



The Council for Democracy and Citizen Service's Guidelines for Regnbågshuset

Content

Introduction	3
The purpose of these guidelines	3
Who are subject to the guidelines	3
Background	3
Legislation	3
Link to other governing documents	4
Supporting documents	4
Guidelines.....	5
The core values of Regnbågshuset.....	5
By, with and for the LGBTQI community.....	5
Diversity and breadth	5
Support and learning	5
Within the framework of the core values of the City of Gothenburg	6
The guidelines for Regnbågshuset.....	6
Purpose and target group.....	6
Alcohol and drug free	6
Free of charge.....	6
Accessible to all regardless of functional diversity	7
Religiously and party politically independent	7
Free from discrimination, harassment, threats and violence	7
Dialogue before booking.....	7
If someone violates the guidelines	7

Introduction

The purpose of these guidelines

The purpose of these guidelines is to clarify the task, approach and priorities of Regnbågshuset with regard to activities in Regnbågshuset. They shall also serve as a support for staff associated with the operation of Regnbågshuset. By establishing a rainbow house, the City of Gothenburg will improve the conditions and potential for the LGBTQI community to meet, organise, support each other, share information and have a place to work. The guidelines have been developed at the request of the Council for Democracy and Citizen Service.

Who are subject to the guidelines

These guidelines are intended for the operation of Regnbågshuset, including its staff and its Manager in Charge. They apply to all people who use and visit the premises of Regnbågshuset. The guidelines 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 (*Göteborgs 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 is ultimately about fundamental democratic freedoms and rights. These guidelines are created to safeguard the structures of the target group's democratic influence on the meeting place.

Legislation

The guidelines for Regnbågshuset refer to Regeringsformen, Kommunallagen and all other national laws that govern the everyday operation of Regnbågshuset, including the Discrimination Act. The guidelines also refer to the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the European Convention on Human Rights.

Link to other governing documents

- **The City of Gothenburg’s plan to improve the living conditions of LGBTQI people, year 2017-2023** (*Göteborgs 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’s Instruction on Forms of Influence for the LGBTQI Community in Regnbågshuset** (*Nämnden för demokrati och medborgarservices anvisning för inflytandeformer i Regnbågshuset*)

The purpose of the guidelines is to clarify forms of and ways to influence at Regnbågshuset for the LGBTQI community 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.

Guidelines

The core values of Regnbågshuset

By, with and for the LGBTQI community

Regnbågshuset strives to be a place that is created by, together with and for LGBTQI individuals in the local civil society. Regnbågshuset strives to be a hub and natural starting point for activities by, with and for the LGBTQI community.

Due to the changeability of the LGBTQI community, Regnbågshuset must also strive for continuous development. Our vision is that Regnbågshuset shall be flexible and adaptable to the needs and desires of the target group.

To make this possible, the City of Gothenburg, together with the target group, shall strive to use Regnbågshuset to develop democratic structures for the target group's real influence over the activities. All in all, Regnbågshuset shall strive to be a place where the multifaceted LGBTQI community is accepted and has influence.

Diversity and breadth

Regnbågshuset strives to be a place for everyone within the multifaceted LGBTQI community in Gothenburg. Regnbågshuset strives to be a place where all who identify as LGBTQI can claim space through creating and participating in activities, regardless of gender, gender non-conforming identity or expression, ethnicity, religion or other belief system, disability, sexual orientation or age. Regnbågshuset strives to be a place where everyone feels welcome, seen and included.

This means that Regnbågshuset needs to actively try to reach those who have not already been reached and include those who do not already visit activities in Regnbågshuset or use its facilities in some other way. It also means that Regnbågshuset, together with the groups and individuals who use their facilities, strives to create space for new groups and individuals as well as to support those who already use the facilities.

Support and learning

Regnbågshuset strives to be a place for support and learning. To become such a place, Regnbågshuset must create space for cooperation and creativity. In Regnbågshuset, staff, organisers and visitors alike shall meet each other with openness and respect. They shall share their knowledge and experience, as well as be open to the knowledge and experience of others. All people who use the facilities of Regnbågshuset shall try to foster understanding both in cooperation and in conflict.

Within the framework of the core values of the City of Gothenburg

Regnbågshuset is a municipal activity, which means that all activities in the house shall adhere to the core values of the City of Gothenburg. The core values of the City of Gothenburg are based on the core values of democracy. Documents where these values are expressed include Regeringsformen, Kommunallagen and all other national laws that govern the everyday activities of Regnbågshuset. The core values of the City of Gothenburg are also based on the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the European Convention on Human Rights.

The guidelines for Regnbågshuset

Purpose and target group

All activities that take place in Regnbågshuset shall be targeted at people who identify as LGBTQI or be intended to share information and knowledge about LGBTQI issues. Activities can also be directed towards groups within the target group where the organiser determines the target group of the specific activity.

Anyone who organises activities in the premises of Regnbågshuset shall identify as LGBTQI or represent a group, association, organisation, network or project by, with or for the LGBTQI community.

For all activities organised together with outside groups or organisations, it is the party with a user agreement that has the main responsibility for the activity and the facilities. By outside groups or organisations, we refer to the parts of civil society whose main focus is not LGBTQI issues.

Alcohol and drug free

Use of alcohol or drugs is not permitted in the premises. This shall be made clear in all communication concerning activities held at Regnbågshuset.

Free of charge

All activities that take place in the premises shall be free of charge for all participants. If anything is for sale, it must be without profit. Nothing may be sold for private profit.

Any fundraising for charitable purposes must be aligned with the core values of the City of Gothenburg and be discussed with the coordinating function for Regnbågshuset. Any fundraisers for charitable purposes may not restrict the possibility to participate in activities.

Accessible to all regardless of functional diversity

All activities shall, as far as possible, be accessible to everybody regardless of physical or mental functional diversity. If any aids are required to make this possible, they shall be present in the premises and the organisers shall know how to use them.

Religiously and party politically independent

Activities that are associated with a political party or are organised with the purpose of recruitment to a political party are not allowed in Regnbågshuset. Activities may also not be organised with the purpose of recruitment to a religious group or of spreading a religious message. Regnbågshuset is a place that is religiously and party politically independent.

This does not mean that activities with a political or opinion-forming purpose are prohibited in the premises of Regnbågshuset, as long as they take place within a group that consists of and/or is targeted at other LGBTQI people. The same applies to activities by, with and for believers within the LGBTQI community. Activities organised in the premises of Regnbågshuset shall be aligned with the core values of the City of Gothenburg.

Free from discrimination, harassment, threats and violence

No activities or elements of activities may discriminate against people or groups on the basis of gender, gender identity or expression, ethnicity, religion or other belief systems, disability, sexual orientation or age. No person using or visiting Regnbågshuset may discriminate against, harass or use violence against another person or group. No participation that may constitute a threat against other people inside or outside the premises is permitted.

This does not mean that activities or elements of activities may not question power structures or be openly critical of existing structures, systems or other groups. It also does not mean that activities may not be directed towards groups within the target group.

Dialogue before booking

If an organiser intends to invite external guests to an activity, the coordinating function of the Regnbågshuset must be informed of this before the booking is confirmed. In case of doubt, there must be a dialogue with the Manager in Charge of Regnbågshuset and with the Police, before deciding to make a booking. In cases where doubts arise, it is the Manager in Charge who makes decisions about booking.

If someone violates the guidelines

If a person or group of people should violate *The Council for Democracy and Citizen Service's Guidelines for Regnbågshuset*, this will be discussed with the Manager in Charge of Regnbågshuset. The person(s) involved in the violation will be contacted and receive a warning. In case of a repeated violation of the rules and guidelines, the involved party will subsequently not be allowed to use or visit Regnbågshuset.

Exceptions leading to an immediate ban on visiting or using the premises of Regnbågshuset include:

- Harassment, threats, violence and/or risk to the safety of others
- Other illegal activities and/or if someone breaks the law in some other way

Any needs that are demonstrated due to violations of *The Council for Democracy and Citizen Service's Guidelines for Regnbågshuset* will be discussed within the framework of Regnbågshuset Influence Forum. Decisions concerning the adjustment of the rules and regulations for Regnbågshuset are made by the Council for Democracy and Citizen Service.