

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Report of	CHIEF CONSTABLE
Subject	HATE CRIME
Date	WEDNESDAY 3 OCTOBER 2018 – 1:00PM
Author	SERGEANT NICK WOODROW

Purpose of Report

1. To update the Police and Crime panel regarding hate crime with a link into hate crime awareness week.

Performance

2. The number of hate incidents and hate crimes reported to Leicestershire Police has continued to rise year on year and rose by 20% from 1505 in 2016/17 to 1816 in 2017/18. This year, there have been 805 hate incidents and crimes reported between 1st April and 31st July 2018.
3. Nationally, there were 80,396 hate crime recorded in 2106/17, which was an increase of 29% which is the biggest recorded increase since 2011/12. This increase is anticipated to be reflected locally. However, this could reflect confidence in reporting hate crime through our local campaigns to increase reporting through ourselves and our partners.
4. The Crown Prosecution Service have seen a drop in the number of hate crimes being referred for charging decisions. The Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) Charging Standards state that the CPS must charge any offence that is classed as a hate crime. A review has been conducted of Leicestershire hate crime cases from 2016/17 and 2017/18 that have resulted in a charge / summons which ensured that the DPPs standards were being complied with.
5. When a defendant is convicted of a hate crime the CPS can apply for a sentence uplift, they have set a target that at least 55% of successful hate crime prosecutions receive an uplift. The most recent data available shows that Leicestershire officers are evidencing the hostility in prosecution files, however there are concerns that the uplifts are not being applied for or recorded correctly by the prosecutor.

6. A meeting has been held with colleagues from the CPS and the number of prosecutions is at the same level as Nottinghamshire. Figures from July 2018 show a 69% compliance around requesting the uplifts with a 50% success rate. This has been raised as an issue within the CPS.

Governance

7. The Force Hate Crime Strategic Board is chaired by Chief Inspector Walls and provides overview and scrutiny of the hate crime portfolio and hate crime delivery plan.

The terms of reference of the board are:

- To enhance Leicestershire police response to hate crime;
 - To improve user experience and increase satisfaction;
 - To support and influence the development of effective partnership working and campaigns;
 - To ensure effective monitoring of performance and baseline;
 - To capture and review emerging good practice and evidence based policing for hate crime;
 - To work with the OPCC to develop an offender programme both voluntary and statutory using RJ and mediation to change perception and behaviour and provide closure for victims;
 - Maximise potential from Partnerships.
8. A monthly hate crime performance and intelligence document is produced by the Threat Assessment Unit. This document provides headline data which includes reporting trends across the hate crime categories. The document provides the Neighbourhood Police Commanders with details of repeat victims, suspects and locations which can be used by local Joint Action Groups to identify where local partnership working could enhance the response.
 9. Leicestershire Police is a member of the LLR Hate and Prevent Delivery Group which brings together local authority partners to ensure a consistent approach across the sub region in response to hate. This group has a delivery plan which has been updated with new actions including a full review of 3rd party reporting centres across LLR. Monitoring of this group and action plan is by the LLR Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), Hate and Prevent Strategy Group.

Engagement

10. The Force Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel continues to meet quarterly and provides valuable feedback on the cases reviewed. It has been identified that the panel may benefit from more young people becoming members and we will be working with the Youth Commission, Police Cadets and Youth Councils to try and recruit younger members.
11. The Force has three independent advisory groups (IAGs) managed by the Equality Unit covering disability, LGBT and race. The disability and LGB&T IAGs are attended by the hate crime officer who presents a hate crime paper at the meetings, the race IAG holds themed meetings one of which this year has been on hate crime. These IAGs enable us to hear the views of communities in relation to hate incidents and crimes.

12. The Hate Crime Officer is working with colleagues from Corporate Services to develop a survey to identify and understand the reasons why some victims do not report hate incidents and crimes. It is expected that various methods will be used to engage with as many people as possible including an on-line survey, attendance at events such as Leicester Pride and local community events and utilising volunteers in locations such as shopping centres.

PCC Funded Hate Crime Projects

13. The PCC has funded 4 specific hate crime initiatives detailed within the Police and Crime Plan.
14. **Better Journey Cards**, these were launched in December 2016. Initially developed by First Travel for disabled people, the cards provide information for drivers where a passenger may need additional support, for example 'Please be direct, I have Autism' or 'Please face me and speak clearly, I lip read'. 20,000 cards have been printed and distributed to partners and community organisations.
15. **Sports Club Hate Crime Advert**, Leicestershire County Cricket, Leicester Tigers and Leicester Riders have pledged their support for the hate crime advert, filming dates are still to be confirmed but are planned for September once all of the teams are back from their summer breaks to enable the video advert to be launched during National Hate Crime Awareness week in October.
16. **Hate Crime Perpetrator Programme**, the scoping and research phase of this project has been completed and involved Leicester University's Centre for Hate Studies carrying out research to identify any existing programmes and carrying out 18 in-depth interviews with local professionals and community organisations. A report has been produced by the university which identifies areas where we have the majority of hate crime and the age range of perpetrators with the majority being of school age. The analysis has shown that we have opportunities to address generational offending.
17. **Hate Crime Information Card**, a simple fold out card that explains what hate incidents and hate crimes are, how to report them and how to access Victim First support is still to be developed.

National Hate Crime Awareness Week 14th – 21st October

18. The national hate crime awareness week is due to take place between the 13th and 20th October and the Force is working with and supporting partners in the delivery of local events.
19. The Force Hate Crime Officer is working with the lead for the LLR hate crime action plan to encourage councils to hold local events.
20. Once these are finalised NPAs will be contacted to encourage their support and attendance.
21. Corporate communications will assist with raising the profile of hate crime week, with focuses on each area of hate crime to build awareness.

Other Projects

22. **Internet Hate Crime and Cyber Bullying**, the Children and Young Peoples Officer delivers information on bullying and cyber bullying within presentations delivered in both primary and secondary schools. There have been Easy Read presentations and documents on cyber bullying and these have been delivered in Further Education (FE) colleges to students with special educational needs and disabilities.
23. **Alternative Sub-culture Hate Crime Campaign** was launched earlier this year. The campaign used a number of colleagues who identify as being members of alternative cultures.
24. This campaign will be relaunched in hate crime awareness week. Although the numbers are very low, alternative sub-cultures has seen the biggest rise in reporting since the campaign has been launched.

Victim First and Victim Focussed Projects

25. The majority of the projects that are running have a victim focussed element to them. For example the perpetrator programme will also support victim wishes and work with them to design appropriate outcomes for them. There is further work ongoing with victim services to support victim work.
26. Information on Victim First, the services offered and the referral process is included in the hate crime training delivered to all police officers, police community support officers and special constables as part of their induction course.
27. The Hate Crime Officer also delivers an input to all Victim First staff on their induction course to raise their awareness of hate incidents and hate crimes and to help them identify cases where the victim has self-referred to Victim First.
28. Victim First attend the Hate Crime Strategic Board and provide details of the number of hate victims being supported. This information is also shared at the LLR Hate and Prevent Delivery Group and serves as a reminder to local authority partners to consider referrals for non-crime hate incidents they are managing.
29. Recent analysis of Hate Crime satisfaction rates has identified a steady decline over the two years, currently it is at 77% in recent surveys. Corporate Services were tasked to undertake a detailed analysis of the survey results in order to identify any underlying reasons for this change. The results revealed that by far the main reason for dissatisfaction was due to a lack of investigative updates. To achieve this the following actions will be taken:
 - 1) The Hate Crime officer will record and request whether VCOP has been initiated.
 - 2) Hate Crime Satisfaction is available on MIG for each department.
 - 3) Supervisors of the NIU will be asked to check before filing that contact with the victim has been made.
 - 4) A review of the number of Hate Crimes surveyed each month will be reviewed to potentially increase.
 - 5) The current hate crime survey has been reviewed to ensure it is fit for purpose.

Person (s) to Contact

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