



**Date:** 16 February 2019

Dear Councillors,

Welcome to Northumberland Pride, a county wide organisation set up in 2017 to raise awareness of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender (LGBT+) culture and heritage. We do this by promoting equality and diversity for the elimination of discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity.

In practice we provide safe spaces which break down barriers, that promote inclusion and support across Northumberland. Our vision is to celebrate LGBT+ life with our allies through events and project work.

In 2018, we delivered the very first Northumberland Pride in Alnwick. Northumberland Pride 2018 was attended by over 2,500 people and our colourful march through the town centre of Alnwick attracted over 500 people.

We engaged with over 50 organisations through a range of activities where those organisations engaged hundreds of LGBT+ people from across Northumberland.

We also use our online presence as tools to engage LGBT+ people throughout the county and provide a social hub that allows integration from more rural communities in Northumberland.

Although our main events took place in Alnwick and will do again, throughout the year we deliver over 20 events.

Our reach extends well beyond the people who we directly engage with. As Community Champion winners in the recent Chronicle Champions Awards and a nominee in the National Diversity Awards we have created, in a short space of time,

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intersectional visibility, breaking down barriers to promote inclusion and create open dialogue between the LGBT+ and wider community.

In 2019, we will celebrate #Stonewall50, a WorldPride celebration of 50 years since the Stonewall Riots. Not only are we celebrating this, we're also encouraging everyone to #ComeHomeForNorthumberlandPride where we will continue to help make our county an even more inclusive place to live, work and visit, no matter our differences.

We can only deliver our activities through the financial and in-kind support we receive from funders, sponsors and community donations. This year, we're asking Town and Parish Councils across the county to contribute towards our events as Alnwick Town Council and Amble Town Council have done in 2018 & 2019.

I hope you will be able to join us on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2019, march with us and also take part of all of our events throughout the week of pride.

You can keep up to date by following us on Facebook @NorthumberlandPride, Twitter and Instagram @NLandPride and at our website [www.northumberlandpride.org.uk](http://www.northumberlandpride.org.uk).

Yours Sincerely

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