



WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

9 November 2018

Performance Update – Hate Crime

Introduction

This report aims to provide an overview of activity against delivery of the Police and Crime Plan. Each Police and Crime Panel meeting will focus on one priority from the Plan, looking at the five areas identified below. Additional briefing papers will be provided where applicable however this summary will pull together key information from the briefing papers under the relevant sections.

Background/Context

Tackling hate crime has been a priority of the PCC since first being elected in 2012. Below is the narrative from the PCC's refreshed Police and Crime Plan 2016-2021:

“Hate crime is any incident which is perceived to be motivated by prejudice based on the victim’s disability, race religion, gender identity or sexual orientation. Nobody should have to live with the fear, anxiety and consequences of hate crime. Recent high profile incidents and Brexit have added significance to this is a priority area across West Yorkshire and nationally, and has a big impact on people’s feelings of safety. In reality all strands of hate crime have increased over the last year with Race Hate accounting for 80% of all hate crime.”

Progress and Key Challenges

2014: A new hate crime campaign was launched by the PCC and West Yorkshire Police during October to coincide with national Hate Crime Awareness Week. The campaign aimed to give people a better understanding of what hate crime was and what they could do about it. Advertising material was produced targeted at specific strands of hate crime and each month following October had seen a specific focus on one strand to coincide with national days of note.

This was followed by the launch of the ‘Help for Victims’ website on the 24 October – a resource to access all the information contained within the Victims Code and Witness Charter and the details of local support organisations for all crimes.

The PCC supported district launches of local hate crime strategies in Bradford, Kirklees and Leeds. He also attended a number of partner events and used his influence to highlight specific areas of hate crime such as Islamophobia and Anti-Semitism.

OPCC staff commenced a programme of visits to Police scrutiny panels which were dealing with the review of hate crime incidents. A pilot relating to Hate Crime was running as part of a scrutiny panel on Out of Court Disposals, the panel was chaired by a member of staff from the OPCC.

2015 – The joint Hate Crime campaign “Hate Hurts, Report it, Sort it, say No to Hate Crime” was relaunched during October as part of Hate Crime week. Again each month up to March 2016 was themed around a specific strand.

A webchat was also hosted by the PCC and Chief Officer Team to answer any questions relating to hate crime to coincide with National Hate Crime Awareness Week. During December an extra ordinary Hate Crime grant round was launched by the PCC as a one off fund available from the MoJ Victim Support Services Fund. £112,732.50 was shared between 12 successful projects for delivery December 2015 – April 2016. Further information on these projects in within the 'Additional Information Paper'.

2016 – During February a webchat was hosted as part of LGBT History Month which was dedicated to police recruitment and policing LGBT communities.

The Government released their 'Action Against Hate – The UK Government's plan for tackling hate crime' in July which focused on the 5 key areas of prevention, increased reporting, the response to hate crime, improvements to the support for victims and developing a better understanding through the use of data. The plan also followed the themes of working in partnership with communities and joining up of work across the strands to have more regard for best practice.

The joint campaign between the PCC and WYP was refreshed and relaunched during National Hate Crime Week. For the first time the joint campaign was scheduled to run for the whole year.

Hate crime peer review conducted between WYP and Humberside Police which demonstrated areas of good practice, good governance arrangements, comprehensive performance data and clear policy processes.

2017 – Members of the PCC's Youth Advisory Group worked on a video to encourage young people to report hate crime.

During March, the PCC supported the launch of the new Kirklees Hate Crime Strategy in Huddersfield and the new Bradford strategy in September.

Funding was awarded to each of the five Community Safety Partnerships to be spent on support for young victims of crime and hate crime.

2018 – Much of the PCCs work in 2018 has been to continue to raise awareness and promote Hate Crime through speaking at events and community meetings building on and promoting the Hate Hurts campaign at meetings, partnership events and Leeds Pride.

In addition the Government's 'Action Against Hate' was refreshed and published in October 2018.

The Home Office have also re-opened the Hate Crime Community Projects Fund and groups and organisations throughout West Yorkshire have been invited to apply. The application window closes on 7 December 2018 and delivery is expected to finish by March 2020.

The OPCC are working with a community volunteer who will be undertaking a research project into Hate Crime Reporting – Muslim Women.

In September 2018 the MoJ published its Victims Strategy. This included a good practice example about hate crime reporting centres from West Yorkshire Police. OPCC staff will continue to visit Hate Crime Scrutiny Panels.

Victim Support received the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner Volunteer Award at the Lord Ferrers Awards during October in honour of their work to support 117

victims and their families from West Yorkshire following the Manchester Arena attack in 2017.

PCC and WYP supported the National Hate Crime Awareness Week 2018.

Key statistics:

HATE	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18 (to Jan)	16/17 Apr-Jan vs 17/18 Apr – Jan +/-	16/17 Apr-Jan vs 17/18 Apr – Jan +/-
Incidents	3096	4703	5899	5422	518	12.5%
Crimes	2201	3749	5223	5169	828	22.5%

HATE INCIDENTS – by category	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18 (to Jan)	16/17 Apr-Jan vs 17/18 Apr – Jan +/-	16/17 Apr-Jan vs 17/18 Apr – Jan +/-
Race	2510	3676	4345	3969	342	9.4%
Faith	132	269	334	322	53	19.7%
Disability	165	266	356	488	202	70.6%
Sexual Orientation	249	446	594	554	48	9.5%
Transphobic	40	46	74	89	25	39.1%

HATE CRIMES – by category	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18 (to Jan)	16/17 Apr-Jan vs 17/18 Apr – Jan +/-	16/17 Apr-Jan vs 17/18 Apr – Jan +/-
Race	1880	3049	4023	3838	481	14.3%
Faith	61	180	291	275	38	16.0%
Disability	91	170	316	427	178	71.5%
Sexual Orientation	151	320	536	541	91	20.2%
Transphobic	18	30	57	88	40	83.3%

Challenges: Under-reporting of both hate crimes and hate incidents is an ongoing issue. Local reporting centres are managed and come under the remit of the five local authorities. The use and location of these is reviewed as part of ongoing work. Discussion at the Partnership Executive Group has considered what could be achieved collectively through possible shared branding and consistency in approach across the districts. These discussions are ongoing.

Hate crime is currently recorded and monitored across the protected characteristics of disability, race, religion/belief, sexual orientation and gender identity and these can be both broad in nature and complex. People can experience hate due to other non-protected characteristics for example hair colour and individuals can also experience hate crimes or incidents because of a combination of more than one identifying characteristic, whether protected or non-protected.

These crime and incidents can also be experienced in different ways or across a number of ways if prolonged and not one-off occurrences. For example they can take the form of verbal insults, sometimes in an aggressive manner, be of a physical nature, involve damage to property or belongings, be published in print or other media forms. They can also be connected to broader social issues such as community cohesion or other crimes such as exploitation or domestic servitude.

Working with WYP and Partners

The Community Outcome Meetings (COM) between the Chief Constable and the Police and Crime Commissioner focus on important policing and community safety issues which are of a high public interest. The aim is to offer greater transparency to communities on how the PCC holds the Chief Constable to account on these important issues.

A report on Hate Crime is received twice yearly at COM as part of an agenda focused on the Plan outcome to 'Tackle Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour', with the latest being discussed on 17 April 2018. The minute from the meeting held on 17 April is attached as Appendix A, and the item will next be on the January 2019 agenda for a further update. The reports and minutes are published on the PCC's website.

At this meeting discussion and questions from the PCC focused on the below areas:

- Impact of Brexit and media coverage on travel and residential status in the UK
- Extreme Views and international events that had generated community concern
- Satisfaction rates for victims
- Rates of recorded hate crime committed online
- Work with partners to improve outcome rates for disability hate crime.

Aims and Future Delivery

The Priority Plan for Hate Crime is attached as Appendix B. These plans will be refreshed, renewed and are work in progress but we will report on our delivery against these Priority Plans in public facing Community Outcomes Meetings and as part of discussion at Delivery Quarterly meetings between the PCC and Chief Officer Team at WYP.

The Association of PCCs' report into Combatting Hate Crime will be launched in November 2018, The report details the findings of a survey that was commissioned in December 2017 by Hardyal Dhindsa, the PCC for Derbyshire and APCC Lead on Hate Crime. The report aims to provide an overview of the actions that OPCCs and Forces are taking currently to combat hate crime as well as the further action that is needed. The report also aims to provide useful reference for OPCCs to learn from one another. The WYOPCC fed into the report and will review the report for best practice and areas of improvement.

The OPCC Plans for the future are to:

- Continue to develop partnership working across the different hate crime strands
- Improve our understanding of under-reporting through a victim needs assessment
- Learn from the best practice outlined in the APCC report
- Give clear messages around the recording of subculture and Misogyny/Gender based hate crime
- Have a focus in particular about on-line hate crime
- Improve outcome rates for disability hate crime

Resources and Funding

The PCCs Safer Communities Fund has in total funded 43 projects to the value of £137,000 that specifically address hate crime. However, many more SCF projects which tackle Community Cohesion and Tackling Radicalisation also have a hate crime focus. This is in addition to the 12 projects that received MoJ funding from the PCC as part of one off grants specifically for organisations/individuals to support victims of hate crime during December 2015.

In 2017/18 each Community Safety Partnership received an additional £40,000 from the PCC to support young victims of crime, including those who were victims of hate crime.

An ongoing yearly commitment has been made with regards to the Hate Crime Campaign, jointly utilised by the PCC and West Yorkshire Police. The latest press release from 13 October to coincide with the National Hate Crime Week is attached as Appendix C. As part of the core referral and local support service delivered by Victim Support and commissioned by the PCC, victims of hate crime whether reported to the police or not are

able to access help and support. Each district now has at least one designated victim's hub – in Kirklees the CSP has worked with Victim Support to launch a further two hubs. The Restorative Justice service commissioned by the PCC and provided by Restorative Solutions can be accessed by victims of hate crime to help them cope and recover.

Each policing district has an appointed Hate Co-ordinator post who acts as a local 'gatekeeper' for hate crime. More information is available in the 'Additional Information' paper.



COMMUNITY OUTCOMES MEETING

Tuesday 17th April 2018

PRESENT

Mark Burns-Williamson – West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)
Jayne Sykes – Interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Dee Collins – Chief Constable (CC)
Andy Battle – Assistant Chief Constable (ACC)
Catherine Hankinson – Assistant Chief Constable (ACC)
Benn Kemp – Detective Inspector (DI)

APOLOGIES

None

ALSO PRESENT

Sharon Waugh – Engagement Manager
Celeste Armitage - Engagement Officer
Pamela Quinn – Sergeant
Dave Iveson – Digital Communications Officer

8. Hate Crime

CC Collins described Hate Crime as an incredibly important area to ensure that people came forward about any crime or incident. She also mentioned that some communities might be feeling anxious about the future because of a number of factors which included Brexit and recent media coverage about travel and residential status in the UK. She highlighted the risk of people being exploited sexually or domestic servitude. She also discussed the number of media stories which were reporting on extreme views and international events which had generated a number of community concerns. She wanted to reassure communities that every report would be taken seriously and WYP would look into each report.

ACC Hankinson said the low satisfaction rates for Hate Crime referred to not keeping people updated. The CEO, Jayne Sykes, asked whether the low satisfaction rates for Hate Crime provided any outcomes for specific groups. ACC Hankinson said that anecdotal feedback from the analysis is that 'people don't expect much' which was humbling, but it had highlighted key issues for WYP to work on.

The PCC stated that the rate of recorded hate crime online seemed low, based on his knowledge of what communities brought to his attention. ACC Hankinson clarified that the threshold for proving offences online was quite high and was more difficult to prove than face to face contact. CC Collins supported this and said the legislation was 15 years old and hadn't kept up with the development of social media which needed to be looked at on a national level. She said she would raise the matter with the [ACPO-NPCC](#) hate crime lead at the upcoming Chiefs Council.

The PCC queried why sexual orientation hate crime has reduced over the period described in the report compared to other strands. ACC Hankinson clarified that this figure was wrong so sexual orientation hate crime

had not reduced. The figure was corrected to 790 from 594 which was a 9.5% rise in incidents and a 20% rise in crimes.

The PCC also asked whether there was anything more to be done with partners to improve the outcome rate for disability hate crime. ACC Hankinson answered and said that WYP were working with the CPS to dip sample disability hate crime to ensure that WYP were not missing any opportunities and would feed back for continuous improvement. She discussed a case study and stated that maintaining evidence is important where possible to ensure prosecution was more likely. WYP had also provided training on Hate Crime to support workers. CC Collins described disability hate crime as one of the most challenging strands as given how broad and varied it was. She stated that WYP were working with their internal disability association to understand this issue further.