



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 10th July 2024 **(period start date)** to 31st March 2025 **(period end date)**

Charity name: Out of the Can

Charity registration number: 1209066

Objectives and Activities

	SOR P refere nce	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	To advance in life and relieve the needs of young people aged 12 to 19 years who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans or unsure of their gender or sexual identity (LGBTQ+)
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.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	By: a) The provision of recreational and leisure time activities provided in the interest of social welfare, designed to improve their conditions of life; b) Providing support and activities which develop their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as mature and responsible individuals.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty under the Charities Act 2011 to have regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. Out of the Can LGBTQ+ Youth Group exists to advance the lives of LGBTQ+ young people aged 12–19 by providing safe, inclusive, and supportive spaces where they can develop confidence, resilience, and a sense of belonging. During the reporting period, the charity delivered 68 youth sessions, alongside a wide range of creative, educational, social, and wellbeing activities. These sessions provided young people with opportunities to build friendships, access trusted adults, develop new skills, and participate in positive community experiences. The charity also worked with external organisations—including mental health, policing, sexual health, and public health services—to ensure young people could access early intervention, information, and support. The benefits of the charity's work are evident in the strong and consistent attendance across both youth groups, the high level of engagement in activities, and the positive relationships formed with volunteers, partner organisations, and the wider community. All services are provided free of charge and are open to any LGBTQ+ young person within the age range, ensuring that the public benefit is accessible and not unreasonably restricted. Through its activities, Out of the Can LGBTQ+ Youth Group promotes wellbeing, reduces social isolation, supports personal development, and contributes to a more inclusive and understanding community. The Trustees are satisfied that the charity's aims and activities clearly demonstrate public benefit.

Activities and Achievements (2024 TAR Period)

Overview of Activities

During the 2024 reporting period, Out of the Can LGBTQ+ Youth Group (OOTC) delivered a vibrant, diverse, and high-impact programme of support, activities, and community engagement for LGBTQ+ young people aged 12–19 across Swindon and Wiltshire. Our work continued to focus on providing safe, inclusive, and empowering spaces where young people can connect, learn, express themselves, and develop confidence and resilience.

Across the year, OOTC delivered 68 youth sessions, maintained strong attendance, expanded partnerships, and strengthened our volunteer base. The Trustees are pleased to report a period of stability, growth, and meaningful impact.

Youth Group Sessions

OOTC delivered:

- 34 sessions for the Young Group (YG)
- 34 sessions for the Older Group (OG)
- 68 sessions in total

Attendance

Engagement remained consistently strong:

- Average attendance:
 - YG: 10 young people per session
 - OG: 22 young people per session
- Combined average: 32 young people per session
- Highest recorded attendance: 44 (Older Group)

These figures reflect the ongoing need for safe LGBTQ+ youth spaces in the region and the trust young people place in OOTC.

Events and Community Engagement

OOTC maintained a visible and active presence across Swindon and Wiltshire, strengthening community connections and raising awareness of LGBTQ+ youth needs. Key events attended included:

- Swindon & Wiltshire Pride (August 2024)
- Freshers Fairs at Swindon College and New College (October 2024)
- Enchanted Light Gardens Trail (December 2024)

During this period, OOTC:

- Recruited one new volunteer (February 2025)
- Retained all existing volunteers, demonstrating strong organisational culture and support

Programme of Activities

A rich and varied programme was delivered across both youth groups, including:

Creative, Social & Skills-Building Activities

- *No Added Sugar* sessions preparing young people for volunteering at Swindon & Wiltshire Pride
- STEM programme (6 sessions) delivered by an LGBTQ+ STEM Ambassador, funded by Pride in STEM
- Creation of a community light installation for the Enchanted Light Garden Trail
- Nature walk and sustainable plant pot making
- Regular craft sessions, games, and social activities including Uno
- Queer Prom, organised by the Older Group
- Halloween and Christmas celebrations
- LGBT History Month activities

Educational & Supportive Workshops

OOTC welcomed a range of external organisations to deliver information, guidance, and wellbeing support:

- Papyrus (suicide prevention)
- Wiltshire Police PCSO
- Samaritans
- Alzheimer's Society
- NHS Sexual Health Services
- Public Health Swindon Borough Council

These sessions helped young people access trusted adults, specialist knowledge, and early intervention support.

Volunteer Development & Training

To ensure high-quality, safe, and informed youth work practice:

- Two volunteers completed Emergency Paediatric First Aid training (Wiltshire First Aid Training, November 2024)
- 5 Volunteers covered all group sessions throughout the year, all enhanced DBS checked and Advanced Safeguarding Level 2 trained.
- 1 JNC qualified Youth Worker attended a majority of the sessions.

This investment in volunteer skills strengthens safeguarding and ensures young people receive safe, reliable support.

Networking and Representation

OOTC continued to build relationships with regional and national LGBTQ+ networks. Notably:

- Two volunteers were invited to attend the Schools Out LGBTQ+ History Month 2025 Theme Launch at Conway Hall, London.

This reflects OOTC's growing reputation as a valued contributor to LGBTQ+ youth work and community development.

Impact Summary

Across 2024, OOTC:

- Provided 68 safe, inclusive youth sessions;
- Supported an average of 32 young people per week;
- Delivered a wide range of creative, educational, and wellbeing activities;
- Strengthened community partnerships and visibility;
- Maintained a committed volunteer team;
- Offered young LGBTQ+ people a space to belong, grow, and thrive;
- Out of the Can transitioned to a Charity, after existing as an unincorporated association for over 20 years.

The Trustees are proud of the resilience, creativity, and dedication shown by staff, volunteers, and young people throughout the year. OOTC continues to play a vital role in supporting LGBTQ+ youth wellbeing across Swindon and Wiltshire.

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Cash at bank at 31/03/2025 was £6,088 in unrestricted funds. Successful in achieving 3 years of funding from Wiltshire Community Foundation, 1st payment arriving at the end of March 2025. In terms of looking forward OOTC will be applying for further grants in 2025 from BBC Children in Need and The National Lottery Community Grant. Along with seeking further corporate donations (previously OOTC has been successful with Thames Water and WHSmith). OOTC is also part of the Swindon Community Lottery, which is planned to be pushed as part of our Social Media Campaign).
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	?? Brad ??
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	?? Brad ??
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	?? Brad ??
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	None

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Out of the Can LGBTQ+ Youth Group Constitution (CIO Foundation)
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) Foundation
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	Para 1.25	All new Trustees were made aware of the responsibility of becoming a Trustee, via the Charity Commission Guidance / Website and all Trustees completed the Trustee Eligibility Form.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Out of the Can LGBTQ+ Youth Group.
Other name the charity uses	OOTC
Registered charity number	1209066
Charity's principal address	1 John Street, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN1 1RT

Names of the charity 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 (if any)
1	Jo Sharpe	Chair		
2	Bradley	Treasurer		
3	Hannah Walton-Kinross	Trustee		
4	Mark Deller	Trustee		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

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

Declarations

**The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees**

Signature(s)		
Full Name(s)	Jo Sharpe	Bradley Hill
Position	Chair	Treasurer
Date		

OUT OF THE CAN
Profit & Loss Account
Period July 2024 to 31st March 2025

Grant Income

Grant - Wiltshire Community Foundation	5,000.00	
		<u>5,000.00</u>

Donations

Miscellaneous Income	200.00	
Donation - Swindon Lottery	377.50	
Donation - General	392.55	
Donation - CAF	911.00	
Donation - WH Smith	1,000.00	
Donation - Miss Bridys Raffle Fundraiser	400.00	
Donation - SumUp	159.00	
		<u>3,440.05</u>

Total Income	<u>8,440.05</u>
---------------------	------------------------

Expenditure

SumUp Transaction Costs	(70.08)	
Insurance	(0.04)	
Running Costs	(767.74)	
Storage Fee	(896.00)	
Training	(390.20)	
Website	(80.39)	
Youth Worker	(1,665.00)	
Event	(4,219.23)	
Hall Hire	(2,625.00)	

Total Expenditure	<u>(10,713.68)</u>
--------------------------	---------------------------

Profit for the Year	<u><u>(2,273.63)</u></u>
----------------------------	---------------------------------

OUT OF THE CAN
Balance Sheet
Period Ended 31st March 2025

Total Fixed Assets	<u>-</u>
---------------------------	----------

Current Assets

Bank	6,088.90
Prepayments	547.00

Total Current Assets	<u>6,635.90</u>
-----------------------------	------------------------

Accruals	1,110.00
Creditors	209.90

Total Current Liability	<u>1,319.90</u>
--------------------------------	------------------------

Current Assets less Current Liabilities	<u>5,316.00</u>
--	------------------------

Fixed Assets + Current Assets less Current Liabilities	<u><u>5,316.00</u></u>
---	-------------------------------

Capital & Reserves

P&L Account	(2,273.63)
Retained Profit (to June 2025)	7,589.63
	<u><u>5,316.00</u></u>