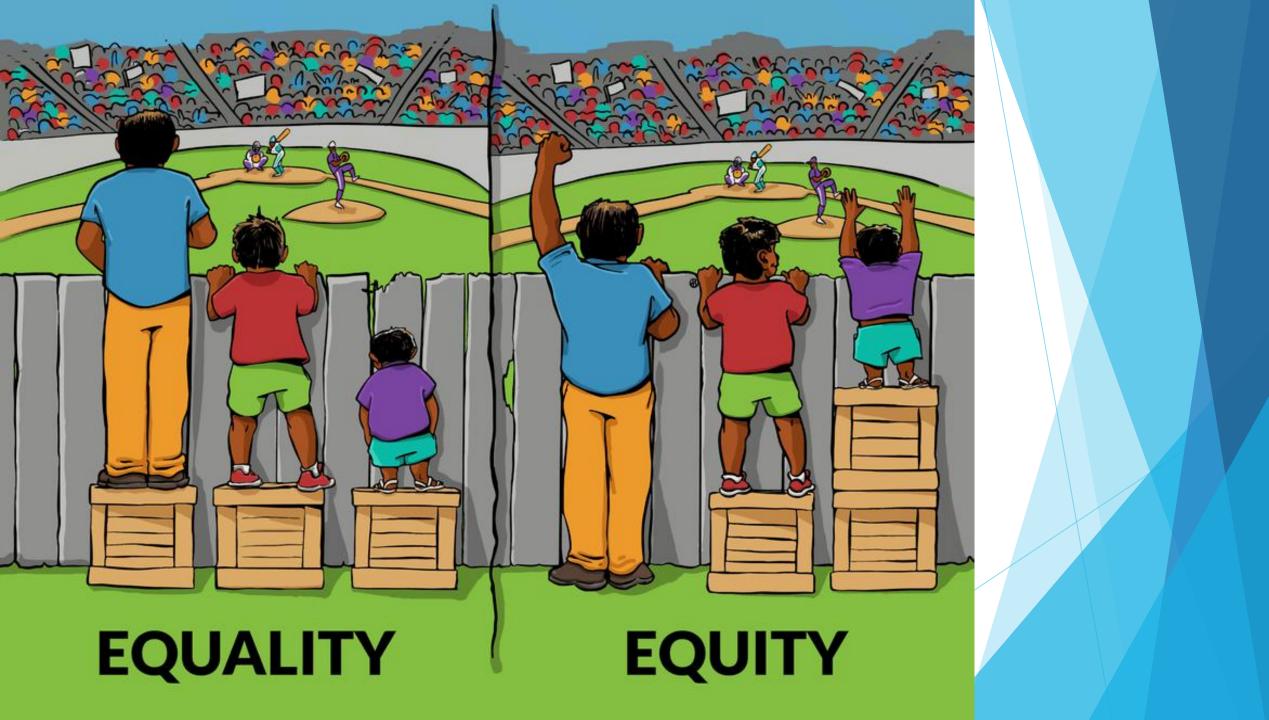
"We find limited evidence of organisations proactively engaging with LGBT people or specifically considering their needs."

CQC INSPECTION QUESTIONS

QUESTION: "...and what are you doing to engage with your older LGBT+ residents?"

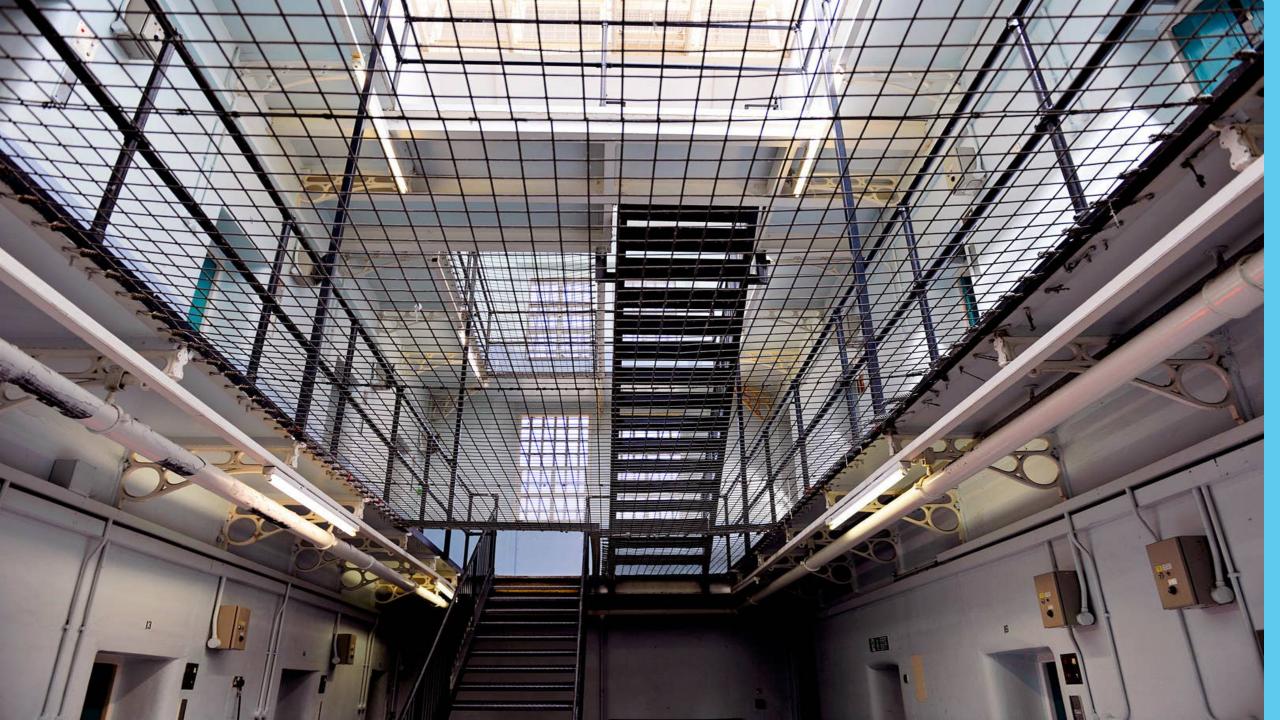
ANSWER: "We treat everybody equally here."

▶ <u>NOT</u> REGARDED BY CQC AS AN ADEQUATE REPLY





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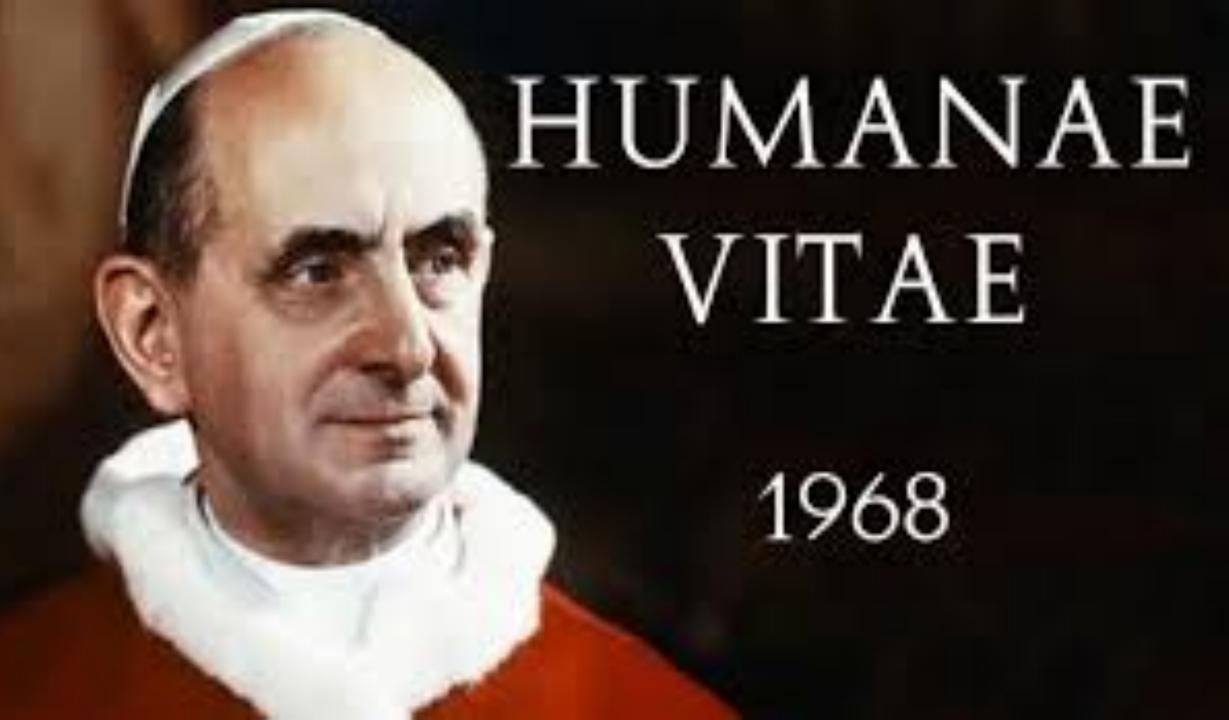
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Mirron

get 18 months'

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MBE for services to transgender equality 2012.'



BUT

OLDER LGBT+ DIFFERENCES ?

Social isolation
Mental health
Safety and security
Confidence in care

SOCIAL ISOLATION

More likely to live alone
Much less likely to have children
Most estranged from family



MENTAL HEALTH

MENTAL HEALTH

More LGBT+ people report regular mental health than heterosexual people

- Three in five LGBT+ people (61%) said they've experienced anxiety in the last year
- Half of LGBT+ people (52%) said they've experienced depression in last year
- Higher levels of suicide against the national average especially trans people

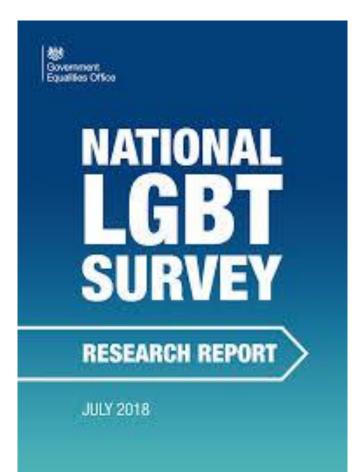
concerns

MENTAL HEALTH

"I am being treated for depression, which is caused in part by not being able to access any LGBT senior age-related groups within 80 miles of me. I would be actively involved in such a group if I could find one, but there is nothing. I feel very isolated."

ROSEMARY, 70 (WALES)

SAFETY AND SECURITY

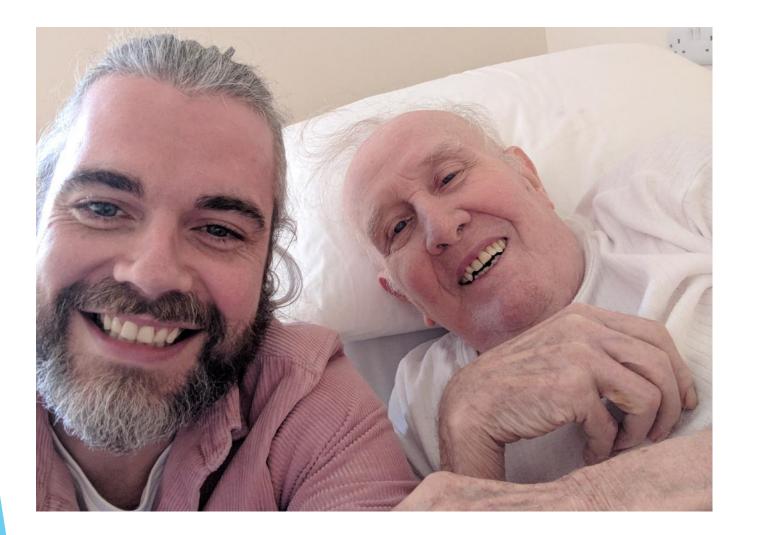


SAFETY AND SECURITY

- Two thirds of LGBT+ respondents avoided holding hands or being affectionate with same-sex partners for fear of hostility.
- 2 in 5 had experienced verbal harassment or physical violence because they were LGBT+ in the 12 months preceding the 2018 Government survey.



CONFIDENCE IN CARE





CONFIDENCE IN CARE (Almack 2015)

- Older LGBT+ people are twice as likely as heterosexual people to rely on health, housing and social care services.
- But most older LGBT+ people also say they lack confidence in health, housing or care services because of poor treatment in the past.



CONFIDENCE IN CARE (Almack 2015)

- 1 in 5 LGBT+ people don't tell staff they identify as LGBT+
- 1 in 7 LGBT+ people say have avoided treatment for fear of discrimination

I in 8 say they have experienced prejudice, discrimination and unequal treatment from health and care staff because they're LGBT+



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SAFE TO BE ME - GUIDANCE



Practical advice on providing quality care services in which older lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT+) people can feel safe and secure.

RESEARCH & POLICY



ONLY CONNECT THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON OLDER LGBT+ PEOPLE

Research, policy and best practice updates into the health and care needs of older LGBT+ people provided by Professor Ben Thomas.

LEARNING NETWORK NEWS



Free quarterly newsletter helping health and social care professionals enable LGBT+ people over 50 to live happy, healthy and independent lives, free from loneliness, isolation, prejudice and discrimination.

LNN readers receive 30% discount on training and conference events.

(REGISTRATION REQUIRED)





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