





# Rainbow City

# What is Rainbow City?

-  Rainbow City is a way of celebrating Wolverhampton's commitment to being a fair, diverse and inclusive city, where everyone feels safe and free to be themselves.
-  Rather than a physical space, Rainbow City is a collection of initiatives across the city centre - highlighting our ideals of equality, fairness, inclusivity, and diversity.
-  We want to make sure that the voices of residents, visitors, local businesses, and those providing services to the LGBT+ community are heard. We will use your views to help shape our Rainbow City Strategy.
-  This document shares our journey so far, our vision, and the principles we'll follow to deliver Rainbow City.

# Our journey so far

**Jul 2020**

Our Council Rainbow Staff Equality Forum agrees that action needs to be taken to make Wolverhampton more LGBT+ friendly.



**Sept 2020**

First meeting of the newly formed Rainbow City task group.



**Oct 2020**

Ideas generated by Our Council Staff Equality Forums.



**Dec 2020 - Jan 2021**

Rainbow City task group develops a plan for the next steps.



**Feb 2021**

Plans endorsed by the Council's Strategic Executive Board, and our Cabinet Member for Governance & Equalities Advisory Group.



**March 2021 to Now**

Rainbow City Project Group established with representation from LGBT+ support groups and local businesses. Consultation launched.

# **Our vision for Rainbow City**

**A city that is fair, equal, diverse, and inclusive.**

**A city where everyone feels safe and free to be themselves.**

**A city with a dedicated offer to our growing LGBT+ community.**

**A city with a vibrant day life and night life where all are welcome.**

**A city that celebrates its commitment to being 'Fair and Inclusive'.**

# Our principles

Rainbow City will...

... make the city a safer space for all.

... provide a home for community groups to meet and flourish.

... be a place where people are truly able to be themselves without fear.

... host engaging inclusive events that celebrate the diversity of our city.

... have thriving day-time and night-time economies that welcome all.

... provide tailored services designed for those in the LGBT+ community.

... be a statement of commitment for the city, showing that we are an equal, diverse and inclusive community.

# Our strands of activity

## Strand 1 LGBT+ health and support services

**Objective:** Develop a **Rainbow Centre** that will host LGBT+ Health and Support services.

- 🌈 This centre will serve as a home for community groups, based in an easy to access location within the city centre.
- 🌈 The centre will be work with local LGBT+ community groups and individuals to ensure that its services fulfil the needs of the LGBT+ community.

## Strand 2 Community and economy

**Objectives:**

- 🌈 Create an **accreditation scheme** for businesses, services, and partners to demonstrate that they are committed to equality, diversity and inclusion and provide a safe space for people in the city.
- 🌈 Generate a **recognisable brand** for Rainbow City to highlight the city's safe spaces.
- 🌈 **Increase the day-time and night-time economies**, supporting businesses to be inclusive for all.

## Strand 3 Statement piece and reputation

**Objectives:**

- 🌈 Produce a **statement piece** within the city – an inspiring symbol of equality, diversity, and inclusivity – highlighting to visitors that they are in a Rainbow City.
- 🌈 **Measure the impact** of Rainbow City on the wider Wolverhampton area, relating to businesses, services, and communities.

# We need your help

-  We are committed to giving you the opportunity to shape what our Rainbow City will look like. This consultation will ask what Rainbow City means to you, and what you think it can do to help the wider community.
-  The consultation can be completed by individuals, service providers, or businesses.
-  For more information and to take part in the Rainbow City consultation, please visit [www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/rainbowcity](http://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/rainbowcity).
-  For more information on Relighting Our City recovery plan please visit <https://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/your-council/relighting-our-city-recovery-plan>
-  Questions? Please contact Kieran Simpson (EDI Advisor – LGBT Equality) on [edi@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:edi@wolverhampton.gov.uk).