

# Hate Crime and Harassment

## Reduction Strategy

2012-16



Safer Halton

**PARTNERSHIP**

a member of the Halton Strategic Partnership

## Table of Contents

1.0	Introduction .....	4
2.0	Defining and Identifying Hate Crime and Harassment .....	4
3.0	Local Strategy – Safer Halton Plan.....	6
4.0	Current Reporting Arrangements .....	9
5.0	Aims and Objectives for Halton.....	11
6.0	Partners involved in the delivery of the Strategy.....	11
7.0	Governance.....	11
8.0	Hate Crime Action Plan .....	12

### APPENDICIES

Appendix A – Legislative Framework .....	32
Appendix B – Current Hate Crime Reporting Centres.....	37
Appendix C - Third Party Reporting Form.....	39
Appendix D - Current National and Halton Data .....	44

## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Hate crime affects the residents of Halton. Hate crime is the targeting of individuals, groups and communities because of their identity and it can have a devastating and psychological effect on its victims. Whilst it is often perceived that hate crime affects a small number of individual victims, the nature of hate crime is that it is based on prejudice, hostility or hatred towards a particular group in society, and therefore it has a wider impact on the confidence and cohesion of the wider community.
- 1.2 Hate crime is widely accepted amongst public authorities to be under reported, where many perpetrators target victims at a level that will not be reported. Some victims do not even realise that they have been a victim of a hate crime and will not report the incident as they either do not know how to report, or feel they will not be taken seriously. Hate crimes are often tolerated by victims, who then go on to suffer severe trauma and a distress which will affect their everyday lives.
- 1.3 Victims often suffer repeat attacks, which will cause further trauma and may also then impact on the victim's family and wider community. Hate crime can breed mistrust, alienation and exclusion. Experiencing a hate crime as an individual or witness may leave the person feeling angry, fearful, isolated, distrustful and afraid to make new friends or to leave their homes.
- 1.4 The Safer Halton Partnership understands the importance in addressing this crime and the action plan sets out the steps it will take to ensure that all relevant services work together to prevent hate crime and provide support for victims, encourage reporting of incidents and take effective action against perpetrators.

## 2.0 Defining and Identifying Hate Crime and Harassment

### 2.1 What is hate crime?

2.2 The Home Office defines hate crime as any criminal offence committed against a person or property that is motivated by an offender's hatred of someone because of their:

- race, colour, ethnic origin, nationality or national origins
- faith/religion
- gender identity
- sexual orientation
- disability

2.3 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 hate crimes. The distinction between a hate '*crime*' and a hate '*incident*' is outlined below:

**Hate Crime** is any criminal offence where anyone believes the victim has been targeted because of their race/ethnicity, religion/belief, gender/gender identity, disability, age, sexual orientation or any other actual or perceived difference.

**Hate incidents** are incidents that do not constitute a criminal offence but cause alarm, distress or harassment where anyone believes the victim has been targeted because of their race/ethnicity, religion/belief, gender/gender identity, disability, age, sexual orientation or any other actual or perceived difference.

2.4 A **hate crime** is targeted victimisation which can take many forms. The three main categories are:

- **Physical attacks and criminal damage** - 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; and
- **Verbal abuse, insults and other offensive behaviour**- offensive leaflets and posters, abusive gestures, dumping of rubbish outside homes or through letterboxes and bullying at school or in the workplace.

2.5 As well as resulting in physical injury, hate crime can affect people's mental health and quality of life and increases their fear of crime. It can lead to anger, insecurity, stress and depression and isolation can leave some people afraid to leave their home. Hate crime can happen anywhere and at any time, the main types are:-

**Isolated Incidents** - People may experience a hate crime as a one-off event; the perpetrator may be acting on their own or as part of a group, under peer

pressure or under the influence of alcohol and drugs. One-off events can happen in any situation such as when people are on public transport, on the street, at a take away, sports ground, etc.;

**Cyber** - Individuals can be sent offensive text messages or emails or they may be contacted or targeted through a social media site such as Facebook or Twitter. Attacks can be anonymous and therefore it might be difficult to locate the source and secondly can be a very public way of attempting to intimidate an individual. Additional issues for people are that these 'virtual' hate crimes can occur anywhere and can happen 24/7;

**Environment** - A community group might be targeted entering or leaving the venue at a particular location. Local residents who belong to a community group may also be targeted as the hate crimes widen to include others by association, for example, a gay pub may cause local residents to target neighbours they suspect might also be gay;

**Association** - People may experience a hate crime just due to their being at a particular location, perhaps while visiting a friend or partner, even though they may not be from the group that the perpetrator is targeting. For example, someone who is not from the LGBT community, but who is exiting from or standing outside a LGBT venue might be targeted or friends or relatives of people with a learning disability being targeted during a visit to the disabled person; and

**Neighbours** - Verbal abuse, usually delivered near the victim's home, is the main form of hate crime experienced by people, with the perpetrator usually, although not always, being known to the victim. The majority of these hate crimes go unreported as people may fear reprisals or simply feel that no appropriate action would be taken following a report to the police or other organisations. In some instances, unreported hate crimes may continue for a number of years, with individuals, couples or whole families being targeted.

- 2.6 It can be difficult to identify the causes of hate crime from one individual to another and between one hate crime and another as there are often many factors involved. A hate crime may stem from intolerance towards people with different beliefs or lifestyles leading to a sustained level of antisocial behaviour that may last over a number of years. Equally a hate crime can be a 'flash in the pan' one off event in a public place aiming to intimidate or harass an individual. It is important to establish and understand the motivation of the offender in order to help address hate crime. Furthermore, local, national and global events can influence levels of hostility to certain groups.
- 2.7 Media coverage of events and certain groups, such as refugees, asylum seekers, and migrant workers, can affect a local situation. Looking at levels of reported hate crime and harassment in recent years, significant evidence demonstrates that hate crime trends follow major national incidents. Following the London Bombings in July 2005, there was a steep increase in the number of race and faith hate crimes, with 273 incidents reported compared with only

41 in the same period of the previous year. In the three days following the bombings, Police recorded 68 faith hate crimes in the capital alone. A similar rise in racially and religiously aggravated offences was reported between September and November 2007, following the national security incident at Glasgow Airport and the attempted bombing of London's Tiger Tiger restaurant.

2.8 Regardless of where or when any hate crime takes place, it can have devastating effects and its impact may last well beyond the period during which the hate crime was experienced having an effect on how people interact with their local community and/ or society at large. People may believe that no action can or will be taken and therefore resist reporting. A number of reasons for non-reporting have been put forward:

- the victim does not understand that a crime has taken place;
- 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.

2.9 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 and action plan sets out to improve awareness of the importance of reporting hate crimes and incidents and the options available by which to do so.

### **3.0 Local Strategy - Safer Halton Plan**

Responsibility for managing crime and disorder across Cheshire and Halton sits within the remit of the Safer Halton Partnership (SHP), which has existed since the introduction of the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act. The partnership comprises of Halton Borough Council, Cheshire Police, Heath Care Service providers, and Probation and Victim Support who work together to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour within the borough. The SHP board is currently jointly chaired by the Police Chief Superintendent and Chief Executive for Halton Borough Council. The Safer Halton Partnership vision statement (*as set out in the Sustainable Community Strategy*) 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.”*

The Safer Halton priorities, which include hate crime, are listed below.

- Safeguarding Young People
- Crime Reduction

- Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour
- Reducing Alcohol Harm and Disorder
- Reducing vulnerability of being a victim of hate crime and domestic abuse
- Reducing the Re-Offending rate of Repeat Offenders
- Community engagement, Consultation and Participation

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.

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 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.

Local and Pan-Cheshire Hate Crime Scrutiny Panels have now been put in place, following a review and monitoring process by Cheshire Police. Halton is also now involved with the Crown Prosecution's Local Involvement and Scrutiny Hate Crime Panel. Halton's hate crime and hate crime incident figures go to the Adults and Children's Safeguarding Boards on a quarterly basis, as well as other groups within the Partnership structure (see item 4).

Tackling hate crime is an intrinsic part of the Halton LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and 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.

The attached Action Plan is based on that adopted by the Criminal Justice Board and Cheshire Police. Whilst some actions are quite specific to those Partners, they have been included in this plan to ensure that everyone involved is aware of the work being undertaken to reduce hate crime and harassment, and improve the lives of our residents. The Action Plan will support the Partnership's aim of working better together, with partners and stakeholders to understand community cohesion issues in Halton, share experiences and data, raise the profile of cohesion and help reduce tensions that could potentially escalate into hate crime incidents.

### **3.4 Bullying in Schools**

The Halton Children's Trust has developed an Anti-Bullying Policy and Charter to which all schools can sign up. These documents ensure a consistent approach is taken to address bullying across schools in Halton. The Anti-Bullying Charter introduces a Halton Children's Trust Charter Mark to give

accredited recognition to schools, with three levels of bronze, silver and gold. Each level builds upon robust anti-bullying practise and policy across five standards; school involvement, policy, curriculum, training and support. Achievement and progress can be matched against the qualifying criteria at each level of the award.

There is also an Anti-bullying Operational Group which currently sits under the Halton Children's Trust. This group has worked with schools to support victims of bullying and to provide guidance, advice and tools to parents and staff in mitigating the impact bullying can have on young people, their educational attainment and emotional wellbeing. The Group has also led on the planning and running of an annual regional anti-bullying conference. There is a recommendation that this group looks at widening its membership and remit to include adult victims of bullying, looking at the larger safeguarding issues related to identifying and supporting vulnerable individuals of whatever age. Discussions have started to take this forward.

### **3.5 Prejudice based bullying**

The Race Relations Act 2000 recommended that schools record, deal effectively with and report to the School Governors and the Local Education Authority all racist incidents which happen in or travelling to and from their school. Whilst this has never been a legal requirement it is considered good practice and an effective means of counteracting racism in schools.

Recent national thinking has recommended that schools extend their reporting systems to recording, dealing with and reporting on bullying incidents which are based on prejudice against any persons protected characteristic or characteristics, including perceived characteristics.

A prejudice based bullying incident is any incident which is or is perceived to be, by the victim or any other person(s), one of which is motivated by an individual's protected characteristic(s), or perceived characteristics(s).

The Council has produced guidance to help schools deal with all prejudice based bullying, which should be read in conjunction with the Anti-Bullying Charter.

The recording process involves schools classifying prejudice based bullying incidents according to a four point scale of reporting:-

1. No offence intended or taken
2. Hurt or distress was caused but offending behaviour unlikely to be repeated
3. Hurt or distress was caused and the person responsible had previously been warned of unacceptable behaviour
4. Hurt or distress was caused and the behaviour was based on substantial hostility and prejudice may be repeated



Schools will decide the appropriate action to be taken at each level of prejudice based bullying incident. The number of each level of incidents should be summarised and reported to the local authority at the end of each term.

- 3.6** The Halton Safeguarding Adults Board have in place an Anti-Bullying Policy 2011. The Policy aims to ensure a unified approach is practised across agencies when dealing with bullying behaviour towards adults (i.e. people 18 years of age or over) whose circumstances render them vulnerable to abuse. This would include, for example, people with learning disabilities, mental health problems, physical disability or sensory impairment and older people in need of support.

## 4.0 Current Reporting Arrangements

- 4.1 There are a number of methods by which a member of the public may report a hate crime as set out below:

- 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 [True Vision website](#);
- Via the post to the police:

Cheshire Constabulary Headquarters  
Clemonds Hey  
Oakmere Road  
Winsford  
CW7 2UA

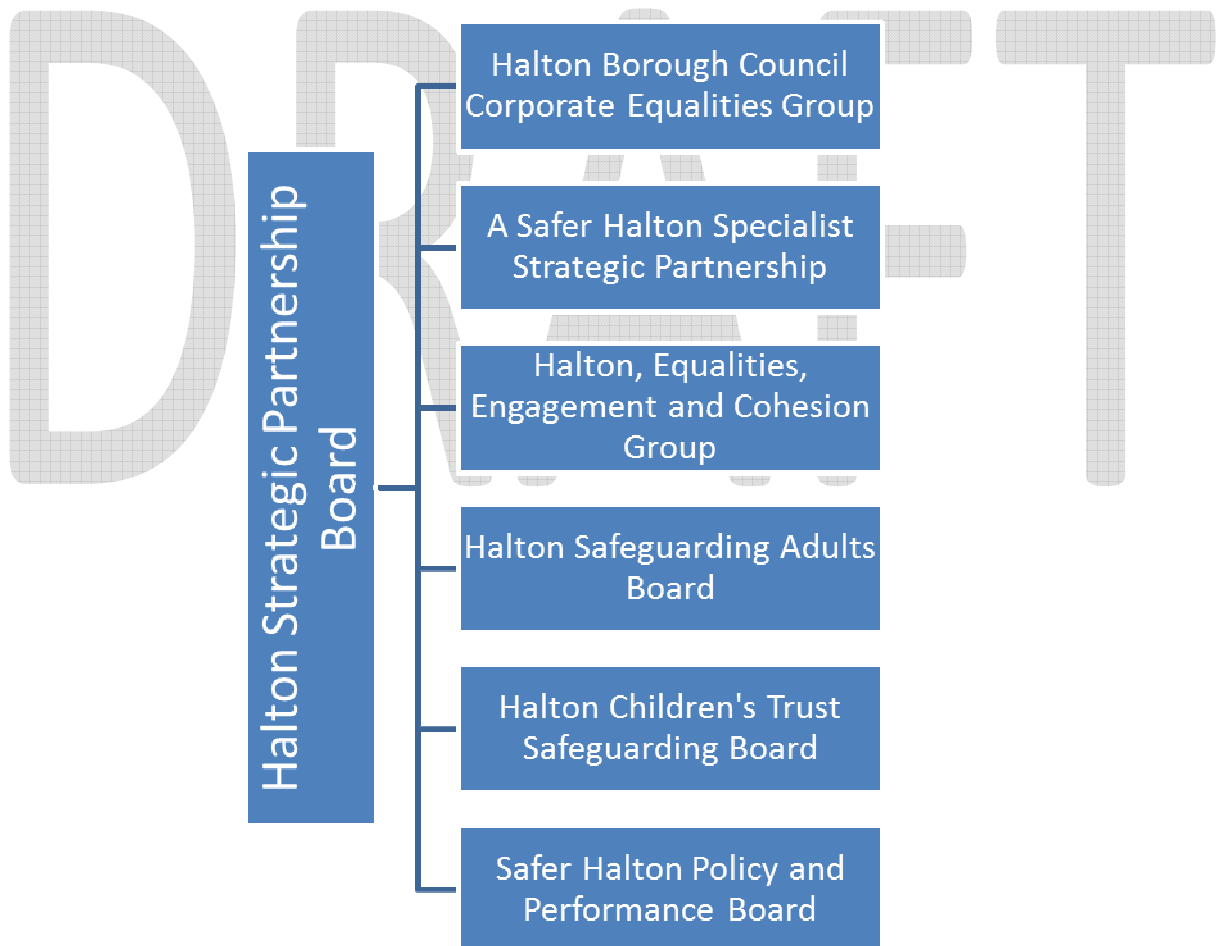
- Through a third party reporting centre; (listed in **Appendix B**) and
- Through a referral from another agency in the borough.

- 4.2 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 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.

- 4.3 Nominated staff within each reporting centre has 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".

- 4.4 Raising awareness sessions have also been carried out with front line service providers across Halton, as well as targeted service user groups. These sessions are different and separate to those delivered by Cheshire Police on how to report a hate incident. The awareness sessions are more to do with recognising that vulnerable victims may not wish to report an incident to a Police Officer, however they will share the information with someone they have an existing relationship with, such as a health visitor or social worker. The sessions give these front line colleagues the knowledge to report on incident as a 3<sup>rd</sup> party.
- 4.5 Data on hate crimes in Halton are reported through the Halton Strategic Partnership Board via this framework:



## 5.0 Aims and Objectives

5.1 The key aims of this Strategy are to:-

Increase victim and community confidence in the criminal justice system by:

- Doing what matters to the Victim
- Doing what matters to the Community
- Doing whatever is in the best interest of the Offender
- Doing what is in the Public Interest

## **6.0 Partners involved in the Delivery of the Strategy**

6.1 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.

6.2 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. This action plan will be delivered by the following partners working together:

- Halton's Community Safety Team
- Cheshire Police
- Youth Offending Service
- Victim Support
- Housing Providers
- Voluntary & Community Groups
- Cheshire Probation Service
- Halton Borough Council Safeguarding Adults Services
- Halton Borough Council Children and Young People's services

## **7.0 Governance**

7.1 The work will be monitored and evaluated by members of the Safer Halton Partnership who will then review the successes gained and areas in which we still need to develop.

7.2 Success of the actions contained within this strategy will be partly monitored via the Cheshire Police's Satisfaction Survey, which will indicate if people are satisfied with the service received.

7.3 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.

## 8.0 Action Plan

NOTE: This plan is based on that adopted by the Criminal Justice Board and Cheshire Police, and whilst some actions are quite specific to those Partners, they have been included to ensure that everyone involved is aware of the work being undertaken.

### Aims:

**Increase victim and community confidence in the criminal justice system by:**

- **Doing what matters to the Victim**
- **Doing what matters to the Community**
- **Doing whatever is in the best interest of the Offender**
- **Doing what is in the Public Interest**

### Doing what matters to the victim

Action	Owner	Rationale	Measures	Update
<p>Develop a directory of services including advocacy services to support hate crime victims to both report crimes/incidents and gain advice and support</p> <p>To identify pathways for victims into</p>	<p>All Agencies/local authorities</p>	<p>Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime</p> <p>Mencap Stand By Me campaign</p> <p>To address undetected hate crimes where the</p>	<p>Victims signposted to appropriate support and facilities</p>	<p><b>Police</b></p> <p>The Force website carries details of all Community Reporting Centres across the area, which provides help and support together with reporting facilities.</p> <p><a href="http://www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-information/hate-crime.aspx">http://www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-information/hate-crime.aspx</a></p> <p><b>YOT</b></p> <p>Victims of all types of crime are offered a menu of services from</p>

advocacy services and help improve access and increase referrals.		offender is known through supporting victims to take the matter to court following a complaint		HWYOT, including Restorative Justice processes
2. Explore opportunities for victims to be involved in future development of support services	Police/victim support/partner agencies	Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime  Hidden in Plain Sight Inquiry into Disability Harassment  'Out in the Open'	Better understanding of public attitudes.  Services tailored to local concerns.  All agencies working with minority organisations to increase involvement from minority communities.	<b>Police</b> The Force Hate Crime advisor works with minority support groups to build the confidence of service users to report any hate crimes and incidents. Focus sessions held with minority groups to ensure service user opinions and experiences are known and incorporated into future services.  Continue support for existing engagement activities e.g. Carers Support Groups
3. Carry out mystery shopper survey of 3 <sup>rd</sup> party/ Community Reporting Centres to ensure all centres remain up to date.	Office of the PCC	Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime	Gaps identified and appropriate action taken.	The Police Authority carry out a 'mystery shopper' survey of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party reporting centres every few years. Relevant feedback is given around identified gaps. Refresher training has been delivered to those centres requiring it.
Vulnerable people highlighted in police	Police	'Hidden in Plain Sight'	All partners carry out risk assessments to identify	Multi-Agency Meetings (MAM) to discuss cases where there is a threat

and other partner risk assessments and information shared to reduce their risk of victimisation			vulnerable people and share data When appropriate cases taken to the MAM meetings for discussion	of repeat incidents or risk of harm.
---	--	--	---	--------------------------------------

### Doing what matters to the community

4. Raise awareness across Cheshire of what hate crime is across all five categories	All Agencies	Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime.  EHRC report 'Out in the Open'	Increased understanding of hate incidents and hate crimes at a local level will inform action to prevent hate crime and the escalation of hate crime.  Development of early interventions and local initiatives to raise confidence in minority communities.  Increase the number of reported incidents of hate crime	<b>Police</b> The hate crime advisor attends multiagency conferences, support groups and community events to publicise hate crime. The Force website has a full explanation of all categories of hate crimes and incidents and how to report and carries the electronic 'True Vision' site for online reporting. <a href="http://www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-information/hate-crime/true-vision.aspx">http://www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-information/hate-crime/true-vision.aspx</a>  <b>Safer Halton Partnership</b> Safe in Town, the scheme is about providing a safe sanctuary for people with learning and physical disabilities and is being piloted in several areas across Cheshire.
---	--------------	--	---	--

				Hate Crime awareness raising sessions to front line service providers, community and voluntary groups
5. Ensure that the views of communities are considered in order to identify local concerns	All Agencies	<p>Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime</p> <p>Hidden in Plain Sight Inquiry into Disability Harassment Mencap Stand By Me campaign</p> <p>Cheshire Constabulary Equality Objectives 1 &amp; 2</p> <p>Partnership Community Engagement Strategy</p>	<p>CSPs will be equipped with the information and guidance necessary to devise and deliver local hate crime action plans.</p> <p>All agencies develop approaches for effective joint working.</p> <p>Implement the Community Engagement Strategy Action Plan to share consultation findings and avoid duplication. Carry out health checks against the action plan to identify how partners use consultation findings to change the way services are delivered.</p>	<p><b>Police</b> The hate crime advisor and local partnership officer work with individuals and local support groups to identify vulnerable individuals and their concerns.</p> <p>Focus sessions held to ensure service user opinions and experiences are known and incorporated into future services.</p> <p><b>Safer Halton Partnership</b> Develop and keep up to date the Hate Crime Strategy for Halton.</p> <p>Halton Strategic Partnership Board Community Engagement Strategy health check to be completed and recommendations put forward</p>
6. Undertake consultation with	All Agencies	Cross-Government	Communities will be engaged with local efforts to	<b>Police</b> Focus sessions held to ensure

<p>local communities on strategies and plans</p>	<p>Hidden in Plain Sight Inquiry into Disability Harassment Mencap Stand By Me campaign 'Out in the Open' Cheshire Constabulary Equality Objective 2 HSPB Community Engagement Strategy</p>	<p>Action Plan on Hate Crime</p> <p>tackle hate incidents and hate crimes and be enabled to hold local agencies to account for their performance in delivering action on hate crime.</p>	<p>service user opinions and experiences are known and incorporated into future services. Local authorities use this information to develop relevant hate crime strategies.</p> <p>Extensive consultation was conducted in respect of the Constabulary Equality Objectives set in April 2012.</p> <p><a href="http://www.cheshire.police.uk/about-us/equality-diversity-and-human/equality-objectives.aspx">http://www.cheshire.police.uk/about-us/equality-diversity-and-human/equality-objectives.aspx</a></p> <p>HSPB Residents' Survey to address community safety and hate crime issues. Next survey will be 13/14</p>
<p>7. Develop partnership working to incorporate advice, guidance and best practice on how to prevent and tackle hate crime</p>	<p>All Agencies</p>	<p>Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime Hidden in Plain Sight Inquiry into Disability Harassment</p>	<p>Professionals will be equipped with detailed guidance on the circumstances and processes</p> <p>Adult and Children's safeguarding boards to work</p> <p><b>Police</b> A Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel has been formed. Each BCU local scrutiny group feeds into the overarching panel.</p> <p>The Diversity Monitoring Review Group (DMRG), which is multiagency reviews hate crime</p>



		<p><b>Out in the Open</b></p>	<p>with other agencies to develop learning from case reviews.</p> <p>All partner agencies work with local partnerships on Hate Crime Panels to develop approaches for effective joint working, including data sharing.</p>	<p>across the force area on a quarterly basis.</p> <p><a href="http://www.cheshire.police.uk/about-us/equality-diversity-and-human/equality-information.aspx">http://www.cheshire.police.uk/about-us/equality-diversity-and-human/equality-information.aspx</a></p> <p>A Hate Crime Sgt (Alison Ross) has been appointed for a 6 month period to look at the way hate crime was investigated across the Force area and to identify possible ways to improve crime investigation, staff training and support for victims.</p> <p>Close links to Safeguarding teams are being developed to ensure information is appropriately shared and all agencies are aware of each other's work. Hate Crime case studies be taken to both Safeguarding Boards to identify how partners could have responded differently to help prevent hate crime.</p> <p><b>Probation</b> Membership of DMRG – Police lead. Sharing hate crime data across the agencies.</p>
--	--	-------------------------------	--	--


DRAFT

				<p><b>CPS</b> A Local Scrutiny and Involvement Panel for Cheshire and Merseyside is in place. The LSIP is chaired by the Chief Crown Prosecutor and includes representatives from a range of voluntary and community sector organisations. File scrutiny will focus on Trans Hate Crime later in the year.</p>
<p>8. Create multi-agency training programme on hate crime for key partner agencies</p>	<p>Police, Safer Halton Partnership and CPS</p>	<p>Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime  Out in the Open</p>	<p>Local services will be better equipped to support victims and witnesses in hate crime cases. This will help encourage victims and witnesses to come forward to ensure equal access to justice and facilitate successful prosecutions.</p>	<p><b>Police</b> The hate crime advisor delivers hate crime training to key partner agencies staff including, PCT, NHS, CWaC, HBC, WBC, Community support groups and local colleges.</p> <p>A Hate Crime Sgt has been appointed for a 6 month period to look at the way hate crime was investigated across the Force area and to identify possible ways to improve crime investigation, staff training and support for victims.</p> <p><b>CPS</b> Disability Hate Crime Training course was devised to help improve</p>

DRAFT

				<p>the knowledge and skills of prosecutors in relation to DHC cases. Every Prosecutor in the Area, including the Chief Crown Prosecutor and Deputy Chief Crown Prosecutor will have completed the training by the end of the year.</p> <p>Training on Transgender issues is being delivered to CPS Merseyside-Cheshire prosecutors and members of the CPS Merseyside-Cheshire LSIP. The LSIP also includes representation from the Trans community.</p>
9. Develop procedure for good hate crime governance	Sub group?	Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime	<p>A good practice product. The practice guidance will provide practitioners with the tools for improving practice on hate crime.</p>	<p><b>Probation</b> Cheshire Probation Trust has developed practice guidance around hate crime for staff that links to CPS guidance. This will ensure that more hate crime offenders can be identified.</p>
10. Identify and develop effective systems for hate crime/incident reporting at a local level	All Agencies	Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime	<p>Reporting of Hate Crimes and incidents will be more accurate and consistent.</p> <p>Staff have increased awareness and recognition of hate crime/incidents.</p>	<p><b>Police</b> Community (3<sup>rd</sup> Party) Reporting Centres and individual community/partner reporters have been set up across the Force area. Leaflets, stickers and posters advertise these services.</p>

			<p>Repeat, victims, offenders and locations are identified and appropriate action taken</p> <p>Map pathways into victim and witness support and other advocacy services that support victims of hate crime. Work with partners such as Age UK and registered providers to give them the info they need to refer people into these services when appropriate.</p>	<p>An initiative specifically targeting hate crime against taxi drivers has been set up across the Force area. This advertises to offenders offences of hate crime and encourages drivers to report incidents.</p> <p><b>Probation</b> Cheshire Probation Trust has a hate crime incident form and reports to the police any incidents that require reporting.</p> <p><b>YOT</b> HWYOT's database does not allow for specific hate crime identification and therefore information gathering has to be completed manually. However on an individual case basis if an offence is identified as a hate crime specific interventions can be done with the young person relating to Race and Religion, Disability, Gender and Sexuality</p>
11. Introduce local Hate Crime Scrutiny Panels to ensure aims and objectives are achieved.	All Agencies/local authorities	Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime Hidden in Plain	Gaps in the evidence on the nature and extent of hate crime will have been mapped.	<p><b>Police</b> A Force wide Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel has been created.</p>

	<p>Sight Inquiry into Disability Harassment</p> <p>Out in the Open</p>	<p>Increased understanding of hate incidents and hate crimes at a local level will inform action to prevent hate crime and the escalation of hate crime.</p> <p>All partner agencies work with local partnerships on Hate Crime Panels to develop approaches for effective joint working.</p>	 <p>H:\Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel T of R. (This is Attached at the end of the document)</p> <p>There are also local hate crime scrutiny groups on each BCU.</p> <p>The Hate Crime Advisor sits on all relevant Hate Crime, Equality and Safeguarding groups across the Force area ensure that information and good practice is shared in relation to all aspects of hate crime.</p> <p><b>Safer halton partnership</b> Hate Crime case studies are to be reported to Safeguarding Boards and the Safer Halton Partnership to identify what could have been done differently by partners to achieve a better outcome for the victim</p> <p><b>YOT</b> HWYOT as a single agency would not undertake its own hate crime scrutiny panel but would be involved if required by either Halton or Warrington LA</p> <p><b>CPS</b></p>
--	--	---	---

				A Local Scrutiny and Involvement Panel for Cheshire and Merseyside is in place. The LSIP is chaired by the Chief Crown Prosecutor and includes representatives from a range of voluntary and community sector organisations.
12. Work to increase the number of hate crimes/incidents reported and successful outcomes achieved	All Agencies/local authorities	<p>Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime</p> <p>Hidden in Plain Sight Inquiry into Disability Harassment</p> <p>Out in the Open</p> <p>CC Equality Objective 1</p>	<p>Increased reporting of hate crimes with more cases being brought to successful conclusions.</p> <p>Increased community cohesion and victim confidence in the criminal justice system.</p> <p>Transport providers develop reciprocal reporting arrangements and work in partnership</p> <p>Increase referrals to victim and witness support services and use restorative justice to prevent escalation of incidents</p>	<p><b>Police</b></p> <p>The hate crime advisor and local partnership officer work with individuals and local support groups to build confidence amongst members of minority communities and encourage the reporting of all hate incidents.</p> <p>A Cheshire wide Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel has been created, which includes representatives from local minority communities.</p> <p>Good news stories about hate crime cases that had been dealt with in a positive manner, published in relevant newsletters to increase confidence of minority groups. Also share these case studies with safeguarding groups and the Safer Halton Partnership and the council Safer Halton PPB.</p>

				<b>YOT</b> All HWYOT are aware of the definition of a Hate Crime and the views of the victim are always sought in terms of Restorative Justice Processes
13. Carry out gap analysis to identify any barriers to reporting and how these can be addressed	<b>Sub group</b>	Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime Out in the Open	Gaps in the evidence on the nature and extent of hate crime will have been mapped including reporting especially from marginalised groups.	<b>Police</b> Hate Crime Location maps have been produced. This provides a new data set showing details of Repeat Hate Crime Locations

**Doing whatever is in the best interest of the Offender**

14. Reduce offending and reoffending of hate crimes/incidents across Cheshire, by working with perpetrators.	Cheshire Probation Service/HMCS	Hidden in Plain Sight Inquiry into Disability Harassment	Fewer hate incidents and hate crimes will occur.  More cohesive and resilient communities	<b>Probation</b> Cheshire Probation Trust has a 14 session individual programme – Promoting Human Dignity (PHD) – for offenders convicted of hate crime. This is court mandated as a Specified Activity Requirement. Information leaflets have recently been revised to take account of the Government Hate Crime Action Plan. Guidance and training for staff, including court staff, has
--	---------------------------------	--	---	---

				been put in place to ensure greater awareness of hate crime and what PHD covers to be able to work with all offenders connected to hate crime to challenge their thinking and reduce the opportunities for reoffending.
15. Secure the provision of a programme to educate prisoners convicted of hate crimes or who demonstrate hate motivated behaviour	Cheshire Probation Service/HMPS	Hidden in Plain Sight Inquiry into Disability Harassment Out in the Open	Fewer hate incidents and hate crimes will occur. Increased community cohesion and victim confidence in the criminal justice system.	<b>Probation</b> See above re PHD programme available in the community. There is currently no hate crime programme available in Cheshire prisons.
16. Ensure that all prisoners convicted of hate crime or who demonstrate hate motivated behaviour can access and complete a programme that helps them address this behaviour	Cheshire Probation Service	Hidden in Plain Sight Inquiry into Disability Harassment Out in the Open	Fewer hate incidents and hate crimes will occur. Increase use of restorative justice and referrals to victim and witness support	<b>Probation</b> PHD available in the community.




## Doing what is in the Public Interest

<p>17. Identify resources and funding from internal and external sources to develop a range of publicising materials e.g.: posters leaflets etc.</p>	<p>All Agencies</p>	<p>Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime Mencap Stand By Me campaign</p>	<p>Multiagency materials produced.</p>	<p><b>Police</b> The Hate Crime Advisor and CWP have developed an easy read hate crime leaflet. This has been distributed to all partner and voluntary agencies.</p> <p><b>Probation</b> Cheshire Probation Trust has already revised and will be putting sentence and offender leaflets in place.</p> <p><b>YOT</b> HWYOT deal with a very small number of young people that are involved with hate crime incidents and/or offences. Therefore interventions are carried out on a one to one basis using an educational approach with the young person and utilising restorative justice principles wherever appropriate.</p>
<p>18. Develop partnerships across</p>	<p>Chair of subgroup</p>	<p>Cross-Government</p>	<p>CDRPs/CSPs will facilitate mechanisms to inform local</p>	<p>The Hate Crime Advisor works with members of the local NHS</p>

<p>non-CJS sectors to distribute publicising materials</p>		<p>Action Plan on Hate Crime</p>	<p>communities and local needs.</p>	<p>and PCT together with the CSPs and local support groups to ensure that all publicity material reaches the wider communities.</p> <p><b>Safer Halton Partnership</b> Hate Crime work is promoted at Locality Area Forums, PACT Panels and other local area based meetings.</p>
<p>19. Provide information materials and training about the difference between hate crimes and hate incidents to ensure clarity and avoid raising expectations</p>	<p>Police and CPS</p>	<p>Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime Mencap Stand By Me campaign Out in the Open</p>	<p>Increased understanding of hate crime and more accurate reporting.</p>	<p><b>Police</b> The hate crime advisor and local partnership officer work with individuals and local support groups to build confidence amongst members of minority communities and encourage the reporting of all hate incidents. A Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel has been created.</p> <p><b>Safer Halton Partnership</b> Ongoing training is being delivered, developing close links to Safeguarding teams to ensure information is appropriately shared and all agencies are aware of each other's work. Continue to review information on</p>

DRAFT

				<p>Halton council's and other partner's 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.</p> <p>Specific work has been carried out with local LGBT and disability groups after specific gaps in services have been identified, through Halton Speak Out disability partnership, Halton Speak Out etc.</p>
<p>20. Develop protocols to agree the role of each agency within the hate crime process and to ensure that relevant information can be appropriately shared across all agencies</p>	<p>All Agencies Safer Halton Partnership</p>	<p>Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime  Out in the Open</p>	<p>Improved information sharing. Increased understanding of the nature and prevalence of hate crime.</p>	<p><b>Police</b> The Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel has Information Sharing Agreement in place.</p>  <p>H:\ISA Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel Final.d (This is attached at the end of the document)</p> <p><b>Safer Halton Partnership</b> Develop the Scrutiny Role of the SHP and Safeguarding Boards through the use of case studies</p>

<p>21. Set up reporting and monitoring mechanisms across all agencies and collect data in relation to number of hate crimes/incidents and attrition rates at each stage of the process</p>	<p>Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel</p>	<p>Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime Hidden in Plain Sight Inquiry into Disability Harassment Out in the Open</p>	<p>Increased understanding of the nature and context of hate crime.</p>	<p><b>Police</b> The Diversity Monitoring Review Group (DMRG), which is multiagency reviews hate crime across the force area on a quarterly basis. The Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel has been formed.</p> <p>The hate crime advisor meets with BCU Partnerships Inspectors, local hate crime scrutiny groups and Partner Agency representatives to ensure all relevant data is collated and reviewed to identify any gaps.</p> <p><b>Probation</b> Cheshire Probation Trust is part of the DMRG where such data is shared. CPT can share the numbers of PHD commencements and completions.</p>
<p>22. Report and analyse data and outcomes on a quarterly basis via Hate Crime Scrutiny Panels and the</p>	<p>All Agencies</p>	<p>Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime Out in the Open</p>	<p>Improved local data collection and analysis on hate incidents and hate crime</p>	<p><b>Police</b> A quarterly report is produced for the DMRG. The Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel reviews individual incidents and crimes and identifies any issues, which are</p>

Diversity Monitoring Review Group	DRAFT			<p>then investigated by the relevant agency.</p> <p><b>Probation</b> As above</p> <p><b>YOT</b> HWYOT's database does not allow for specific hate crime identification and therefore information gathering has to be completed manually. HWYOT is in the process of implementing a new data base where such reporting in terms of specific areas will be easier to complete</p> <p><b>CPS</b> The Strategic Lead chairs a quarterly meeting for internal staff, to review hate Crime performance data, explore case studies, share good practice and identify improvement actions.</p>
23. Record and monitor when an uplift/enhanced sentence is announced in open court				HMCS

		Disability Harassment  Out in the Open	Justice Act 2003 is appropriately, consistently and transparently applied.	
24. Reduce the level of CJS attrition.	Police/CPS	Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime  Out in the Open	Increased successful outcomes at court	
25. Set up systems to enable the reporting of offending and reoffending rates across Cheshire in relation to all categories of hate crime	Police/CPS/HMCS/Cheshire Probation Service	Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime  Out in the Open	Increased understanding of the nature and context of hate crime.  Increased awareness and recognition of hate crime/incidents, repeat, victims, offenders and locations.	<b>Police</b> Hate Crime Location maps have been produced. This provides a new data set showing details of Repeat Hate Crime Locations, Repeat Victims and Repeat Offenders (where the offender details are known). This information is shared with partner agencies at the DMRG
26. Monitor national initiatives and implement them locally if appropriate	All agencies	Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime  Out in the Open	CDRPs/CSPs and other local partners will have increased awareness of good practice both nationally and locally.  Identify and implement interventions to prevent harassment occurring in the	<b>Police</b> The hate crime advisor carries out Environmental Scanning and liaises with hate crime advisors from other forces for relevant hate crime initiatives.  <b>Safer Halton partnership</b> Safe in Town, the scheme is

			first place and develop responses to prevent escalation.	<p>about providing a safe sanctuary for people with learning and physical disabilities and is being piloted in several areas across Cheshire.</p> <p><b>YOT</b> Any Youth Justice Board initiatives are communicated through the YJB Bulletin which is distributed to all staff. These are then discussed at HWYOT Management Team Meeting in order to feedback/implementation to be agreed</p>
Develop a school reporting system that incorporates all bullying information and details on hate incidents.	Schools/Cheshire Police	April 2013	Reduce the duplication of reporting mechanisms.	<p>Sharps system in all secondary schools but not primary.</p> <p>Where appropriate consider restorative justice in response to incidents for example in schools and with youth groups</p> <p>Halton Borough Council has developed a prejudice based bullying reporting system and are piloting in schools. This sits alongside a new Anti-Bullying policy and Charter Mark.</p>

### ***National Legislation and Policy Developments***

The Macpherson Inquiry into the racist murder of the black teenager Stephen Lawrence laid the groundwork for the legal recognition of racist hate crime. In the years that followed, it has been recognised that hate crime on the basis of religion, sexual orientation, gender identity and disability came into existence. National legislation in the UK follows the principle that crimes motivated by hostility, prejudice of hate towards an aspect of a person identity should be treated differently to other crimes.

There have also been a number of policy documents written in the past by a range of public bodies on the various strands of hate crime. Key documents to note are:

The **Equalities Act 2010** (section 149) put in place a 'Public Sector Equality Duty'. This means that a public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and person who do not share it
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it

**Protected characteristics** - 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

The Equalities Act is overarching and has replaced other legislation including:-

**The Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006** – As of October 2007 this act makes provision about offences involving stirring up hatred against persons on racial and religious grounds.

**The Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004** – As part of this act the Victims Code of Practice came into effect 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 Criminal Justice Act 2003** created a range of new racially and religiously aggravated offences and sets of provisions for the following offences:

- Assaults (section 29)
- Criminal Damage (section 30)
- Public Order Offences (section 31)
- Harassment (section 32)

The act also introduced tougher sentences for offences motivated by hatred of the victim’s sexual orientation or disability, and this must now be taken into account when sentencing as an aggravating factor, in addition to race or religious motivation.

**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 Protection from Harassment Act 1997** – This act allows the courts to grant an injunction to restrain any actual or threatened harassment.

**Public Order Act 1986 Part III Incitement To Racial Hatred** Under this Act it is an offence to commit an act that is threatening, abusive or insulting and which is intended or likely in all the circumstances to stir up racial hatred.

**Football Offences Act 1991** (Amended by section 9 of the Football (Offences and Disorder) Act 1999) An offence is committed when a group of people, or one person acting alone, chants something of a racist nature at a designated football match. To prove this offence, the prosecution has to show that the chanting was threatening, abusive or insulting to another person because of that person’s colour, race, nationality (including citizenship) or ethnic or national origin.

**Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (As amended by the Anti- Terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001)** This contains a number of specific offences of racially or religiously aggravated crime. These offences carry higher maximum penalties than the basic offence equivalents. The Act places a duty on the courts to treat more seriously any offence.

**Human Rights Act 1998** This places a duty on all public authorities to uphold and promote human rights in everything they do. This means that their policies, programmes and services should ensure that individuals are autonomous, safe and can participate in the decisions that affect their lives; further, that they are treated fairly, with dignity and respect and that the rights of the wider community are also safeguarded.

**Criminal Justice Act 2003 S145:** in addition to the specific offences created by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, this places a general duty on courts to treat more seriously any offence that can be shown to be racially or religiously aggravated or

motivated. S146: places a duty on courts to increase the sentence for any offence aggravated by the demonstration or motivation of hostility based on the victim's disability (or presumed disability) or sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation)

**Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006** Under this Act an offence is committed if a person uses threatening words or behaviour, or displays any written material which is threatening, if he intends thereby to stir up religious hatred. Abusive or insulting words or behaviour intended to stir up religious hatred is not enough.

Possession, publication or distribution of inflammatory material is also an offence. The offence can be committed in a public or private place, but not within a dwelling unless the offending words and behaviour were heard outside and it was intended that they were heard. For an offence to have been committed, the defendant must have intended to stir up religious hatred.

**Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008** This amends the Public Order Act 1986 to include incitement to hatred on the grounds of sexual orientation

**Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill** was introduced during May 2013. The Bill is expected to receive Royal Assent by summer 2014. The Bill sets out the Government's continuing commitment to protect the public from crime, serious disorder and anti-social behavior by giving local police forces the ability to take decisions that fit the needs of the area they serve and to ensure that they are accountable to local people for these decisions.

**Equality and Human Rights Commission: 'Hidden in plain sight', Inquiry into disability related harassment, August 2011**, made several recommendations to public authorities with regards to addressing and investigating disability hate crime, as well as supporting victims.

The key recommendations for the purposes of this action plan are:

- Always consider whether a victim of anti-social behaviour is disabled, and whether their disability is part of the motivation for the harassment.
- When responding to anti-social behaviour and crime against disabled people (particularly the police, local authorities and housing providers), agencies should consider whether such harassment is disability –related.
- Where the behaviour is identified as disability-motivated, agencies should apply the relevant legal and policy frameworks.
- Where crimes have been committed, police should investigate them thoroughly and gather evidence to identify perpetrators. This should include consideration of how to support disabled people and how to identify other corroborating sources of evidence.
- Ensure that systems are in place to identify repeat victims. Urgent action should be taken to bring repeat harassment to an end rather than dealing with incidents as isolated events.
- Implement a corporate approach to adult protection, with training for all public facing staff and their managers on identifying and referring people at risk of harm.

- Develop and implement partnership approaches to prevent harassment and safeguarding adults at risk of harm.
- Provide information to the public about reporting harassment that they are experiencing or know a disabled person is experiencing.
- Public authorities should challenge cultures of disbelief of disabled people who make allegations of crime.

**Out in the Open: Tackling disability related harassment: A manifesto for change** The follow up report to Hidden in plain sight makes recommendations in 7 strategic areas which it says need to be addressed if disability harassment is to be reduced:

- Improved reporting, recording and recognition of disability related harassment so disabled people know their account of being tormented or worse, is taken seriously at every stage.
- Gaps in legislation and national policy to be addressed, such as tougher use of sentencing for those found guilty of harassment and more involvement of disabled people in public life e.g. jury service.
- Adequate support and advocacy to be provided, especially for those with a learning difficulty who may need someone to speak up on their behalf or provide emotional support.
- Improved practice and shared learning. Government and others need to work together to drive up standards and learn from any mistakes.
- Better redress and access to justice. A disabled person's account should be equally as credible as a non-disabled person in a court of law.
- Improved prevention, deterrence and understanding of motivation. If research is invested in understanding why people commit these crimes, it will be easier to profile potential perpetrators and thus intervene earlier on.
- More transparency, accountability and involvement of disabled people in developing policies and responses to disability related harassment.
- Looking at authorities and other organisations which are handling the issue well, the Commission highlights their work in three main areas:
  - A commitment to monitoring Section 146 of the Criminal Justice Act and data sharing which will help to identify 'at risk' individuals;
  - Addressing cyber bullying; and
  - Tackling anti-social behaviour in social housing.

### **Challenge it, Report it, Stop it: The Government's Plan to Tackle Hate Crime -**

The plan provides a blueprint for the Government's role over the next three years to help set a national direction and support local efforts to combat hate crime. It is divided up into three key areas: prevention, increasing reporting and improving the operational response to hate crime.

#### **Preventing hate crime**

This section sets out the steps being taken by the Government to prevent hate crime from occurring by challenging the bigotry and prejudice that foster hatred. These include:

- Working with schools and voluntary sector partners to increase the resources available to help tackle bullying in schools.
- Developing a new cross-Government Disability Strategy, which will include action on changing attitudes and behavior.

### **Increasing reporting and access to support**

This section sets out how the Government wants to make it easier for victims of hate crime to come forward and report offences.

- The Home Office and the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) will be working with councils, police forces and housing providers to improve the handling of public calls about anti-social behavior so that hate crime victims can be better identified.

### **Improving the response to hate crime**

This section of the plan focuses on the Government's goals and actions for the criminal justice system and calls on councils and other local partners to work jointly with the criminal justice system to bring offenders to justice by, for example, making available information on hate crime and local support services.

## APPENDIX B – Hate Crime Reporting Centres in Halton

### Community Reporting Centres for Hate Crime in Halton

<p><b>Riverside College (Cronton)</b> Cronton 6th Form Campus Cronton Lane Widnes, Cheshire, WA8 5WA</p>	<p><b>Riverside College (Runcorn)</b> Runcorn Campus Campus Drive Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 4RE</p>
<p><b>Riverside College (Kingsway)</b> Kingsway Campus Kingsway Widnes, Cheshire, WA8 7QQ</p> <p>Open for students</p>	<p><b>Halton Speak Out</b> The Old Police Station Mersey Road Runcorn Cheshire, WA7 1DF</p> <p>Phone No: 01928 588 526</p>
<p><b>Liverpool Housing Trust</b> Priory House, Northway Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 2FS</p> <p>Phone: 01928 796000 Open for Liverpool Housing Trust tenants</p>	<p><b>Affinity Sutton Housing (Widnes)</b> 265 Cherrysutton Estate Widnes WA8 4TH Phone: 0845 217 8601</p> <p>(Open for all tenants on Wednesdays only)</p>
<p><b>Gay and Lesbian Youth Service</b> Phone: 07747 473 829 for further information.</p> <p>Open for all LGBT young people</p>	<p><b>Riverside Housing</b> Halton Brook Avenue Halton Brook Runcorn Cheshire, WA7 2NW</p> <p>All tenants of Riverside</p>
<p><b>Halton Citizens Advice Bureau – Widnes Office</b> Unit 3, Victoria Buildings Lugsdale Road Widnes, WA8 6DJ</p> <p>Open to All</p>	<p><b>Halton Citizens Advice Bureau –Runcorn Office</b> Ground Floor Grosvenor House Runcorn, WA7 2HF</p> <p>Open to All</p>
<p><b>Ditton Youth &amp; Community Centre</b> Dundalk Road Widnes Cheshire, WA8 8DF Club Tel No: 0151 420 0001 Community Centre No: 0151 423 3121</p> <p>Outreach mobile number is: 07724 615 988</p>	<p><b>Chapelfield Youth Club</b> Chapelfield Community Centre Wilsden Road Hough Green Widnes, WA8 7XS Club Tel No: 0151 495 1662</p> <p>Outreach mobile number is: 07724 615 988</p>
<p><b>Murdishaw Youth Club</b> Moorings Close Runcorn Cheshire, WA7 6DQ Club Tel No: 01928 710 273</p> <p>Outreach mobile number is: 07821 396 977</p>	<p><b>Palacefields Community Centre</b> The Uplands Runcorn Cheshire, WA7 2UA Club Tel No: 01928 797784</p>

<b>CRMZ</b> Kingsway Widnes WA8 7QE  0303 333 4300	<b>West Bank Youth Club</b> Transporter House Mersey Road Widnes WA8
	<b>Grangeway Youth &amp; Community Centre</b> Grangeway Runcorn Cheshire, WA7 5HA  Club Tel No: 01928 583 320 Community Centre No: 01928 569 474
<b>West Runcorn Youth Centre</b> Russell Road Weston Point Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 4DP  Club Tel No: 01928 581 722	<b>Duke of Edinburgh</b> West Runcorn Youth Centre Russell Road Weston Point Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 4DP  Club Tel No: 01928 581 722
<b>Castlefields Community Centre</b> Chester Close Castlefields Runcorn, WA7 2HY  Phone No: 01928 563 839	<b>Upton Community Centre</b> Hough Green Road Widnes WA8 4PF  Phone No: 0151 423 1386
<b>Halton Housing Trust</b> Daresbury Point Green Wood Drive Manor Park, Runcorn, WA7 5LT  Phone No: 0800 195 3172 or 0303 333 0101	<b>Halton Housing Trust</b> Foundry Lane Widnes WA8 8TZ  Phone No: 0800 195 3172 or 0303 333 0101
<b>Murdishaw Community Centre</b> Barnfield Avenue Murdishaw Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 6EP  Phone No: 01928 718 285	<b>Staff within Halton's Direct Link Contact Centres have also been trained and can be contacted via the Council's main number:</b>  0303 333 4300
<b>Staff with Halton's One Stop Shops have also been trained. These are drop-in facilities and do not have phone numbers:</b>	
Widnes Direct Link One Stop Shop 7 Brook Street Widnes Cheshire, WA8 6NB	Halton Lea Direct Link One Stop Shop Concourse Level Rutland House Halton Lea, Runcorn, WA7 2ES
Runcorn Direct Link One Stop Shop Church Street Runcorn Cheshire, WA7 1LX	<b>True Vision Website</b> (owned by the Association of Chief Police Officers)  <a href="http://www.report-it.org.uk">www.report-it.org.uk</a>

**Appendix C: Third Party Reporting Form**



**ELECTRONIC FORM FOR COMPLETION**

**Please e-mail to**

**[hate.crime.reporting@cheshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto: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):*

DRAFT

### 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).*

DRAFT

**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

## Appendix D

### Hate Crime - National data

Hate crime and harassment is recognised as a national issue. In 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.

Disability crime includes crimes against those with learning difficulties or 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".

Nationally we know that hate crimes are hugely under-reported, estimates suggest that a mere 20-30 per cent of all hate crimes are actually reported to the police. In addition, it is difficult to know how to interpret fluctuations in the numbers of reports of hate crime incidents. There are several possible explanations for reports of hate crime increasing for example such as:

- More crimes taking place
- Projects encouraging people to report
- People having more confidence in reporting structures

Nationally most hate crime perpetrators live in the same neighbourhood as their victims and the majority of hate crimes happen near to the victim's home while they are going about their daily business.

Since 2006/07, the number of hate crime cases referred to the Crown Prosecution Service for decision by the police has steadily increased from 14,133 to 15,519. The proportion of these cases charged has also increased from 59.4% to 72.0%.

Over the same period, the proportion of decisions not to prosecute for evidential or public interest reasons has dropped from 20.7% to 16.8%. This trend over time suggests that aspects of investigation and prosecution are improving as we become better at recognising and responding to hate crime across all strands.

Between 2006/07 and 2010/11, the proportion of successful convictions across all types of hate crime has increased from 76.8% to 82.8%, while the number of

prosecutions has also increased from 12,535 to 15,284. Of successful outcomes, 85.5% involved a guilty plea.

The most commonly prosecuted cases were offences against the person and public order offences (44.3% and 36.3% respectively).

## Hate Crime - Halton in Context

### Demographics

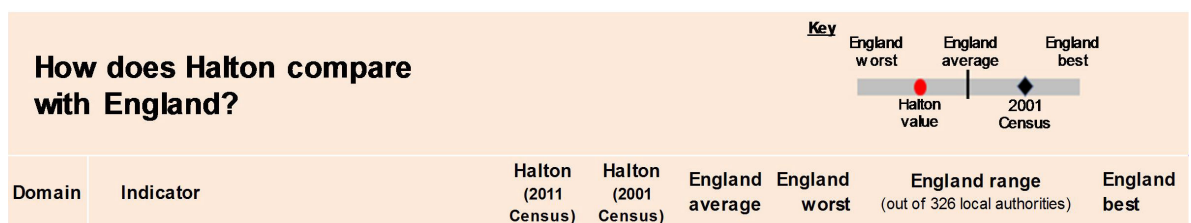
**General** - Halton has a population of 125,700 (2011 census), split 48.8% male and 51.2% female. Of these:-

- 24,900 are children and young people (20% of the population) and
- 82,300 are people of working age (65% of the population).
- 18,500 are older people (15% of the population).

The population of Halton has increased by 7,600 (6.4%) since the 2001 census.

Deprivation is a major issue in Halton, 21 of the 79 'Super Output Areas' fall in the 10% most deprived areas in England. Over a quarter of children – around 7,000 – live in poverty (*IMD 2010 and HMRC, 2011*). In the longer term, the older people age group (65+) are projected to grow by 33% from 17,300 in 2010 to 25,700 in 2025 (*ONS population projections 2010*). Around 1 in 5 working age people are claiming an out of work benefit in Halton.

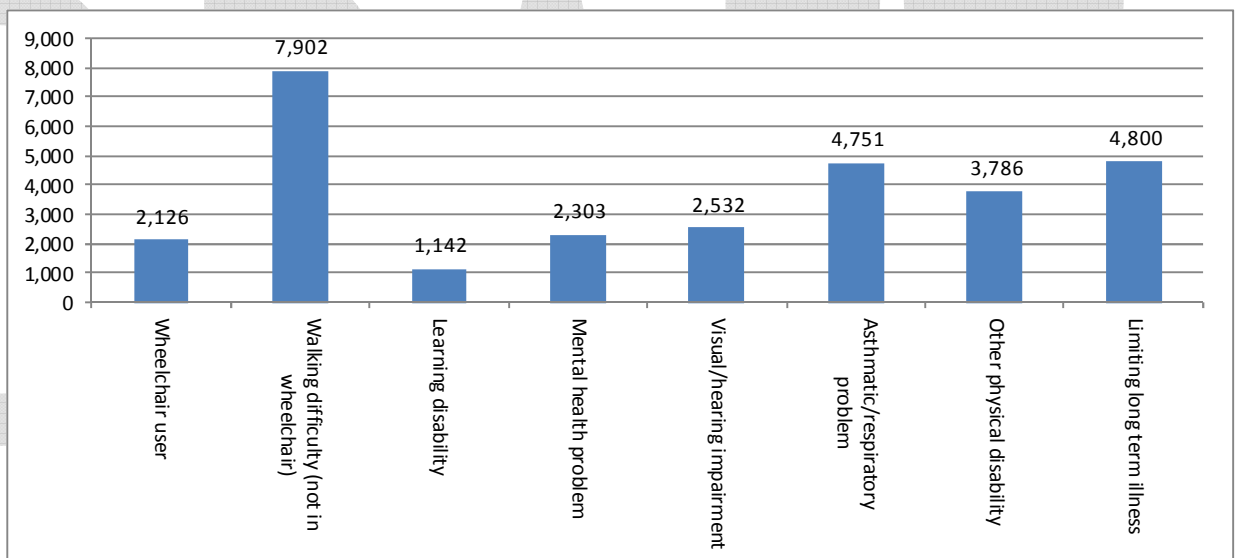
**Health and disability** - Health in general remains a major issue in Halton, with Halton experiencing amongst the lowest life expectancies in the country and highest levels of alcohol abuse and cancer rates. (*DoH Health Profile 2012*). When compared with England, a higher percentage of Halton residents stated that their daily activities are limited (either a little or a lot) by their health, with 9,865 people in Halton stating their health was bad or very bad. Halton has a higher percentage of Disability Living Allowance claimants than England. (*DLA claimant counts, DWP*) and also a higher proportion of people providing 20+ hours of unpaid care (7,010 people) per week than England.



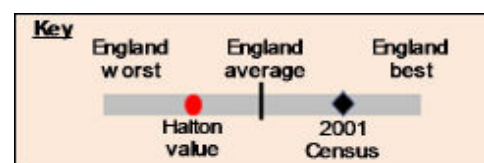
Limiting illness	1	limited a lot	11.6%	n/a	8.3%	14.2%		4.4%
	2	limited a little	9.8%	n/a	9.3%	13.2%		6.0%
	3	not limited	78.6%	n/a	82.4%	74.0%		88.8%
	4	limited a lot: Age 16 to 64	5.9%	n/a	3.6%	7.2%		1.2%
	5	limited a little: Age 16 to 64	5.6%	n/a	4.6%	6.4%		2.9%
	6	not limited: Age 16 to 64	54.1%	n/a	56.5%	46.9%		72.2%
Health	7	Very good health	46.7%	n/a	47.2%	38.2%		57.8%
	8	Good health	31.6%	n/a	34.2%	28.5%		37.8%
	9	Fair health	13.9%	n/a	13.1%	8.7%		18.3%
	10	Bad health	6.1%	n/a	4.2%	7.3%		2.1%
	11	Very bad health	1.7%	n/a	1.2%	2.2%		0.6%

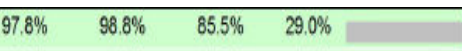
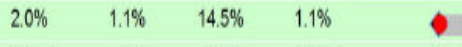
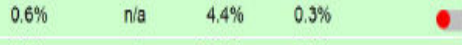
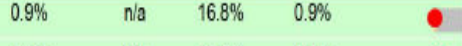
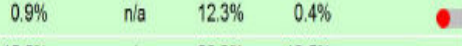
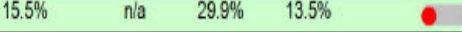
The 2010 Strategic Housing Market Assessment SHMA found that an estimated 15,104 households in Halton contained someone with a support need, representing 29% of all households in the Borough. People with a walking difficulty were the most predominant group, affecting 7,902 households (15% of all households) as shown in figure 1.1.

**Figure 1.1 - Households containing someone with a support need**



**Ethnicity** - The majority of residents (97.8%) in Halton are white and 2% non-white as set out in the table below. As can be seen by the chart on the right, the number of white residents is proportionately high compared to other English areas and the non-white population in Halton is low compared to other English areas. Christianity is the main religion in Halton, well above the national average. However, this has dropped from the 2001 Census with more people stating no religion (a trend seen nationally). As at January 2012, Halton had 82 Gypsy and Traveller Caravans. From the 2011 School Census the main first language apart from English was Polish.



Ethnicity	5	% white	97.8%	98.8%	85.5%	29.0%		98.9%
	6	% non white	2.0%	1.1%	14.5%	1.1%		71.0%
	7	% no people in household have English as a first language	0.6%	n/a	4.4%	0.3%		24.3%
	8	% of pupils w hose first language other than English (primary)	0.9%	n/a	16.8%	0.9%		77.8%
	9	% of pupils w hose first language other than English (secondary)	0.9%	n/a	12.3%	0.4%		70.4%
	10	% No English Identity	15.5%	n/a	29.9%	13.5%		75.7%

The ethnicity of the 2% non-white population in Halton is shown below.

Ethnicity	Percentage of Halton population (source 2011 census)
White	97.8%
Mixed/Multiple Ethnic groups	1.1%
Asian	0.6%
Black/ African/ Caribbean/ Black British	0.2%
Other Ethnic Group	0.1%

### Hate Crime Data

The table below shows hate crime data for Halton, Cheshire and England and Wales national data for 11/12. Halton is shown to have lower levels of religious and transphobic hate crime than Cheshire or nationally and similar levels of homophobic and racist hate crime to Cheshire. However homophobic hate crimes are higher than those nationally and racist hate crimes slightly lower. Halton has a higher percentage of disability hate crime than Cheshire and slightly higher than that seen nationally in 11/12. This may reflect the fact that Halton has higher numbers of people who consider themselves in poor health or with an illness that limits their daily activities, compared with national data.

	Hate Crime Data for Halton		Hate Crime Data for Cheshire <i>Source: Home Office Hate Crimes England and Wales 2011/12 tables</i>		Hate Crime national data	
	11/12	Percentage	11/12	Percentage	11/12	Percentage
Religious		0%	1	0.2%	1,621	3.7%
Transphobic		0%	4	1.1%	315	0.7%
Disability	3	4.9%	7	1.9%	1,744	4%
Homophobic	10	16.4%	58	16.2%	4,252	9.7%
Racist	48	78.7%	289	80.5%	35,816	81.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>		<b>359</b>		<b>43,748</b>	

The table below shows the number of hate crimes in Halton over the last three years. The vast majority of hate crimes in Halton reflect the national picture and are race-related (82.5%), with 15.1% homophobic related and 2% disability related. Over the last three years there have been no religious or transphobic motivated hate crimes reported in Halton. Of the racially motivated hate crime in Halton, the majority relate to Asians, which may reflect the fact that Asians are the largest ethnic minority in the borough (0.6%).

	Hate Crimes Halton data			Totals	Percentage (of total over the three years)
	9/10	10/11	11/12		
<b>Religious</b>					
<b>Transphobic</b>					
<b>Disability</b>	1		3	4	2.3%
<b>Homophobic</b>	10	6	10	26	15.1%
<b>Racist</b>	46	48	48	142	82.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>Total 172</b>	

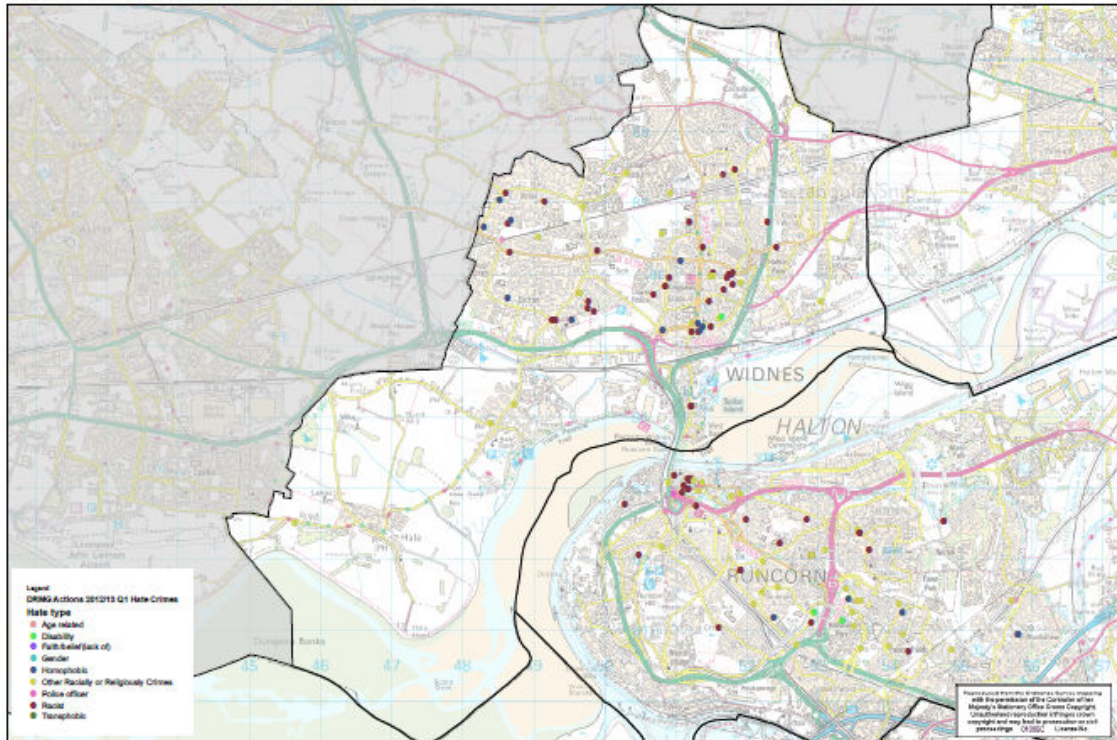
Nationally most hate crime perpetrators live in the same neighbourhood as their victims. Using national data the majority of hate crimes happen near to the victim's home while they are going about their daily business, again a pattern reflected in Halton and shown on the maps below which highlight the location of hate crimes across Widnes and Runcorn. Cyber hate crime nationally is also on the increase, again a pattern reflected in Halton.

Approximately 50% of all hate incidents reported to the police in Halton are classed as hate crimes, with detection rates of approximately 30-40%, which is higher than for other crimes. However there are a significant number of crimes that are classed as undetected, even though the offender is known, because the victim does not want to take the matter to court. Work is underway to support victims through the complaints process and any resulting actions.



Hate crime 01/07/2010 to 30/06/2012

Widnes



Hate crime 01/07/2010 to 30/06/2012

Runcorn

