

Read the full statement from Cath Emery (They/Them), co-chair of the NSWPF internal LGBTIQ+ Employee Network, Pride in Police :

“One of my proudest moments in my career was the first time I marched with the NSW Police Force in the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras parade in 2015.

I have marched every year since alongside both - sworn and unsworn LGBTIQ+ Liaison Officers as well as LGBTIQ+ identifying and allied staff.

We are there with pride to support not only our own LGBTIQ+ identifying employees, but the broader LGBTIQ+ communities as well.

The NSW Police Force have marched every year since being invited to in 1998 and are proud and committed to continuing to do so.

It is important for the more vulnerable members of our LGBTIQ+ communities including youth, to see police marching, so they know that they are represented in the diverse tapestry of the NSWPF employees.

I remember watching the police march in my late teens and later, when I needed assistance, I knew there were safe people I could go to for assistance in the NSWPF.

I believe that the NSWPF should represent the community we serve, so if we can show a member of our LGBTIQ+ communities that a career in the NSWPF is possible, it will have a diverse and positive impact on the NSWPF and the broader community.

In recognising our shared history, I am proud to be doing my part to ensure the organisation is dedicated to working closely with our LGBTIQ+ communities to build trust and to reduce barriers to reporting crime, whilst publicly and proudly stating our support for LGBTIQ+ communities.”