

<p>1) If applicable, can you please detail what work has been undertaken to address issues of inclusion, gender, sexuality, and LGBTQIA+ issues generally in council museums? For example, new displays on LGBTQIA+, dropping pronouns from displays.</p>	<p>1) We continue to review our programme to ensure that it is representative of our communities, including consideration of protected characteristics. Examples include but are not limited to collaboration with Wigan PRIDE on the development of content as part of the Rebels, Radicals, Reform: The Fight for Better exhibition, hosting sessions of Wigan’s BYOU project - an action group that campaigns for positive change for young people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning their sexuality or gender identity(LGBTQIA+), and ensuring equal representation in the young curators group currently being established to inform and advice our future programme development.</p> <p>The museum annually supports Wigan PRIDE, aligning events and activities with this programme.</p> <p>We are in the process of developing a programme that will establish new narratives for our collection. This will include consideration of inclusion and equality with the opportunity to share these narratives and encourage conversation over 2024/25.</p> <p>We make every attempt in our display text to use appropriate descriptions, including responding to guidance on use of pronouns.</p> <p>This approach is replicated and shared across our other cultural venues including Archives and the Turnpike gallery, the latter establishing a Queer Arts Group in 2022.</p>
<p>2) Essentially same as for part 1, but can you provide information on how council libraries have addressed these issues. For example, have any books been specifically banned or removed from the library, or hidden from public view, perhaps in a restricted area? Please detail these.</p>	<p>2) Along with the Museum, we make every attempt in our display text to use appropriate descriptions, including responding to guidance on use of pronouns. Wigan Libraries create their own book displays, and as such several branches have created gender, sexuality and LGBTQIA+ displays to promote inclusivity and promote Pride events, using books by LGBTQIA+ authors (e.g. autobiographies) and fiction books around LGBTQIA+ issues and subject matter. No books have been banned, removed or hidden from public view.</p>
<p>3) Has a system of trigger warnings been established for sensitive topics? If warnings have been added, could you detail which books have received a warning</p>	<p>3) No trigger warnings have been established or added to any library stock.</p>

<p>4) What is the policy for sourcing books on LGBTQIA+ issues?</p> <p>5) For the above work to, gender, sexuality, and LGBTQIA+ issues generally, can you please provide information any grants received by the council to pursue this work, or any payments or grants made by the council to pursue this work (for example, charities with expertise in this area)</p> <p>6) Can you also detail any outside advice of consultation offered or procured for all issues detailed above, i.e, boosting LGBTQIA+ inclusion in libraries and museums. For example, advice given by Stonewall.</p>	<p>4) Libraries stock is purchased through Supplier Selection. As a library supplier, it is not their job to censor books and their core range is created from lots of national, regional and local publishers. Whilst we do have supplier selection and use a specification to indicate what sort of material we wish to include or exclude, the supplier keeps our range as broad as possible and books about some of these topics will appear if publishers have sent details and they are suitable for public libraries in the UK. Aside from this core range, any book that has had its ISBN registered on Nielsen Book Data can be found on our suppliers website in the non-core and any library can order these. Many of the subjects are key topics for libraries and we do create regular displays about LGBTQIA+ amongst others. We do not have any stock management processes that specify we would remove or censor this type of literature.</p> <p>5) The council is investing £5k to both Wigan Pride and Pride in Leigh events this year.</p> <p>There have been no direct grants from external funders to the museum or libraries in the last 3 years that are specific for the above focus. The activities that the team continue to progress coming instead from the museums core programme budget.</p> <p>6)The culture team regularly seek the advice of council colleagues running services for LGBTQIA+ residents to test our proposed offer, this replicated through our established relationships with Wigan Pride, BYOU and the Queer Art group at the Turnpike.</p> <p>The soon to be established young curators programme at the museum will provide further opportunity for the team to gain the input from a broad section of our community, this further informing our programme approach.</p>
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