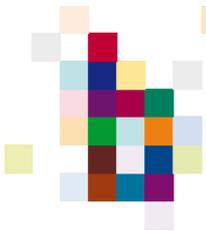


Bradford and District

# Hate Crime Strategy

2013-2016



**BRADFORD**  
Community Safety  
Partnership

# Foreword

**Cllr. Imran Hussain**  
Deputy Leader of Council,  
Chair of Community Safety  
Partnership



**Chief Superintendent  
Simon Atkin**  
West Yorkshire Police,  
Vice-Chair of Community  
Safety Partnership

As Chair and Vice Chair of the District's Community Safety Partnership, we acknowledge that a commitment to partnerships, joined up working and a shared vision will lead towards eliminating hate crime in our communities. As a partnership we present the Bradford and District Hate Crime Strategy for 2013 to 2016. This marks the next stage of our work to eliminate hate crime in our communities and supporting victims of hate crime to a better and safer future.

Hate crime can destroy lives, instils fear and can break down the fabric of our communities and neighbourhoods. Hate crime affects all communities and if not tackled can lead to the isolation and victimisation of individuals and vulnerable groups along with the polarisation of communities. We are committed to working together with all our local communities and partners to support victims of hate crime by improving reporting pathways and the support we can offer as a partnership. We must continue our efforts to achieve our collective goal to eliminate all hate crime in our communities.

City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council, West Yorkshire Police and Bradford Hate Crime Alliance, working in partnership with our key partners from across the voluntary, public and private sectors, are committed to making sure that there is the highest levels of leadership, strategic and operational commitment towards delivering this strategy.

The following strategic priorities have been agreed:

- 1 Increasing awareness of hate crime
- 2 Increasing the reporting of hate crime and hate incidents
- 3 Taking effective action against perpetrators
- 4 Supporting victims of hate crime
- 5 Improving partnership working

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For further information please contact:  
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# National picture



The Equality and Human Rights Commission produced the 'How fair is Britain?' report in 2010. The recent three year review of this report identified ending identity-based or targeted violence and harassment as one of five key objectives to achieve a fairer society.

The Government's Challenge It, Report It, Stop It - The Government's Plan to Tackle Hate Crime Action Plan (2012,p.5) notes that "We have come a long way since the shocking murder of Stephen Lawrence in 1993. The Inquiry into his death, and the subsequent Macpherson Report, was a catalyst for change – not just in the way the police and criminal justice system deal with racially-motivated crimes, but in the recognition of hate crimes more broadly. Importantly, there is greater understanding now of the disproportionate impact hate crimes have on victims, and of the need to work across agencies and with the voluntary sector to overcome the barriers which have caused those who have previously been reluctant to come forward."

The Government also recognises that we should not mistake that progress, or the convictions for the murder of Stephen Lawrence – welcome though they are – as evidence that the problem has been solved. Far from it. The violence and intimidation directed towards faith communities by extremist groups seen at demonstrations, and the brutal killings of Ian Baynham (who was killed in a homophobic attack), Gemma Hayter (a victim of

disability hate crime) and others illustrate the tragic consequences when hostility or hatred is allowed to escalate. They also highlight that there is much more that we can and should be doing to protect victims and deal with hate crime when it happens. Tackling the underlying prejudice and ignorance that drives hate crime will be key in helping us to move forward."

On 13 September 2012, the Home Office published statistics on hate crimes recorded by the police in England and Wales for the first time. In 2011/12, 43,748 hate crimes were recorded by the police, of which:

- **35,816** (82 per cent) were race hate crimes
- **1,621** (4 per cent) were religion hate crimes
- **4,252** (10 per cent) were sexual orientation hate crimes
- **1,744** (4 per cent) were disability hate crimes
- **315** (1 per cent) were transgender hate crimes

**Race hate crimes accounted for the majority of hate crimes recorded in all police forces.**

# What is hate crime?

Hate crimes are any incidents (criminal or otherwise) that are targeted at a person because of hostility or prejudice towards that person's:

- disability
- race or ethnicity
- religion or belief
- sexual orientation
- transgender identity

For full definition see appendix 1 (page 7)

Hate crime can take many forms including:

- physical attacks such as physical assault, damage to property,
- offensive graffiti and arson,
- threat of attack including offensive letters, abusive or obscene telephone calls, groups hanging around to intimidate, and unfounded, malicious complaints or verbal abuse, insults or harassment - taunting, offensive leaflets

and posters, abusive gestures, dumping of rubbish outside homes or through letterboxes, and bullying at school or in the workplace.

It has long been recognised that there is a serious issue with under-reporting hate crimes and this is one of the greatest challenges, particularly for disability, homophobic and transphobic hate crime, therefore in the short term an increase in reported incidents is desirable.

A victim does not have to be a member of the group at which the hostility is targeted. In fact, anyone could be a victim of a hate crime.

Legislation has been in place for a number of years to protect victims from such hate crimes, including offences for those who intend to stir up racial hatred, and those who commit racially and religiously aggravated offences or engage in racist chanting at football matches. New criminal offences have also been introduced in recent years to reflect the seriousness of hate crime, including enhanced sentencing.

## Hate crime in the Bradford district

### Hate Crime Data - Peer Comparison

#### Hate incidents: Bradford 2008 to 2012

The table below shows incidents recorded by West Yorkshire Police - Bradford District by the 5 strands recorded over the last 5 years:

Year	Hate incident Racial	Hate incident Homophobic	Hate incident Faith	Hate incident Trnspobic	Hate incident Diability	Hate incident Incidents
2007/08	767	34	2	0	0	803
2008/09	663	19	3	0	1	686
2009/10	595	40	10	1	5	651
2010/11	619	44	11	3	26	703
2011/12	636	40	22	4	38	740
2012/13	815	51	27	9	27	909

Source: Bradford District Community Safety Partnership – Annual Strategic Assessment - December 2012

## Hate Crime Data - Peer Comparison

The table below shows hate incidents reported in West Yorkshire by district and by rate per 1000 population (2011/12):

District	Reports	Rate Per 1,000 Population
Leeds	1,249	1.7
Bradford	740	1.4
Kirklees	575	1.4
Calderdale	269	1.3
Wakefield	316	1.0
West Yorkshire Force	3,978	1.6

**Source:** Bradford District Community Safety Partnership – Annual Strategic Assessment - December 2012

The figures show levels of hate incidents in the District and low reported numbers for Trans, Disability, Faith and Homophobic incidents. The figures show the need to increase awareness and understanding in communities of hate incidents and the need to report these incidents, and work required by agencies and partners to encourage reporting.

### What you told us.....

As part of the development process for this strategy we consulted a range of stakeholders through a questionnaire. This determined what organisations already do to respond to hate crime and what they thought should be the approach in Bradford District. From the responses to the questionnaire and various data sources we have identified five priorities (see page 6) which build on the existing approach in Bradford District.

### How we have developed our approach in Bradford

Tackling all forms of Hate Crime is an objective for the Bradford Community Safety Partnership

and is a key priority for one of its sub-groups, the Neighbourhoods and Communities Strategy Group.

**The Bradford District Hate Crime Strategic Management Group (HCSMG)** coordinates the delivery of work on hate crime in the District; this is a partnership between the council, police and other agencies, and reports to the Neighbourhoods and Communities Strategy Group.

The HCSMG is supported by **Bradford Hate Crime Alliance (BHCA)** whose membership includes representatives from Bradford Council, Victim Support, Strategic Disability Partnership, InCommunities, Local Education Authority, WYP, Probation and Children's Services.

To increase transparency and accountability we have developed a **Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel** where members of the public are able to scrutinise how cases have been investigated. The Aims of the Hate Crime Panel are:

- To ensure service provided to complainants is of a high quality.
- To provide reassurance that the Police are giving open access to the records of their actions.
- To ensure officers deal with incidents sensitively, speedily and properly in the knowledge their divisional commander and lay panel oversee their work.
- To provide feedback where appropriate.

The panel consists of members of the public and representatives from several voluntary organisations with an interest in this area.

A network of '**Hate Crime Reporting Centres**' is in place across the District. To date there are 27 reporting centres where staff have received training to respond to and take reports from victims of hate crime.

To support this process a **Hate Incident Reporting Centres (HIRC's) Working Group** meets to meet to share good practice and discuss issues relating to third party reporting. This group comprises all West Yorkshire local authority areas: Bradford, Leeds, Wakefield, Calderdale and Kirklees.

In addition, the **Practitioners Forum** is a Bradford group for all reporting centre staff which meets twice a year to discuss any issues they have around hate crime reporting and look at issues such as increasing reporting and staff training.

# Our priorities for the next three years

As a result of the consultation a number of priorities have been identified in line with national policy and the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan:

1. Increasing awareness of hate crime
2. Increase the reporting of hate crime and hate incidents
3. Take effective action against perpetrators
4. Support victims of hate crime
5. Improve partnership working

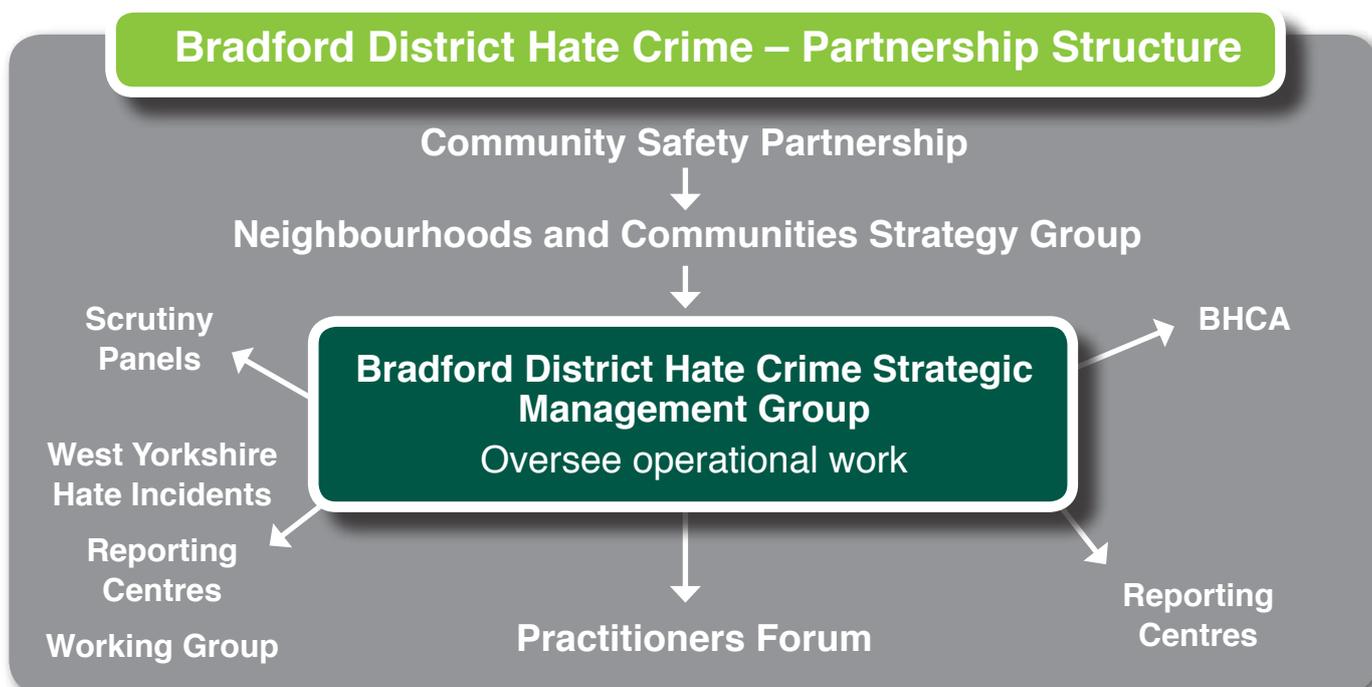
**1. Increasing awareness of hate crime** - by increasing the understanding of what constitutes a hate crime and its affect on victims and the wider community; challenging attitudes and hostility within communities by educating young people about the impact of hate crime and by raising the awareness of front line staff to encourage them to support the victims of hate crime;

**2. Increase the reporting of hate crime and hate incidents** – by increasing the awareness of reporting methods throughout the district to empower victims to report incidents by for example, promoting online and anonymous reporting, communicating details of where victims and witnesses can get help, advice and support (especially in vulnerable communities)

**3. Take effective action against perpetrators** by West Yorkshire Police and the Crown Prosecution Service working collectively to address hate crimes and to publish success when taking action against perpetrators.

**4. Support victims of hate crime** by working with partners and third party reporting centres to ensure that support services are effectively signposted to victims and vulnerable communities.

**5. Improve partnership working** - by ensuring information and analysis of hate crimes is shared across the partnership. Identifying emerging communities who are at risk of hate crime and working together to prevent and protect.



The Bradford District Hate Crime Strategic Management Group will lead the development of an Action Plan which will be reviewed on an annual basis. Progress against actions will be reported to the District Community Safety Partnership via the Neighbourhoods and Communities Strategy Group.

# Association of Chief Police Officers/Crown Prosecution Service Nationally agreed definition of hate crime

## Hate Motivation

**Definition:** “Hate crimes and incidents are taken to mean any crime or incident where the perpetrator’s hostility or prejudice against an identifiable group of people is a factor in determining who is victimised.”

Included subjects: This is a broad and inclusive definition. A victim does not have to be a member of the group. In fact, anyone could be a victim of a hate crime.

## Hate Incident

**Definition:** “Any non-crime incident which is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by a hostility or prejudice based on a person’s race or perceived race, religion or perceived religion, sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation, disability or perceived disability, or prejudice against a person who is transgender or perceived to be transgender.”

## Hate Crimes

**Definition:** A Hate Crime is any criminal offence which is perceived, by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by a hostility or prejudice based on a person’s race or perceived race, religion or perceived religion, sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation, disability or perceived disability, or hostility or prejudice against a person who is transgender or perceived to be transgender.”

*(Source [http://www.cps.gov.uk/legal/d\\_to\\_g/disability\\_hate\\_crime\\_/#a18](http://www.cps.gov.uk/legal/d_to_g/disability_hate_crime_/#a18) accessed 30 July 2013)*

Included subjects:

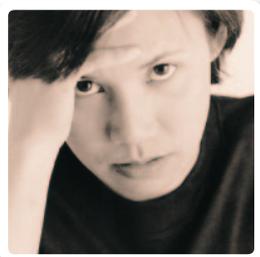
- Any racial group or ethnic background including countries within the United Kingdom and ‘Gypsy & Traveller groups’.
- Any religious group including those who have no faith.
- Any disability including physical disability, learning disability and mental health. Including people who are Transsexual, transgender, transvestite and those who hold a Gender Recognition Certificate under the Gender Recognition Act 2004. Any person’s sexual orientation.

Transgender’ is an umbrella term which includes any person who is transsexual, transgender or transvestite and anyone who holds a Gender Recognition Certificate. Transgender or ‘trans’ are terms which cover a broad spectrum of people in very different circumstances, ranging from a person who is open and extrovert about their gender identity, to another who demands their right to anonymity, to live a private life without any public attention. This would also include those who hold a Gender Recognition Certificate under the Gender Recognition Act 2004, whose right to confidentiality is protected by law.

## Hate Crime Repeat Victimisation:

**The agreed ACPO definition for hate crime repeat victimisation is:**

‘Where a person or immediate family member suffers more than one hate crime in a 12 month period following the date the first crime was reported.’



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