

01 What is hate crime/a hate incident?

Hate incident is defined as; Any incident, which does not constitute a criminal offence, which is perceived by the victim or any other person, as being motivated by prejudice or hostility

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Hate incidents and crimes hurt and can be very frightening for the person subjected to them. They directly strike at who a person is, their community and their way of life and can be committed against a person or a property.

People have often suffered abuse and hostility all their lives, just because of who they are. A frequent way of managing this is 'self-editing' where they hide their true self from others in daily life to avoid any conflict.

07 What to do

Positive action to make the behaviour STOP and victim care/support is vital. There are various ways to report hate crimes and incidents: In an emergency always call 999. For all other reports please call 101. Lancashire Constabulary Website lancashire.police.uk



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Incidents and crimes that are targeted at a person because of hostility or prejudice towards their disability, race/ethnicity, religion/belief, sexual orientation or transgender identity are classified as hate incidents or crimes. Hate incidents and crimes are being committed every day across all areas and yet research tells us that over 60% are never reported to the Police.

06 Guidance

DO – take all reports of hate incidents seriously. The victim impact will be significant even though the incident may appear minor.

DO – take positive action to make the offending behaviour STOP. It doesn't only have to be the victim that reports hate crimes/ incidents. If YOU witness it YOU can report it too.

DON'T – assume it is someone else's problem. We ALL have a responsibility to fight hate incidents/crime.

05 Did you know?

Approximately 1.5 million people live in Lancashire.

The national LGBT population is estimated at 5%.

The national disability is estimated at population 11%.

107,368 crimes were recorded in the last 12 months.

Less than 1% (1042) of the total crimes were recorded as hate crimes.

The CPS has over an 80% successful conviction rate at court for hate crime in Lancashire.

04 Our duty

It is essential that we all understand that victims of hate incidents or crimes have often experienced this hostility and behaviour for long periods and disclosing incidents or contacting the police is a significant step for them due to fears of recrimination and them not being taken seriously. Hate Incidents and Crimes if not dealt with appropriately have the potential to rapidly escalate for both for the victim and the community.