

Hate Crime in Stockton

1. Members will recall a discussion at the last meeting of the Partnership where the Tees-wide Hate Crime Group was explained. Mick Walker set up and is leading on this piece of work across the Tees Valley, each local authority area is undertaking a mapping exercise on their approach to safeguarding vulnerable adults to identify how we each respond to hate crime, highlighting any gaps in service, or best practice using recommendations from the Equality Human Rights Commission (EHRC) as a guide.
2. The working copy of this template is attached as Appendix one, both the Community Safety Team and members of CESC have been involved in the completion of this template. A final template containing information from each area is being collated by Mick Walker and was incomplete at the time of writing this report.
3. Whilst this piece of work is being progressed it must be read in conjunction with the Police Operations Hate Crime Action Plan which is also attached as Appendix two. This details the police approach in tackling hate crime incidents which includes set target deadlines.
4. Within Stockton there is a multi-agency hate crime meeting which meets every first Wednesday of month chaired by the Police with representation from SBC, Housing Providers and Citizens Advice Bureau. This meeting monitors police incidents / reports, partner agency reporting and reviews the statistics relevant to hate crime. This group addresses and informs members of the group about any emerging trends and tension monitoring within the communities of Stockton. The group continually work to identify and develop projects and campaigns to raise awareness to recognise the elements of hate crime, where to report, and action that can be taken which is tailored to the audience. In more recent months a positive link has been made with Education to come forward and discuss incidents within schools.
5. This group acknowledges that no direct reports have been received via the Offensive Incident number (607943) which is the 24 hour reporting line. However reports have been identified through other means either by direct reports to a housing officer, or by an officer identifying a race/hate element to the reported incident or call received. The police record and report quarterly on statistical returns to the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) relating to hate crime i.e. all of those that have a 'hate' qualifier code. The information submitted is currently force wide, and information from Stockton is recorded through the Hate Crime meeting only.
6. The table below shows the breakdown of calls recorded by the Police from January 2012 to December 2012. 90% of all calls related to a racist report, followed by 6.5% that were recorded as homophobic, a full breakdown is shown below:-

TYPE	%
Racist	90
Homophobic	6.5
Religious	1
Sexual Orientation	0.5
Race/Sexual Orientation/Religious	0.5
Transgender	0.5
Disablist	0.5
Racist/homophobic	0.5
Grand Total	100

7. Within the Hate Group meeting sharing information about race/hate crime incidents is a key component and all incidents that are reported to the police are discussed for the previous month before they are transferred to the relevant Joint Action Group (JAG) meetings. This may also include direct reports to RSLs or the Anti-Social Behaviour Team that involve a hate crime element that is identified by the officer and where the IP does not want police involvement. Ownership of recording remains with the owner of the initial report, and this would only be included in the Police figures above when the police have taken action.
8. This report sets out the current position for the monitoring of hate crime reports, how the hate crime meeting is tackling the issue and how Stockton fits in with the Equality Human Rights Commission (EHRC). Members are asked to note the current position, and be aware that once a more robust template is available, a further report will be brought to the Partnership to identify further best practice or gaps in provision. For any further information or comments please contact Claire Sills Claire.Sills@Stockton.gov.uk

Tees-wide Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Board
Safer Stockton Partnership

Reporting Recording and Recognition

EHRC Recommendation	Current Position for Stockton	What changes are needed	Person Responsible	Date (for change inc short / medium long term)
<p>1. Authorities should remove barriers to all disabled people reporting crime, antisocial behaviour or bullying, including ‘cyber-bullying’. Authorities should also consider how they communicate with disabled people and use terminology that service users identify with.</p>	<p>Work has been on-going since August 2010 to further consult with vulnerable people especially with those considered to have a disability; this has been carried out through trained champions. (This approach was adopted after a pilot identified the best method of consulting). To support this work established links have been made to introduce uniformed Officers to visit centres where people with a disability frequent. Presentations to different Forums take place on a more regular basis to explain routes for reporting and the types of issues we can deal with. Educational lessons to raise</p>	<p>Further work is being developed to create a safe reporting scheme in Stockton to increase reporting.</p>		

	awareness on victims / social networks and internet safety completed by Police Liaison Officer and Community Safety.			
2. Staff responding to harassment should be trained in how to better gather and record personal information about disability in an appropriate and sensitive manner.	All SBC uniformed officers have received training on Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults and mental health awareness.	Work continues to try and set up systems whereby information of addresses of vulnerable people especially those with a disability are highlighted within the ASB System to ensure that they received the most appropriate tailored response.		
3. Authorities should adopt recording systems that record whether the victim was disabled (along with other protected characteristics) and whether hostility/prejudice to disability was a motivation.	Already in place.			
4. Authorities should recognise the potential for escalation and record incidents leading up to crimes in order to support the implementation of preventative actions.	Already in place, with ASB Officers who will work on taking evidence to gather and collate for Court whilst ASB Victim Witness Support Officer would make regular contact to support the client during and following the end of action being taken. Repeat caller process in Stockton which is carried out with both			

	Police and Council data. Identified Officers for both the Police and the Council will identify any pattern or cause for concern and then will proceed with a risk assessment; information is taken to multi-agency JAG meetings across the Borough.			
5. Health and social care providers should put robust and accessible systems in place so that residents living in institutions can be confident when reporting harassment that they will be treated sensitively.	Health and social care providers in Stockton support residents living in institutions to report any harassment or abuse.	Any future 3 rd party reporting scheme developed in Stockton needs to be publicised with institutional care providers as well as the wider community		
6. Police call screening should focus on acknowledgement, risk of harm and the number of incidents rather than the number of calls in order to identify and address repeat victimisation.	Mick Walker to action.			
Ensuring Adequate Support and Advocacy				
7. Staff delivering health and social care services to the public should be trained in safeguarding adults and children, including how to refer to appropriate services.	All staff delivering health and social care support in Stockton have mandatory training in safeguarding adults and children	The Stockton adult safeguarding committee and Local Safeguarding Children's Board regularly audit the awareness training of Health and social care employers against local and		

		national standards.		
8. Requirements for special measures should be identified and implemented at the police investigation stage, and appropriate reasonable adjustments should be provided throughout investigation and prosecution. Lack of provision of either must not be a barrier to progression of a case nor a rationale for dropping a case. Authorities should refer disabled victims of harassment, antisocial behaviour and crime to support services (specialist services if appropriate).	Every person who experiences a crime is offered a Victim Support referral. Where a case involves ASB, support referral is given to the ASB Victim Witness Support Officer. Wherever a key worker/ support worker is identified they will be consulted with and involved in meetings where possible.			
9. Safeguarding Boards and Community Safety Partnerships should ensure that accessible information and advocacy services are available to enable disabled people to understand and exercise their rights.	PCT commissioned Safeguarding Boards to have advocacy services to provide witness support.	Stockton Adult Safeguarding Committee and Learning Disability partnership board should ensure that public information to assist vulnerable people protect themselves should be in easy read and accessible formats		
10. Where authorities have obligations to provide or commission local support services, they should take into account their own public sector equality duties at the planning stage, and reflect adequate provision for access to disabled people.	Equality Impact Assessments			

Improved Practice and Shared Learning

<p>11. Local agencies and partners should review the priority they give to eliminating harassment, and their information sharing systems, using joint intelligence to identify and stop repeat victimisation or repeat perpetrators and prevent further escalation.</p>	<p>See point 4 above.</p>			
<p>12. Local Authorities should play a lead role in driving local partnerships to deliver on preventing and tackling disability related harassment, and all authorities should develop approaches for effective joint working.</p>	<p>Awareness sessions take place across the Borough to various clubs and groups and is part of core lessons that the Community Safety Team provide offered to all schools in the Borough.</p>			
<p>13. Regulators, inspectorates and ombudsmen, along with senior representatives of service providers and their clients, should work together to devise and disseminate procedures and standards which seek to minimise the risk of harassment.</p>	<p>CQC & Stockton Borough Council Commissioning process for services for vulnerable adults in the Borough insist on standards of service provision that are person centred and safe.</p>			
<p>14. Adult safeguarding boards should use professional networks to ensure: 1. Lessons learnt from local serious case reviews are embedded in training and practice, and shared and evaluated nationally across all authorities</p>	<p>Tees adult safeguarding strategic Board uses national and local serious case reviews to change local procedures and training priorities for partner agencies wherever required.</p>	<p>Tees strategic vulnerable adults board and Stockton vulnerable adults committee continue to monitor national publication of serious case reviews to incorporate any lessons learnt in local</p>	<p>Tees Business manager and Stockton Adult safeguarding strategy lead.</p>	

2. Summaries of serious case reviews are publicly available and disseminated		practice.		
3. Educational establishments share continuous developments and practice in tackling disability-related harassment.				
15. Serious case reviews should be mandatory for cases involving adults at risk unless proved unnecessary.	Tees Vulnerable adults Strategic Board and the Stockton Vulnerable adults Committee have an agreed procedure for Multi agency serious case reviews for adults.	Tees vulnerable adults Strategic Board and Stockton Vulnerable adults committee Regularly review this procedure and the local multi agency case threshold for a serious case review.		
16. Transport providers should develop reciprocal reporting arrangements and work in partnership to address disability-related harassment.	Not Known	Transport providers need to be included as champions in the Stockton and Tees Safe place scheme	Inclusion North and Safe Place implementation group	
Redress & Accessing Justice				
17. The perceived capacity of the victim should never form the basis for decisions about police investigation.	Every individual is treated on their own merit, and where information is available support would be in attendance / involved. However, it would be different if flagged as a 'hate crime' and would be treated as urgent.			
18. Whenever repeat perpetrators or repeat victims are identified, the priority given to solving the case should always be increased to urgent.	Every Hate Crime is dealt with in this way. Repeat caller process in Stockton supports this.			

<p>19. Crimes motivated in part or in whole by hostility/prejudice to disability need to be recognised, investigated and prosecuted as such. Where there is evidence of hostility/prejudice police should gather evidence to support prosecution as an aggravated offence utilising section 146 of the Criminal Justice Act where appropriate.</p>	<p>Hate Crime Group in Stockton exists to tackle this. All crimes are investigated and scrutinised by supervision. The investigation then comes to DI Young who reviews them and sends them back if he is not happy, they are then sent on to the Supt for final scrutiny. If a case is to be dropped then the investigating officer will establish the reasons why and offer support, if they still insist on dropping the case then the Racially Motivated Incident (RMI) Officer PC Ditchburn will make personal contact with the victim and offer further support to see if they will still prosecute. All these are logged and discussed at the Hate Crime meeting. Further awareness is taking place to improve the situation by a road show being delivered to officers by Satnam Singh and DI Steve Young.</p>			
<p>Prevention, Deterrence & Understanding Motivation</p>				
<p>20. Public authorities should use the public sector equality duty as a framework for helping promote positive</p>				

<p>images of disabled people and tackle the low representation of disabled people across all areas of public life.</p>				
<p>21. All authorities should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop, implement and review awareness raising campaigns to encourage victims and witnesses of disability-related harassment to come forward 2. Encourage all individuals and organisations to recognise, report and respond to any incidences of disability-related harassment they may encounter. 3. Identify and implement interventions to prevent harassment occurring in the first place and develop responses to prevent escalation. This should include using legal and non-legal sanctions as deterrents to would-be perpetrators, such as provisions against disability-related harassment within tenancy agreements. 4. Ensure that perpetrators of harassment face consequences and that these are properly implemented. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Offensive Incident procedure and pocket size cards that were produced with information and contact numbers to report. 2. Third party reporting, the repeat victims procedures between the Police and the Council. Presentations to various community groups. 3. Education sessions in schools to raise awareness of hate crime. 4. This would be dependent upon the information available. No control over CPS, and looking to implement Restorative Justice practices. 	<p>Check whether Hate Crime is listed as a breach of tenancy within the Tenancy agreement.</p>		
<p>22. Authorities should identify and implement ways to design out potential for conflict in use of shared space within environmental infrastructures.</p>	<p>Every Planning application submitted goes through the police Architectural Liaison Officer.</p>			

23. Police forces should develop an in-depth understanding of the characteristics and motivations of perpetrators, design local prevention strategies accordingly and evidence their effectiveness.	Use of the Safe at Home scheme for security survey referrals, and implementation of security target hardening measures.			
24. Schools and colleges should develop material for helping students understand disabled people and the social model of disability, and the prejudice that disabled people face within society. The materials should encourage a better understanding and respect for diversity and difference and help students know what to do when they see others perpetrating bullying and harassment, both in school and outside (on public transport, in public places, etc).	This approach is covered by lessons carried out by the Community Safety Team and Police Schools Liaison Officer.			
25. Schools and colleges should ensure disabled pupils and those with special educational needs (SEN) are able to participate in all school/college and after-school/college activities on an equal basis with non-disabled pupils (Mainstreaming as prevention).				
Transparency, Accountability and Involvement				
26. Leaders of authorities and elected representatives should show strong				

<p>personal commitment, ownership and determination to deliver change.</p>				
<p>27. Authorities should: 1. proactively work with disabled people and their representative organisations to identify where risks of disability related harassment are higher and take appropriate action to address it; 2. proactively engage with disabled people to improve services and practice on preventing and tackling disability-related harassment, ensuring the provision of reasonable adjustments to aid involvement and participation.</p>	<p>Work is being carried out by both the police and the council to build relationships of trust to assist people with a disability to report.</p>			
<p>28. Police should review their rates of ‘no criming’ where the victim is disabled, across all crime types, and address any issues (i.e. disbelief) that may emerge as a result.</p>	<p>This is covered in point 19 above, that said we have little or no reported ‘disabled crime’ which has been identified as a concern at the Hate Crime group and measures are in place to get a representative to attend the group from the disabled community in an attempt to raise awareness and increase confidence in reporting. ‘Disabled’ crime is also mentioned in the road show to increase awareness amongst officers to identify ‘Disabled’</p>			

	Hate Crime and record it accordingly.			
29. Disabled people should be involved in public transport policy development and transport providers should work in partnership with criminal justice authorities to reduce risk on and around transport provision.				

Please note that the following Appendix is a RESTRICTED document and is not for the public domain.

RESTRICTED Document**Police Operational Priority – Hate Crime / Incident
Action Plan**

Ref	Actions	Target Date	Action Owner	Update	Status
1 Increase Hate Crime/ Incident Reporting					
1a	To build victim confidence by supporting local partnerships to improve access for support to victims and those affected.	May 2013	C/Supt Lang		
1b	Ensure Integrated Neighbourhood Team ward meetings are accessible to disabled people and promoted to minority groups	April 2013	INT C/Insp		
1c	In partnership with other agencies, in particular the voluntary sector, ensure there are adequate 3 rd party reporting locations in accordance with 'True Vision'	May 2013	INT C/Insp	Review ongoing with Tees Vulnerable Adults Board.	
1d	Ensure this plan compliments work undertaken by Community Safety Partnerships and Safeguarding Boards.	May 2013	INT C/Insp		
1e	Hate crime/ incident awareness training(with a disability focus) to be delivered to all police officers, PCSO's,	2013	Laura Raw		

	Special Constables and Steria staff in Communications and front desks			
1f	To raise awareness of disability hate crime / incidents by effective communication to the community, partner agencies and police officers and staff	May 2013	Miranda Sykes	
1g	To communicate to police officers and staff the Cleveland Police commitment to the Mencap 'Stand by Me' promises	February 2013	Miranda Sykes	

2. Prevent Hate crime / Incidents

2a	Positive action and early intervention to be taken when dealing with any hate crime or incident to prevent any further occurrences or escalation (Restorative Justice may be suitable for incidents)		C/Insp IRT and C/Insp INT	
2b	In partnership with other agencies to communicate 3 rd party reporting locations and mechanisms in a targeted manner eg minority groups and support networks	July 2013	C/Supt lang Community Safety Insp	
2c	To utilise analytical information held by partner agencies to map our vulnerable community and conduct preventative activity (build on existing information sharing protocols)	March 2013	INT C/Insp	

2d	To ensure all protective characteristics of hate crime are represented on Force IAG's and use their knowledge and advice to best effect	May 2013	C/Supt Lang Insp Sutherland		
2e	To establish and maintain contact with voluntary, minority and disabled groups in our communities		INT C/Inps Community Safety Insp		
2f	To explore external funding streams which would support the response to hate crime / incidents in particular disability	June 2013	Community Safety Insp		
2g	Explore methods to assist staff in identifying victims / witnesses with learning disabilities	June 2013	Community Safety Insp Laura Raw		
2h	To establish a consistent approach to monitoring and managing hate crime / incidents in a multi agency setting and adopting best practice ie district hate crime groups	May 2013	C/Supt Lang		
2i	To evaluate and assess potential implementation of external training by 'Littlecog' and other agencies	May 2013	C/Insp Thornton Community Safety Insp		

3. Better Response, Identification and Case Management					
3a	To implement a standard vulnerability assessment process for all hate victims	June 2013	C/Supt Lang		
3b	To establish a consistent method of investigation, monitoring and ownership of hate incidents taking into account the force restructure	June 2013	C/Supt Lang		
3c	To review the force hate crime policy in line with above restructure	June 2013	Community Safety Insp		
3d	To ensure staff correctly identify a hate crime or incident at earliest opportunity- (initial contact, officer attendance, community safety review, incident closure or subsequent investigation)	June 2013	C/Supt Irvine C/Supt Gudgeon C/Supt Lang		
3e	Communications supervisor to authorise the closure of an incident which has been initially opened as a hate crime / incident but sequelled by an officer as non hate	April 2013	C/Supt Irvine		

3f	Secure best evidence by identifying vulnerability and disability and maximise support to achieve positive outcomes eg use of special measures, advocates, allowing more time for interview and disclosure	2013	Laura Raw		
3g	To ensure all potential hate prosecutions are flagged up to CPS at an early stage so that the most appropriate charge(s) is considered and the victim is further supported through the court process. Consideration to be given to inform prison service in remand or sentencing cases for on going monitoring to be conducted	April 2013	C/Supt Irvine C/Supt Gudgeon C/Supt Lang Suzy Vaughan		
3h	Provide additional support to vulnerable victims through the Court process to improve successful outcomes.	April 2013	C/Supt Gudgeon Suzy Vaughan	Support programme (WSPP) ongoing with Tees Vulnerable Adults Board.	