

# Statement Garda Representative Association

*GRA President Jim Mulligan*

## GRA to take part in Dublin Pride for first time

**27.06.2019**

The Garda Representative Association (GRA) is “delighted and privileged” to be taking part in Dublin Pride for the first time this weekend, GRA President Jim Mulligan has said ahead of Saturday’s event.

Mr Mulligan said: “The GRA is going through a period of change in which we are developing our capacity to take a more active role in promoting diversity and inclusion in our association, the Garda Síochána and in society generally.

“Taking part in Dublin Pride for the first time in the history of our association is part of that. We are delighted, indeed privileged, to be involved in this very public display of solidarity and inclusion.

“Pride events throughout Ireland have grown to be a powerful force for positive change over the years. Dublin Pride is not just a landmark event in our capital city’s cultural calendar, it is also a powerful statement to the world that we are a diverse society.

“A country’s police force must be socially representative, so it is right and proper that we in the GRA play our part on Saturday by displaying our own diversity; and standing should-to-shoulder with others doing the same.

“We are acutely aware that members of the LGBTQ community still experience prejudice and are victimised – sometimes violently. I hope our attendance on Saturday shows our members treat discrimination with the utmost seriousness.

“We also want anyone contemplating a career as a garda to know that the organisation is a welcoming environment and that if discrimination were to arise, the GRA would vigorously support any affected member.”

“On behalf of all the GRA membership, I extend our best wishes to everyone taking part in what I’m sure will be a fun and joyous day, full of colour and good will.”

**ENDS**

### **Contact**

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