



Making Scotland
the best place
for LGBTQ+ young
people to flourish
and thrive.

Life In Scotland Young Person Steering Group

Further Information

What is the Life in Scotland Research Project?

Life in Scotland is LGBT Youth Scotland's national research project to understand the lives of LGBTQ+ young people. We use a survey to ask people about many aspects of life, from community and living situation to health, work and education. What people tell us is then shared across Scotland to help understanding of the experiences and needs of LGBTQ+ young people, and to recommend ways to improve our communities lives. We have done a Life in Scotland project every 5 years since 2007 and the results have been used in decision making at all levels across the country, to recommend & evidence change to improve the lives of LGBTQ+ young people.

What will the steering group do?

The Young Person Steering Group (YPSG) will guide the direction of Life in Scotland 2026/2027. Working with LGBT Youth Scotland research staff and volunteers, members of the steering group will co-create a nationwide survey for LGBTQ+ young people, analyse the results, and develop and share recommendations from the findings to influence change. Steering group members will act as peer researchers so that young peoples lived experience shapes the research right from the start.

This exciting opportunity is open to you if you are:

- Aged 13-25 years old
- LGBTQ+ or questioning your sexual orientation or gender
- Living in Scotland

What will being part of the steering group involve?

The project will last from May 2026 until May 2027. If invited to join the YPSG, you would be asked to:

- Join up to 10 sessions (all optional) over the year, each of which would last up to 3 hours (usually 1-2) including breaks and snacks. Some will be online and some in person, with hybrid sessions offered
- Work with the LGBT Youth Scotland research team to guide the direction of the Life in Scotland research project and be involved in research activities.
 - At the start of the project you will and help in the development and promotion of our nationwide survey for LGBTQ+ young people.





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- In the middle of the project you will help analyse survey results and develop recommendations with the findings
- At the end of the project you will help create resources to share the results and recommendations and you will be asked to think about next steps for the research.
- There will be additional opportunities throughout the project, for example leading workshops to support young people to take part in our research, analysing data in more detail, writing sections of the findings, presenting findings to change makers, and taking part in future research.
- Adhere to our group safer space policy and treat fellow steering group and research project members with respect
- Communicate honestly and responsibly: feeding back when something isn't quite right and giving advanced notice of when you are unable to attend meetings or complete tasks

What will you get from being part of the steering group?

You will have the opportunity to steer our vital national level research, ensuring it is an accurate representation of life for your communities. The LGBT Youth Scotland research team will take your opinions and thoughts seriously and support you to take part however you are able to. You will be supported to participate as who you are - and your accessibility needs will be considered throughout the project.

You will receive training in social research skills, including research ethics, data collection and analysis, report writing, presenting, and information sharing.

You will also be thanked for your time through various methods including spending vouchers and opportunities, and you will be thanked in the Life in Scotland main research report (anonymously if you wish).

What can you expect from LGBT Youth Scotland?

- We will ensure activities are tailored to meet your accessibility needs
- Training in research skills will be provided so that you feel confident to take part.
- Youth workers will be available to support you to take part and signpost you to further support.
- We will communicate openly and honestly, laying out expectations and your role clearly.





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- Travel and refreshment costs will be covered for all meetings, and hybrid options will be provided when travel is not feasible.
- We will treat your expertise with respect and value.

What will happen when you submit your interest?

- A member of our team will be in touch to speak with you about the opportunity. If after chatting about it a bit more you are still interested then you can let us know.
- We will operate a waiting list if more people than we have space for are interested.
- If you are not already attending LGBT Youth Scotland services you will be required to attend an induction meeting.
- We will ask for a reference of someone we can get in touch with to chat about the suitability of the project.

At LGBT Youth Scotland we are committed to ensuring the voices of those least heard from are centred. We strive to be accessible as possible and to champion the experiences of all LGBTQ+ young people. We are able to fund translators if required to support you to participate. If you would like to chat about this and our intersectional working practices, please get in touch on mhairi.crawford@lgbtyouth.org.uk

