



## **Police, Fire and Crime Panel - Hate Crime, Backward and Forward Look**

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# Overview

Hate crime can be defined as *‘any criminal offences perceived, by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice, towards someone based on a personal characteristic’.*

Hate events performance indicators	Previous month	Latest month	Previous 12 months	Latest 12 months	Change
<b>Non-crime hate incidents</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>926</b>	<b>786</b>	<b>-15.1%</b>
<b>Recorded crimes</b>	1,140	1,028	10,527	12,934	22.9%
- Disability	104	92	962	1,243	29.2%
- Race	816	714	7,680	9,198	19.8%
- Religion	55	61	847	1,024	20.9%
- Sexual orientation	171	150	1,697	2,100	23.7%
- Transgender	36	22	204	346	69.6%

The number of hate crimes has increased by 22.9% to just under 13,000 in the last 12 months. All recorded categories under this have increased also. This is likely impacted through the easing of national lockdown restrictions over the last 12 months. GMP will contact every victim of hate crime to pursue further.

# Working in Partnership

## The Greater Manchester Hate Crime Partnership includes:

- Greater Manchester Police
- Greater Manchester Combined Authority
- Local Authority Community Safety and Cohesion Leads
- Fire and Rescue Service
- Transport for Greater Manchester (TravelSafe)
- Crown Prosecution Service
- Voluntary sector
- Independent members

The partnership meets quarterly to review police data, share best practice, and plan ahead to upcoming events.

Dedicated partnership branding was refreshed in 2020. The partnership website provides a one stop shop to access information, download resources, report hate crime and to seek support for victims.

[www.LetsEndHateCrime.com](http://www.LetsEndHateCrime.com)

The screenshot shows the homepage of the LetsEndHateCrime.com website. At the top left is the hashtag #WeStandTogether. At the top right are navigation links for HOME, RESOURCES, and a purple button labeled REPORT HATE CRIME. The main heading is 'TOO GREAT FOR HATE' in large, colorful, block letters, with 'GREATER MANCHESTER STANDS TOGETHER' written in smaller text across the 'HATE' portion. Below the heading is the text 'Greater Manchester stands together against hate crime. LetsEndHateCrime.com'. A section titled 'WHAT IS HATE CRIME?' follows, with a brief definition: 'Hate crimes are acts of violence or hostility directed at people because of who they are or who someone thinks they are. Hate crimes can take many different forms – for example someone may have damaged your property because of the colour of your skin, sent you offensive letters because of what you believe, or behaved violently towards you because of who you love. No hate crime is acceptable. We all have a right to live without fear, hostility and intimidation from others.' At the bottom of this section are two purple buttons: 'WHAT IS HATE CRIME? ►' and 'GET HELP AND SUPPORT ►'.



# Greater Manchester Plan to Tackle Hate Crime

2019 - Undertook a review of GM plans. Four key priorities raised:

1. Increasing awareness
2. Improving the victim experience
3. Improving reporting mechanisms
4. Preventing hate crime

Public consultation (Dec 19) received over 800 responses:

- Overall support for the Plan with 90% of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing with the priorities.
- When asked about other strands that should be monitored, gender and age featured.

A number of important pieces of feedback were given:

- Respondents felt that if people reported hate crime this must be followed by timely updates.
- Schools engagement was a common suggestion for action.
- There was broad support for Third Party Reporting Centres but some questioned how effective they were.





# Improving Reporting Mechanisms

- Building confidence and promoting positive outcomes after prosecution to encourage reporting.
- Further development of the 'Let's End Hate Crime' website - gives access reporting channels and victim support.
- Reviewing the use of GMP LiveChat for other programmes (TravelSafe, Gender Based Violence).
- Reviewing Third Party Reporting options with partners – linking to places of safety.



## **Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) Pilot:**

- Project to enhance how GMP and the CPS work together in the early stages of hate crime cases.
- In early 2019 only 7 of 270 hate crime reports to the police in Bolton were referred to CPS. The pilot aimed to increase the number of referrals from the police to the CPS by 50% - results indicate an increase of 147.6% as of late 2021.
- The number of defendants convicted for hate crimes in Bolton also increased to 97.6% (up from 80.6% last year), and 87.2% offenders had their sentences increased because the court agreed that the crime was a hate crime (up from 58.6%).
- The pilot has now been extended to cover Salford with results assessed ahead of further roll out.

# Improving the Victim Experience

- Additional training for police officers regarding investigative processes and case updates to victims.
- Considering support for victims as part of the ongoing review of victims services.
- Facebook live sessions to facilitate direct public engagement sessions to talk about hate crime and answer questions. A recent session had a total reach of 214,000 people, 1,078 engagements and 43 questions answered directly.
- Introduction of new Independent Community Scrutiny Panels to provide community challenge on policing matters.
- Embracing new technology such as virtual reality. GMP using it for front line officer training.



# Preventing Hate Crime

- Cross over into cohesion and challenging extremism
- Linking across to the Shared Futures Group – education and tension monitoring in communities
- Looking at safe ways to challenge hate – No Bystander messaging / counter narrative programmes
- Scoping rehabilitation programmes for offenders to change behaviours, including the use of restorative justice
- GMP host the National Online Hate Crime Hub – ensuring the hub is linked into the Greater Manchester partnership

# Challenges and Future Look

- International events / conflicts can impact of community tension and hate incidents
- Impact of Lockdown – Shift of incidents to retailers, health settings – undertaking targeted awareness work
- More online abuse – a need to explore counter narrative options and join up branding with other hate campaigns
- Ensuring awareness and support to marginalised communities
- Alignment of hate crime with other workstreams i.e. cohesion, extremism
- Changing legislation – Law Commission review of hate crime legislation – recommendation not to create a recordable category for hate against women and girls (misogyny). Police Service awaits guidance from the Government and the National Police Chief's Council (NPCC).

# Questions