

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
PEOPLE IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

18 MAY 2016

Report of the Chair of People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee

HATE CRIME: UPDATE ON PROGRESS

1. Purpose of the report

To update the Committee on the progress of the working group's review of Hate Crime.

2. Information

The review of how the authority is working to deter Hate Crime was agreed by the Committee on 23 November 2015 and it to be undertaking by a working group.

The working group has met with senior managers at the Council to discuss the hate Crime strategy and action plan, which has highlighted a great deal of activity and partnership working. An Employee Panel event was held on 25 February to understand employee's perceptions and experiences of Hate Crime. A further event is being held in June with representatives of the Employee Networks at the authority. This has complemented the in depth research conducted by the Leicester Hate Crime project.

The working group has also received briefings from partner agencies such as Stop Hate UK and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Derby Homes, CCG's, Citizen's Advice and the Crime Prosecution Service. In addition, representatives from groups and organisations including the Learning Disabilities Partnership Board, Reps on Board, Derbyshire LGBT+ the Gypsy Liaison Group and the BME Forum have or will meet and provide evidence to the working group.

3. Lines of inquiry (LOI)

A bullet point list of the individual lines of inquiry are summarised below:

LOI 1: To understand people's perceptions of what a Hate Crime or incident is

- Briefing from the research from the Leicester Hate Crime project presented to Members.
- Research provides good source of data for perception levels of hate crime. No further public consultation needed.
- Employee Panel event held to understand perceptions of hate crime of DCC front line staff. Initial feedback showed mixed awareness. Full write up to be included as part of the final review report.
- A further session with the Employee Networks (LGBT/BME/Disability/Women) will be held on the 3 June.
- A focus group with representatives from the Learning Disabilities Partnership Board is being arranged for May/June.
- Attendance to BME forum on 17 May to capture views and experiences of hate crime. This will include the Gypsy Liaison Forum (although separate contact has been made too).

LOI 2/3: To understand people's perceptions of any barriers / how to report a Hate Crime or incident

- Briefing from the research from the Leicester Hate Crime project presented to Members.
- Research provides good source of data for barriers to reporting.
- Stop Hate UK attended January working group meeting to brief on their service.
- Safe Places and reporting centre information presented to Members and how Members can participate in the scheme and promote it in their electoral division.
- Employee Panel event held to understand barriers to reporting of hate crime. Initial feedback showed some understanding of how to report. Barriers to reporting were discussed and will be part of the full write up to be included as part of the final review report. A further session with the Employee Networks (LGBT/BME/Disability/Women) will be held on the 3 June.

LOI 4: To understand the value victims put on the service being provided by victim support services

- OPCC briefed Members on how the PCC's office will commission victim services for Hate Crime.
- Members were briefed by representative from Derby Homes on their work on Hate Crime in April.

LOI 5: To understand how the authority is working with partners on the Partnership Hate Crime Strategy and action plan

- Members have been briefed on the Hate Crime strategy and action plan and have been sent the Communications Strategy and Action Plan.
- Members to be circulated the Hate Crime Steering group in 2016 meeting notes and actions.
- Officer visited to the East Midlands CPS Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel in Jan 2016 to understand their role. Further involvement to be discussed with Members at working group in March.
- Working group members were briefed in March by Derbyshire LGBT+ on their work in hate crime and capture views and experiences of people in regard hate crime.
- Working group members were briefed in April by the Citizens Advice Bureau on how they support witnesses in the prosecution of hate crimes.
- Working group members were briefed in May by the Clinical Commissioning Groups on their work in hate crime.
- Working group members were briefed in May by the McIntyre Group / Reps on Board on their work in hate crime.
- Working group members will be briefed in June by the Police on their work in hate crime.

4. Considerations (to be specified individually where appropriate)

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: financial, legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

5. Recommendation

That the Committee notes the progress made in the review of Hate Crime.

Councillor Diane Charles

Chair of the Improvement and Scrutiny Committee – People