

The Young Scot 'We're Here' Equalities Conference

The following outlines the outcomes of YGTL's survey research and awareness raising workshops delivered at the *Young Scot Equalities Conference*, 27th of March 2010.

Two workshops, involving 22 participants, were facilitated on the day. These workshops centred on raising awareness of the Gypsy/Traveller culture and on the key question posed in our ongoing survey research: *"What do you think needs to be done by the Government, and agencies who work with Gypsy/Travellers, to help promote and support their lifestyle?"*

Responses:



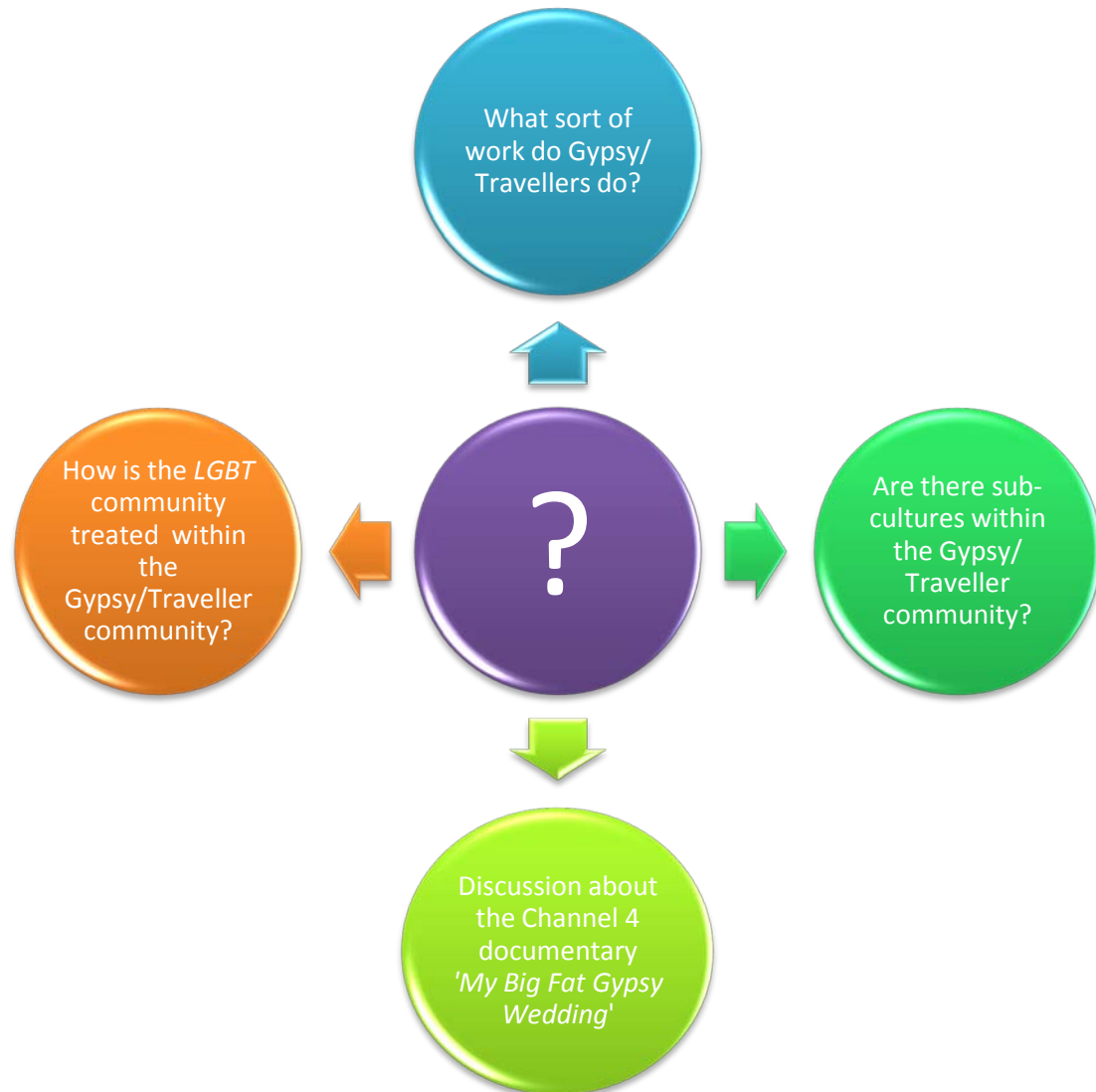
Participants were then asked to highlight what they had learned from the workshops, and indeed which areas of the presentations they had found particularly useful.



Questions raised during the conference:



Questions (continued):



Note: *LGBT* stands for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community.

Conclusions

The purpose of the *Young Scot 'We're Here' Equalities Conference* was to help raise awareness of the issues affecting ethnic minorities including Gypsy/Travellers. By focusing on groups of young people, it is hoped and intended that the up-and-coming generation – indeed our future - will carry with them, the message that racism and discrimination towards ethnic minorities is not acceptable in today's society.

Interestingly, common themes such as raising awareness in schools, better provisions for health care, education and indeed actual sites, the implementation and enforcement of equalities laws and some sort of campaign to introduce positive aspects of the Gypsy/Traveller culture to the mainstream were all highlighted, mirroring what has already been stated by professionals, and indeed young Gypsy/Travellers themselves. The questions raised by this group of young individuals not only show an interest in learning about the Gypsy/Traveller community, but also the common-sense shown in the answers provides a source of reference for future research and action.