The Ripple Effects of Property Purchase Grants on LGBTQIA* Communities

Assignment Report
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Consultants: Dolar Vasani, Kieron Crawley
Summary of Findings

During the process of conducting the interviews, it became clear that the information shared by CSOs could be grouped into two parts; the first relating to the process of purchasing property which can be likened to a journey with well-defined steps. The process findings are associated with all activities related to the purchase of a property, up to the point of taking ownership and moving in. These steps together with CSOs experience of them, are described in the section “The Process of Property Purchase: Findings in Detail”.

The second area of information related to the effects that owning property had on individuals, organisational staff, and the wider queer communities. In analysing the effects, it became clear that there were immediate effects\(^{13}\) that CSOs recognised as soon as they took possession of their premises, and effects that took longer to mature. In many cases the immediate effects allowed the organisation to embark on a range of opportunities for institutional development that in turn contributed to the longer-term effects. This ripple pattern can be arranged as a Theory of Change and has led to the development of the Ripple Effects Framework outlined in Figure 3 below. The findings on the effects of property purchase have been grouped under six key themes in the section “The Effects: Findings in Detail”. A graphic representing the findings on effects reported by CSOs and how they interrelate, is shown in Figure 5. The process of developing the framework is described in more detail in a later section of the report.

\(^{13}\) These comprised; a drop in monthly overhead costs, removal of short-term uncertainty, agency over the use of space, expanding the planning horizon, improved physical and emotional security, and scope for creativity and innovation.

Figure 3  The ripple effects theory of change