

## Useful contacts

To report a hate crime or hate incident contact:

- Durham Police on 101, Textphone 18001 101
- In an emergency 999
- Call in to a local police station
- Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. All calls are free and confidential.
- Online via True Vision website [www.report-it.org.uk](http://www.report-it.org.uk)



To speak to someone anonymously and in confidence for advice and support without reporting the incident contact:

- A Community cohesion Officer on 101
- Citizens Advice Bureau [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk) 08444 111 444
- Victim Support [www.victimsupport.org.uk](http://www.victimsupport.org.uk) 0845 30 30 900
- Equality and Human Rights Commission [www.equalityhumanrights.com](http://www.equalityhumanrights.com) 0845 604 6610
- Social Care Direct [www.durham.gov.uk/hatecrime](http://www.durham.gov.uk/hatecrime) 0845 8 50 50 10

Please ask us if you would like this document summarised in another language or format.

العربية (Arabic) (中文 (繁體字)) (Chinese) اردو (Urdu)  
polski (Polish) ਪੰਜਾਬੀ (Punjabi) Español (Spanish)  
বাংলা (Bengali) हिन्दी (Hindi) Deutsch (German)  
Français (French) Türkçe (Turkish) Melayu (Malay)

[safer.communities@durham.gov.uk](mailto:safer.communities@durham.gov.uk)  
0300 261 381



# The Safe Durham Partnership

## *Altogether safer*

### Targeting people because of their:

- Race, ethnic origin, nationality
- Religion
- Sexual orientation
- Disability
- Gender identity

## Hate crime Information and advice

Altogether  
**safer**

## **We will not tolerate hate crimes or hate incidents within our communities. This leaflet gives information on hate crimes and hate incidents and explains how to report them and where to go for help and support.**

### **What is a hate crime?**

A **hate crime** is a criminal offence where the victim is targeted because of their race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, disability or gender identity.

**Hate incidents** do not constitute a criminal offence but cause alarm, distress or harassment and often escalate to become more and more serious.

Hate crimes and hate incidents can be committed against a person or property and can include:

- Harassment
- Bullying
- Threats
- Verbal abuse
- Physical violence and assault
- Financial abuse - someone taking your money
- Malicious communications - offensive mail, texts or emails
- Offensive or dangerous substances posted through the letterbox
- Graffiti
- Arson

### **Disability related harassment**

Research shows that disabled people are at specific risk of hate crimes and hate incidents.

If you know of someone suffering harassment who has a physical disability, a learning disability, mental health problems or an older person who needs extra support, you must report what you know and identify that a vulnerable person is involved.

**The worst thing you can do is do nothing.**



### **Reporting a hate crime**

If you have been a victim or have witnessed a hate crime or hate incident it is important that you report it however small it may appear to you.

You can report it to the police or other agencies. Help and support is available even if you choose not to report the hate crime or hate incident directly.

See Useful Contacts section on the back of this leaflet.

**In an emergency call 999.**



### **Why report it?**

- Everyone has the right to live free from fear of harassment – we need to bring to justice people who attack that right
- The nature and frequency of hate incidents often gets worse over a period of time - by reporting them action can be taken to prevent this happening
- We need to know how many hate crimes are taking place so that we can respond to them effectively

### **What are we doing to eliminate hate crime?**

We want our communities to be places that are fair and tolerant with a strong local culture where everyone can feel safe. Everyone has a right to live their life without fear, we all have a responsibility to report hate crimes or hate incidents wherever we see them.

We are working hard to:

- Make it easier to report hate crimes and hate incidents
- Make sure victims of hate crimes and hate incidents receive the best possible support
- Make sure all partner agencies respond effectively to hate crimes and hate incidents

Effective responses to hate crimes and hate incidents will help our aim of preventing such incidents from taking place.

