

HATE CRIME REPORT

SUMMARY

'Empowering People to Tackle Hate Crime' (2010) identified a lack of action being taken to tackle disability and Hate Crime and has suggested ways to improve services. The Equality and Human Rights Commission has recommended that those leading on Hate Crime incorporate these findings into their work. The Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner is leading on this work across Tees and it is an operational priority for Cleveland Police.

This report provides information to Stockton Safer Partnership on the proposed approach to hate crime in Stockton as a result of changes introduced to improve hate crime reporting across Tees.

RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend SSP to:

1. Receive this report and note its content.
2. Endorse the proposed approach to Hate Crime in Stockton outlined in paragraphs 15 -19.

BACKGROUND

1. According to Home Office national figures for 2011-12 there were 43,738 hate crimes recorded by the police. It showed that Hate crime against vulnerable groups is on the rise. Of those hate crimes recorded, 82% were race-related, 10% were related to sexual orientation, 4% were religiously motivated and 4% were recorded as disability hate crimes.
2. The national picture shows that a significant amount of Hate Crime is still unreported, especially related to disability. In Oct 2013 a national Bill was put forward in Parliament which requires Police Forces to register hate crime committed against people with learning disabilities as well as other forms of disability. In 2012 recently a piece of research 'Manifesto for change' on the safety and security of disabled people conducted by the Equality and Human Rights Commission found that violence and hostility is a daily experience for some disabled people.
3. The high levels of Hate Crime still being unreported is reflected across the country and has been identified as a priority for the Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). This has led to some changes being made to the current Hate Crime system across Tees.
4. At the present time across Tees each of the four local authorities have different methods of reporting, recording and promoting services in relation to Hate Crime incidents. In an effort to bring this together and have a co-ordinated approach to Hate Crime, a Tees Wide 'Hate Crime' group has been established. This has been co-ordinated from the Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner's office and has membership of key leads from each of the local authorities and Cleveland Police. It is chaired by the Project Manager from the Police and Crime Commissioners Office. As a result there will be a uniform 'Don't tolerate hate' logo for Hate Crime across the Tees Valley, see Appendix 1.
5. Each Borough will work under the umbrella of the Tees Wide Hate Crime Group but will be required to develop its own approach to address hate crime at a local level.

6. Below shows the current structure for overseeing hate crime across Tees:



CURRENT APPROACH IN STOCKTON

7. SBC Diversity, Community Safety teams and Cleveland Police have an established multi-agency 'Hate Crime' group in Stockton which is made up of key representatives from SBC Housing Section, Tri-star, Endeavour and Tees Valley Housing, Community Safety, Stockton District Advice and Information Service and CESC. This group is chaired by the Community Safety Inspector and reports into Safer Stockton Partnership.
8. All incidents are reported at reporting centres, listed in paragraph 9, and are sent as they occur to the Stockton Anti-Social behaviour Team who log all incidences onto the FLARE recording system. The SBC group meets monthly to look at Hate Crime cases and develops action plans for each case. The group also looks into monitoring cases that have been reported through the telephone reporting line. This information is shared and discussed regionally at the Tees Wide Hate Crime group and fed into the Tees Valley SIAG (Strategic Independent Advisory Group) which is led by the Police and now chaired by the Police and Crime Commissioner.
9. Currently Stockton has six reporting centres across the Borough;
 - Stockton District Advice and Information Service (SDAIS) Bath Lane Stockton
 - Municipal Buildings, Stockton Council
 - Billingham Council Office, 1 Chapel Road, Billingham
 - Stockton Library
 - Billingham Library, Bedale Avenue

- Thornaby Central Library, Town Centre, Thornaby
- Thornaby Library, Westbury Street, Thornaby

CURRENT PICTURE OF HATE CRIME IN STOCKTON

10. The Hate Crime figures for Stockton have followed a similar pattern to the national with race being the main reason for hate crime as shown below:

All Incidents Crimes	April 2013 - December 2013 (%)	April 2012 - December 2012 (%)
Racial	130 (76)	144 (88)
Transgender	4 (2)	2 (1)
Disability	5 (3)	5 (4)
Religion/Belief	17 (10)	7 (4)
Sexual Orientation	16 (9)	5 (3)
All Hate Incidents*	172	163

11. The table shows that the number of race related Hate Crimes in Stockton have gone down compared to the previous year. There has been an increase in the number of sexual orientation related and religion related Hate Crime. The level of Hate Crime related to disability has stayed the same, again reflecting the national picture. Cleveland Police data (April 2012 – 2013) for all authorities can be found in Appendix 2.
12. Across Tees the disability data is not currently broken down any further by the types of disability, but this will be incorporated in the new approach to dealing with Hate Crime. At present the definition is quite broad. Under the new approach an improved definition will be given allowing for disability Hate Crime to be recorded by sub-headings presenting a clearer picture on disability related Hate Crime.
13. In November 2013 the results of a mystery shopping exercise carried out in reporting centres across Tees highlighted that in Stockton only one of the six reporting centres (Stockton Library) fully understood the hate crime procedures. This clearly highlights a need to effectively train staff and raise awareness of hate crime amongst key staff. This was reflected across Tees. The results of this mystery shopping exercise and the recommendations from it have been incorporated into a Tees Wide Hate Crime Operational priority.
14. Whilst key staff had been trained on; how to deal with hate crime incidents (taking reports, logging information and explaining the processes) this training was carried out in 2009.

NEXT STEPS

15. As part of the refreshed SBC approach the Stockton Hate Crime group recommend **four** key` reporting centres :

- Stockton Central Library
- Stockton District Advice and Information Service, Bath Lane
- Thornaby Central Library and Customer Service Centre
- Roseberry Billingham Library (Billingham Centre Library and Customer Service Centre, when it goes live)

The rationale is that they are central, are the centres that most Hate Crimes are reported and have private rooms for reporting 'Hate Crime'. All direct reporting centres will receive training on the correct procedures for reporting and recording hate crime.

16. In addition we will increase the reach of awareness of Hate Crime by having 48 centres across the Borough (See Appendix 3) that have information on how and where to report incidents, ensuring links are made with the Safe Place in Tees Scheme. These sites and their related organisations will be offered a basic level of awareness raising /training and posters and publicity material, provided via the Tees Wide Hate Crime Group.

17. In addition to providing training for the **four** reporting centres we propose to provide refresher training for key staffing groups including the Anti-social Behaviour Team, Customer Services, Housing and Security Centre staff as these staff groups are those who will be more likely to deal with the victims of Hate Crime. This will allow for the inclusion of changes made to the protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 and will take into account any changes that have occurred in staffing.

18. We will use the disability sub-headings that Tees Wide Hate Crime Group recommends in our reporting to ensure consistency across Tees.

19. We will support the Tees Wide 'Hate Crime' campaign which sees Police and partners:

- Working with key organisations to raise awareness of reporting hate crime e.g. Jomast
- Providing educational lessons on hate crime issues including those committed via social networks and the importance of internet safety when dealing with hate crime delivered over social media.
- Co-ordinating the reporting of hate crime incidents across Tees.

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