

REPORT TO: Safer Policy & Performance Board
DATE: 11th November 2010
REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director for Adults and Community
SUBJECT: Draft Hate Crime Strategy
WARDS: All

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.2 To present the draft Hate Crime Strategy, which is attached as Appendix A

2. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

- i) Members of the Safer Policy & Performance Board comment on the draft Hate Crime Strategy and identify any actions that would contribute to a reduction in hate crime in Halton.**

3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The Safer Halton Partnership is required to produce a hate crime action plan by December 2010, as set out in the Cross Government Hate Crime Action Plan.

3.2 It is acknowledged that this work must be progressed at a Partnership level as it's not something that the Police can tackle on their own.

3.3 A draft Hate Crime Strategy is attached for comment by Elected Members. This Strategy currently has an Action Plan attached, which is for use as a guide only. An action plan for Halton is still under development, and a partnership "Equalities Event" will be held on 29th November, at which partners will be asked to help identify actions to address a reduction in Hate Crime across Halton. It is important that all of Halton's diverse communities contribute to this process, to ensure that we have a robust and deliverable action plan that is relevant to Halton. The Safer Halton Partnership uses the Home Office/Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) definitions of hate crimes and hate incidents:

- A hate crime is any incident which constitutes a criminal offence that is perceived by the victim, or any other person, as being motivated by prejudice or hate.

- A hate incident is any incident which may or may not constitute a criminal offence that is perceived by the victim, or any other person as being motivated by prejudice or hate.
- 3.4 The Safer Halton Partnership uses the Home Office/Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) definitions of hate crimes and hate incidents:
- A hate crime is any incident which constitutes a criminal offence that is perceived by the victim, or any other person, as being motivated by prejudice or hate.
 - A hate incident is any incident which may or may not constitute a criminal offence that is perceived by the victim, or any other person as being motivated by prejudice or hate.
- 3.5 It is important to recognise the difference between a hate crime and a hate incident. All hate crimes are incidents, but not all hate incidents are crimes.
- 3.6 Hate crime can take many forms including:
- Physical attacks – such as physical assault, damage to property or pets, offensive graffiti and arson;
 - Threat of attack – including offensive letters, abusive or obscene telephone calls, groups hanging around to intimidate and unfounded, malicious complaints
 - Verbal abuse or insults - offensive leaflets and posters, abusive gestures, dumping of rubbish outside homes or through letterboxes, and bullying at school or in the workplace.
- 3.7 This strategy aims to address the following areas of hate crimes and incidents:
- Race hate – crimes/incidents motivated by ethnic origin, nationality, asylum seeker status.
 - Faith hate – crimes/incidents motivated by religious belief or lack of religious belief.
 - Homophobic hate– crimes/incidents motivated by sexual orientation.
 - Transphobic hate– crimes/incidents motivated by gender identity.
 - Disability related hate– crimes/incidents motivated by disability or ability, including learning difficulties.
- 3.8 Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers (commonly referred to as Gypsies or Travellers) and Sikhs are established as specific ethnic groups. As such, they are entitled to the full protection of the Race Relations Act Amended 2002 and associated racially aggravated legislation. Gypsies and Travellers may be either visible or non-visible ethnic minorities.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Until the final action plan is developed and agreed it is hard to identify how this

will impact on current policies, however it isn't anticipated that there will be any major changes required.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This is no additional funding from Government associated with the requirement to develop a Hate Crime Strategy, however, the actions identified in the strategy should be able to be contained within partnership budgets.

6. IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

Life for Children and Young People will improve for living in a safer community.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills

None as yet identified.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

None as yet identified.

6.4 A Safer Halton

Halton will have stronger and more resilient communities.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None as yet identified.

7. RISK ANALYSIS

In order to ensure residents feel safe, Partners need to work together to maintain strong and resilient communities, and the development of a hate crime action plan is part of that work, as well as being a Government requirement.

8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

The hate crime strategy will cover all protected characteristics as currently contained within the new Equality Act.

9. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

None

DRAFT

Hate Crime and Harassment

Reduction Strategy

2011 - 2016

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Hate crime is a particularly serious issue that can seriously affect the quality of life for people and communities. Addressing this is a key priority for the Safer Halton partnership. By developing and implementing this strategy we will demonstrate our commitment to tackling all forms of hate crime and building a safer and stronger borough. The Safer Halton Partnership is required to produce a hate crime action plan by December 2010, as set out in the Cross Government Hate Crime Action Plan

1.2 The overall aim of the Safer Halton Partnership is:

To ensure pleasant safe and secure neighbourhood environments, with attractive, safe surroundings, good quality local amenities, and the ability of people to enjoy life where they live.

1.3 This document sets out the Hate Crime and Harassment Reduction Strategy for 2011 -2016. This strategy will identify, coordinate and lead on all aspects of our developing work on tackling and reducing hate crime. It covers the collection of agencies that together make up the Safer Halton Partnership. This document is linked to a number of other current Halton strategies, plans and corporate priorities.

1.4 The aim of this strategy is to identify and respond to locally established priorities for tackling hate crime and reinforce the benefits of taking a partnership approach to all hate incidents.

1.5 This strategy promotes effective and coordinated action against hate crime. This involves providing various forms of practical assistance, building capacity for interaction and alliance for services being delivered in Halton, as well as developing confidence in the criminal justice system and mechanisms for reporting hate crime to bring perpetrators to justice. The aims of the strategy form the basis of the comprehensive action plan to which all the strategy partners

are committed. This strategy provides a Halton framework for action on hate crime.

- 1.6 The publication of this strategy will meet action 48 of the Hate Crime Cross-Government Action Plan.

2.0 Defining and Identifying Hate Crime and Harassment

- 2.1 The Safer Halton Partnership uses the Home Office/Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) definitions of hate crimes and hate incidents:

- **A hate crime** is any incident which constitutes a criminal offence that is perceived by the victim, or any other person, as being motivated by prejudice or hate.
- **A hate incident** is any incident which may or may not constitute a criminal offence that is perceived by the victim, or any other person as being motivated by prejudice or hate.

- 2.2 It is important to recognise the difference between a hate crime and a hate incident. All hate crimes are incidents, but not all hate incidents are crimes.

- 2.3 Hate crime can take many forms including:

- Physical attacks – such as physical assault, damage to property or pets, offensive graffiti and arson;
- Threat of attack – including offensive letters, abusive or obscene telephone calls, groups hanging around to intimidate and unfounded, malicious complaints
- Verbal abuse or insults - offensive leaflets and posters, abusive gestures, dumping of rubbish outside homes or through letterboxes, and bullying at school or in the workplace.

- 2.4 This strategy aims to address the following areas of hate crimes and incidents:

- **Race hate** – crimes/incidents motivated by ethnic origin, nationality, asylum seeker status.

- **Faith hate** – crimes/incidents motivated by religious belief or lack of religious belief.
- **Homophobic hate**– crimes/incidents motivated by sexual orientation.
- **Transphobic hate**– crimes/incidents motivated by gender identity.
- **Disability related hate**– crimes/incidents motivated by disability or ability, including learning difficulties.

2.5 Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers (commonly referred to as Gypsies or Travellers) and Sikhs are established as specific ethnic groups. As such, they are entitled to the full protection of the Race Relations Act Amended 2002 and associated racially aggravated legislation. Gypsies and Travellers may be either visible or non-visible ethnic minorities.

2.6 Hate crime can destroy lives and instil fear in to victims and witnesses. It can stop people from living and enjoying their everyday lives. This could mean people being fearful to leave their houses or letting their children play outside. There is also a significant cost implication of hate crime. Small shops and organisations can be driven out of business. Victims and witnesses often require continued support for months or years after the event. In 2009/10 the Home Office provided in excess of £300,000 for hate crime victim projects through the Victim's Fund Hate Crime Section.¹ With increased reporting of hate crime and harassment this cost can be expected to rise significantly. The total cost of hate crime is currently unknown.

2.7 It is vitally important to identify hate crimes and incidents every time they occur. Hate crimes can affect whole communities and leave long-lasting damage. Hate crime also comes with a heightened risk of repeat victimisation if the issue is not recognised and addressed. There is also evidence to suggest that hate incidents committed by a particular perpetrator or group of perpetrators can escalate to more serious hate crimes if left unchallenged. Hate crime can often be linked to organised groups and effective

¹ Natale, Lara, Civitas Institute for the Study of Civil Society 2010, "Factsheet: hate Crime", p2;

reporting and monitoring can be key in identifying these groups.

3.0 The Legislative Framework

- 3.1 The Equality Act 2010 brings together into one Act all previous legislation around Equality and Diversity.
- 3.2 A major feature of the act is to strengthen and promote two major responsibilities for public authorities, the General Duty and the Socio- Economic Duty.

The General Duty

- 3.3 Under this Duty a public authority must, in carrying out its functions, take into account the need to: -
 - (a) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conflict that is prohibited by the Equality Act 2010
 - (b) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it
 - (c) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it

The Socio-Economic Duty

- 3.4 When making decisions of a strategic nature authorities must pay due regard to designing and carrying out functions which reduce the inequalities of outcome that result from socio-economic disadvantage

Protected characteristics

- 3.5 The Act defines a number of characteristics which are protected: -
 - (a) Age
 - (b) Disability
 - (c) Gender reassignment
 - (d) Marriage and civil partnership

- (e) Pregnancy and maternity
- (f) Race
- (g) Religion or belief
- (h) Sex
- (i) Sexual orientation

3.4 In addition there are also a number of other laws and regulations that govern how we aim to tackle and reduce hate crime and harassment. The following is a summary of the legislative framework.

- **The Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004** – As part of this act the Victims Code of Practice came into affect from April 2006 giving victims the right to information about the crime within specified timescales. It also sets out the minimum levels of enhanced services that should be offered to “vulnerable” victims of crime by criminal justice agencies.
- **The Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003** – This act provides the legislative framework for practitioners to tackle anti-social behaviour.
- **The Criminal Justice Act 2003** – This act created a range of new racially and religiously aggravated offences and introduced tougher sentences for offences motivated by hatred of a victim’s sexual orientation or disability.
- **The Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000** – This act requires the court to consider racial or religious hostility as an aggravating factor when sentencing for an offence.
- **The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (Amended by the Anti-Terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001)** – This act covers offences of assault, ABH, criminal damage, public order and harassment that can be shown to be religiously or racially aggravated.
- **The Football Offences Act 1991** (Amended by section 9 of the Football (Offences and Disorder) Act 1999) – This

act is specific to football chants that are deemed hateful towards religious groups.

4.0 The National Context

4.1 Hate crime and harassment is recognised as a national issue, and the government has produced a Cross-Government Action Plan for tackling hate crime. In 2009/2010 there were:

- 2,376 recorded offences of racially or religiously aggravated harassment;
- 23,235 recorded offences of racially or religiously aggravated public fear, alarm or distress;
- 3,515 recorded offences of racially or religiously aggravated ABH and other injury;
- 223 recorded offences of racially or religiously aggravated inflicting GBH without intent;
- 3,249 recorded offences of racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage.²

4.2 In the four years ending March 2009 over 42,000 defendants were prosecuted for hate crime. The conviction rate increased from 74% in 2005/06 to 82% in 2008/09.³

4.3 The majority of perpetrators of hate crimes are male. 75% of hate crime defendants fall under the category “White British”. 25% of hate crime cases involve under-18s and 15% young men and boys.⁴

4.4 83% of hate crime prosecutions in 2008/09 were either “offences against the person” or public order offences. A further 5% were criminal damage.⁵

4.5 Current victim demographic information is less than comprehensive. Where gender is known, men formed the

² [Crime in England and Wales 2009-2010](#)

³ Natale, Lara, Civitas Institute for the Study of Civil Society 2010, “*Factsheet: hate Crime*”, p2;

⁴ Ibid, p3;

⁵ Ibid;

largest proportion of victims across all strands, at 68% of total victims.⁶

- 4.6 Honour crimes are also a key national issue. The number of murders, rapes and assaults on people who break strict religious or cultural rules is doubling every year. Up to two violent honour crimes are being committed every day and up to twelve honour killings are being committed every year.⁷
- 4.7 Disability crime includes crimes against those with learning difficulties or other mental health issues. Research by Mind found that 71% of people with mental health needs had been subjected to a disability hate crime at least once in the preceding two years. Mencap's "Living in Fear" survey found that 88% of people with learning disabilities had been subjected to a disability hate crime or incident in the preceding year and that the effect on them can be "cumulative and devastating".⁸
- 4.8 However, these statistics are believed not to reflect the true extent of the problem. It is difficult to determine the exact level of under-reporting of hate crime. In 2007/08 the overall number of racist incidents recorded by the police in England and Wales was 57,055. However, an estimate based on data from the British Crime Survey (BCS) put the number of racist incidents at around 207,000 during this period, reflecting the potential scale of under-reporting.⁹ Stonewall's *Homophobic Hate Crime: The Gay British Crime Survey 2008* states that three in four victims of homophobic hate crimes did not report them to the police.¹⁰
- 4.9 Various studies have been carried out to gain an understanding of why hate-crime is so largely under-reported. A number of reasons for non-reporting have been put forward:
- the victim does not understand that a crime has taken place;

⁶ Ibid;

⁷ Natale, Lara, Civitas Institute for the Study of Civil Society 2010, "Factsheet: hate Crime", p4

⁸ Mencap, *Living in Fear*, 2000

⁹ HM Government, *Hate Crime: The Cross-Government Action Plan 2009*, p.9;

¹⁰ Dick S, *Homophobic Hate Crime: The Gay British Crime Survey 2008*, Stonewall, p.20;

- a lack of confidence in the police and/or the criminal justice system;
- victims do not understand the reporting options available to them;
- victims feel that hate crimes occur too frequently to report;
- victims feel that what happened was not serious enough to report;
- victims feared that they would be victimised for reporting and there may be retribution or an escalation of incidents as a result.

4.10 Whatever the reason, the outcome remains the same – crimes are not reported and perpetrators are not brought to justice, and remain potentially able to reoffend. This strategy sets out to improve awareness of the importance of reporting hate crimes and incidents and the options available by which to do so.

4.11 Under reporting is also an issue in honour crimes. Charities which help victims of honour crimes say the true extent of the problem as every year hundreds of victims, the majority of whom are female, are too frightened to report attacks or give evidence. Often cases can be unresolved due to the unwillingness of family, relatives and communities to testify. A 2006 BBC poll for the Asian Network found that one in ten of the 500 young Asians polled said that they could condone the murder of someone who dishonoured their family.¹¹

5.0 The Halton Context

5.1 Tackling hate crime forms a key part of our approach to making Halton a safer place to live. Harassment is recognised as one of the major contributing factors to unnecessary stress. It often leads to depression for the victim and can have a devastating effect on their quality of life. The same can be said for hate crime victims.

5.2 Partners have been working to ensure that the data reported through an established framework is robust, and that everyone involved understands what exactly is being

¹¹ Natale, Lara, Civitas Institute for the Study of Civil Society 2010, "*Factsheet: hate Crime*", p4

reported, where and how often. There has also been a combined effort to raise the awareness of hate crime incident reporting and to ensure colleagues, and Halton's residents, are clear about how to report and what to report. In 2009 the Partnership also contributed towards the printing and delivery, locally, of a national hate crime leaflet with an 0800 number.

- 5.3 Tackling hate crime is an intrinsic part of the Halton LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual) Strategy. This strategy is being prepared as part of our Children's Trust Equality and Diversity action plan. Despite the origins as a Children and Young People initiative the strategy will benefit the whole LGBT community. A hate crime reporting campaign is being undertaken and a number of actions have already been completed.
- 5.6 Traditionally Halton doesn't have the more ethnically diverse communities that neighbouring local authorities have, and therefore the cohesion issues differ. However Halton Borough Council and Partners have been part of a clear effort to engage and empower local communities, focusing on any issue which may marginalise an individual or community.
- 5.7 Data on reported hate crimes and incidents in Halton is available for quarters 2, 3 and 4 of 2009/10. In this nine month period 60 hate crime incidents were recorded. 45 of these met the criteria to be investigated as a hate crime. 52 of these were linked to race, and 8 of these were linked to sexuality. No reported incidents linked to disability or religion were recorded – which is most likely indicative of the scale of under-reporting rather than a tangible success.
- 5.8 It is difficult to put a true value on the public's perception of hate crime. However, there are currently a number of national indicators that are relevant:
 - NI1: 74.5% of local residents felt that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together – higher than the North-West average of

73.6% but lower than the national (England) average of 76.4%.

- NI2: 54.8% of local residents felt that they belong to their immediate neighbourhood – lower than the North West figure of 59.5% and the national figure of 58.7%.
- NI17: 24.4% think anti-social behaviour is a problem in their area – higher than the North-West figure of 22.9% and the national figure of 20%.
- NI23: 37.2% of local residents thought that there was a problem with people not treating each other with respect and consideration in the local area – higher than the North-West figure of 34.1% and the national figure of 31.2%.¹²

6.0 Current Reporting Arrangements

6.1 There are a number of methods by which a member of the public may report a hate crime:

- An emergency call to the police;
- A non-emergency call to the police;
- In person to the police;
- Through the police force website;
- Via the post to the police;
- Through a third party reporting centre;
- Through a referral from another agency in the borough.

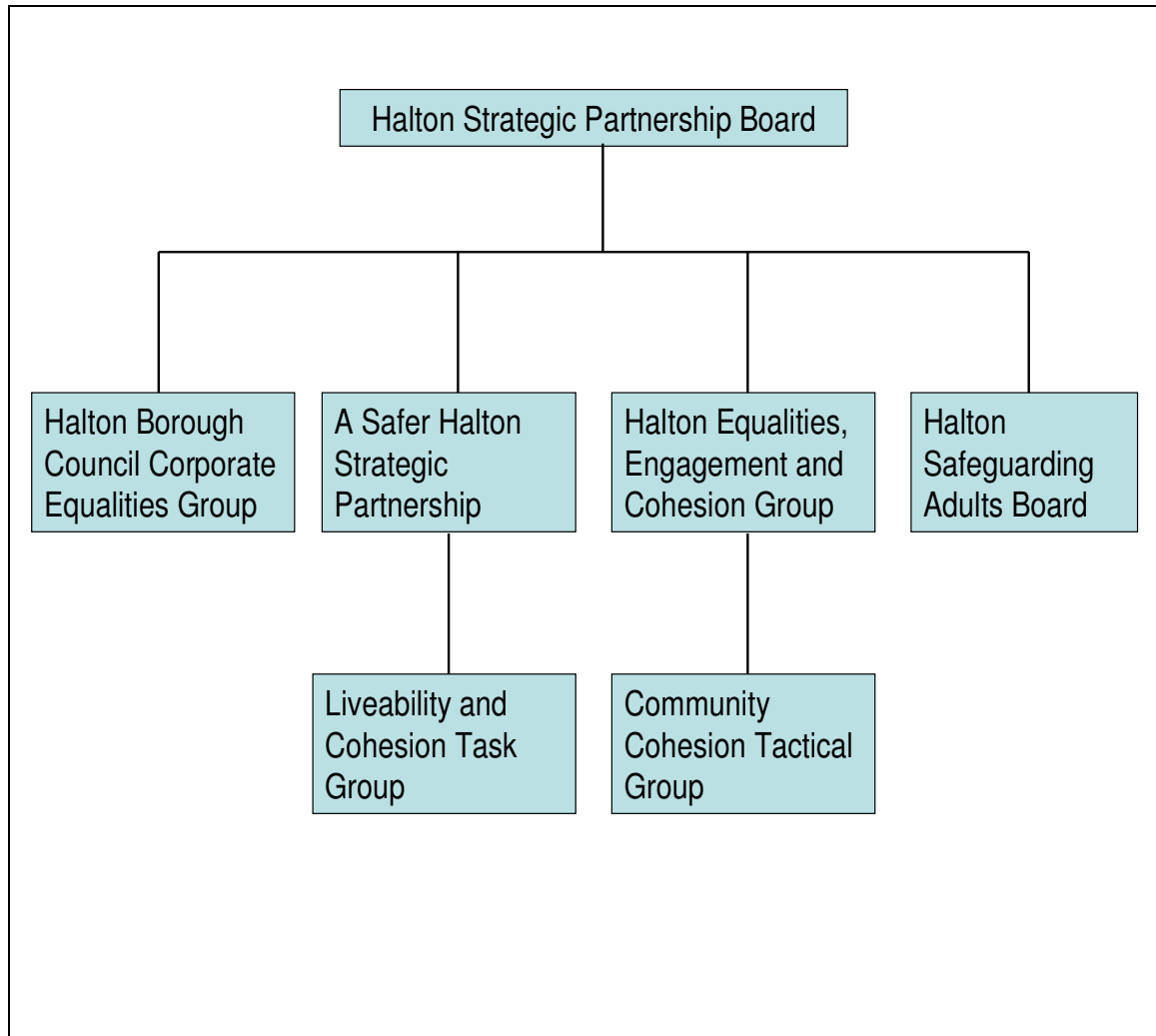
6.2 Reporting centres are open across the borough. For a full list, see appendix B.

6.3 Reporting centres are a way to overcome the communication boundaries that sometimes exist between the police and local communities. They enable victims of hate crime to report their incident in an environment of their choosing where they feel confident. Victims are able to report anonymously which will still enable the police to gather

¹² Place Survey Results 2008

information on the levels of hate crime and hot spots to information share. The centres ensure a victim led approach and also ensure victims who may not have previously reported incidents get the relevant help and support they require. Reporting centres provide a clearer picture on what is happening and where. This allows police resources, communities and agencies to work together to tackle hate crime. The main difference with the third party reporting is that a person who is not the victim can report an incident, as a witness or on behalf of the victim.

- 6.4 Nominated staff within each reporting centre have received training and support on dealing with reports of hate crimes and incidents from Cheshire Police. There is an electronic form which is completed within the centre and submitted to the relevant Cheshire Police officer (Appendix C). The designated officer inputs the information on to the force's system and the normal operating procedures then apply. Incidents are coded by Cheshire Police to clearly differentiate reported incidents into hate "crimes" and hate "incidents".
- 6.5 Data on reported crimes and incidents is reported through the Halton Partnership via this framework:



6.6 A Community Cohesion Officer group has been established, drawn from across the Partnership that adds front line operational information to the quantitative data. This provides a current picture of Halton’s communities and an opportunity to share intelligence on any community tensions. This supports a multi-agency proactive approach to supporting strong and resilient communities. A draft Community Cohesion Contingency Plan has been produced. Membership of the group consists of Registered Social Landlords, Police, Fire, Third Sector, PCT, Local Authority colleagues from schools and adult learning, and other Partners can be co-opted according to need.

7.0 Aims and Objectives

7.1 This strategy sets out six key aims in relation to reducing hate crime in Halton.

- Aim 1: To improve statutory, voluntary and community service providers' responses to hate crime;
- Aim 2: To increase the reporting of hate crime;
- Aim 3: To increase the number of offenders brought to justice
- Aim 4: To improve victim safety;
- Aim 5: To reduce the tolerance of hate crime;
- Aim 6: To prevent hate crime.

7.2 Aim 1: To improve statutory, voluntary and community service providers' responses to hate crime.

- Develop standardised protocols and guidance which cover structures, referrals, data and information management;
- Develop and monitor robust performance measures;
- Develop a commissioning framework to effectively tackle hate crime.

7.3 Aim 2: To increase the reporting of hate crime.

- Raise the profile of hate crime through publicity and media;
- Promote events to raise awareness of hate crime support services;
- Increase the possibilities available to children and young people to report hate crime.

7.4 Aim 3: To increase the number of offenders brought to justice.

- Strengthen a systematic and coordinated approach to the detection, arrest, conviction and effective sentencing of offenders.

7.5 Aim 4: To improve victim safety

- Strengthen multi-agency networks enabling front line practitioners and services to disseminate information and good practice.

7.6 Aim 5: To reduce the tolerance of hate crime.

- Ensure that tackling hate crime is integrated into relevant strategies and plans;
- Promote the development and evaluation of hate crime policy within statutory, voluntary and community sector organisations.

7.7 Public agencies need to recognise that hate crime is a key issue and needs to be addressed in all areas of their work. This needs to be addressed throughout all community plans and all working strategies targeted towards improving community relations and cohesion.

7.8 Aim 6: To prevent hate crime.

- Support the development of hate crime training and awareness according to need;
- Increase service user and community involvement in the development of hate crime policy and practice;
- Support the development of hate crime reduction work with children and young people.

8.0 Delivery of the Strategy

8.1 It is important to keep local communities informed of what actions are being undertaken. It is essential that this strategy, and the progress in its delivery, is shared and discussed with the residents of Halton, through all appropriate means and forums.

8.2 This strategy is an active and working document. It has been developed to bring about further and real improvements in tackling hate crime and harassment in Halton local communities and neighbourhoods.

9.0 Measuring our Success

9.1 Performance monitoring will be carried out using the current national indicator set and developing new performance indicators (PIs) across the partnership. The National

Indicator Set is a list of 198 indicators introduced at the start of 2008/09, which has been designed to measure progress on national priorities where they are delivered by local councils acting alone or in partnership. The relevant National Indicators are:

- NI 1: % of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area;
- NI 2: % of people who feel that they belong to their neighbourhood;
- NI 23: Perceptions that people in the area treat one another with respect and dignity;
- NI 69: Children who have experienced bullying;
- NI 138: Satisfaction of people over 65 with both home and neighbourhood;

- 9.2 Additionally, hate crime and incident statistics provided by the dedicated Cheshire Police Officer will be monitored to evaluate the success of this strategy, both in relation to the number of incidents reported and the number of crimes detected.
- 9.3 Consultation with victims and residents will provide an additional measure of success.

10.0 Action Plan

Aim 1: To improve statutory, voluntary and community service providers' responses to hate crime.

Action	Lead agency/officer	Target date	Current status
Develop standardised protocols and guidance which cover structures, referrals, data and information management, and regular reporting.	Safer Halton Partnership		
Create a multi-agency training programme on hate crime for key statutory, community and voluntary service providers.	Community Safety		
Specialist hate crime training for front-line staff who may receive information on hate crime or incidents – e.g. housing, schools staff etc.	Community Safety		
Review the Council's Human Resources Bullying and Harassment Policy To ensure that the Council's bullying and harassment policy reflects and incorporates all harassment (including hate crime).	HR/Corporate and Organisational Policy		
Explore whether the Council's existing customer relationship	Halton BC		

management database is suitable for monitoring hate crime and incidents and develop a central reporting system to log Hate Crime.			
Carry out mystery shopper survey of 3rd party Hate Crime Reporting Centres to ensure that all centres remain up to date.			
Develop best practice guidelines on harassment for inclusion in employer policies and procedures.	Corporate and Organisation Policy/HR		

Aim 2: To increase the reporting of hate crime

Action	Lead agency/officer	Target date	Current status
Develop a school reporting system that incorporates all bullying information and details on hate incidents.	Schools		
Conduct an audit of all possible reporting options in the borough for victims.	Safer Halton Partnership		Halton has commenced the process to extend the number of hate crime reporting centres covering the full range of hate crime. These centres include Halton Youth Service, Riverside College, the Citizens Advice Bureau, and will be extended to cover Connexion Centres in Halton Lea, Runcorn and Albert Road.
Produce a comprehensive directory of services through which victims can report hate crime and distribute throughout the community, including organisation, address, contact numbers and a named co-ordinator.	Safer Halton Partnership		
Raise awareness of hate crime reporting options and services in the Borough for victims of	Safer Halton Partnership		LGBT Youth North West & Lesbian and Gay Foundation homophobic abuse posters are

<p>hate crime throughout Council and Partner locations through a directed marketing campaign.</p>			<p>being displayed to encourage any victims to take positive action. An LGBT conference arranged for partners on 11 October which is 'World Coming Out Day'. A young person specific hate crime reporting poster has been produced by and for the Youth Service. Colleagues have been attending various groups and networks to raise the profile of community cohesion and hate crime reporting centres and to work with these partners to promote a better understanding of the issues and how they affect them. These have included the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Standing Advisory Committee on Religious Education (SACRE) ➤ Adult Learning Disability Partnership Board ➤ Strategic Housing Partnership (includes Registered Social Landlords) ➤ Children's Trust Equality
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			<p>and Diversity Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Halton Borough Council's Corporate Equalities Group ➤ Halton Strategic Partnership's Equalities, Engagement and Cohesion Group ➤ Training for Halton's School Governors on the importance of Hate Crime Reporting and wider Community Cohesion issues has been delivered as part of the standard training programme <p>There are currently plans to present to networks across Halton including Halton Speak Out, Disability Alliance, Employer Staff Groups, and to work more closely with the Police Force's School Liaison Officer who deals with anti-bullying issues and the Youth Service.</p>
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Develop an assessment to assist organisations and their front line staff to determine the appropriate course of action for reported incidents of hate crime and harassment.	Safer Halton Partnership		
Review information on Halton website and update as necessary, ensuring there is sufficient information on what constitutes a hate crime, how to report it and where to go for advice and support. Ensure that all contact numbers and links are up to date.	Community Safety/Corporate and Organisation Policy		The reporting centres are on the Council's website, and Partners have been asked to do the same with their own sites.
Ensure all third party reporting organisations have received training in third party reporting.	Partnership Officer, Halton BC		This training has been provisionally arranged for 16 th September 2010
Promote witness reporting of hate crime via a marketing campaign.	Safer Halton partnership		

Aim 3: To increase the number of offenders brought to justice

Action	Lead agency/officer	Target date	Current status
Improve engagement between the Police and CPS to deliver on bringing more offenders to justice.	Police		The appointment of a dedicated Police Officer in the Spring of 2009 has enabled the partner agencies to provide a dedicated resource to addressing hate crime.
Adopt a zero tolerance arrest policy for all suspects of hate crime.	Police		
Increase in the number of enforcement action (such as injunctions, evictions, ASBOs, sanctioned detections, evictions, etc.) taken against perpetrators of hate crime across tenure.	Community Safety Team/Police ASB Unit		
Review the contribution of CCTV to the detection and prevention of hate crime, including appropriate tasking	Community Safety Team		

and the alignment of CCTV to the distribution of incidences of hate crime in the Borough.			
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Aim 4: To improve victim safety

Action	Lead agency/officer	Target date	Current status
Carry out a victim satisfaction survey.	Victim support/ Police		
Carry out a schools pupil survey that's looks at dealing with bullying and hate incidents in schools.	Schools		
Develop an accessible Directory of Services for victims and witnesses.	Safer Halton Partnership		
Develop and establish and feedback systems to monitor victim evaluation and satisfaction levels.	Safer Halton Partnership		
Explore opportunities for victims to be involved in future development of support services.	Safer Halton Partnership		

Aim 5: To reduce the tolerance of hate crime

Action	Lead agency/officer	Target date	Current status
Develop a communication campaign to encourage local communities to be involved in tackling hate crime.	Halton BC Community Safety/Marketing		
Work with relevant and appropriate groups and organisations to raise awareness and empower vulnerable groups in challenging hate crime and harassment (such as people with learning disabilities).	Safer Halton Partnership		In February 2010 Halton held a LGBT Scoping Day to establish the LGBT plan. A group of volunteers have now established Halton LGBT and there are 62 people from the LGBT community who are part of this group. Halton LGBT alongside Halton G Space, the LGBT youth group, will both contribute to an event to mark World Coming Out Day in October 2010 where community members will be

			consulted on key aspects of community safety.
Produce a catalogue of available resources for partners.	Safer Halton Partnership		
Publish annual statistics about the prevalence of hate crime and harassment.	Community Safety Team		
Raise awareness of Hate Crime through networking, open days and one off events.	Safer Halton Partnership		
Promote Hate Crime work at Locality Area Forums, PACT Panels and other local area based meetings.	Safer Halton Partnership		

Aim 6: To prevent hate crime

Action	Lead agency/officer	Target date	Current status
Develop links with any emerging 'Friendship Groups' for migrant workers to understand issues and raise awareness of issues within these developing communities.	Community Safety		
Collect, review, monitor and report on performance hate	Cheshire Police		A designated Police Officer currently reports on figures

crime data from Police, Victim Support, the Courts and all partner organisations on a quarterly basis.			quarterly
Develop regular reports on the levels of hate crime, sanctioned detection rates, perpetrator profiles and Borough hotspots.	Cheshire Police		
Produce Hate Crime profile for the Strategic assessment and use to assess information on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victims; • Offender; • location. 	Community Safety/Police		
Produce an Anti Hate Crime and Harassment Charter for Halton.	Halton BC		
Promote to schools and youth centres what existing resources are available on hate crime and harassment for inclusion and building on the work around PSHE, Citizenship and anti-bullying curriculum activities.	Safer Halton Partnership		
Promote the new Stop Hate UK national service for reporting hate crime	Halton BC Community Safety/Marketing		

(www.stophateuk.org).			
Develop and report on new performance indicators to monitor the success of the Hate Crime and Harassment strategy.	Safer Halton Partnership		
Consult with victims and residents about their experiences of hate crime and harassment and the response of the relevant authorities.	Safer Halton Partnership		

Appendix A – Potential Actions against Offenders

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) – Ways of settling disputes without going to court. Mediation is the most common form of ADR and involves a trained mediator guiding those involved to an agreed settlement.

Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs) – A written voluntary agreement between the perpetrator and the appropriate agencies, placing restrictions on the perpetrator's behaviour.

Undertaking – A promise to the court by the perpetrator regarding their future conduct. A breach of an undertaking is considered as contempt of court and could lead to a fine or up to two years imprisonment.

Injunctions – An order granted by a civil court that compels the perpetrator to do certain things, or forbids the perpetrator from entering certain areas. A breach of an injunction could lead to a fine or up to two years imprisonment.

Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) – An order granted, usually by the Magistrates Court, restricting the behaviour of the perpetrator. Breach of an ASBO is a criminal offence, which carries a maximum sentence of 5 years imprisonment.

Demotion Orders - An order granted in the County Court (civil) applicable where the perpetrator is an assured or secure tenant. The order brings that tenancy to an end and replaces it with a less secure demoted assured shorthold tenancy, removing various rights and benefits, for a period of 12 months. Breach of the assured shorthold tenancy within the 12 month period can result in the landlord obtaining possession.

Possession Orders - An order granted by the County Court (civil) requiring the occupant of a property to vacate that property by a certain date. The enforcement of a possession order can be postponed or suspended upon terms where appropriate.

Forfeiture of Lease - A landlord can seek to end the lease and repossess the property because the lease conditions have been broken. As this applies to leaseholders who in effect own their homes this remedy is only likely to succeed in very serious cases.

Appendix B – Current Hate Crime Reporting Centres

Deafness Support Network

Warrington Centre
13 Wilson Pattern Street
Warrington
WA1 1PG
Phone: 01925 634 640
Reporting Centre open to deafness support service users

Warrington Borough Council One Stop Shop

26-30 Horsemarket Street
Warrington
WA1 1XL
Phone: 01925 443322
Centre open for all.

Riverside College (Cronton)

Cronton 6th Form
Campus
Cronton Lane
Widnes
WA8 5WA

Riverside College (Runcorn)

Runcorn
Campus
Campus Drive
Runcorn
WA7 4RE

Riverside College (Kingsway)

Kingsway
Campus
Kingsway
Widnes
WA8 7QQ
Open for students

Halton Housing Trust (Widnes East Area)

120-124 Widnes Road
Simms Cross
Widnes
WA8 6AX
Phone: 0151 510 5026
Fax: 0151 510 5100

Halton Housing Trust (Ditton Area)

Ditton Halton Direct Link,
Queens Avenue,
Ditton,
Widnes

WA8 8HR
Phone: 0151 510 5025
Fax: 0151 510 5100

Halton Housing Trust (Runcorn Area)

Grange House,
930 Grangeway,
Runcorn
WA7 5LT
Phone: 0151 510 5027
Fax: 0151 510 5100
Open for Halton Housing tenants

Liverpool Housing Trust

Priory House,
Northway,
Runcorn
WA7 2FS
Phone: 01928 796000
Open for Liverpool Housing Trust tenants

Priestley College

Loushers Lane,
Warrington
Phone: 01925 633591

Warrington CAB (Citizens Advice Bureau)

The Gateway,
Sankey Street,
Warrington,
WA1 1SR
Phone: For advice queries 01925 246994
Centre open for all

The Relationships Centre

The Gateway
89 Sankey Street
Warrington
WA1 1SR
Phone: 01925 246910
Open for all

Warrington Disability Partnership

Disability Living Centre,
Beaufort St,
Warrington,
WA5 1BA
Phone: 01925 240064
Open for all service users

William Sutton Housing (Warrington)

40 Ruislip Court
Warrington

WA2 0TZ
Phone: 0845 217 8601

William Sutton Housing (Widnes)

265 Cherrysutton Estate
Widnes
WA8 4TH
Phone: 0845 217 8601
Open for all tenants

Gay and Lesbian Youth Service

Phone: 07747 473 829 for further information.
Open for all LGBY young people

Frontis Homes

25 Benson Road,
Birchwood,
Warrington,
WA3 7PQ
Phone: 01925 856685
All tenants of Frontis Homes

Riverside Housing

Halton Brook Avenue,
Halton Brook,
Runcorn
WA7 2NW
All tenants of Riverside

Halton Citizens Advice Bureau

Unit 3, Victoria Buildings,
Lugsdale Road,
Widnes
WA8 6DJ
Open to All

Great Sankey High School

Barrow Hall Lane
Great Sankey,
Warrington,
WA5
Phone: 01925 724118
Open for Students and Staff

Bridgewater High School

Upper School (Years 10 - 13)
Broomfields Road,
Appleton,
Warrington
WA4 3AE
Phone: (01925) 263919 / 266973

The Centre for Independent Living

Beaufort Street.

Warrington

WA5 1BA

Phone: 01925 240064

Open for Service Users

YMCA Warrington

3 Winmarleigh street,

Warrington

WA1 1NB

Phone: 01925 632771

Open for All

Appendix C: Third Party Reporting Form



ELETRONIC FORM FOR COMPLETION

Please e-mail to

hate.crime.reporting@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

ABOUT THE INCIDENT

Are you the victim or a witness?

- Victim Witness Third party

What do you think motivated this crime?

- Racism Faith Disability
- Homophobia (sexual orientation) Transphobia (gender)

Tell us about the incident in your own words, giving as much detail as possible *(please use a separate sheet if necessary):*

When did the incident take place?

Time Day Date

Where did it happen?

Street name / location

Town / City

Were there any injuries?

Yes (if 'yes' please give details)

No

Did any loss or damage to property result from the incident?

Yes (if 'yes' please give details)

No

ABOUT THE VICTIM

Age

Gender

First language

(please state whether you require a translator.)

To help us deal with hate crime correctly, please tick how you would describe yourself.

Faith

- Buddhist
- Christian
- Hindu
- Jewish
- Muslim
- Rastafarian
- Sikh
- Other
- No religion
- Prefer not to say

Sexual Orientation

- Heterosexual
- Bisexual
- Gay/Lesbian

Ethnicity

- White British
- White Irish
- Any other white background
- White & Black Caribbean
- White & Black African
- White & Asian
- Any other mixed background
- Indian
- Pakistani
- Bangladeshi
- Black Caribbean
- Black African
- Any other black background
- Chinese
- Any other ethnic group
- Gypsy
- Traveller community
- Prefer not to say

ABOUT THE OFFENDER(S)

How many offenders were there

Do you know them?

Yes

No

If 'yes' please give names and if possible addresses).

Can you give a description?

(Consider age, gender, height, ethnicity, build and clothing).

Please describe any distinguishing marks or features about the person.

Was a vehicle used?

Please describe the vehicle e.g. colour, make, model

PERSONAL DETAILS

The details you have provided to us so far will be recorded for monitoring purposes.

If you wish this incident to be investigated please include how you would prefer to be contacted.

Your name

Your address

Postcode

Telephone number

E-mail

Please tell us how you would prefer to be contacted e.g. only at a certain time or location.

Agency contact for help and support

Do you agree to this information being passed to your local agency partnership?

Incident details only

Yes

No

My details

Yes

No

Office use