

LGBTQ+ HOUSING FOR THE
COMMUNITY, BY THE COMMUNITY

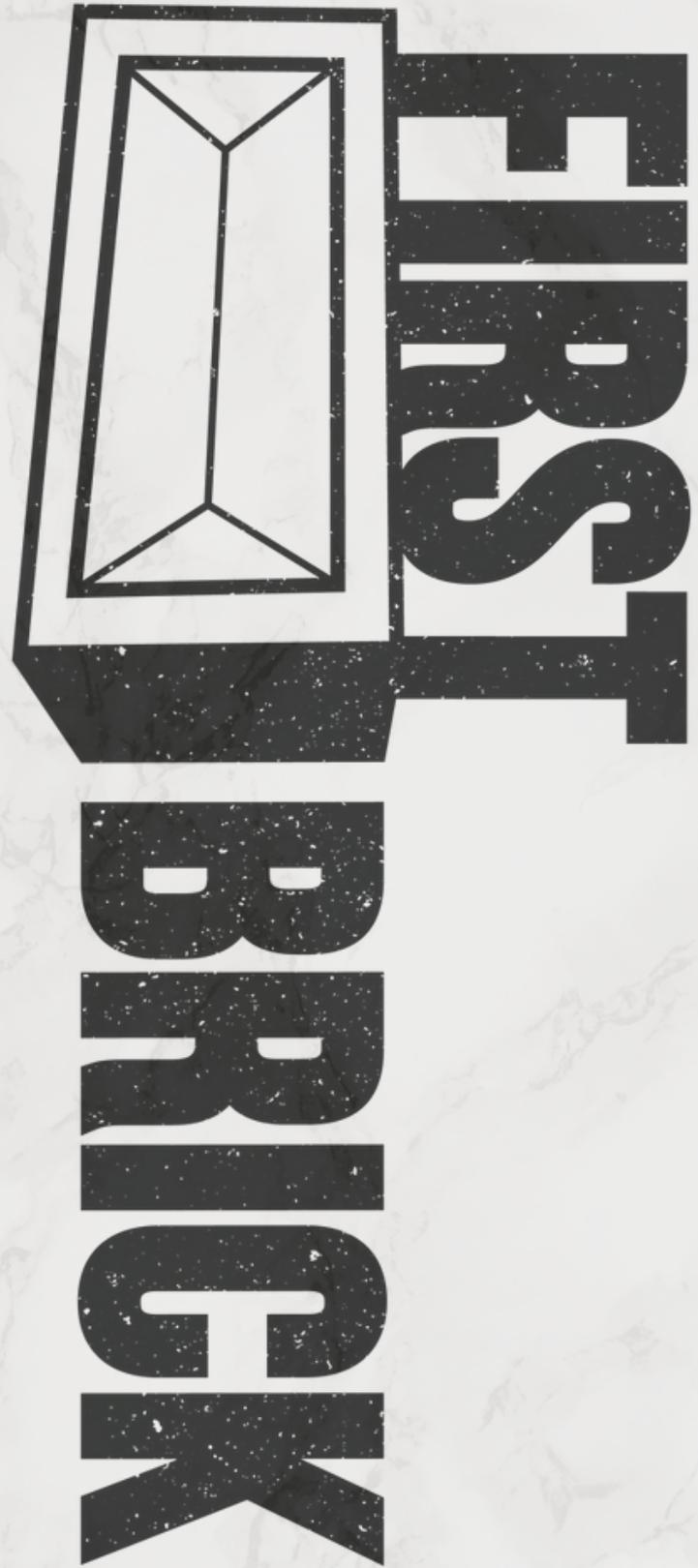
BRICK



LGBTQ+
HOUSING

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ABOUT US

We are a non-profit, housing-focused project founded for the benefit of LGBTQ+ people. We are soon to incorporate as an organisation and will have a membership option and a democratically elected board, to ensure we remain accountable to our community.

We aren't your typical housing project. We are community-led. This means everything we do is dreamed up by LGBTQ+ people and created by our hands. [Read more.](#)

WHO ARE WE

We are a group of passionate LGBTQ+ people. Some of us rent. Some of us own. Some of us have been homeless. Some of us are based in London, some are across the UK and some of us are in South Africa.

What connects us is the feeling that something isn't quite right about the housing that is currently on offer, that the homes we live in weren't made for us, weren't designed by us, and weren't the place we wanted to call home. **We want to change that for the better.**

OUR MISSION AND PURPOSE

Our mission is to **understand the national picture** of LGBTQ+ housing need and positively **respond to this on a local level**, building **affordable homes** and community spaces of belonging for people who need it.

Together we will provide homes where LGBTQ+ people (and those who experience similar discrimination, persecution and/or oppression as LGBTQ+ people) can live **safely, joyfully and free from oppression.**



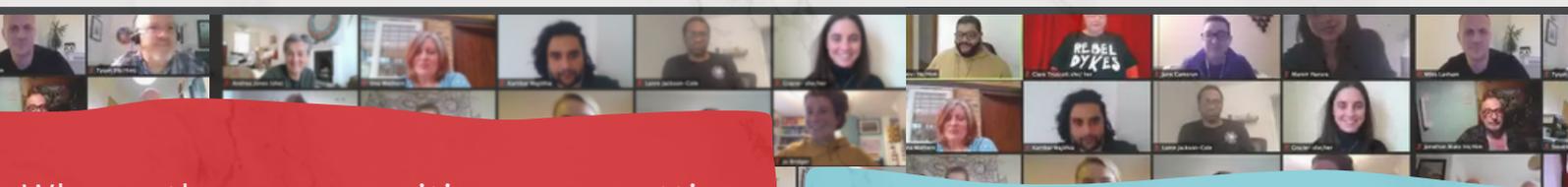
OUR CULTURE

We are motivated by love, led by community, governed by equals, open and accessible to all, accountable to members, raising our consciousness, frequently self-critical and self-aware, crossing borders and binaries, communicating across generations, sustainable for our future.

OUR VALUES

- We work *with* our community, not *for* our community.
- We actively **celebrate difference** and diversity, prioritising inclusivity and representation at our core.
- We reflect the diversity of our community, and ensure **everyone is valued**, supported, and listened to.
- We are a **transparent** and **democratic** organisation and we oppose, and strive to dismantle, unjust social hierarchies – even and especially when they exist within our community.
- We **challenge inequalities** and imbalances in power, in specific institutions and in society at large, regarding housing or any other issue affecting LGBTQ+ people.

WORDS AND EXPERIENCES FROM OUR STRATEGIC BUILDERS



When other communities were setting up housing associations and building homes for their elderly, we still had social stigma, discrimination and Section 28 calling our households "pretended family" relationships. LGBTQ+ communities are 40 years behind.

Clare

I am very pleased to be helping this project come to fruition. All LGBTQ+ people seek to have a place to call home, with their chosen family in support. We are here to help make that happen for everyone, especially for those whose voices have not been heard to date.

Brian

There are still so many people within the LGBTQ+ community that struggle to access the safe housing that they deserve, whether it be young people running away from unsafe family homes, or people being discriminated against by private landlords and denied access to housing for who they are.

I am very proud to be part of First Brick and working towards providing that safe space for those most vulnerable in our community where people have the freedom to be themselves.

Alice

Having stability is essential for people to thrive - a safe and secure home where you can be your true self. The rates of LGBTQ+ homelessness show we are failing to provide this for young LGBTQ+ people, and lack of provision of forcing our elder community members back in the closet. Which is why we need First Brick.

Lynne



WORDS AND EXPERIENCES FROM OUR STRATEGIC BUILDERS (CONTINUED)

For decades, LGBTQ+ people have fought for the right to live in safe and comfortable homes where they can be themselves. I'm proud to volunteer for a project that is seeking to address that need and provide not just much-needed housing, but spaces of belonging and joy.

Daniel

I think this project is great because it will provide safety and security for those that need it in our community.

Perez



I've been kicked out of homes by a family who rejected me; surfed on sofas of friends who've had more than enough of me; been denied interviews for homes once I've emailed the requested photo of me; been priced out of a home by landlords who wanted double my rent from me; witnessed and experienced domestic violence, sexual coercion, and cultish extremism at the hands of those supposed to make a home safe for me; complained in vain about damp, disrepair, and lack of disabled accessibility to management content to ignore me; and worked my way through the humiliating bureaucracy of a homelessness application only to languish for three years on a local authority housing register.

This business of locating an abode has loomed so large in my life that the joyful building of life on a solid domestic foundation has forever had to take a back seat — so much so that I sometimes wonder whether I know what a “home” is!

But post-pandemic decisions, to move into a Black Queer flat-share and to join the Strategic Builders at First Brick Housing, have empowered me — not just to define “home” for myself, but to find ways we can facilitate home-making and flourishing for our fellow Trans-Queer siblings.

Nathaniel

GET INVOLVED

SUBSCRIBE!

Join our **mailing list** and we'll keep you up to date on all things First Brick, including our 2023 events.

FOLLOW US

All our socials are on the next page. Give us a follow and share our posts!

SUPPORT OR PARTNER WITH US

Send us an email anytime to hello@firstbrickhousing.co.uk

Just let us know if you would like to set up an introductory call with one of our project representatives.

DONATE!

Please support our work by contributing to our fundraiser!

Click here or scan the QR and give what you can.



VOLUNTEER WITH US

We are always looking for volunteers to support us in our work, particularly in the areas of **administration, communications, branding, social media, governance and finance**. If this sounds like you, or you think you could bring something else to our thriving team, please get in touch or **register your interest** on our website.

PRESS

For comms and press information and enquiries, please send an email to perez@firstbrickhousing.co.uk

Please note we will only answer press enquiries sent to this inbox



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