

**JUNE 2021**



**THE NATIONAL LGBT+ POLICE**

**NETWORK'S**

**THIN PINK LINE**

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## THE SENIOR OFFICERS WHO #STANDFORSTONEWALL



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**REPORT BY  
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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**'THE IMPARTIAL EXECUTION OF POWERS, FREE FROM POLITICAL INFLUENCE, IS... THE NON-NEGOTIABLE KEY TO MAINTAINING ANY CIVILISED DEMOCRACY'**

(Clive Chamberlain, Chairman, Dorset Police Federation in Berry, 2008<sup>1</sup>)

The National LGBT+ Police Network is an unregulated association operating as a police force within the police. By proclaiming that it Stands For Stonewall, this Network of officers has turned a respected thin blue line into a politically pink one, bypassing democracy, sovereignty and the separation of policing from politics. Pink politics and politics with a rainbow is still politics.

The National LGBT+ Police Network also sits as an executive member of The European Gay Police Association (EGPA)<sup>2</sup>. Together, these associations are committed to securing the political agenda of The European Commission in relation to gender identity and the extension of so called hate speech laws. The eponymous Thin Pink Line Podcast, transcribed in this report, reframes the police as social engineers whose role it is to build a society that is fair. The European Union is the architect. There is an old fashioned word for those who collude with foreign governments. Coincidentally, it begins with T.

Over time the police have demonstrated an increasing willingness to ally with partisan and political lobby groups that seek to change the existing law in the UK with regard to the protected characteristics of sex, sexual orientation and holding a Gender Recognition Certificate. This is clearly demonstrated by the activities and associations of The National Police LGBT+ Network which promotes an ever-growing list of self declared identities as if they were law.



The British public is at a crossroads. It must either fundamentally shift its relationship with the police and accept them as enforcers of political ideology or demand an immediate return to the principles of impartiality. If a non-political police force is to be cherished, then The National LGBT+ Police Network must remove itself from membership of EGPA and Chief Constables must remove their constabularies from all association with Stonewall. Where Chief Constables fail to do this, the Police and Crimes Commissioner must remove the Chief Constable.

In this report we consider the current situation and make recommendations as to how best restore public trust and confidence in our police.

## INTRODUCTION

**S**ince its foundation by Sir Robert Peel, the police force has striven “to seek and preserve public favour, not by pandering to public opinion, but by constantly demonstrating absolute impartial service to law”<sup>3</sup>.

This report will offer evidence of disregard to this fundamental principle by The National LGBT+ Police Network, which operates across all constabularies within England and Wales<sup>4</sup>. Furthermore, it will demonstrate a locus of political control beyond sovereign British law. Through open collusion with its counterparts in Europe, the National LGBT+ Police Network is in service to the agenda of the European Commission, the European Union, and politically active pressure groups such as Stonewall and ILGA - Europe. The extent of the collusion is evidenced by the podcast, The Thin Pink Line.

The College of Policing<sup>5</sup> is the professional overseeing body of the 43 police forces of England and Wales. Its Code of Ethics<sup>6</sup> is clear: Association with political groups is forbidden. The repeated blind eye it turns toward constables and forces

promoting the European ideology is best explained by its own devotion to the European cause.

At The Court of Appeal in March 2020 much of the argument made by counsel for the retention of recording Non Crime Hate Incidents (NCHIs) centred around their origin in the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the European Commission on Racism and the European Convention on Human Rights. Much was made of the subsequent adoption of NCHIs by police forces throughout the EU<sup>7</sup>. The College turns a blind eye because it has considered the borderless expansion of global enterprise and chosen that as its model. Left unchecked, the British Police will have more in common with the thought police of Twitter, Google, Amazon and Facebook than with the principles of free democracy.

## WHY IT IS IMPORTANT

In contrast to British law, European law is based on an ever changing model of permissions. It follows naturally from this that European policing will differ substantially from British policing and that any attempt at collusion, beyond operational necessity, will be problematic. Post-Brexit, the differences should naturally grow more stark as Britain creates a legal identity divorced from Europe.

The campaign to strengthen hate speech legislation challenges the Miller (2021) ruling at High Court, in which Justice Knowles quoted Lord Nichols: “Freedom of political speech is a freedom of the very highest importance in a country which lays claim to being a democracy.”<sup>8</sup>

That elements of the EU proposals have merit is immaterial. The point is that they are inarguably political and originate from a Union of which we are no longer a part. As such, they are no business of the British police.

## A FORCE WITHIN A FORCE

### THE NATIONAL LGBT+ POLICE NETWORK

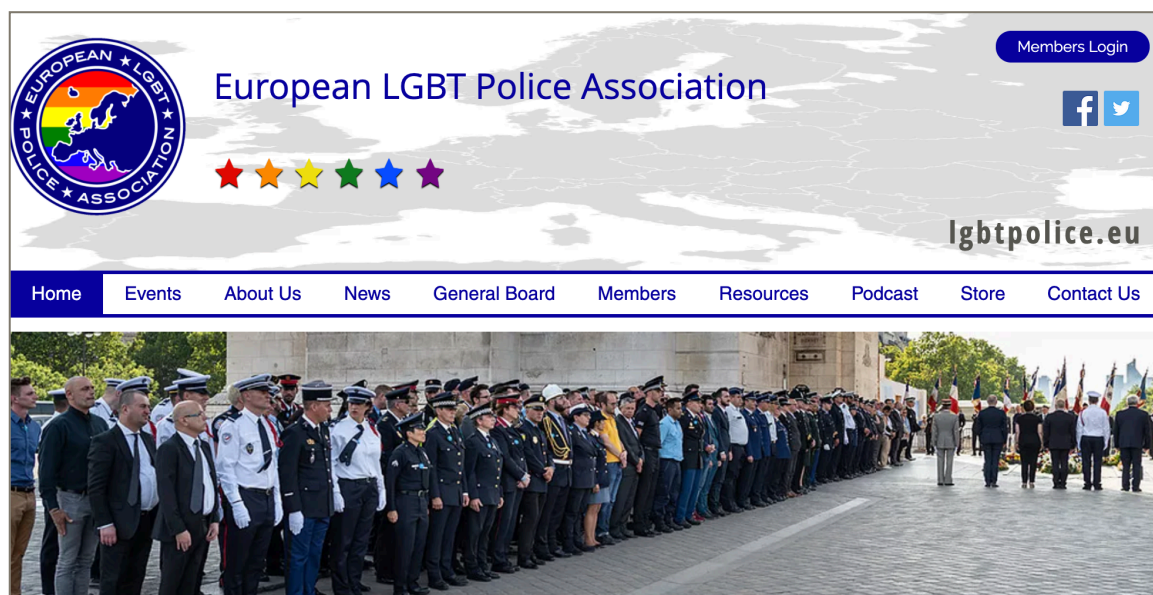


**T**he website of National LGBT+ Police Network<sup>9</sup> describes itself as “the representative body for lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans Police groups present in the 43 police forces across England, Wales and Northern Ireland.” It is currently chaired by Detective Chief Superintendent Clinton Blackburn (City of London Police) and PC Amy Tapping (Northumbria Police).<sup>10</sup>

Other notable senior members include Police Deputy Chief Constable Julie Cooke<sup>11</sup> (National Police Chief’s Council Lead for LGBT+), Detective Superintendent Sarah

Pengelly (both Cheshire Police) and Superintendent Paul Court (Merseyside Police).<sup>12</sup> The Network Twitter account is @LGBTpoliceUK.

## THE EUROPEAN LGBT POLICE ASSOCIATION



The National LGBT+ Police Network is an executive member of The European LGBT Police Association (EGPA). The EGPA website states:

The European LGBT Police Association (formerly the European Gay Police Association), or EGPA for short, was founded in 2004 and is essentially an umbrella organisation bringing together police LGB and T organisations from across Europe providing a platform to share knowledge, best practice and working together in order to tackle discrimination facing LGBT people, both within policing and externally<sup>13</sup>.

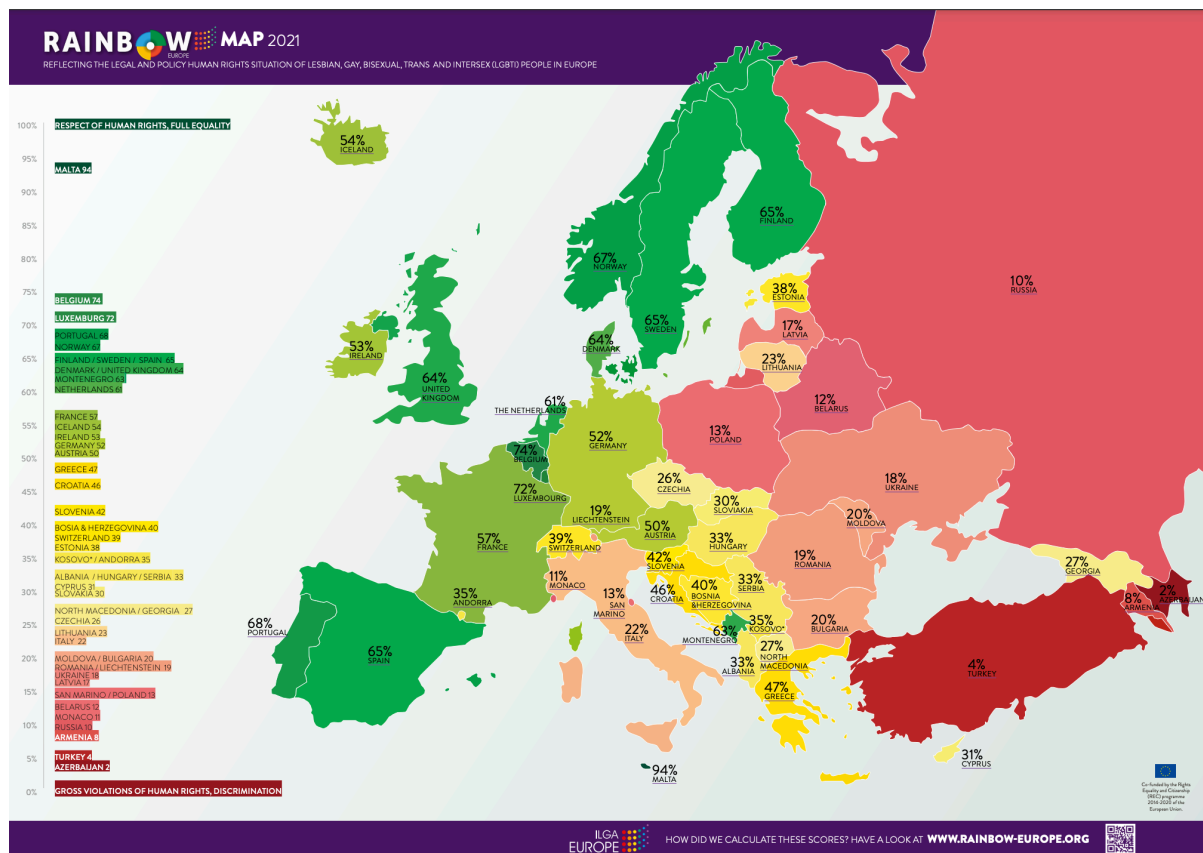
Both the British Network and EGPA go beyond this stated aim of building trust and confidence between the police and the LGBT+ public. Both seek to promote the European Commission's declaration of member states as LGBTQI Freedom Zones

and to implement EU LGBTI Equality Strategy. EGPA is a member of ILGA - Europe<sup>14</sup> and FLAG.

## FLAG

FLAG<sup>15</sup> describes itself in its website as the ‘LGBT+ association of officials from the Ministries of the Interior and of Justice, Firefighters, municipal police and allies.’

## ILGA - EUROPE



The website states: “ILGA-Europe are a driving force for political, legal and social change in Europe and Central Asia.”<sup>16</sup> Legislation pertaining to gender identity is included in its stated aims. To that end, it works with The European Union, the Council of Europe, the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)

and advocates for LGBTI people in relation to hate speech and hate crime. Its Rainbow Map<sup>17</sup> charts the legislative progress of LGBT rights across Europe.

## **EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S DECLARATION - LGBTQI FREEDOM ZONE**

Based on the unevidenced claim that European transgender persons are particularly subject to the worst forms of violence and persecution, The European Parliament resolution of 11 March 2021 (2021/2557(RSP) declared the EU as an LGBTQI Freedom Zone.<sup>18</sup> This declaration committed member states to support the following:

- The ideology that LGBTQI<sup>19</sup> rights are human rights
- To resist Regional Charters of Family Rights, such as declared by over 100 regions, counties and municipalities across Poland.
- To oppose the Hungarian town of Nagykáta's opposition to 'the dissemination and promotion of LGBTQI propaganda'
- Promotion of the rainbow family
- Promotion of LGBTQI awareness in schools
- Prevent discourse that is critical of LGBTQI in public and in private
- The criminalisation of conversion therapy (sic)
- The closure of legal lacunas to protect gender identity within hate speech law
- Legal protection for the teaching of gender ideology in schools
- Adoption of minimum EU standards in relation to hate speech and gender identity
- The furtherance of hate speech laws in relation to gender identity and gender expression



- Opposition to Article 33 of the Omnibus Bill T/9934 which de facto bans legal gender recognition for trans in Hungary
- Support for a Romanian bill to prohibit activities aimed at addressing gender identity theory
- The adoption of two same-sex parents on a birth certificate

## THE EU LGBTI EQUALITY STRATEGY



**D**uring her 2020 State of the Union address to the European Parliament Plenary, President of the Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, said, 'LGBTQI-free zones are humanity free zones. And

they have no place in our Union.'

The EU LGBTI Equality Strategy includes:

- Fighting discrimination: Legal protection against discrimination is key to advancing LGBTIQ equality. The Commission will undertake a stocktaking exercise, in particular in the area of employment. The report on the application of [Employment Equality Directive](#) will be published by 2022. Following up to the report the Commission will put forward any legislation, namely on strengthening the role of equality bodies. The Commission will also put forward a regulatory framework that will specifically address the risk of bias and discrimination inherent in artificial intelligence (AI) systems.

- Ensuring safety: LGBTIQ people disproportionately suffer from hate crime, hate speech and violence while the under-reporting of hate crimes remains a serious problem. To harmonise protection against anti-LGBTIQ hate crime and hate speech, the Commission will present an initiative in 2021 to extend the list of 'EU crimes' to include hate crime and hate speech, including when targeted at LGBTIQ people. In addition, the Commission will provide funding opportunities for initiatives that aim to combat hate crime, hate speech and violence against LGBTIQ people.
- Protecting rights of rainbow families: Due to differences in national legislations across Member States, family ties may not always be recognised when rainbow families cross the EU's internal borders. The Commission will bring forward a legislative initiative on the mutual recognition of parenthood and explore possible measures to support the mutual recognition of same-gender partnership between Member States.
- LGBTIQ equality around the world: In various parts of the world, LGBTIQ people experience serious rights violations and abuses. The Commission will support actions for LGBTIQ equality under the [neighbourhood, development and international cooperation instrument](#) (NDICI), the [Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance](#) (IPA) and the [Asylum and Migration Fund](#).



## THE THIN PINK LINE



The Thin Pink Line<sup>20</sup> is the podcast of EGPA. Launched on May 17th and hosted by Glasgow Police Sergeant Alan Sneddon, the inaugural podcast featured the following guests:

Alain Parmantier: President of European LGBT Police Association; Vice President of Flag (@flagasso)

Terry Reintke: Greens MEP. Member of The European Parliament Intergroup on LGBT Rights.

Katrin Hugendubel: Advocate for LGBTI rights. Advocacy Director ILGA-Europe (@ILGAEurope) - benchmarks 49 European countries for their legal and policy situation for LGBTI people.

### PODCAST CONTENT:

1. The European Commission's declaration that the European Union is an LGBTQI Freedom Zone.
2. The EU LGBTI's Equality Strategy (launched November 2020) and what contributions the European LGBT Police Association is making toward the strategy's goals.

### PARTIAL TRANSCRIPT

Reintke: [2:28] We want to live in a European Union where all LGBTI people can live in freedom and this is where this idea to declare Europe as an LGBTI

Freedom Zone came from.... [3:00] We wanted this to be a message to the European Community and also a pledge to people all across the EU that we want to fight for making the EU an LGBTI freedom zone. And now we are getting in contact with politicians, civil society organisations from all different levels and see what legislative and non legislative steps would make the lives of the LGBTI community better.

Host: [5:26] The European Commission's LGBTI equality strategy launched back in November. What impact do you anticipate it will have?

Reintke: The strategy is the basis for moving ahead and for making concrete proposals of what needs to change in order to strengthen LGBTQI human rights inside the EU. We want this to be part of the conversation we have with politicians, with civil society actors... [6:13] there is a EU proposal to have better legislation against hate crime and hate speech inside of the EU. There is proposal for a mutual recognition of documents like, for example, marriage or birth certificates...

Parmatier: [13:04] At the police level, in every country of the European Union where there is an association of LGBTI police officers, this association go to the academies to train the new police officers for a better future we speak about LGBT issues... and human rights.

Hugendubal: [20:10] Just today, ILGA Europe published our 20-21 Rainbow Map where we measure legal advances on the protection of LGBTI rights and what the map clearly shows is an absolute stagnation... [20:39] We see reforms on trans rights, to legal gender recognition stalled and stagnating in 19 countries. The meaningful action needs to come from all sides, we need all member states... to reboot their legislative process... to develop implementation policies, ensure trainings in different areas and develop national action plans... so that we really step by step make sure that the EU

and also all the EU member states become the LGBTQI freedom zones that the declaration is calling for.

[22:55] The strategy is looking at gender equality policies. It is important that all legislation at EU level or national level trying to tackle domestic violence is fully inclusive of LGBTI people . So there are many entry points and we are really looking forward to now see how society together with the European Commission can actually make sure that these commitments in the strategy that are so important will be translated into reality.”

[25:25] Hate crime. We need to see better legislation; we need to see the hate speech and hate crime legislation fully inclusive of sexual orientation, gender identity and sex characteristics on national level. But we also need to see, for example, at the European level with the Digital Services Act being developed, how to further increase the protections and the reactions from social media provides and also from governments to clearly react when hate is spread online. Because we do know that hate spread on line does translate into hate in society and setting the tone.

Host: [27:25] What do you consider to be the main challenges?

Hugendubal [27:44] We already talked about hate and the rise in hate, the rise in violence we're seeing and really across the board is worrying and as you mention, on line, its violence in the street, its violence and hate speech from political leaders and government... [29:40] the way some organisations are actively denying that trans people have a legitimacy and an agency and even more worryingly trying to play out women's rights against trans rights, really actively trying to split human rights movements and we all need to stand very strong against that. Trans rights and feminism go hand in hand in the human rights framework and we need to see more political actors in

institutions but also organisations from civil society come out very clearly in saying not in my name, not in our name, and fully stand behind trans rights. And linked to that is what I was talking about before that governments need to pick up their commitments in reforming legal gender recognition legislation to it fully recognising the right of self determination because we have seen so many governments stalling these processes, moving away from commitments they've made and we really need to see action there to counter the wave of transphobia.

## SOCIAL ENGINEERS

[illegible]

In *The Thin Pink Line*, Alain Parmantier states, ‘The purpose of the Police is to create a society that is fair.’ In the United Kingdom, this is simply not true. British police do not have a statutory power to act as social engineers in the service of

European architects. Despite this, the police ARE invested in the social architecture of the EU via relationship with ILGA, which tracks the status of the EU Commission's agenda in respect to the progress of member states. And the UK.

## STONEWALL

### THE EHRC AND STONEWALL



The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) announced in May that it had withdrawn from the Stonewall Champion's Scheme. Chair of the EHRC, Baroness Falkner, stated in an

interview with The Times: "Someone can believe that people who self identify as a different sex are not the different sex that they self identify. A lot of people would find this an entirely reasonable belief."<sup>21</sup>



National LGBT+ Police Network  
@LGBTpoliceuk

We [#StandForStonewall](#).  
[@stonewalluk](#) have worked positively with Police Services all over the UK to help improve diversity & inclusion practices & policies, making policing better for all our communities.

Stonewall does not consider this to be a reasonable belief and has recently compared questioning its gender ideology with Anti-Semitism<sup>22</sup>. According to its Glossary of Terms, expressions of doubt are transphobic<sup>23</sup>. This is awkward, given that the EHRC is the statutory body responsible for policing equality law.

The response from The National LGBT+ Police Network was issued on 24th May 2021 when it retweeted the hashtag We#StandForStonewall.

It is difficult to find precedent for this openly politically partisan stance by a police force without referencing the Stasi, the Cheka and the Gestapo. In Miller 2021, the judge made precisely this comparison.

## THE REINDORF REPORT AND STONEWALL

Also in May, the Reindorf Report criticised advice given by Stonewall to Essex University. Stonewall had advised in accordance with how it would prefer the law to be rather than how it currently stands. Fair Cop drew attention to this strategy in its 2020 Report, Policing Through The Looking Glass.

## THE CODE OF ETHICS

In order to prevent the police from falling into the hands of a political class, the standard set by The Code of Ethics is purposefully high. The police must not engage in politics. The foreword by Dame Shirley Pearce says, ‘These principles should underpin every decision and action across policing.... [They] must be more than words on a page and must become embedded in the way police professionals think and behave.’<sup>24</sup>

### Association

6.3. Membership of groups or societies, or associations with groups or societies, must not create an actual or apparent conflict of interest with police work and responsibilities.

## 6.4

The test is whether a reasonably informed member of the public might reasonably believe that your membership or association could adversely affect your ability to discharge your policing duties effectively and impartially.

### Political activity

6.5 Police officers must not take any part in politics. This is intended to prevent you from placing yourself in a position where your impartiality may be questioned.

The police must not give the impression of being engaged in politics; this means that they must not signal a political conviction via epaulettes, flags, insignia, alliance with political causes, or adopting the language of a party or cause, such as 'For The Many, Not The Few,' 'Free Palestine', 'Black Lives Matter', or 'Trans Rights Are Human Rights'.

The police must not be associated with any group that is involved in politics; this must preclude association with any group which has an overtly political agenda, such as Stonewall and EGPA.

## CODE BREACH

The question is not whether European Union's declaration and strategy has merit but whether it is political. Any reasonable person will conclude that it is. This being the case, the National LGBT+ Police Network cannot be associated with EGPA.



## ACCOUNTABILITY

**T**he National LGBT Police Association appears to act independently of supervision. The College of Policing, which is the professional body for overseeing the police forces of England and Wales, claims to have no responsible oversight of The National LGBT+ Police Network.

On 26 February 2021, in response to an FOI by Fair Cop<sup>25</sup> in relation to breaches of The Code of Ethics by The National LGBT+ Police Network, the College of Policing stated that it “does not have responsibility for this account and has no authority or remit to deal with the issue raised.” It advised contacting a member police force.

On 8th March 2021, Fair Cop contacted City of London Police as its Acting T/Commander was Clinton Blackburn, Chair of The National Association. On 19th March, the reply came: “City of London Police are not responsible for the National LGBT+ Police Network and, therefore, do not record data in relation to it or its membership.”

## THE OATH OF ATTESTATION

The 2002 rewording of The Oath of Attestation<sup>26</sup> does blur the line between the models of British and European policing in that it makes an additional demand on the constable to ‘uphold human rights.’ Given that the European Union considers itself a benchmark for what constitutes a human right, it is easy to understand how confusion arises in the mind of the British constable, especially where an influential organisation such as the National LGBT+ Police Network takes the EU as an additional locus of control.



## SUMMARY

**T**his report sets out clearly the extent to which the police in the UK are operating to a political agenda. Fair Cop fully supports the rights of all minority groups to live their lives free of abuse and harassment. But the police cannot be the organisation driving political change in this or any other area. The dangerous consequences are already becoming clear, with the rise of police interference in legitimately protected political speech. We believe there is a serious risk that, left unchecked, public trust and confidence in the police will become so eroded that it may not be possible to restore.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE NATIONAL LGBT POLICE ASSOCIATION

1. Immediate withdrawal from its executive function within EGPA
2. Immediate withdrawal from EGPA membership and association
3. That it undertakes not to promote EGPA podcasts, literature, or other materials.
4. That it reports itself to The College of Policing for Breach of The Code of Ethics
5. That it closes down all public facing social media accounts

### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE COLLEGE OF POLICING

1. That it reaffirms its Code of Ethics in relation to the restriction on political association to all police officers and affiliated organisations.

## RECOMMENDATION TO GOVERNMENT

1. Review the purpose and performance of The College of Policing, particularly in respect to its laissez faire approach to promoting the restrictions on police involvement in politics, as set out by its own The Code of Ethics
2. Review The College of Policing's tone deaf adherence to requiring police forces to collect NCHIs
3. Remove from The Oath of Attestation the requirement to uphold human rights

## RECOMMENDATIONS TO POLICE AND CRIMES COMMISSIONERS

1. To insist that Chief Constables understand that their single locus of control is the law
2. To insist that Chief Constables adopt a wide definition of what it means to be engaged in political activity and to maintain The Code of Ethics restrictions to the fullest extent
3. To demand of Chief Constable's immediate exit from Stonewall's Champion's Scheme

## RECOMMENDATIONS TO CHIEF CONSTABLES

1. Immediate removal from Stonewall Champion's Scheme in line with EHRC
2. Immediate review of all policy documents that have been written, co-authored, or influenced by Stonewall
3. Publish the names of all constables with membership of the National LGBT+ Police Network until such time as it removes itself from EGPA

# THANKS

Rob Jessel and the original members of Fair Cop  
Paul Conrathe and Dr A.L.  
J McGowan  
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The Critic  
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Lesley Katon and Unlocked  
Peter Whittle and New Culture Forum  
Laurence Fox, Martin Daubney, Stephanie Kowalski  
THE 17,000 FOLLOWERS OF @WEAREFAIRCOP

# REFERENCES

<sup>1</sup> <https://humanrightsforallsite.files.wordpress.com/2016/04/1214552596office-constable.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.lgbtpolice.eu/the-board>

<sup>3</sup> Fifth Peelian Principle. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/policing-by-consent/definition-of-policing-by-consent>

<sup>4</sup> <https://lgbt.police.uk/regions/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.college.police.uk/about>

<sup>6</sup> [https://paas-s3-broker-prod-lon-6453d964-1d1a-432a-9260-5e0ba7d2fc51.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/2021-02/code\\_of\\_ethics.pdf](https://paas-s3-broker-prod-lon-6453d964-1d1a-432a-9260-5e0ba7d2fc51.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/2021-02/code_of_ethics.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> Witness Statement (Miller 2021) of Paul Giannasi, Police Superintendent and Manager of UK Government Hate Crime Programme

<sup>8</sup> R (Prolife Alliance) v British Broadcasting Corporation, *supra*, [6]

<sup>9</sup> (<https://www.lgbtpolice.eu/paris-2018>)

<sup>10</sup> <https://lgbt.police.uk/about-us/national-co-ordination-group/>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.cheshire.police.uk/police-forces/cheshire-constabulary/areas/cheshire/about-us/about-us/chief-officers-and-support-staff/>

<sup>12</sup> <https://lgbt.police.uk/about-us/npsc-lead-for-lgbt/>

<sup>13</sup> [<https://www.lgbtpolice.eu>]

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.ilga-europe.org/who-we-are/what-ilga-europe>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.flagasso.com/>

<sup>16</sup> [<https://www.ilga-europe.org/rainboweurope/2020>]

<sup>17</sup> [<https://www.ilga-europe.org/rainboweurope/2020>]

<sup>18</sup> [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2021-0089\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2021-0089_EN.html)

<sup>19</sup> The acronyms on the website change. We chose to leave them as we found them

<sup>20</sup> [<https://anchor.fm/egpa-podcast/episodes/Ep-1--Europe-LGBTIQ-Freedom-Zone-e109lms>]

<sup>21</sup> <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/women-must-be-heard-on-transgender-identity-says-new-equalities-chief-kqtljxmd>

<sup>22</sup> <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-57281448>

<sup>23</sup> <https://lgbt.police.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/TG-Glossary.pdf>

<sup>24</sup> Code of Ethics (2014); College of Policing; Foreword; vi.

<sup>25</sup> <http://faircop.org>

<sup>26</sup> <https://www.polfed.org/media/14239/the-office-of-constable-with-links-2018.pdf>