

York & District LGBT Forum

Charitable Incorporated Organisation
(Charity Number: 1162234)

Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements for the year ended

31st July 2021

The logo for 'outsource' is written in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font. The letters are black and have a slight shadow or gradient effect, giving them a three-dimensional appearance.

Charity accounts preparation &
independent examination service

York & District LGBT Forum

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Trustees' Annual Report

From: 01/08/2020

To: 31/07/2021

Charity's full name York LGBT Forum

Registered Charity number 1162234

Objectives and activities

Summary of the purposes of the charity set out in its governing document

1. To promote equality and diversity for the public benefit by:

- The elimination of discrimination in relation to lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, intersex, queer, questioning (LGBT) and allies and associates living within the city of York and its environs;
- Challenging homophobia, biphobia, transphobia, or any associated negative attitudes and behaviour within society;
- Working with partners and organisations, public and private, in developing initiatives that will enhance and safeguard LGBT people's lives, ensuring their inclusion in all aspects of life, and that their human rights are protected; and by
- Advancing education, raising awareness and promoting a culture based on equality and diversity.

2. To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, intersex, queer, questioning people (LGBT) and allies and associates from being socially excluded from society on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity; and

3. To further any other purpose which is charitable according to the law of England and Wales for the public benefit as the trustees see fit from time to time.

These aims and objectives are achieved in a number of ways, including through casework, advocacy, policy and advisory work, mapping local crime analysis, training, projects, outreach and through schools and education.

The Forum believes that where barriers exist, there is inequality!

The diversity within the LGBT community enriches all aspects of life and should be encouraged and promoted. This is why the York LGBT Forum strives to improve the social inclusion of LGBT people in the area.

The Forum actively promotes awareness and understanding of LGBT people's needs to enable full participation in society and works with many others to reduce the fear of crime and bullying, particularly in schools. It also encourages greater participation in the prevention and detection of homophobic, transphobic and biphobic discrimination.

Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts

Changes in structure

This year we reviewed our current structure and the membership decided that we would look at creating two overarching themes. These two themes are Community Outreach and Communities of Identity. One of the main reasons for this change was that although the subgroup coordinator format worked when the York LGBT Forum was small, since its growth it has been hard to manage this aspect of the organisation. This new structure will help to streamline our activities and we hope there will be less pressure on individual volunteers to deliver on these projects. Additionally, we are working hard to increase our freelance pool of workers as we recognise that certain areas of the Forum are too demanding for volunteers to manage. Eventually we wish to employ the following: Chief Executive, Administrator, Activities and Volunteer Coordinator and a Finance Officer.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

1 to 1 support

During a year of unprecedented pressures on the mental health of us all, this has particularly taken its toll on those who were already struggling. Whilst some of our members have actually coped better with time alone and away from the business of public spaces and the necessity to socialise, many have found the time of enforced isolation to be an unhealthy time to dwell on one's own thoughts. For others, it was a time when they were forced to be 'shut away' with families who were either hostile towards them, ignored them or simply didn't know how to cope, often with matters relating to gender and sexuality. During the past 12 months we have vastly increased our level of one-to-one support, sometimes helping members through times of emergency (to find safe housing, counselling or mental health support), but more often just being someone who was 'there' when they needed someone to reach out to.

Some of our support has gone the extra mile (quite literally) to deliver essential items or collect medication and, during December and January, we were able to post out weekly 'pick-me-up' packs to some of our more isolated members and those who we hadn't been able to reach via the regular online events. We are proud of all our team of volunteers, not just those whose role was designated to provide this support, but to the countless (often unseen) peers who simply noticed someone in need and responded accordingly – together, we are an amazing community.

Vocal 1 to 1s

We have continued to deliver vocal 1 to 1s, virtually, throughout lockdown. These have had a significant impact on participants, most notably on the work we have done on vocal dysphoria. This work will be included in future funding applications.

Archives

The York LGBTQ+ Archives project was created following the AGM in October 2020 to ensure the preservation of material important to the community in York. A partnership has been formed between the Forum and Explore York Archives to create a LGBTQ+ archive which can house material from the Forum, as well as from other local LGBT organisations and community members. In the future we hope to run activities with Explore York to enable Forum members to engage with archives and York's LGBT past.

Gallery

The Forum has partnered with York Art Gallery on the Queering the Gallery project which aims to broaden the stories being told in the gallery's collections to improve LGBTQ+ visibility, inclusion, and engagement. Working with Creative Learning Producer, Sas Yates, as well as staff from York Museums Trust, members of the Forum are providing critical input to support the gallery in sensitively and meaningfully diversifying its collections and audiences in the build-up to its exhibition on the Bloomsbury Group in 2022.

Forum members are helping to create new gallery labels which better reflect the queer themes portrayed in the gallery's works, as well as the diverse genders and sexualities of its collectors, artists, and craftspeople. Events and workshops hosted as part of this project throughout the remainder of 2021 and into 2022 will provide opportunities for members of the LGBTQ+ community in York to engage with arts and heritage.

Queer Arts and Choir

During the COVID-19 lockdown QueerArts has managed and delivered virtual creative projects within York and across the UK. These have included the following courses: Queerful Xmas Caroling, Queerful Xmas Strings, Guitar for Beginners, Music Theory and Poetry 101. The most successful out of these were the Xmas courses which averaged around 10 participants per session. We also produced a music video with Colours of the Rainbow choir that featured Divina De Campo, a leading UK drag queen as seen on Ru Paul's Drag Race UK season one. The video reached over 14,000 views on our social media platform as well as being featured in local newspapers. Finally, we also continued the choir until the end of June, virtually, weekly which has now been put on hold until we get back to face-to-face delivery. We have an anticipated September date where we will resume the choir. The choir has now become one of York LGBT Forum's core projects with the recognition of the reach and impact that this group has on its members as well as the wider community in York and across the UK. The choir is also planned to be included in a publication due for release in 2022.

It was agreed by the board of Trustees that QueerArts would separate out into its own entity. QueerArts will be set up as a community interest company (CIC) where Colours of the Rainbow choir will be delivered in partnership with York LGBT Forum.

Coffee Socials

Our coffee socials have been online owing to the pandemic. We have worked with over 80 different individuals, with an average attendance of 15. It should be noted we also hosted a coffee social on Christmas Day and Boxing Day. This was very much welcomed by those who do not have a family.

The coffee socials in York and Northallerton both focus on wellbeing and confidence building. We were lucky to be funded by the following: JRHT, Hambleton District Council, Broadacres and National Lottery.

Additionally, we are working with the Lunar Café (York's first LGBTQ+ Café) and Yorkshire Mesmac to bring back our groups face to face.

Northallerton and North Yorkshire

Like many of our groups this past year, this has been greatly impacted by the pandemic. All monthly sessions have taken place via zoom on the second Monday evening of each month throughout the year. This has had both benefits and disadvantages: the disadvantage of not being able to join together in person, but the benefit of supporting the Northallerton LGBTQ+ members in linking with the wider online community across York and North Yorkshire. Numbers remained static during the majority of the lockdown but have reduced somewhat since the restrictions have eased. It is our intention to explore a return to live meetings as soon as we are able as this is a smaller and localised group with a greater option of venues in Northallerton to choose from.

Hate Crime

Hate Crime is increasing in York especially transphobia. We are members of the Police Independent Advisory Group (IAG) and we have been asked if the York LGBT Forum would like to become a hate crime reporting centre. At this time, we cannot commit as we need more people to help us with this project.

Social Media

Our social media was more important than ever this year owing to the pandemic.

Meetup	609 members (increase from 554)
Instagram	788 followers (increase from 482)
Facebook	2759 page likes (increase from 2221)
Twitter	2510 followers (increase from 2411)
Total:	6,666

Training

Jake and Neil delivered a LGBTQ+ awareness training session to the North Yorkshire County Council's Dementia and Autism social care team. From this, Jake was asked to help the council to create an e-learning package based on this training. This has now been successful and is used by all social care staff in North Yorkshire!

Mental Health

This year we have really struggled to deliver on our partnership with the mental health peer support group. This was owing to Covid-19 and the group struggling to adjust to online services.

Mental Health has been a rising issue within our membership and many of our new members also report having mental ill-health. Most of this additional need has been covered by 1 to 1 work by our freelance workers, as well as key volunteers and trustees.

In the middle of the pandemic we had 14 members on one day saying they were struggling with their mental health.

We highlighted December and January as two months where mental health can worsen. One of our projects was to deliver care kits. We supported 15 people over this period including one person in hospital.

We still attend and take part in City of York Council's Suicide Prevention, York Mental Health Forum and the Multiple Complex Needs

COMMUNITIES OF IDENTITY

Bisexual

During the pandemic we had to stop our Bi Socials but we are looking to start these again probably later in the year.

Children and Young People

This work was put on hold during the COVID-19 pandemic. We did, however, receive funding to have one of our service providers act as a System Representative on a panel commissioned by Two Ridings. The intent of this work was to act as a voice for LGBTQ+ young people and help tackle multiple and intersectional disadvantage currently faced by young people. This work has been named 'Together with Young People' and will be officially launched in September.

Disabled

This year we wanted to focus on the Forum becoming more accessible. We were lucky to have a volunteer who helped and guided us on our projects. We have also supported the York Disability Rights Forum as we are increasingly concerned about disabled people's rights in York especially around access to the city centre.

Interfaith

Following the success of our LGBTQ+ People of Faith event for LGBT History Month in February 2020, we managed to secure funding from LGBT Consortium's Intersection Fund to enable us to establish our support network for the faith community of York and North Yorkshire. We oversee the Yorkshire LGBTQ+ People of Faith group on Facebook and currently have 113 members from a wide section of the local faith community. Through this group we have run bi-monthly events via zoom throughout the past 12 months, including linking with the national LGBTQ+ People of Faith event in May and hosting the Interfaith discussions around LGBT literature as part of Leeds LGBT Literature Festival in early July.

The zoom sessions have incorporated guest speakers from varying faith groups, included interfaith meditative reflections and helped to connect isolated LGBTQ+ people from Muslim, Jewish, Pagan, Christian, Buddhist, Sikh and Hindu backgrounds. Our Christian representation has included Church of England, Methodist, Catholic, Quaker, Jehovah's Witness and Mormon people and some in-depth support and encouragement has been administered for individuals who carry much hurt from their own previous experiences. Through this group, we have worked with All Saints Church in Northallerton to help establish North Yorkshire's first Open Table LGBT Christian worship which takes place on the first Thursday evening of each month in Northallerton.

International

We have become increasingly concerned about LGBTQ+ rights across the world. This coupled with our own government's stance on asylum has made us alarmed for LGBTQ+ asylum seekers. We have written letters and supported our partners Time to be Out in lobbying for changes on asylum.

We continue to support projects in Kenya, Uganda and Nepal. Jake has also been in contact with LGBTQ+ people in Poland.

Older People

Free to be Me in Care

Training remains freely accessible on the Forum website.

There have been no bookings between August 2020 and July 2021 with Covid-19 taking such a toll on care homes. Our hearts go out to all the staff and residents we have engaged with over past years.

Free to be Me in the Workplace

LGBT awareness training of a similar nature is being covered by working-age members of the Forum – eg Jodi M Burn and Jake Furby.

Opening the Closet Door on Dementia.

This is a new 90-minute awareness-raising presentation on dementia and how it affects LGBT individuals. Neil Cutler shares how dementia affected his long-time partner and how they coped until his death. Sue Lister and Ann Murray tell the story of a lesbian in a care home (Paper Bag People) and provide the opportunity for staff to talk to her in order to gain her trust – will she feel able to remove her paper bag mask?

Dying Matters Week 14 May 21 on Zoom – 4 attendees

Dementia Action Week 19 May 21 on Zoom – 10 attendees

Royal British Legion – Lister House, Ripon 2 June 21 in person – 10 attendees: £100 donation

Talk on LGBT and dementia by Neil Cutler

Alzheimer's Society Dementia Friends Champions webinar for Pride Month to raise LGBT awareness – 101 attendees from all over the country!

These new initiatives during the pandemic have been warmly received and very much appreciated. New contacts have been made and we look forward to future bookings.

Neil is now a Trustee of Dementia Forward, a charity supporting people living with dementia in York and North Yorkshire. Neil holds the LGBT portfolio. Neil is also actively involved in helping to create a support tool for all health care organisations to provide respectful, timely and effective care for all members of the LGBT community and especially those living with dementia. "Rainbow PATHS" is being led by Nottingham University under a respected Research Psychologist, Claudio di Lorito, and has the support of the York LGBT Forum, Dementia Forward and the Royal British Legion among others

AWOC York (ageing without children)

AWOC York is a partner organisation. Bear in mind that the majority of the LGBT community and millions in the straight community will age without children by choice, circumstance, infertility, estrangement, bereavement or distance. Check the national charity for the full story: www.awoc.org.uk.

At AWOC York monthly meetings continued on the LGBT Forum Zoom until AWOC York bought its own version in May 21. Warmest thanks for Forum support! We started hybrid meetings at Spark in July 21 and thoroughly enjoyed getting together once more – 5 online and 8 in person. Follow up email and post with copious speaker notes and resources go to c.160 awocs including two at universities in South Carolina and one in Virginia! Monthly dates and speaker details can be found at www.awoc.org.uk.

Weekly Zoom socials will continue with around 8-12 attending each week to share news and views, including Jigidi.com jigsaws!

AWOC York's event in the York 50+ Festival 2020: OPPS (Older People's Peer Support). 15 people attended the online workshop to mark International Older Person's Day on 1st October. Nine local and national peer support groups run by and for older people took part. A lively sharing of peer empowerment and networking. A recording can be found on YouTube – browse "ListerInteractions".

Research into LGBT ageing without children. Five UK university student and lecturer researchers have contacted our group over the past year – gradually the visibility of awocs is rising and the importance of the LGBT factor is being realised. Two theatre groups have been in touch and even a 3-D housing design company seeking our input. So, don't feel cut off as you grow older or are alone. All awocs are welcome! Contact Sue at hello@awocoyork.org.uk or through the website at www.awocoyork.org.uk where you will find a list of speakers and topics – just let me know if you'd like a Zoom link. NB We also host an online social on Christmas Day – don't be left out.....

The trustees consider that they have complied with their duties to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.

See above

Financial review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period

The York LGBT Forum has had an excellent year despite Covid-19. However, there is a risk that most of our funding are from grants. This risk is being monitored and plans are being put in place to diversify the portfolio, including training, fundraising and the start of corporate engagement.

Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held

York LGBT Forum exists to promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, intersex, queer, questioning people (LGBT) and allies or associates from being socially excluded from society on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity.

The organisation is a voluntary led registered charity and currently has no employees or fixed property assets.

This Reserves Policy exists to maintain sufficient level of reserves to enable normal operating activities to continue should a shortfall in income occur and to take account of potential risks and contingencies that may arise from time to time.

Excluded from the Reserves Policy is income associated with restricted project funds (earmarked income).

Therefore, in order to demonstrate transparency, accountability and sound financial management, this Reserves Policy clearly justifies the amount of reserves to be kept back.

The Trustees have considered the risks in respect of expenditure, unrestricted income and where appropriate restricted income. Also taken into consideration is any external identified potential risks to income and expenditure during the year under consideration.

A risk assessment has been undertaken for the period 2016/17 and the level of reserve required by the Forum has been agreed to cover basic operating costs encompassing insurance, accounting and any administration costs that may fall due.

York LGBT Forum should hold in reserve approximately 6 months operating capital.

Our reserves will be monitored and reviewed annually or in the event of any significant change to the organisation's circumstances.

Amount of reserves held

£6,310

Reasons for holding zero reserves

N/A

Funds materially in deficit

N/A

Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern

There are no uncertainties about the charity continuing.

Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document

Constitution

How the charity is constituted

CIO with Membership

Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees

Election to post at AGM. Trustees who are elected not at the AGM are ratified at a Forum Members meeting and is then ratified at the next year AGM.

Reference and administration details

Charity's full name York LGBT Forum

Other names the charity is known by N/A

Charity's principal address York LGBT Forum
York CVS
15 Priory Street, York
Postcode YO1 6ET

Names of the trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee
Ian Holdsworth	Chair		
Emily Roach			
Sue Lister			
Jake Furby		08/04/2021	
Jodi M Burn			
Neil Cutler		25/11/2020	

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year
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Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Names and addresses of advisers (OPTIONAL)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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Independent Examiner Karen Wood ACMA Outsource Accounting Services & Independent Examinations
Hiscox Building, Peasholme Green
York, YO1 7PR

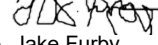
Bankers

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members
N/A

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees Annual Report and Accounts

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature 
Full Name Jake Furby
Position Trustee
Date 06/03/2022

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of York & District LGBT Forum

I report on the accounts of: **York & District LGBT Forum**
for the year ended: **31st July 2021** which are set out on pages 7 to 10.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Karen Wood (ACMA)

Outsource independent examination
service

The Hiscox Building
Peasholme Green
York YO1 7PR

06/03/2022

Date:

York & District LGBT Forum

Receipts & Payments Accounts for the year ended:			31st July 2021	
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2021 Total funds	2020 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Grants	500	95,185	95,685	34,774
Donations	5,109	443	5,552	6,536
Training & fee income	259	-	259	6,020
Fundraising & sundry income	1,394	310	1,704	1,144
Total receipts	7,262	95,938	103,200	48,474
Payments				
Marketing (banners, leaflets etc)	691	683	1,374	6,846
Facilitation of activities &	2,017	26,299	28,316	18,132
Independent examination fee	400	-	400	400
Administration & office costs	75	21	96	1,727
Insurance	-	351	351	-
Website	588	1,079	1,667	-
Stall & event costs	-	230	230	7,577
Volunteer travel & expenses	-	203	203	648
AGM & annual report costs	479	35	514	310
Room hire, venue & rent	-	270	270	1,806
Consultancy	1,455	37,640	39,095	-
Equipment & IT support	86	389	475	405
Training materials & care kits	-	612	612	-
Funds returned		7,106	7,106	
Total payments	5,791	74,918	80,709	37,851
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,471	21,020	22,491	10,623
Transfers between funds	1,806	(1,806)	-	-
Balance brought forward	3,033	24,751	27,784	17,161
Balance carried forward	6,310	43,965	50,275	27,784

York & District LGBT Forum

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at:	31st July 2021			
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	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Assets				
Cash at bank and in hand				
Current bank account	6,310	43,965	50,275	27,784
	6,310	43,965	50,275	27,784

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Liabilities				
Independent examiner's fee	400	-	400	400
	400	-	400	400

York & District LGBT Forum
(Charity Number: 1162234)

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended:

31st July 2021

1. Basis of preparation

The Trustees have taken advantage of section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 and prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

2. Funds analysis

2.1 Restricted funds

Fund name	Purpose
FTBM Schools project	Support young LGBT in schools to tackle isolation by involvement in community based activities and provide support.
York Mind	City of York Council mental health activities project lead by York Mind
JRF	To support LGBT health and wellbeing in York.
Homeless Project	Funds to help educate and raise awareness of what it is like to be homeless in organisations that support homeless people.
Northallerton	Monthly coffee social, funded by Hambleton District Council and Broadacres. 2 hours a month for facilitation.
Awards for All	Grant for mental health peer support group. Funding could not be spent until the 1st August because of grant guidelines but came into the back early. The funding is to develop the group, produce self care packs and funding for leaflets (this may change owing to Covid-19).
Queer Arts	Funded by two ridings Community foundation Covid-19 response fund. It's for facilitation of the choir.
Trans Workshop	Funded by the tampon tax and is for facilitation and 1 to 1 support for trans and Non-Binary individuals. The trans workshop meets weekly.
Interfaith	Funded by the governments LGBT Futures Fund (intersection fund). It's to organise 4 LGBTQIA+ multifaith events it comes to an end in April.
Tesco bags for life	To give 1 to 1 support over a 3 month period.
National Lottery 1	
National Lottery 2	
Queer Arts Music	
Benendon Health	
QASR Bursary	
Purey Cust Trust	
Trans Fund	

2.2 Movement of major funds

	Balance b/fwd £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Trf between funds £	Balance c/fwd £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	3,033	7,262	5,791	1,806	6,310
	3,033	7,262	5,791	1,806	6,310
Restricted funds					
FTBM Schools project	783	-	-	-	783
York Mind	387	2,000	1,505	(882)	-
JRF	3,962	-	1,950	-	2,012
Homeless Project	1,494	-	-	-	1,494
Northallerton	210	-	240	90	60
Awards for All	9,363	1,270	10,615		18
Queer Arts	1,879	-	1,941	62	-
Trans Workshop	5,658	-	5,333		325
Interfaith	795	250	988		57
Tesco bags for life	220	-	235	15	-
National Lottery 1	-	35,032	32,880	(2,152)	-
National Lottery 2		45,963	15,452		30,511
Queer Arts Music		243	1,304	1,061	-
Benendon Health		1,920	150		1,770
QASR Bursary		4,000	725		3,275
Purey Cust Trust		5,000	1,600		3,400
Trans Fund		260			260
	24,751	95,938	74,918	(1,806)	43,965
Total funds	27,784	103,200	80,709	-	50,275

Transfers between funds represent an overspend that has been made up from unrestricted funds or a slight underspend that has been agreed by the funder can be transferred to unrestricted funds £820 was transferred from the underspend from York Mind to unrestricted funds to assist the LGBT choir.

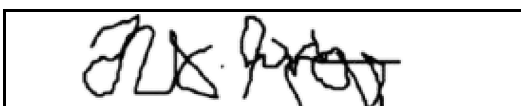
Approval of Accounts for the year ended:

31st July 2021

The report and accounts were approved at a meeting of the Trustees held on:

23/02/2022

Date



Signed for and on behalf of the Trustees

06/03/2022

Date

Jake Furby

Print Name

Trustee

Position (e.g. Chair etc)