



News for all: Attendance at Pride



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2 min read

Dear Colleagues,

Supporting all the communities we serve is a central part of our organisation.

This is why Wiltshire Police remains a sponsor of the Swindon and Wiltshire Pride event – an important celebration of the LGBTQ+ community which attracts more than 10,000 people each year. Additionally, since 2024, a member of the Chief Officer Group has attended each Pride event held in our county.

However, many of you will be aware of a recent judgement regarding Northumbria Police's attendance at the Northern Pride march.

The judgment followed a challenge to a force decision in 2024 to allow off-duty officers to attend the Northern Pride march in uniform. It was found that Northern Pride, the organiser of the event, should be considered as a political movement due to its strong advocacy for changes in law and policy relating to gender ideology and transgender rights. Participation in Northern Pride 2024 was therefore deemed contrary to the uniformed officers' duties of impartiality.

As such, this year, Northumbria Police made a determination that no uniformed officers, staff or volunteers should attend the march.

Following this (and similar decisions from other Forces), we have determined that **on-duty attendance at the Swindon and Wiltshire Pride march is only permitted for officers and staff where it forms part of the official policing response. Officers and staff attending in this capacity must be in uniform and follow our usual standards of conduct and impartiality.**

Members of the Wiltshire Police LGBTQ+ Staff Support Network will be in attendance at the event in a voluntary, off-duty, non-uniform capacity to

represent the network.

If anyone has any questions, please contact Chief Inspector Al Lumley, who is silver, or myself.

Thank you,

Supt Conway Duncan
Gold Commander