



**Leicester Sexual Health and Health
Charity for LGBT+ Communities**



Meeting Local Need - Dosti

Veronica Gannon - Director



The Beginnings

- Leicester City - culturally diverse
- Trade – Personal lived experience
- Anecdotal evidence – Sauna work, other services
- National data – Gay Men’s Sex Survey/Briefing Sheets/Insight Panel – Sigma Research
- Needs Assessment – CHAPS/Trade/LGBT Foundation - RAP



RAP Recommendations

We wanted to use RAP's recommendations to:

- Increase Professional's understanding of South Asian MSM's cultural, family and religious issues.
- Actively promote South Asian role models in LGBT communities
- Increase accessibility and promotion of services to South Asian MSM
- Reduce isolation, through developing opportunities for South Asian MSM to meet and provide mutual support.
- Work with the wider Asian community wherever possible to promote positivity and inclusivity about Asian MSM



What Next?

South Asian Support Worker

- Funding – Lloyds Bank Foundation
- Creation of Dosti
- Building up trust and support using: Ward meetings, faith groups, other regional and national support groups



Dosti





TRADE
दोस्ती
SOUTH ASIAN & MIDDLE EASTERN
SOCIAL & SUPPORT GROUP
FOR LGBT+ PEOPLE
JAN TO APR 2019 PROGRAM

January

Friday 25th - Monthly meeting

February

Sunday 10th - Joint social with RANG (Birmingham LGBT)

Friday 22nd - Monthly meeting

March

Sunday 3rd - Bingo night

Tuesday 19th Quiz night

April

Date TBC - pizza making

Friday 26th - Monthly meeting

are free to attend, but advance booking for social activities (except the monthly meeting).
 Email: makinder@tradesex.org



दोस्ती
 ऐसडी
 دوستی
 বন্ধুত্ব
 मित्रता





Learning and Successes

Learning:

- Its not easy
- Consult with people and listen
- Don't give up, this will be slow
- Intersectionality

Successes:

- More South Asian MSM accessing all services
- More testing
- The group continues to grow
- SGIB Project
- Local commissioning
- Activism
- Grant Funding for social activities and self-confidence workshops



Any Questions?



References

Sigma Research – Briefing Sheet 2- Targeting HIV Prevention ethnicity: Priorities for MSM Programmes in the UK:

www.sigmaresearch.org.uk/files/GMSS-BS2-ethnicity.pdf

RAP Project Report - Understanding Your World:
<http://www.tradesexualhealth.com/professionals/resources.html>

Jaspal, R. (2017). Coping with ethnic prejudice on the gay scene: British South Asian gay men. *Journal of LGBT Youth*, 14(2), 172-190



Our Contact Information

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TradeSHealth



Trade_S_Health



TradeSexualHealth

Opening Times:

Mon to Thurs 9:30 - 5:00

Friday 10:00 - 4:00