

Title	Young People & Crime; Birmingham Community Safety Partnership
Date	
Report Author	Cllr John Cotton (Chair - Birmingham Community Safety Partnership/Cabinet Member - Social Inclusion, Community Safety and Equalities)

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To provide an overview of Birmingham Community Safety Partners' response to hate crime, youth crime and knife crime in relation to the young people of our city.
- 1.2 To provide examples of how Birmingham Community Safety Partners engage with young people, providing support in relation to climate, BLM and increase in racism, Palestine, MeToo campaigns, etc.

2. Background – Hate Crime

2.1 For the purposes of Hate Crime, the law currently recognises just five protected characteristics:

- race
- religion
- sexual orientation
- disability
- transgender status

However, we aim to tackle all hate, regardless of criminal act or protected characteristic. We aim to protect and support victims of prejudice.

2.2 Last year Birmingham Community Safety Partnership established a *Tackling Hate; Taking Action* partnership, with representation from a wide range of organisations and communities, including education and youth providers. We now have over 100 partners contributing to this agenda. We have identified numerous partner interventions and we are addressing gaps. One of our key deliverables is around young people and education. This was the topic of our last meeting in June 2021; we provided an overview of interventions currently being delivered in schools and welcomed feedback.

2.3 Hate is often influenced by National and International events. For example, we remain cognisant around the Black Lives Matter (BLM) and MeToo campaigns, events in Palestine and recent social media posts relating to Afghanistan and refugees amongst many others. Those delivering our education and youth services programmes constantly adapt to these emerging concerns, and the current views of pupils help shape each cycle of activity.

3. Hate Crime & Young People – Key Delivery

3.1 Birmingham Community Safety Partnership's *Tackling Hate; Taking Action* Strategy & Delivery Plan 2020-2024 (Appendix 1) includes this outcome: "Young people are provided with the resources to identify hate crime and challenge the beliefs that can lead to it". Our delivery:

- Using sport/sports clubs and associated social media to connect with young people on hate crime. Counter Extremism delivered sessions with Erdington Rugby Football Club as a result of our Hate Crime Partners' meeting. Also engaging with Aston Villa and Birmingham City Football Clubs to deliver hate crime sessions, especially to their youth groups.
- "Stand By Me" – workshops by West Midlands Police around peer support.
- A number of educational resources via theatre productions, such a Yizkor (to share stories of the Holocaust), and 'Spots and Stripes', as well as partners, such as the Core Education Trust, Anne Frank Trust and the charity Remembering Srebrenica - to safeguard children and young people from being drawn into divisive narrative.
- Birmingham Schools offer: CORE Education Trust's Echo Eternal is a commemorative arts engagement programme inspired by Holocaust survivor testimony to promote respect and understanding between different communities. We also offer The UNICEF UK Rights Respecting Schools Award embeds children's human rights in their ethos and culture. It puts the UN Convention on the Right of the Child (CRC) at the heart of the school. The Award is based on principles of equality, dignity, respect, non-discrimination and participation.
- Ad hoc Young people's sessions to Primary and Secondary Schools – as a response to incidents.

3.2 We are now setting out to deliver on race equality within a wider curriculum context, provide training and support for schools to understand the social constructs of race, understanding the differences between individual bias, structural and systemic racism and privilege and to develop an integrated curriculum offer.

3.3 The Community Safety Team led a robust response to the school protests around LGBT educational resources. We gained an Injunction prohibiting protests directly outside a particular school. Our wider Team provided mediation to the schools and parents in order to address misinformation, identify solutions and to promote a strong sense of tolerance, at least, for difference.

3.4 Birmingham Youth Service engage with and support young people with issues affecting their daily lives – these include BLM, racism and perceived links and the way young black people are treated with regards to youth violence. Examples of these include:

- The Youth City Board are leading on engaging young people and sharing those views with other professionals (EmpowerU, IAG, Birmingham Community Safety Partnership).
- Concord Youth Centre in Sparkbrook are piloting a Podcast Project where young people express their views around topics that are important and relevant to them.
- Developed an app where young people's views can be captured on any issues.
- Every youth centre runs a programme/project around anti-oppressive behaviour – this could be about racism, black life matters, challenging misogyny and positive masculinity.

4. Background - Youth Crime & Knife Crime

- 4.1 The West Midlands experienced a level of violence in line with the national trend. Knife crime rose nationally from 1,558 incidents in 2014/15, to more than 3,400 in 2019/2020.
- 4.2 The Government responded with a Serious Violence Strategy. The West Midlands Violence Reduction Unit (WMVRU) was one of 18 Units established. It partners with public health, criminal justice, sports, education, policing and others, delivering a public health approach to violence reduction.
- 4.3 In April 2021 the WMVRU published its Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA) with a focus on serious youth violence, violence against the person and knife crime. The SNA reflects the WMVRU understanding that prevention and early intervention are a more effective means of tackling violence. This means not just looking at data about violence but looking at the risk factors too - the early indicators that increase the likelihood that people may become involved with violence in the future. <https://westmidlands-vru.org/data-insights/strategic-needs-assessment/>
- 4.4 The Birmingham Community Safety Partnership established a Strategic Gangs, Violence and Serious Organised Crime Board, which is a multi-agency partnership working on critical areas of business to put in place interventions to disrupt gangs, serious violence and organised criminality, as well as identifying measures to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

5. Youth Crime & Knife Crime – Key Delivery

5.1 Key deliverables tackling Serious Violence and Exploitation in Birmingham:

- Collaborative multi agency partnership working
- Identification of and services for children vulnerable to exploitation
- Children Act requirements (duty)
- Preventative work/awareness raising
- Intervention /Victim support
- Disruption of perpetrators
- Vulnerable Adults Team
- Early Help Teams

5.2 The Strategic Gangs, Violence and Serious Organised Crime Board helps identify interventions. One example is the VRU place-based pilot programmes in the key impact areas of Lozells and Three Estates. Activity includes: Detached youth work; Intensive projects working with vulnerable young people; Trauma informed workshops for young people and families; Increased safe spaces for young people to take part in activity; Delivery of a Say No to Violence Campaign event, Promotion of the Eyes Open campaign to raise awareness of serious and organised crime within the community; Delivery of Trauma informed training in early years and school settings; Development of a consolidated local directory of youth provision.

5.3 Some Key Highlights from the Place-Based Pilots in Lozells:

- A local stakeholder network was launched in October 2020 to focus on violence prevention and reduction. There are over 20 members of the network currently. The network meets monthly
- Detached youth workers have engaged with 385 young people
- Before the pandemic up to 50 young people a week were engaging with the new sports activities

- Early years settings have received trauma informed practice training
- 20 staff in youth service settings and 8 community champions received training in County Lines, trauma, exploitation and contextual safeguarding
- 60 people attended sessions to raise awareness of the issues affecting local young people

5.4 Some Key Highlights from the Place-Based Pilots in Three Estates:

- A local stakeholder network has been operational since December 2019, takes place fortnightly and currently has 16 members
- 870 households across Three Estates were invited to community events, 120 attended before the pandemic
- 91 young people attended a new school holiday program in the area
- Trauma informed practice workshops have taken place involving local police, fire service and youth services
- Contact made 651 times with young people through detached youth work since September 2020.

5.5 Other VRU / Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner include - Precious Lives Programme in schools around the consequences of carrying and /or using a knife ; #lifeorknife campaign - encouraging children to talk about knife crime with parents, teachers and peers ; Weapon Surrender Bins across the city; WMVRU Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP); Redthread based in A&E departments to engage with young people who are knife/violence victims at a point of strong influence.

5.6 Another positive example of partnership working is the contextual safeguarding hub; “EMPOWER U”, which tackles exploitation amongst young people.

- This is a Multi-agency team co located within the front door to children's services
- Has a Focus on exploitation – criminal and sexual
- Seeks to connect services for Children Missing from home and care
- Provides a mechanism for Intelligence and Information sharing
- Facilitates Disruption planning
- Undertakes Mapping
- Supports partnership work at a local and regional level

Appendix:

1. BCSP Hate Strategy & Delivery Plan 2020-2024 V5

BIRMINGHAM COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

TACKLING HATE: TAKING ACTION 2021-2025

INTRODUCTION

As partners, we seek to address hate. This includes definitions of **hate crime**, **hate incidents** and **hate motivation**. We aim to protect and support victims who feel they, or someone else, have been targeted because of prejudice. This is prejudice against a particular group of people, of which the perpetrator appears to think the victim is a member of, represents or with whom they are assumed to affiliate.

Definitions of hate crime, hate motivation and hate incidents are in Appendix A. Colloquially, these terms are often used interchangeably or under the banner of “hate crime”. We will remove confusion by providing appropriate pathways, signposting and support to those experiencing hate, regardless of the legal definitions, whilst concentrating our efforts towards the greatest need. We will simplify reporting routes and mechanisms.

This Hate Crime Action Plan has been created following the coming together of 50 partners on 04 September 2020. The views of, and action already being taken by, participants proved invaluable in helping us focus our delivery as a wider partnership. This action plan replaces a previous version created by the City’s former Hate Crime Reduction Partnership in March 2017.

OUR VISION

“Birmingham will be a place where people live free of hate and we embrace the rich diversity of the city. Birmingham will be a place where we get it right first time. Our hate reporting mechanisms are simple, accessible and appropriate. Victims are satisfied with the outcome of the service they receive and the support they are given.”

OUR MISSION

“As a group of partners in Birmingham, we seek to prevent hateful events and to protect and support victims of hate. We will address hate crime, hate incidents and hate motivation, whilst continuing our focused engagement around the five protected characteristics.”

For the purposes of Hate Crime, the law currently recognises five protected characteristics:

- race
- religion
- sexual orientation

- disability
- transgender status

OUR OBJECTIVES

This plan is focused around five key objectives, mirroring those outlined by Government in *Action against Hate: the UK government's plan for tackling hate crime* (2016 and 2018):

1. PREVENT Preventing hate crime by challenging beliefs and attitudes;
2. RESPOND Responding to hate crime within our communities;
3. REPORT Increasing the reporting of hate crime;
4. SUPPORT Improving support for victims of hate crime; and
5. UNDERSTAND Building our understanding of hate crime.

DELIVERY AND MONITORING

This plan will be supplemented with a living document. It outlines partner activity now and for the future. It is envisaged it will be regularly discussed with wider partners and amended to reflect new activities, concerns, and ambitions.

FIRST PARTNERS

Our initial meeting on 04 September 2020 was attended by over 50 people representing the following organisations. We are keen to widen involvement:

- Birmingham City Council (Chair, Cllr John Cotton) including:
 - Birmingham Community Safety Partnership*
 - Counter-Extremism*
 - Prevent (Preventing Violent Extremism)*
 - Adult Commissioning*
 - Housing Management*
 - Birmingham Adults Safeguarding Board*
 - Adult Social Care*
- West Midlands Police
- Birmingham Social Housing Partnership (BSHP)
- Romani Uniti din Anglia (R.U.D.A.)
- Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid
- Aston Villa Football Club
- Spring Housing Association
- Sign Solutions
- Church Without Walls
- Refugee Action
- West Midlands Anti-Slavery Network
- DWP
- The Big Issue Foundation



- Citizens UK
- Sandwell Council
- School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Birmingham
- Sandwell Deaf Community Association
- Migration Policy and Practice
- Erdington Rugby Football Club ERFC(CLTR)
- Birmingham LGBT Centre
- Remedi
- Birmingham Social Housing Partnership (BSHP)
- WM Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner

GOVERNANCE

Partners will meet quarterly to review delivery and to refine this plan. This meeting will be hosted and supported by the Birmingham Community Safety Partnership (BCSP) under the BCSP Chair, Councillor John Cotton.

OUR ACTION PLAN

1. PREVENT Preventing hate by challenging beliefs and attitudes			
Outcome	Action	Lead Partner(s)	Timescales
Build understanding and resilience in our communities	Housing Managers to review the Wards with highest occurrence and work with our engagement arm, as well as partners, to work on communications/education	Birmingham City Council (Housing)	October 2020
	Develop funding capacity under the Building a Stronger Britain Together (BSBT) programme and the Places of Worship (POW) of funding to tackle division, hatred and religious hate crime. This will be achieved by making partners aware of BSBT and POW training on funding to strengthen our response to hateful extremism.	Birmingham City Council (Counter-Extremism)	Beginning Hate Crime Awareness Week October 2020 – then onwards
	Build resilience in communities by providing counter narratives and promoting messages of community cohesion, respect and tolerance of differences within the diverse communities in Birmingham and surrounding areas via conferences and workshops.		



	Develop a robust outreach and training service that raises awareness about Hate Crime when linked to extremism (notably focusing on religious hate crime (Islamophobia and anti-Semitism, as well as misogyny). Targeting of outreach work in Hate Crime hotspot areas?	Victim Support - training Remedi/PCC - outreach WMP SBMUK	Apr-Sept 2021 and ongoing
	Building an understanding of how social media platforms can be used to spread divisive and hateful narratives. Thereby encourage responsible use of social media	BCC and WMP All	Ongoing
	Encourage peer ambassadors and sharing victim stories to help people understand the impact of hate crime	WMP (Videos)	2022
	Holocaust Memorial Day, Srebrenica genocide and linked activities Throughout the year interfaith conversations are held with colleagues from religious groups, allowing strengthened conversations and ensuring all communities are represented.	All	Ongoing
	We will utilise aggregated data on Islamophobic and anti-Semitic hate crimes to engage across Mosques, synagogues and religious organisations and communities to increase confidence and awareness of reporting. Birmingham city council adopts the below definition of anti-Semitism as set out by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, adding the definition to the council's Equality Objectives. "Anti-Semitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of anti-Semitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities." The Council adopts the All-Party Parliamentary Group definition of Islamophobia:	BCC (Counter-Extremism)	Early 2021



	<p>Islamophobia is rooted in racism and is a type of racism that targets expressions of Muslimness or perceived Muslimness. Promote positive narratives around all protected characteristics.</p>		
<p>Young people are provided with the resources to identify hate crime and challenge the beliefs that can lead to it</p>	<p>Using sport/sports clubs and associated social media to connect with young people on hate crime</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Counter Extremism liaising with Erdington Rugby Football Club to deliver sessions as a result of the Hate Crime Partners meeting 	<p>Birmingham City Council (Counter-Extremism) Erdington Rugby Football Club</p>	<p>Late 2020</p>
	<p>Engage with Aston Villa and Birmingham City Football Clubs to deliver hate crime sessions, especially to their youth groups.</p>	<p>Birmingham City Council (Counter-Extremism)</p>	<p>Early 2021</p>
	<p>Deliver “Stand By Me” – workshops by WMP on peer support</p>	<p>West Midlands Police Birmingham City Council (Counter-Extremism)</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
	<p>Following the delivery of a number of educational resources delivered via theatre productions, such as Yizkor (to share stories of the Holocaust), and ‘Spots and Stripes’, as well as partners, such as the Core Education Trust, Anne Frank Trust and the charity Remembering Srebrenica - to safeguard children and young people from being drawn into divisive narrative, we will continue to work with education services and other agencies with key safeguarding responsibilities to consider what additional support might be required to strengthen the education response to hateful extremism.</p>	<p>Birmingham City Council (Counter-Extremism)</p>	<p>Ongoing and responsive</p>



	<p>We are now setting out to deliver on race equality within a wider curriculum context, provide training and support for schools to understand the social constructs of race, understanding the differences between individual bias, structural and systemic racism and privilege and to develop an integrated curriculum offer.</p>	<p>Birmingham City Council (Education)</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
	<p>Delivery in Birmingham Schools: CORE Education Trust's Echo Eternal is a commemorative arts engagement programme inspired by Holocaust survivor testimony to promote respect and understanding between different communities.</p>	<p>Birmingham Schools BCC (Education)</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
	<p>Delivery of Young people's sessions: Primary and Secondary School Areas covered in schools session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is Hate crime? • 5 protected characteristics • Who can be a victim • Impact of hate crime • How to access support. 	<p>BCC (Counter-Extremism)</p>	<p>Early 2021</p>
	<p>Delivery in Birmingham Schools: The UNICEF UK Rights Respecting Schools Award to embed children's human rights in their ethos and culture. The Award recognises achievement in putting the UN Convention on the Right of the Child (CRC) at the heart of a school's practice to improve wellbeing and help all children and young people realise their potential. The Award is based on principles of equality, dignity, respect, non-discrimination and participation.</p>	<p>Birmingham Schools BCC (Education)</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
	<p>The Community Safety Team leads a robust response to the school protests around LGBT educational resources. We successfully gained an Injunction prohibiting protests directly outside the school. Our wider Team provided mediation to the schools and parents in order to address misinformation, identify solutions and to promote a strong sense of tolerance, at least, for difference.</p>	<p>Birmingham Community Safety Partnership/Education Advisor</p>	<p>2020 and ongoing response</p>



	<p>Engage and support young people around issues that affect their daily lives – these include BLM, racism and in particular the perceived links and the way young black people are treated in with regards to youth violence.</p> <p>Examples of these include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Youth City Board are leading on in engaging young people and sharing those views with other professionals (EmpowerU, IAG, Community Safety). ○ Concord Youth Centre in Sparkbrook are piloting a Podcast Project where young people express their views around topics that are important and relevant to them ○ Developed an app where young people’s views can be captured on any issues. ○ Every youth centre runs a programme/project around anti-oppressive behaviour – this could be about racism, black life matters, challenging misogyny and positive masculinity 	Birmingham Youth Service	2021 and ongoing
2. RESPOND Responding to hate within our communities			
Outcome	Action	Lead Partner(s)	Timescales
Policy and procedure is fit for purpose and action is taken in response to individual reports. Ensure feedback forms part of this.	Ensure policy and procedure is fit for purpose and encourages officers to take legal action where appropriate evidence is available. Share any positive examples with the ASB Focus Group	Birmingham City Council (Housing)	2021 and ongoing
	Each individual area to run fortnightly collective review of live Hate Crime cases		2021 and ongoing
	Enable ASB Focus Group to review on regular basis and adopt continuous improvement (incl. monthly report)		2021 and ongoing



	Share best practice with other Housing Providers	Birmingham City Council (Housing) & BSHP	2021 and ongoing
	Toolkit to help organisations navigate a best practice response (pathways)	BCC/All	2022
	Respond to emerging trends which may lead to a rise in Hate Crime. E.g. Covid, BLM, Brexit, terrorist offences. Hate crime support to form part of our response to local, national and global threats. Threats: Brexit: a renewed challenge we need to be mindful of in framing our responses and actions.	All	Ongoing
	Police & School Panels liaison around issues including Hate Crime	West Midlands Police	Ongoing
	Birmingham Community Safety Partnership (BCSP) Local Partnership Delivery Groups (LPDG) to review and tackle incidences of Hate Crime in their areas as standing agenda items.	Birmingham Community Safety Partnership	2021 and ongoing
Frontline officers are equipped with an understanding and the tools to respond effectively to potential reports of hate crime, incidents and motivation	Victim Support providing FREE training to any groups in Birmingham including staff (Lottery Funded)	Victim Support	Pre-October 2021
	Birmingham Housing Teams: Ensure all officers (incl. Contact Centre staff) understand the definition of Hate Crime.	Birmingham City Council (Housing)/Victim Support	2021
	Victim Support: Provide training input to BCC Housing Officers regarding Hate Crime and protected characteristics		
	Identify Hate Crime champions locally to monitor situation	Birmingham City Council (Housing)	2021 and ongoing
	Safeguarding Adults Board: working with MENCAP on hate crime awareness raising.	Safeguarding Adults Board/MENCAP	2021
	Directory of Services supporting victims of hate	Partners/The Waiting Room	2022
Perpetrators understand their behaviour is not acceptable and are tackled effectively	Work with Crown Prosecution Service to understand how we may better support criminal justice	Crown Prosecution Service	2021
	Explore how we may use civil orders to deal with perpetrators when criminal justice is not an option	Birmingham City Council - BCSP	Ongoing



	Identify best practice examples of dealing with individuals and groups of extremists by effectively tackling their views	Birmingham City Council - Counter-Extremism	Ongoing
--	--	---	---------

3. REPORT Increasing the reporting of hate

Outcome	Action	Lead Partner(s)	Timescales
Existing Hate Crime Reporting Centres are nurtured and increase in number. Utilise existing buildings/services which already serve communities from the five protected characteristics. Reporting is easily accessed and continuing training/support is provided to their frontline staff.	Hate Crime Reporting Centres: Map and promote (The Waiting Room/WMP/TrueVision/Chinese Community Centre/LGBT+ centre)	BCSP	2021 and ongoing
	Build strong reporting mechanisms that encourage reporting of hate crime by signposting and sharing partner information and details of third-party reporting centres	Birmingham City Council (Counter-Extremism)	
	Training being provided to Chinese Community Centre as a hate crime reporting centre (Victim Support)	Victim Support	November 2020
	Identify areas where there is particular under-reporting: Eastern European communities, Chinese Community and increase engagement with/number of reporting centres.	All	
	Increase accessibility: Materials and reporting mechanisms in community languages. Organisations, e.g. Chinese Community Centre willing to assist in translating materials	Remedi/PCC	2021
	Encourage businesses associated with communities from the protected characteristics to become hate crime reporting centres. Provide them with appropriate guidance, training and support to do this.	Partners	
	Increase the number of Hate Crime reporting centres by encouraging/training/supporting existing community/cultural centres/asylum	Remedi/PCC	2021



	centres/schools/places of worship/etc to adopt this. Ensure hate crime reporting centres are representative of the protected characteristics. Look at the gaps/support/advice around reporting centres – some report on behalf of the victim, some encourage direct reporting.	BSAB/WMP/All	2021/22
	Communications – Change any perceptions that nothing happens when hate crime is reported. Safeguarding Adults Board and others will promote on web and social media platforms. Campaign that hate and abuse are not part of normal daily life but unacceptable. Awareness raising to those in protected characteristics is key, especially reporting mechanisms.		
Wider access to the reporting of hate crime, hate incidents and hate motivated events is improved and simplified whilst retaining the emphasis around the five protected characteristics.	Create videos of different victims/examples and their experiences in reporting hate – people don't know what is going to happen to them as a result of reporting.	Partners/WMP	2022
	Put resources into libraries and other public facing outlets.	Partners	TBC
	Peer review of WMP on-line reporting – website and app. Share App in community languages. Using pictorial signposting to make things easy to understand. Provide links and advice for wider signposting if the event if the legal classification is outside "hate crime".	WMP and All?	2022
	Work with Night Time Economy door staff, bar staff, taxis to encourage reporting/challenge. Help businesses develop their own policies and practices around Hate Crime.	Partners	2021 and ongoing
	<i>At point of contact</i> we will move away from legal definitions of hate crime to something more victim-centred and victim-defined and provide a supportive collective response to all "hate crime/incident/motivation" reports. It will be the responsibility of WMP and other agencies to categorise a hate "crime", "incident" or "motivation", not victims and witnesses, and signpost accordingly. This will not detract from our emphasis to	West Midlands Police/BCC/ALL	2022



	increase reporting for the five protected characteristics and our targeted promotion and engagement around these definitions will increase.		
--	---	--	--

4. SUPPORT Improving support for victims of hate

Outcome	Action	Lead Partner(s)	Timescales
There is appropriate support and signposting in the workplace for potential victims of hate.	Hate Crime in the workplace; our responsibilities as employers, trade unions and the labour market in general. Links also with the Equality Act. Support businesses/organisations to develop their own policies and practices around hate crime. Develop common principles for each organisation to adopt/adapt.	Partners/All	Ongoing
Wider groups are assisted to consider issues relevant to hate incidents and hate crime	Representation across the protected characteristics/communities on governance and scrutiny groups	BCC/WMP/Public Sector?	Ongoing
All victims of hate are supported	Evaluate the victim journey when reporting a hate crime or hate incident. Identify further support if required. Establish pathways to this support. Provide Service Level Agreements so each agency is clear of their role and that of other agencies.	Partners/WMP	2022
	Identify channels of support where the hate event sits outside the five protected characteristics. Establish pathways to this support. Provide Service Level Agreements so each agency is clear of their role and that of other agencies.	Partners/BCSP	2022

5. UNDERSTAND Building our understanding of hate

Outcome	Action	Lead Partner(s)	Timescales
---------	--------	-----------------	------------



Our recording of hate crime, incidents and motivation is fit for purpose	Birmingham Housing Team: provide a breakdown types of Hate Crime for reporting purposes	Birmingham City Council (Housing)	2020 and ongoing
	Police to systematically record nationalities so hate crime against all groups is identified (NC: Is this relevant? Can it be done re protected characteristics?)	WMP	Check
	WMP and other agencies to record and analyse hate incidents against women/gender and "other" (e.g. age, non-belief, alternative sub-cultures).	WMP	Late 2021/2022
We interpret and analyse our shared data to inform trends, hotspots and our response	Hate Crime Intelligence document to be prepared and updated.	Birmingham Community Safety Partnership/WMP	September 2020
Upcoming threats around hate crime are predicted	Predict emerging trends which may lead to a rise in Hate Crime. E.g. Covid, BLM, Brexit, terrorist offences.	WMP/BCSP/All	Ongoing
We respond quickly to emerging threats around hate crime	Work closely with internal BCC departments (Birmingham Community Safety Partnership, Housing) to ensure hate crime community tensions are monitored and victims and communities supported.	BCSP	Ongoing
Barriers to hate crime reporting are removed	Develop a greater understanding of barriers to hate crime reporting and for different groups of people, e.g. country of origin, ethnicity, transgender, age groups.	Remedi/PCC	2021 and ongoing
Good Practice: Learning from, sharing and implementing	Continue to link in with WM OPCC around Hate Crime. Learn from the Hate Crime reporting centre pilot. Share best practice from across WM and elsewhere; national and international.	Partners	Ongoing



Funding for projects is maximised	Utilise partnership structures to inform, and take advantage of upcoming funding opportunities and lobby for such.	Partners	2020 and ongoing
We share our knowledge and resources. We influence at a national level	Develop robust partnership with central Government (Home Office Hate Crime Team, MCHLG, EAU) and local partners via the police partnership meetings, CPS scrutiny panels, and civic society groups to better understand risks, vulnerabilities and criminal Justice responses to hateful extremism.	Birmingham City Council (Counter-Extremism)	Ongoing
The city has the best possible infrastructure in place to ensure partners can collaborate on tackling hate crime	Quarterly meeting of partners to work together on hate crime. Facilitated by Birmingham Community Safety Partnership; Victims & Vulnerability Theme. Ensure Hate Crime is a priority in the BCSP Strategy.	Birmingham Community Safety Partnership	2020 and ongoing
	Encourage representation from partners contributing to this plan is widened. Ensure participation is as inclusive and effective.	BCSP/All	2020 and ongoing

APPENDIX A

DEFINITIONS

HATE CRIME

“Hate Crime” per se has a strict definition: 'Any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice based on a person's race or perceived race; religion or perceived religion; sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation; disability or perceived disability and any crime motivated by hostility or prejudice against a person who is transgender or perceived to be transgender.'

The law currently recognises **five protected characteristics**:

- **race**
- **religion**
- **sexual orientation**
- **disability**
- **transgender status**

A typical crime may include:

Harassment; Graffiti Damage to property; Assault; Verbal Abuse; Bullying; Threats; Offensive Mail, Literature or Phone Calls; Nuisance and Disturbances, incitement to hatred.

These can all be crimes regardless of the motivation. However, if they are identified as a Hate Crime then this can attract stronger criminal justice, such as an uplift in sentencing. Monitoring hate crime also helps inform trends in offending and threats.

Examples of Hate Crime:

- A man leaving a bar in Southside is assaulted by a group of males causing cuts and bruises. The man feels he was targeted for being gay and for being in this specific area. (Whether the man is gay or not is irrelevant to the definition of hate crime).
- An Asian family living on an estate have their house burgled and the words 'Go back to your own country' sprayed on the walls.

HATE INCIDENT

A hate incident is any non-crime incident which is perceived, by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice towards one of the **five protected characteristics**. Examples of hate incidents:

- A wheelchair user is refused entry into a night club.
- A laundrette refuses to let a member of the gypsy travelling community use their facilities.
- Sale of memorabilia in shops such as golliwogs.
- A Muslim woman wearing a veil asked to remove her veil when entering a shop.

These are not criminal offences as no crime has been committed. These are hate incidents. These are hate incidents as one or more of the protected characteristics was involved.

HATE MOTIVATION

If a crime or incident motivated by hate does not fall into one of the five protected characteristics, it is not classed as a hate crime but as hate motivation. A hate motivated crime or hate motivated incident may be directed at a person for a number of other reasons e.g. age, gender, subculture, street community and so forth.

Examples of hate motivation

- A young male has his car vandalised by a group because he is perceived to be an "emo" or a "goth".
- A perpetrator carries out a series of knife attacks. All his victims are women.
- Jess Phillips MP receives 600 online "rape threats" in one evening



**BIRMINGHAM COMMUNITY
SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A SAFER CITY

- Islamophobic slurs such as “Muslim bitch,” and “Muslim whore” (where the religion *is* a protected characteristic but not the gender)
- Terms used such as “slut”, “bitch” or “slag”
- Anti-social behaviour directed towards an older person because of their perceived vulnerability
- A rough sleeper experiencing verbal or physical harassment because of their rough sleeping status

The Law Commission are calling for other protected characteristics, such as gender, along with a number of other reforms.

The Home Office definitions of Hate Crime, Hate Incidents and Hate Motivation can be accessed here:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/927673/2016_Hate_Crime_Action_Plan.pdf