

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

**6 JULY 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. Two consultations have been conducted with employees, from both the Network and respective Panels (LGBT, BME, Disabled and Women).

The working group has also received briefings from numerous partner agencies and Members attended the recent 'Derby and Derbyshire Tackling Hate Crime Together' event in Derby.

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.

It is anticipated that a final review report will be brought to the Committee in September for their consideration.

**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 held with the Employee Networks – LGBT/BME/Disability/Women was held in June.
- Attendance at the Learning Disability Partnership Board being arranged for July.
- Attendance at the BME forum in May captured views and experiences of hate crime.

**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. A further update was presented in June.
- 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 was held with the Employee Networks – LGBT/BME/Disability/Women in 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 to be 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 were briefed in June by the Police on their work in hate crime.
- Attendance at the 'Derby and Derbyshire Tackling Hate Crime Together' event in June. This highlighted how partners are working together to tackle 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**