



MEDIA RELEASE

20 January 2023 – For Immediate Release

Brisbane Pride Inc Response to Queensland Police Service Apology

In 2021, the management committee of Brisbane Pride Inc. passed a motion to allow Officers of the Queensland Police Service (QPS) to march in the Brisbane Pride Festival Rally and March. We respectfully asked that Officers not march in uniform at that time.

Around the same time, the committee was made aware of an investigation into QPS Officers regarding sexist, racist and homophobic social media posts. In Queensland, there exists a long-term distrust in the QPS amongst members of our community because of historical homophobia, abuse, brutality and unsafe behaviours against LGBTIQ+ people and communities.

As a unique LGBTIQ+ community organisation with over 30 years of history, we felt we had a responsibility to ensure those ageing, who have experienced police brutality and homophobia, heard a strong acknowledgement of this past and ongoing trauma.

By taking this position Brisbane Pride was able to open a constructive and meaningful dialogue with Queensland Police Service and we have achieved the historic outcome that we sought; an apology.

Brisbane Pride Incorporated welcome the Apology and the Statement of regret.

We thank Commissioner Katarina Carroll for her leadership and acknowledge the community members and Queensland Police Service staff involved in making this historic milestone a genuine and meaningful one.

thank community members who took part in the Our Voices engagement session, and those who were open and vulnerable enough to share their stories. The committee has since passed a motion affirming our support for Officers to march alongside the community, proudly in uniform.

We look forward to continuing to walk together on this journey. A journey that recognises the past and unifies our collective bravery together for future generations.

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