



IMPACT REPORT

2024

Together, we're securing
rights and stopping HIV

WHAT WE STAND FOR

We work to stop HIV from standing in the way of health, dignity and equality, and to end new HIV transmissions. Our expertise, research and advocacy secure lasting change to the lives of people with, and at risk of, HIV.

This is truly an exciting time in the fight against HIV. The goal of ending all new HIV transmissions by 2030 is within our grasp. With an increase in testing, treatment, and awareness we know this goal is not only possible but with the right focus and investment, achievable. While there is much to celebrate, we know that many people living with HIV are still reporting a poor quality of life compared to the general public, and that discrimination and HIV stigma are still rife. Interventions must be taken right now to stop new HIV transmissions and to ensure everyone can live well with HIV.

Four strategic pillars **drive** our 2022-2025 strategy:

1

We will **STOP** new HIV transmissions

2

We will **CHAMPION** the needs of people whose voices and experiences are too often ignored

3

We will **PROTECT** the rights of everyone living with and at risk of HIV

4

We will **DRIVE** engagement and activism to change attitudes to HIV

A message from our new Chief Executive

Since taking up my new position as Chief Executive for this incredible charity in July 2024, I have been bowled over by our dedicated staff, who are so passionate about their work and their commitment to improving the lives of the people we serve.

We are uniquely placed as a 'changemaker' in the fight against HIV in the UK today. Our policy work is second to none. We continue to influence our Government to ensure that laws and policies related to HIV are evidence-based and don't discriminate against people living with or at risk of HIV. We advocate for a wide range of policy improvements including access to treatment, prevention services, social support and employment.

Our work towards the ongoing effort to achieve zero new transmissions of HIV in the UK by 2030 is more important than ever. You can read more about the 'Getting on track' report on page 5, which we collaborated on with Terrence Higgins Trust and Elton John AIDS Foundation, and which sets out a blueprint for ending new cases of HIV.

Ending new HIV transmissions will undoubtedly be a historic achievement. However, we must remain vigilant against the debilitating impact of stigma and discrimination. You can read about how we are fighting this stigma at every turn through our tireless campaigning and our ground-breaking discrimination advice service, which is entering its third year.

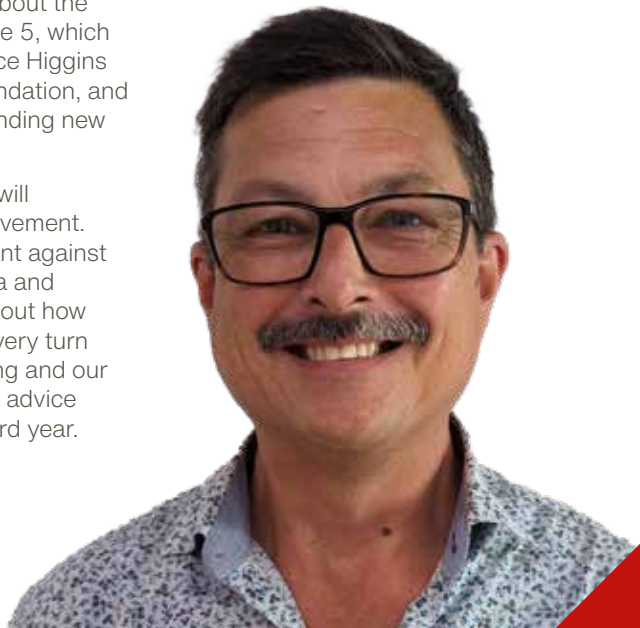
All our incredible work, and the gains that we have made in the HIV response, would not be achievable without our close collaboration with sister organisations throughout the UK and crucially, with those people living with HIV. Only by working collectively can we end new transmissions and eliminate stigma once and for all beyond 2030.

We also can't make change happen without the help of you, our amazing supporters, who make our mission possible. Your donations and activism make all the work that you will read about in this report continue to happen.

Thank you.



Robbie Currie, CEO,
National AIDS Trust



STOP



Robbie Currie, NAT CEO,
speaks at 10 Downing Street

Ahead of **World AIDS Day** on 1 December, we were **delighted to attend** a reception at **10 Downing Street.**

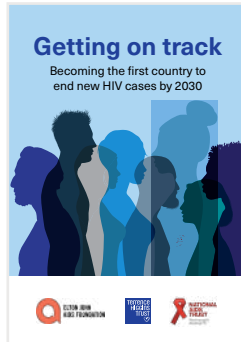
The Prime Minister confirmed £27 million to expand the highly successful NHS emergency department opt-out testing programme.

We campaigned hard for opt-out testing along with our partner organisations and we welcome this much-needed intervention from the Government.

At the packed event, the PM thanked campaigners and public health experts for their ongoing work. It was acknowledged that as well as the vital and successful work National AIDS Trust and our partners have done to end the stigma around HIV and AIDS, the charities have also been instrumental in helping to shape the Government's upcoming refreshed HIV Action Plan.

To ensure targets are met, and to deliver on its manifesto commitment, the Government will develop a new HIV Action Plan, due to be published this summer (2025).

National AIDS Trust published a report, 'Getting on track – becoming the first country to end new HIV cases by 2030' – alongside Terrence Higgins Trust and Elton John AIDS Foundation. The report includes a clear set of core principles and recommendations for what's needed from the next HIV Action Plan for England, to end new HIV cases in the next five years.



“With this government, you will not be alone in the fight against HIV. We will stand together – for as long as it takes – both in memory of those we have lost and in support of those who are living with HIV today. I'm determined that this generation will be the one that ends new cases of HIV within England by 2030.”

Prime Minister Keir Starmer

CHAMPION



In April, we published, **'Unheard Voices - Understanding the landscape of London HIV commissioning and community involvement of Black African & Caribbean communities'**

Our report 'Unheard Voices' is a collaboration with One Voice Network, a collective of Black-led community organisations focused on improving the health and wellbeing of Black communities in the UK affected by HIV.

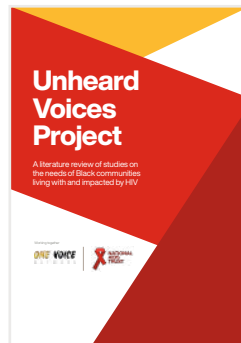
The report gives key recommendations to ensure meaningful engagement with Black communities and follows in-depth consultation with London local authority health commissioners to gain their perspectives on how practices can be improved.

It aims to support local commissioners to integrate Black African and Caribbean communities into their service development and commissioning practices.

Unheard Voices demonstrates the effectiveness of co-production (where communities' members are funded to make decisions on and contribute

to the design of HIV services) while recommending further funding to fully realise these ambitions.

Winnie Byanyima, Executive Director of UNAIDS, and Florence Eshalomi MP, MP for Vauxhall and Co-Chair of All Party Parliamentary Group for HIV, AIDS and Sexual Health have contributed with forewords to the publication.



“Community leadership is not an idealistic dream, it is the proven route to impact. The message of this report could be summed up in this call to action: for the HIV response to succeed, let communities lead.”

Winnie Byanyima Executive Director, UNAIDS

2024 Spotlight

February



Parliamentary event highlights **why we must tackle HIV inequalities**

We publish the Unheard Voices report to **better support the Black HIV community** in London

Unheard Voices Project

A literature review of studies on the needs of Black communities living with and impacted by HIV

April

May



We collaborate with Love Tank on **the 'Other blue pill' podcast**

We organise **a rally to support Manuel Guerrero** following his arrest in Qatar



May

June



We hold our **first Drag Raise special event** which raises £20,000

July



Robbie Currie joins National AIDS Trust as the new CEO

We collaborate with **Bimini and EVERPRESS** on a **Madonna t-shirt**



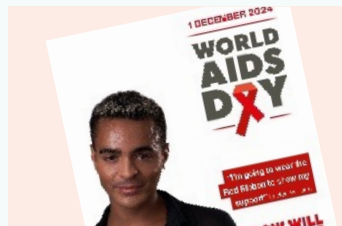
August

October



Equal HIV fertility rights become law

Our **World AIDS Day campaign** goes live



November

December

HIV CONFIDENT

Six more organisations **become HIV Confident**

PROTECT



“National AIDS Trust’s discrimination service is not just invaluable, it was a lifeline for me while navigating an awful situation. The knowledge, understanding, and compassion from the service made me feel like I wasn’t alone, and most importantly, it affirmed the wrongdoing I had felt.” **Daz***

*name changed to protect identity

Fighting discrimination

wherever we find it.

In its second year of directly helping people living with HIV, our free Discrimination Advice and Support Service continued to be in huge demand.

Our case worker can offer confidential advice to anyone affected by discrimination due to their HIV status. We can help with legal advice and support, advocate on behalf of those who have experienced discrimination and empower them to make an official complaint. In 2024 we helped 119 new people experiencing HIV discrimination.

In the last year, we worked with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), the UK's data protection regulator, to help them improve their services for people living with HIV whose status is shared without consent. As a result, the ICO has published a toolkit to help people whose sensitive data has been shared unlawfully.



Given
119
people advice



Resolved
48 cases
with a positive result



Changed
41 discriminatory
policies



Trained
82 HIV professionals
on discrimination



Trained
250 ICO staff on
HIV data protection



Sessions for
72 for people living
with HIV on their rights



DRIVE

An **unfair fertility law** finally changed.

After a delay caused by the General Election and change of Government, in October we were delighted to see the removal of the unjust, homophobic and unscientific law that prevented both people living with HIV who are LGBT+, and anyone seeking to donate eggs to an HIV negative person, from becoming parents through fertility treatment.

Alongside BHIVA (British HIV Association) and BASHH (British Association of Sexual Health and HIV), National AIDS Trust campaigned for many years to bring about this change to a law that was discriminatory and not backed by science.

In 2023, thousands of you wrote to your MP, signed our petition and marched at Pride against the unfair law. Thanks to you, this has now been overturned, meaning that families will now be formed, and lives brought into being that otherwise would

not have been possible. It means so much to people like Alan:



“As the eldest of four, from a close-knit family, children have always been important to me, so the realisation that I would not be allowed, because of my HIV diagnosis really affected the relationship I was in at the time. I felt so sad. I want a house full of kids, a home that reminds me of the one I had. National AIDS Trust educated me on the specifics of the legislation, and I got angry! I was determined to support their campaign in any way I could. When the legislation changed, it literally gave me my dreams back – a husband, kids, the whole “white picket fence” life. It’s made me so happy.” **Alan**



LAYTON

WILLIAMS

Marking **World AIDS Day**

In December we asked our supporters to proudly wear the iconic red ribbon to stand shoulder to shoulder with those impacted by HIV, past and present, and call for a better future.

We sent out 126,600 ribbons and we were delighted to hear from our supporters about what wearing one meant to them:

“It’s important to recognise the steps we’ve made, the work that needs to continue and remember the lives we have lost.”

“This is one face of HIV, and it’s a happy face, a resilient one.”



Winnie’s story

Back in 2004, Winnie featured in one of the first World AIDS Day photoshoots. Here’s her story:

“I remember vividly during that time, I was told it was a challenge to find people living with HIV to front the campaign, due to stigma. So fashion models were hired and a few of us living with HIV were placed among the models to show that it was not possible to spot a person living with HIV just by looking at them.

“And here we are, 20 years on, still talking about HIV, and still talking about the stigma surrounding it – although this year we didn’t need to rely on fashion models!

“It’s important, as people living with HIV, to show our faces, to communicate that,

while we still have the chronic condition, many of us on HIV treatment cannot pass on HIV to anyone else. However, new HIV transmissions are still happening, mainly due to undiagnosed or untreated HIV, and this needn’t be the case.

“We can fight stigma by starting or continuing to talk about it, within families or our social networks. Stigma does a huge disservice to everyone. If people are not able to talk about their HIV diagnosis or their chronic illness, then they won’t feel able to get the help that they need.

“I’m doing my bit by showing my face and saying: Here I am. This is one face of HIV, and it’s a happy face, a resilient one.”



Cheddar Gorgeous
at Drag Raise

DRAG RAISE

We launched Drag Raise in 2024

Drag as an art form has always been a powerful tool for self-expression and activism.

The drag community has historically played an important role in HIV activism, challenging HIV-related stigma, as well as being a source of strength, relief, and support for communities living with, and affected by, HIV throughout the epidemic.

Celebrating drag has inspired our latest fundraising initiative, Drag Raise, which we launched in July. At a packed event at Diageo's glamorous HQ our guests were treated to a stellar line-up of drag talent, including stars of RuPaul's Drag Race UK Cheddar Gorgeous, Ella Vaday and Vanity Milan, alongside the unforgettable Daisy Puller and Häns Off.

In attendance at Drag Raise
was the uniquely **creative**
drag star and HIV advocate
Charity Kase.

“The one thing that I always try to say, in the most sensitive way possible is that the stigma is actually worse than the virus itself, although it’s hard to really realise that at first. “

“My advice to anybody going through trauma or hardships, when it comes to the diagnosis, is to take a step back and look at where that pain is coming from. Because most of the time, you’ll see that it’s coming from stigma, judgement, and societal views. So when you can see it in that way, it’s maybe a little easier to understand the situation and to be less hard on yourself.”

“When I got my diagnosis at 18 it was really hard for me to process and to deal with. I wasn’t educated about HIV, I didn’t really understand what it meant, or how it affected my life. I just knew I needed to be scared of it, that was what I’d been taught. So, it was a scary time for me. But it should only be as scary as being diagnosed with diabetes, or something along those lines.”

“I had lots of spare time in the day, and I felt like I needed to express myself artistically. “I began to educate myself about the history of HIV and the epidemic, which was very eye-opening. And I was left with a lot of guilt and a lot of pain. Drag helped me process all of that. And it helped me project it out into the world as something positive and productive, rather than just having destructive feelings.”



We would like to thank the following for their generous support:

Trusts and foundations

Trust for London
The National Lottery Community Fund (RC
England Wide)
Martin Bowley Charitable Trust
City Bridge Foundation
Evan Cornish Foundation
George Michael Foundation
Vandervell Foundation
British HIV Association (BHIVA)

And finally, thank you to all our regular givers, one-off donors, challenge event participants, gamers, schools, universities, workplace staff, community groups, volunteers and those who wish to remain anonymous, who have all enabled us to deliver our vital work.

Companies and corporate foundations

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We couldn't do it without you.



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