



the lgbtq+ youth homelessness report

2021



younger briefing

This briefing highlights the areas of our report where LGBTQ+ young people who first faced homelessness while aged 18 or under were disproportionately impacted.

abuse from family members

21 out of 27 (78 per cent) LGBTQ+ young people who first faced homelessness while aged 18 or under who were happy to answer reported feeling frightened of or being threatened by family members prior to becoming homeless, compared to **56 out of 99 (57 per cent)** of those who were over 18.

16 out of 27 (59 per cent) LGBTQ+ young people who first faced homelessness while aged 18 or under said they felt as though they could not express their LGBT identity for fear of being evicted, compared to **46 out of 99 (46 per cent)** of those who were over 18.

support sought while homeless

LGBTQ+ young people who first faced homelessness while aged 18 or under were less likely to seek support from community organisations. **12 out of 32 (38 per cent)** used support offered by community organisations (e.g. LGBT+ youth support groups), compared to **46 out of 100 (46 per cent)** of those who were over 18 when they first faced homelessness.

understanding and accessing services

LGBTQ+ young people who first faced homelessness while aged 18 or under were less likely to know about what support was available to them when experiencing homelessness, and less likely to feel supported in accessing it.

4 out of 32 (13 per cent) were aware of employment and training support compared to **23 out of 100 (23 per cent)** of those who were over 18 when they first faced homelessness.

Only **1 out of 17 (6 per cent)** of those who accessed a listed support service whilst homeless felt fully supported when accessing services compared to **12 out of 51 (24 per cent)** of those who were over 18 when they first faced homelessness.

improving services

18 out of 32 (56 per cent) LGBTQ+ young people who first faced homelessness while aged 18 or under would like services that help LGBTQ+ people reconnect with their families.

18 out of 32 (56 per cent) LGBTQ+ young people who first faced homelessness while aged 18 or under would like services to use more inclusive language which recognises their identity in communication materials.

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.

Respondents who had first experienced homelessness while aged 18 and under made up 20 per cent of the overall survey sample, and so the above data is not statistically significant.