



# **The Council for Democracy and Citizen Service's Instruction on Forms of Influence for the LGBTQI Community in Regnbågshuset**

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# Introduction

## The purpose of these instructions

The purpose of the guidelines is to clarify forms of and ways to influence at Regnbågshuset for the LGBTQI community in Regnbågshuset. The document has been created to ensure Regnbågshusets continuous development based on the needs of the target group.

## Who are subject to the instructions

These instructions are intended as a support for the operation of Regnbågshuset, including its staff and its Manager in Charge. They apply to all people associated with Regnbågshuset's Network. The forms of influence specified in the instructions shall take into account political goals and tasks, economic conditions and other political decisions that may affect the content and conditions of the operation of Regnbågshuset. The instructions will apply until further notice.

## Background

On 28 October 2021, the City Council, § 9, document 2021 number 166, instructed the Council for Democracy and Citizen Service to establish a meeting place for LGBTQI people in the form of a Rainbow House. This task shall be carried out during 2022 in order to achieve the goal in the City of Gothenburg's LGBTQI plan to improve the living conditions of LGBTQI people (*Goteborgs Stads plan för att förbättra hbtq-personers livsvillkor och hälsa 2017-2023*).

The task to establish a Rainbow House is an important part in creating more equitable living conditions for LGBTQI people. The meeting place gives LGBTQI people the opportunity to take active part in society and contributes to making Gothenburg a city where everybody can feel safe to live openly, regardless of sexual orientation and identity, which ultimately concerns fundamental democratic freedoms and rights. These instructions are created to safeguard the structures of the target group's democratic influence on the activities.

## Link to other governing documents

- **The City of Gothenburg's plan to improve the living conditions of LGBTQI people, year 2017-2023** (*Goteborgs Stads plan för att förbättra hbtq-personers livsvillkor år 2017–2023*)

The purpose of the plan is to provide opportunities for people who define themselves as homosexual, bisexual, trans and queer to take part in the city's services and support on the same grounds as others living in Gothenburg, and to ensure that LGBTQI people working in the city are offered a good working environment. This measure is part of the plan's theme "Meeting places and

inclusive spaces” whose aim is to ensure that “LGBTQI people have the opportunity to enjoy their democratic rights and take active part in society”.

- **The City of Gothenburg’s programme for an equitable city 2018-2026**  
*(Göteborgs Stads program för en jämlik stad 2018–2026)*

Based on the goal of making Gothenburg an equitable city, the purpose of the programme is to identify important target areas around which stakeholders in Gothenburg shall come together to contribute to reducing the differences in living conditions in the city.

- **The Council for Democracy and Citizen Service’ Guidelines for Regnbågshuset**  
*(Nämnden för demokrati och medborgarservices riktlinje för Regnbågshuset)*

The purpose of the guidelines is to clarify the task of Regnbågshuset and to clarify the approach and priorities with regards to activities in Regnbågshuset.

## Supporting documents

- **Working method for accessibility and inclusion in Regnbågshuset**  
*(Arbetsmetod för tillgänglighet och inkludering i Regnbågshuset)*

A description of the method for working with accessibility and inclusion in Regnbågshuset. The document has been developed in dialogue with the LGBTQI community with the purpose to enable the objectives regarding diversity and breadth in The Council for Democracy and Citizen Service’s Guidelines for Regnbågshuset.

- **Procedures for security and safety for Regnbågshuset**  
*(Rutin för säkerhet och trygghet för Regnbågshuset)*

A compilation of the procedures for security and safety for Regnbågshuset, including the procedures for entry to the premises, a plan for threats and violence, and fire procedures.

# Instruction

## Network

Regnbågshuset's Network is intended for anyone who identifies as LGBTQI or has questions about their sexuality and/or gender identity. People who are interested in receiving information about Regnbågshuset, or in participating and influencing, can register their interest to join the Network.

Being part of Regnbågshuset's Network involves the following:

- Receiving regular information from Regnbågshuset
- Being informed of and invited to participate in the annual evaluation
- Being invited to the annual Influence Forum
- Being informed of and invited to participate in other forms of influence at Regnbågshuset

## Influence Forum

At the beginning of each year, an Influence Forum is organised, to which everyone who is part of Regnbågshuset's Network is invited. Anyone in the Network has the right to submit suggestions to the Influence Forum. It shall be possible to submit proposals in advance and in an easily accessible way even for those who do not participate in the meeting.

Everyone who has been invited to and participates in the Influence Forum has the right to vote in decisions concerning:

- Submitted suggestions, opinions and requests
- Production of Regnbågshuset's Development Plan

## Development Plan

Regnbågshuset's Development Plan is a document that is produced in collaboration between the LGBTQI community and the Administration for Democracy and Citizen Service with the help of the coordinator at Regnbågshuset. The document highlights prioritised development areas and is intended to serve as a support in the continuous improvement work.

The Development Plan shall be based on the governing document *The Council for Democracy and Citizen Service's Guidelines for Regnbågshuset*. The Development Plan shall be based on the City of Gothenburg's method for systematic improvement work and shall be discussed and decided by Regnbågshuset's Influence Forum. The document shall also be aligned with political goals and tasks, economic conditions and other political decisions that may affect the content and conditions of Regnbågshuset.

## House Meetings

House Meetings are organised at least once every six months to discuss:

- Practical issues concerning Regnbågshuset
- Submitted suggestions, opinions and requests
- Follow-up of Regnbågshuset's Development Plan

All organisers with user agreements are invited to the House Meeting. Anyone who has a user agreement with Regnbågshuset has the right to submit suggestions to the House Meeting.

It shall be possible to submit proposals to the House Meeting in advance and in an easily accessible way, regardless of whether the person participates in the meeting or not. Everyone who participates in the meeting has the right to vote.

Decisions made at the House Meeting are subordinate to *The Council for Democracy and Citizen Service's Guidelines for Regnbågshuset*.

## Supplementary forms of influence

Everyone who is part of Regnbågshuset's Network shall always have the possibility to submit suggestions or opinions to Regnbågshuset via a physical and a digital mailbox. All suggestions and opinions are processed by the coordinator and decided on by the House Meeting or Influence Forum.

Before the House Meeting and Influence Forum, Regnbågshuset shall organise at least one workshop with the purpose of discussing submitted suggestions and opinions, as well as evaluation results.

## Evaluations

The activities of Regnbågshuset are evaluated once a year. The results of the evaluation shall, as far as possible, be processed together with the target group and form the basis for the decisions at the House Meeting and Influence Forum, and the following year's Development Plan.

## Check-up dialogue

Reports on the operation and development of Regnbågshuset shall be submitted regularly to the City of Gothenburg's LGBTQI Council. The report shall also leave room for dialogue concerning current issues.

## Accessibility and inclusion

In order to reach groups within the LGBTQI community who do not already use the facilities at Regnbågshuset, outreach work shall take place continuously. All information about the activities and forms of influence of Regnbågshuset shall be communicated in a

clear and multifaceted way to reach the greatest possible diversity within the LGBTQI community.

It shall be possible to participate in all decision-making meetings regardless of functional diversity. It shall be possible to participate online at both the Influence Forum and the House Meeting.