



the lgbtq+ youth homelessness report

2021



disabled briefing

This briefing highlights the areas of our report where disabled LGBTQ+ young people were disproportionately impacted.

abuse from family members

Disabled LGBTQ+ young people were more likely to experience numerous forms of abuse from family members before becoming homeless including:

66 per cent of disabled LGBTQ+ young people who were happy to answer felt frightened of or were threatened by family members before becoming homeless, compared to **54 per cent** of those who aren't disabled.

Just over **one in five (21 per cent)** disabled LGBTQ+ young people were forced to do sexual acts against their will by family members compared to **(11 per cent)** of young people who aren't disabled.

Almost three quarters (74 per cent) of disabled LGBTQ+ young people reported being repeatedly belittled to the extent that they felt worthless, compared to **58 per cent** of young people who aren't disabled.

abuse from romantic partners

Disabled LGBTQ+ young people were more likely to experience numerous forms of abuse from romantic partners before becoming homeless including:

Just over one fifth (22 per cent) of disabled LGBTQ+ young people said that romantic partners stopped them seeing friends or relatives before becoming homeless, compared to **12 per cent** of young people who aren't disabled.

A quarter (25 per cent) of disabled LGBTQ+ young people felt frightened of or threatened by a romantic partner before becoming homeless, compared to **15 per cent** of young people who aren't disabled.

the impact of homelessness

Around three in ten (28 per cent) disabled LGBTQ+ young people took drugs for the first time while homeless, compared to **15 per cent** of young people who aren't disabled.

One in five (21 per cent) disabled LGBTQ+ young people engaged in sex work while homeless, compared to **one in nine (12 per cent)** who aren't disabled.

improving services

Nine out of ten (94 per cent) of disabled LGBTQ+ young people would like to see more services that specifically help LGBT+ young people with disabilities or illnesses.

Three in five (60 per cent) disabled LGBTQ+ young people would like to see services use more inclusive language which recognises their identity in communication materials, compared to **41 per cent** of young people who aren't disabled.

recommendations

Recommendations included in the main research report include:

The Government to implement uniform mandatory monitoring of sexual orientation and gender identity in publicly commissioned housing and homelessness services.

Housing and homelessness services and local authorities to implement changes to services based on LGBTQ+ young people's recommendations and build upon these by involving young people in the design of services.

All support services to refer to akt's inclusive service delivery toolkit to help make services more inclusive of all LGBTQ+ young people.

As well as these general recommendations, we're also asking stakeholders to address the disproportionate impact of homelessness on marginalised groups including LGBTQ+ young people of colour, disabled LGBTQ+ young people and trans young people.

To read the full report and its recommendations, visit akt.org.uk/report

methodology

The full report surveyed 161 LGBTQ+ young people who had experienced any form of homelessness in the last five years in the UK, while between the ages of 16 and 25.

Disabled respondents made up **48 per cent** of the overall survey sample, and the above data is statistically significant.