ANNUAL REPORT

2024/2025

Basildon Pride CIO
basildonpride.co.uk

BASILDON Pride

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INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

As we finish 2025, we have a lot to celebrate as the work of the charity has continued to go from strength to strength. Not only did we deliver our much-loved Basildon Pride Festival for the 7th year running, we also significantly expanded and evolved further our Everyday Programme. Our charity membership has grown to 65 people and we were delighted to welcome our new members who have joined over the year.

I would like to thank every single person who has contributed to the charity this year. Your support is invaluable, and we could not do our work without you. It has been wonderful to see people taking on new roles as well over the year and really making a wonderful contribution to the charity.

This year has been difficult for many prides and sadly not all have survived. The fight to get funding has become increasingly difficult with grant funding drying up and sponsors pulling away, often buoyed by rhetoric emanating from across the Atlantic.

We too have lost our 2 main partners this year in Fiserv and Eastgate and this has put us under significant financial pressure. But we have managed to survive, and I thank the Directors for their work with me to make sure we ended on a sound financial footing including attracting some new sponsors in c2c, Barrett Redrow and Blatella Films.

We had our second year of National Lottery Community Funding and also received a grant from Essex Community Foundation. We received great support also from the Army Cadets and Towngate Theatre. So, thank you to all those organisations.

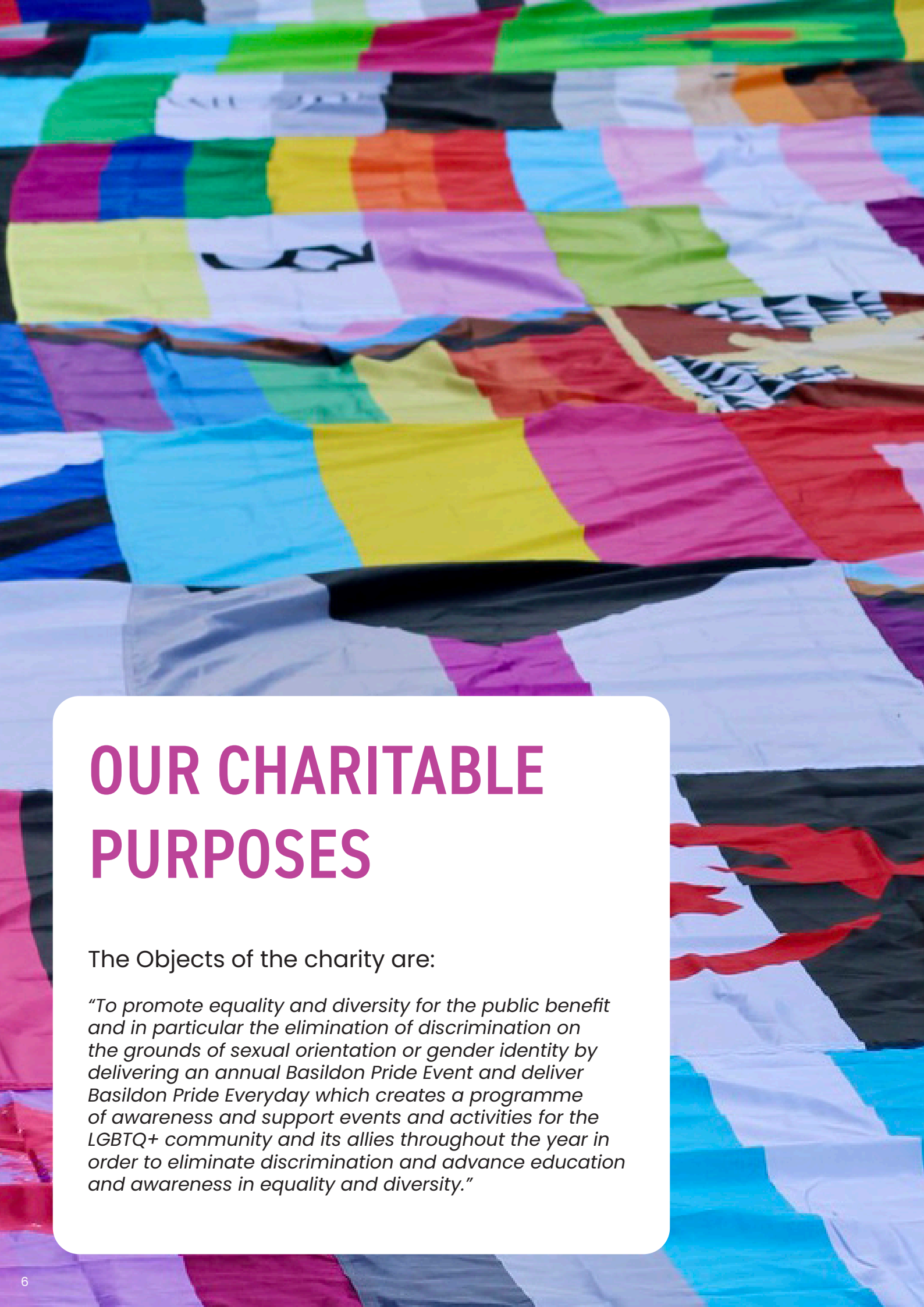
Moving forward we have our final year of lottery funding next year. After early conversations, the lottery seems keen to explore supporting us further. In this light, our Directors and Trustees have started the process of building our 2027-2029 medium term strategy which will form the basis of our new lottery application which we will submit in the first quarter of 2026.

We will also focus on ensuring that all elements of the 2024-2026 strategy has been delivered as some areas still require some attention.

Basildon Pride is needed more than ever. Thank you to our members, supporters and the public for being a part of it.

David Burton-Sampson
Chair of Trustees





OUR CHARITABLE PURPOSES

The Objects of the charity are:

"To promote equality and diversity for the public benefit and in particular the elimination of discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation or gender identity by delivering an annual Basildon Pride Event and deliver Basildon Pride Everyday which creates a programme of awareness and support events and activities for the LGBTQ+ community and its allies throughout the year in order to eliminate discrimination and advance education and awareness in equality and diversity."

Our Organisational Purposes are:

To work with the LGBTQ+ community of The Basildon Borough and beyond and other interested stakeholders as well as statutory and community sector organisations to promote Basildon Pride as a lasting movement

To arrange, fundraise for and deliver an annual Basildon Pride Event

To fundraise for and deliver Basildon Pride Everyday which creates a programme of awareness and support events and activities for the LGBTQ+ community and its allies throughout the year

The Public Benefit we provide is

Advanced citizenship, cohesion and improved community relations in the Basildon Borough and beyond

Education about the Basildon Borough LGBTQ+ community and wider LGBTQ+ issues

Free Information, support, guidance, and a non-judgemental space for discussion & dialogue concerning LGBTQ+ health and well-being

The promotion of LGBTQ+ arts, culture, and heritage

Championing human rights, equality and diversity

OUR ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

All positions across the charity are held on a voluntary basis.

Board of Trustees

There are currently 7 appointed Trustees in line with our constitution.

David Burton-Sampson
Chair of the Trustees

Mathew Whaley
Deputy Chair of the Trustees

Jamie Whaley
Treasurer to the Charity

Alex McKenzie
Trustee without role

Robert Scully
Trustee without role

Liam McAllister
Trustee without role

Danny Lawrence
Trustee without role

In line with the constitutional arrangements 1 Trustee will retire at the Annual General Meeting in November 2024, and we will look to fill our vacancy.

Charity Directors

The Everyday Committee hold responsibility for coordinating and delivering our Basildon Pride Everyday programme throughout the year.

Vacant
Charity Programme Director

Maxine Newell
Charity Administrator

Alex Davis
Festival Project Director

Matthew Miller
Marketing Director

Vacant
Everyday Director

Connor Chilton
Finance & Partnership Director

Basildon Pride Festival Organising Committee

The Festival Organising Committee holds responsibility for delivering the annual Basildon Pride Festival Event.

Vacant
Festival Creative Lead

Vacant
Festival Event Lead

Gary Wilson
Festival Entertainment Manager

Liam McAllister
Parade Manager

David Bedson
Technical Manager

Ben Sawyer
Logistic Manager

Alex McKenzie
Health & Safety Manager

Maxine Newell
Community Engagement Manager

Tracey Freeman
Volunteers Manager

Festival Support Officers –
Christina Caten, Helen Taylor, Jamie Whaley, Matthew Whaley.

Basildon Pride Everyday Organising Committee

The Everyday Committee hold responsibility for coordinating and delivering our Basildon Pride Everyday programme throughout the year.

Helen Taylor
Networking Manager

Aaron Willis
Young Persons Networking Manager

Vacant
Hate Crime Manager

Ashe Thorpe
Trans, Non-Binary and Gender Diverse Lead

Vacant
Mental Health Manager

Daniel Johnson
Everyday Entertainment Manager

Alex McKenzie
Pride Matters Manager

Tracey Freeman
Everyday Support Officer

Other Roles

Vacant
Social Media Manager

Vacant
Brand Manager

Vacant
Fundraising Manager



BASILDON PRIDE FESTIVAL 2025 REVIEW

The Basildon Pride Festival took place on Saturday 6th September 2025 at Basildon Sporting Village.

The day got off to its usual spectacular and colourful start with the annual Parade which set off at 11am from outside the former Toys R Us/Sports Direct building in Southernhay in Basildon Town Centre. Headed by the Basildon Borough Mayor Cllr Allan Davies and his Mayoress, they led a parade of over 1,500 people including drag queens, army and air cadets, sponsors, local businesses, volunteers, community groups, members of the LGBTQ+ community and the public in a 1.5mile parade to the festival sponsored by Barratt Redrow.

We welcomed 49 festival volunteers, local businesses joined in again with the Eastgate Shopping Centre dressed for the occasion in a glorious aerial flag display, alongside our friends at Orleto Lounge and The Craft Shed who made sure their bunting was available.

Once again, all the colours of the rainbow were accompanied by glitter, face paints, sparkle, music, drums, flags, marching banners, and mischievous Chinese lions. Dancers. Our unique handmade diversity river flag carried by over 50 people, was joined by an equally large rainbow river flag and for the first time ever a large Trans flag in a bold display of unity, defiance to hatred and a symbol of acceptance that everyone should have.

This year, we had a welcoming party by our Rainbow Arch as confetti cannons burst colour into the air with the arrival of Cheryl The Queen & Saucy Sonia leading the parade into the Pride Festival. Stage hosts Chamonix & Miles Elliot welcomed everyone who had made the journey.

Hosted by Chamonix and Miles Elliot, our Main Stage was sponsored by C2C. Family Stage sponsored by Gateway 97.8 both had a new look and became the place to watch high quality programme of performers including our amazing lineup of drag queens Ella Gant, Candy Heals, Adam All, Vanity Nightmare, Cheryl The Queen, Estella Safella & Scar Vigilante, Rory Roar all bringing colour, make-up and heels to our stages.

We had tributes bands ABBA, Cher! We also had the pleasure of local artists and bands including The Vision, Smalltown Boy and Kian Butler, we welcomed poet Lee Campbell.

Topped off by our amazing Headline act LA VOIX, who went on to take part in Strictly Come Dancing.

Our Chill-Out Zone sponsored by ideverde and run by local charity Motivate Minds provided a calm escape from the hustle and bustle elsewhere.

Can't wait for 2026! Was honestly such a seemless expereince.

Loved it! Thank you all for all your hard work. Loved it was free entry. Loved meeting new people.

It was the best year! The acts were so much better!

Keep doing great things - the day is so well thought out and inclusive.

The market stalls this year were absolutely fantastic. Great organisation and the helpers were incredible.

Our Discovery Hub sponsored by Unite the Union, with some amazing guest speakers including Tim Spoor, Gavin Dixon and Joanne Lockward.

The Family Entertainment zone sponsored by SS&C was back by popular demand with our friends at Infinity Circus letting anyone try their hand at circus skills; we have never seen so many plates spun and balls being juggled before! Our fairground was focused on providing some fun for children.

The Marketplace, sponsored by Palmers Solicitors was a great range of business, community and charity stalls once again, including some new stalls providing drag outfits, pride merchandise, sweets, lucky dups, mead and lingerie.

Our Foodcourt, sponsored by Gateway 97.8 brought back the smells and taste of home cooked food, with the staple burgers, hot dogs, noodles, mixed up with ice cream, donuts, coffee, tastes of the Caribbean, India and Mexico! Our main bar was bigger and looked like a proper pub and was joined this year by a prosecco bar in a converted horsebox! Thanks to Essex & Suffolk Water, we even had fresh mains drinking water piped into our site available free of charge helping us meet a reducing plastic objective from our Environmental Policy a year early!

We truly hope that the 6,000 people that passed through our gates and stayed for the day had the best time and will come back next year.

After the festival a longer seven hour After Party kicked off at 9pm with a performance by Cheryl The Queen and tunes from our guest DJ Sarah.

Alex Davis
Festival & Parade Project Director



BASILDON PRIDE EVERYDAY 2024/25 REVIEW

The Everyday Programme remains committed to giving back to the local community through a diverse range of activities, partnerships and support initiatives. Basildon Pride has continued to create opportunities for LGBTQ+ people and allies to connect, access support, develop confidence and celebrate diversity.

Our Basildon Pride Everyday Programme continues across 5 pillars, continuing to give an even broader level of outreach to the LGBTQ+ Community and our allies in the Basildon Borough and beyond.

- Networking for Adults, Young People and Families
- Mental Health Awareness and Support
- Trans, Non-Binary and Gender Diverse Awareness and Support
- Hate Crime Awareness
- Pride Matters Radio Show

Networking – Adults

Adult Networking has delivered a varied programme of social and community activities throughout the year. We have explored several different venues, including the Castlemayne Pub, Orleto Lounge, Craft Shed, Utility Hub and Towngate Theatre. This flexibility has enabled us to offer activities in different settings and continue building connections within the local LGBTQ+ community.

A full year of events has been delivered as outlined below including the attendance figures.

- December 2024 – Christmas Party – 200 people
- January 2025 – Beat the January Blues Mindfulness drawing – 21 people
- February 2025 – LGBT History Month Quiz – 67 people
- March 2025 – Easter Bingo – 80 people
- April 2025 – Open Mic Night – 82 people
- Day 2025 – Mental Health Awareness – 19 people
- June 2025 – Pride Month Party – 80 people
- July 2025 – Trans and Non-Binary Quiz – 16 people
- August 2025 – Festival Warm Up Event – 90 people
- September 2025 – Musical Bingo Night – 60 people
- October 2025 – Family Networking Pottery event – 10 people

Networking – Young People

Queer Crusaders continues to be one of the programme's great successes. Weekly sessions regularly attract between 25 and 30 young people. Essex Youth Services has developed an outstanding programme of activities that provides young people with opportunities to build friendships, develop confidence and celebrate their identities in a safe and supportive environment.

Counselling is also in place and being provided by Renew Counselling. A mixture of group sessions and 6-week blocks of individual sessions are delivered. 4 clients have gone through a complete block of sessions, and 3 others are currently going through a programme of counselling. Several others are potentially going to have individual counselling sessions after conversations during the group sessions.

We have applied for £3,000 in FSJ funding to support the continuation of this important project and ensure that young people can continue to access the support they need.

Pride Matters Radio Show

Pride Matters continues to be broadcast weekly and has welcomed a range of fantastic guests, including representatives from Essex Police and the Towngate Theatre.

Each programme explores topics relevant to the local community, with a particular focus on our Everyday activities, events and our diversity calendar. The move to DAB radio enables the show to reach a wider audience, increasing its visibility.

Supporting other LGBTQ+ Initiatives

Basildon Pride has continued to build its presence within the wider Basildon community. We were pleased to participate in Basildon Carnival, providing two drag artists for the main stage. The performances created an opportunity to celebrate diversity in a fun and accessible way while raising awareness of Basildon Pride.

We continue to work with Pride in Kharkiv, Ukraine advising on their safe space centre which is not only vital during the war but will be needed post war as well as Ukraine remains an area more hostile to the LGBTQ+ Community. We are actively seeking other projects we would like to support this year.

Networking – Families

An online Safe Spaces Forum continues, this allows families of LGBTQ+ people a space to chat and discuss their feelings, ask questions and gain a greater understanding of what their family member is experiencing, without judgement.

We have been presented with some challenges in terms of engaging families. In response, the Everyday Committee has explored different times, venues and approaches to make the sessions more accessible. Bi-monthly support sessions have been offered, including a morning coffee session at the Towngate Theatre.

The focus was solely on parents and carers; we extended family network to the wider family unit. This has been successful especially with family themed evets.

Mental Health Awareness and Support

Mental health and wellbeing remain embedded within the core values of Basildon Pride and the Everyday Programme.

We have joined forces with Basildon Library to establish a monthly Book and Social Club. The club provides an opportunity for members of the LGBTQ+ community to come together, discuss queer literature and more importantly develop friendships and social connections, which has improved their mental wellbeing.

In September, we partnered with Trust Links to deliver an LGBTQ+ Mental Health Wellness Drop-In, incorporating gardening and creative activities. Following the success of this event, we intend to hold a further session in March 2026.

We continue to collaborate with organisations including Peddle Power and Signpost which strengthens our ability to signpost people towards appropriate support.

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Trans, Non-Binary and Gender Diverse Awareness and Support

Given the challenges this group of our community our project has continued to grow through collaborative working with Transpire Southend and the Craft Shed in Basildon Town Centre. Feedback from participants has been particularly positive, with members of the community highlighting the importance of us creating a dedicated space where they can feel safe, supported and understood

Educational sessions continue to be delivered through a variety of different medium – A Pride Matters Show focused on Trans Allyship was broadcast in March 2025.

We have developed a dedicated Trans Allyship Learning Programme, piloted at St Luke's Hospice, which has proved highly successful. Further workshops have subsequently been delivered to employees at Basildon Council and the Towngate Theatre.

- All venues for our events now have Gender Neutral Toilet Facilities
- Pronoun Badges are available for use at all our events moving forwards.
- "Transcend" is taking place as a bi-monthly safe space event for the Trans, Non-Binary and Gender Diverse community to meet and gain support. The sessions have moved to The Craft Shed and session attendance continues to grow.
- We launched our Trans Inclusion Policy March this year at the Towngate Theatre attendees included Basildon Council employees.

Hate Crime Awareness

Our work around hate crime continues to develop through strong partnerships with Essex Police, who remain fully supportive of Basildon Pride's work in this area.

Working alongside Arts Outburst, we delivered successful Hate Crime Awareness sessions in two schools: James Hornsby and Beauchamps. Feedback from both schools was extremely positive, and Beauchamps has committed to participating again in 2026.

Our collaborative approach with partner organisations enables us to share information, identify concerns and work towards highlighting hate crime and improving safety, inclusion and support for LGBTQI+ people.

An e-learning suite that can be shared with local businesses and will also be available on our website promoting LGBTQ+ and wider diversity awareness and ways of tackling hate crime will move into development during 2025.

Safe Space Project

We have developed a Safe Spaces Network in collaboration with Basildon Council, Essex Police, Signpost and the Independent Advisory Group. The project is designed to create a network of trusted locations where members of the LGBTQ+ community can access a safe, welcoming and supportive environment.

We have developed the workshops in collaboration with Essex Police, our ambition is to establish a network involving a range of local organisations, including shops, churches, pubs and other community venues. We will develop an app where people can see where these safe spaces are. The Safe Space Project will be launched in March 2026.

PERFORMANCE AGAINST CHARITABLE PURPOSES MEASURES

Outlined below is the charities performance against the key measures identified at our inception. For the near future we will not be setting targets until we understand our current rolling annual position. However, the Board of Trustees will use this data to identify areas by which the charity needs to improve or focus its attention.

65 members

Total annual membership of CIO
as recorded at each AGM. Membership at the point of going to press was 65 which has grown from 57 in 2024.

6,504

Total social media audience
across Basildon Pride's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts.

177

Members of the Basildon Pride LGBTQ+ Facebook Support Group

6,000

Number of attendees at the Basildon Pride Festival 2025
estimated based on gate counts.

69	Total number of attendees at the Basildon Pride fundraising events throughout the year
49	Number of volunteers assisting at the Basildon Pride Festival 2025.
£100	Total value of donations and grants made by Basildon Pride to other causes or campaigns

Rolling programme of Basildon Pride events for fundraising, awareness, and support; See Basildon Pride Everyday Report.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2025

The total expenditure for the year was £93,054. This represents event Logistics and Technical costs, Performer and Security fees, Insurance, and other general operating costs.

Our Banking is held with NatWest and our balance as of 1st November 2025 was £11 164.77.

In addition to our Bank Account, we also have a PayPal Account and registered for the PayPal Giving Fund which has received £744.60 this financial year.

Income/Expenditure	**31/10/2025**
Total gross income	£89,103
Total expenditure	£93,054
Income from government contracts	N/A
Income from government grants	N/A

Final Accounts submitted to The Charity Commission for year ending 31/10/2025

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

We would like to extend our thanks to our wonderful sponsors and supporters, without whom Basildon Pride CIO simply would not be able to deliver our activities. Every penny donated is sincerely appreciated

Our Sponsors



MOVING FORWARD OUR FOCUS FOR 2025/26

The Board of Trustees are keen to build on the amazing work delivered over the last 12 months on the back of our significant increase in funding.

The focus for the coming year will be to:

Deliver our Basildon Pride Everyday programme whilst ensuring the remaining elements of our 2024-2026 Medium Term Strategy are delivered by the end of the year.

Working with our Charity Trustees, Charity Members and the LGBTQ+ community, develop and shape our 2027 – 2029 strategy

Deliver Basildon Pride - The Festival 2026, taking learnings from our 2025 event to once again make it better than before, whilst ensuring it remains a celebration of the LGBTQ+ Community.

Continue to work with and support partner organisations in our local community to further our work and further support for the LGBTQ+ community.

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CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Basildon Pride CIO	1193090

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01/11/2024	To	31/10/2025

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Stallholder Fees	5,440	-	-	5,440	6,025
Fundraising/ Raffles	576	-	-	576	4,099
Sponsorship	10,300	-	-	10,300	17,900
Sales	1,367	-	-	1,367	1,413
Donations	3,420	-	-	3,420	1,639
Grants	68,000	-	-	68,000	65,500
Other	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
***Sub total** (Gross income for AR)*	89,103	-	-	89,103	96,576
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	89,103	-	-	89,103	96,576
A3 Payments					
Performer Fees	15,418	-	-	15,418	12,840
Logistics Hire	13,148	-	-	13,148	29,887
Equipment Hire/ Technical	14,297	-	-	14,297	11,584
Advertising and Promotion	1,992	-	-	1,992	2,067
Printing	-	-	-	-	133
Sub Contractor Costs	16,793	-	-	16,793	3,268
Accomodation and Meals	648	-	-	648	555
Bank/ Finance Charges	120	-	-	120	206
Insurance	1,812	-	-	1,812	2,578
Cost of Sales	609	-	-	609	50
Materials	185	-	-	185	183
Venue Hire	3,445	-	-	3,445	2,737
Event Giveaways	36	-	-	36	10
Computer Software/ Web Hosting	345	-	-	345	227
Computer Hardware	254	-	-	254	25
Office Equipment	68	-	-	68	12
Stationery	74	-	-	74	27
Charitable Donations	1	-	-	1	499
Staff Entertaining	-	-	-	-	296
Salaries	17,733	-	-	17,733	9,561
Staff Pensions	334	-	-	334	137
Directors Salaries	5,425	-	-	5,425	6,875
Bad Debt Written Off	70	-	-	70	300
Business Entertainment	-	-	-	-	25
Sundries and Contingency	1	-	-	1	64
Rent	216	-	-	216	-
Subscriptions	30	-	-	30	-
Sub total	93,054	-	-	93,055	84,146
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Computer Equipment Purchase		-	-	-	150
Fixtures and Fittings Purchase	-	-	-	-	116
Festival Asset Purchase	-	-	-	-	1,063
Promotional Asset Purchase	-	-	-	-	2,987
Sub total	-	-	-	-	4,316

Total payments	93,054	-	-	93,055	88,462
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 3,952	-	-	- 3,952	8,114
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	16,267	-	-	14,722	8,153
Cash funds this year end	12,315	-	-	10,770	16,267

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

B1 Cash funds

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	Metro Bank Account	104	-	-
	Natwest Account	11,165		
	Paypal Account	745		
	Cash Tin	301		
	Trade Debtors	130	-	-
	Other Creditors and Expense Account	122	-	-
	Total cash funds (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	12,567	-	-

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Computer Equipment	Unrestricted	-	122
Fixtures and Fittings	Unrestricted	-	93
Festival Assets	Unrestricted	-	940
Promotional Assets	Unrestricted	-	2,660
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
Pension Creditor	Unrestricted	82	
PAYE/NI	Unrestricted	212	
Expense Account	Unrestricted	79	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
D. E. L	DAVID BUETTNER SAMSON	27/8/2026
	JAMIE WHALEY	27/08/2026

ANGELA STANBROOK
139 School Avenue
Basildon
Essex
SS15 6GH

To The Trustee's of Basildon Pride CIO

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Basildon Pride CIO

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Basildon Pride (the Trust) for the year ended 31 October 2025.

Qualification as a non-professional examiner

I am suitably qualified to examine the accounts before me as my current role is CEO and Director of a Limited Company, a position I have held for 7 years (previously COO for 25 years with the same company). I am responsible for overseeing all financial activities of the company: setting budgets, tracking cash flow, financial planning and analysing the company's Accounts. The company's CFO is a direct report to me.

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 Trust'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

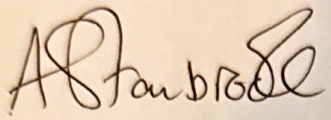
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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; or

3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.



Angela Stanbrook

28/8/2026