



Role Description: **LGBTQI+ Research Officer (Volunteer)**

Organisation: OUT North East

Location: ONE Centre, Unit 2B Stonehills, Pelaw, Gateshead, NE10 0HW and community based in North-East England

In-person, hybrid or remote role: This is a hybrid role, though there is an expectation that volunteers will be largely based in the ONE Centre.

Reports to: Volunteer and Outreach Manager.

Time commitment: Approximately 8 hours per month.

Days: Flexible.

Who are OUT North East?

OUT North East is a leading LGBTQ+ charity and community organisation in the North East of England focused on promoting equality, inclusion, wellbeing and community connection for LGBTQ+ people, their families, friends and allies through support services, events, advocacy and awareness-raising programmes. Based at the ONE Centre in Gateshead, it offers safe spaces, practical help, social activities and outreach work to reduce isolation and strengthen community ties. In addition to its core services, OUT North East organises the Summer of Pride festival series, which are free Pride celebrations and events delivered across Gateshead, Sunderland and South Tyneside. These are held over the summer period, bringing together diverse communities for family picnics, concerts, creative days, and other inclusive events that celebrate LGBTQ+ life and promote visibility and belonging.

Role purpose:

The LGBTQI+ Research Officer supports the development and delivery of local research projects focused on LGBTQI+ communities across the North East. This role contributes to building the ONE Centre as a recognised research hub for community-led, ethical, and impact-driven LGBTQI+ research using participatory, qualitative and quantitative research. The volunteer will assist with research design, data collection, engagement, and dissemination activities, helping ensure that community voices inform local policy, services, and advocacy. The role combines research support, community engagement and knowledge-sharing.

Key responsibilities:

- Support the planning and delivery of LGBTQI+ research projects.
- Assist with data collection using methods such as surveys, interviews, focus groups, and community consultations.
- Support participatory and community-led research approaches.
- Help with ethical engagement and informed consent processes.
- Assist in data organisation and thematic analysis.
- Support the writing of research summaries and accessible reports.
- Promote research participation.



- Help organise research launch events at the ONE Centre.
- Contribute to positioning the ONE Centre as a safe and trusted research space.

What the role is not:

- It is not an independent academic researcher position.
- It does not involve unsupervised data storage or governance decisions.
- It does not involve publishing findings without staff oversight.
- It is not responsible for clinical or specialist research activities.

Skills and qualities needed:

- Interest in LGBTQI+ research and community/participatory research.
- Strong skills in qualitative and quantitative research methods.
- Curiosity and analytical thinking.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Respect for confidentiality and ethical research practice.
- Organised and detail-oriented.
- Comfortable engaging with diverse communities.
- Committed to equality, diversity and inclusion.

Experience in research, social sciences, or data collection is welcomed.

Support and training:

Volunteers will receive:

- Induction and safeguarding training.
- Research methods training.
- Ongoing supervision and check-ins.
- Clear escalation procedures for concerns.
- Opportunities for further training and development.

Impact of the role:

LGBTQI+ Research Officers help:

- Generate evidence about the needs of LGBTQI+ communities in the North East.
- Strengthen advocacy and policy influence.
- Ensure lived experience informs service development.
- Build the ONE Centre's reputation as a regional research hub.
- Empower communities through participatory research.

Safeguarding and confidentiality:

All volunteers must:

- Adhere to OUT North East safeguarding policies, as well as other policies and procedures.
- Respect confidentiality at all times.
- Complete any required training prior to starting, or during their time as a volunteer.