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**Training for Volunteer Visitors: *Visiting and Supporting LGBTI detainees***

**Thursday 11th August, 6-9pm, Can Mezzanine, Southwark, London**

AVID is working with UK Lesbian and Gay Immigration Group (UKLGIG) to offer a free training to AVID member visitor groups on *Visiting and Supporting LGBTI detainees.*

The training will be led by Paul Dillane, Director of UKLGIG. UKLGIG is a charity that promotes equality and dignity for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex (LGBTI) people who seek asylum in the UK, or who wish to immigrate here to be with their same-sex partner.

Training in how best to support vulnerable people in detention, as a volunteer visitor, is more important now than ever. The recent APPG parliamentary inquiry into the use of detention in the UK, and the Shaw Review into the welfare in detention of vulnerable people, highlighted that LGBTI individuals are subject to a disproportionately high risk of bullying, harassment, and abuse in detention, and this was based on the evidence submitted by UKLGIG. Recently, the Home Office published a revised Detention Service Order (DSO) on LGBT detainees. UKLGIG and Stonewall have forthcoming research on LGBTI issues in detention, the first report of its kind. It is timely then to consider how best we, as volunteer visitors, can ensure we are equipped to recognise the needs of LGBTI people in detention, to understand rights, policy and guidance in place, and to make sure that we are offering the best support we can.

The training session will take place in London, on Thursday 11th August, 6-9pm, in Central London.

**Learning objectives:** the training will enable volunteers to better understand and recognise the needs of LGBTI people in detention, to better understand the rights, policy and guidelines towards LGBTI people in detention, the risks faced by this group, and to discuss support strategies to enable visitors to feel more confident in supporting detainees.

We are pleased to be able to offer this training on a first come, first served basis to volunteer visitors throughout the AVID network. Places are limited, so please register your interest by emailing Gee Manoharan, Training and Membership Coordinator: gee.manoharan@aviddetention.org.uk by the **18th July.**