

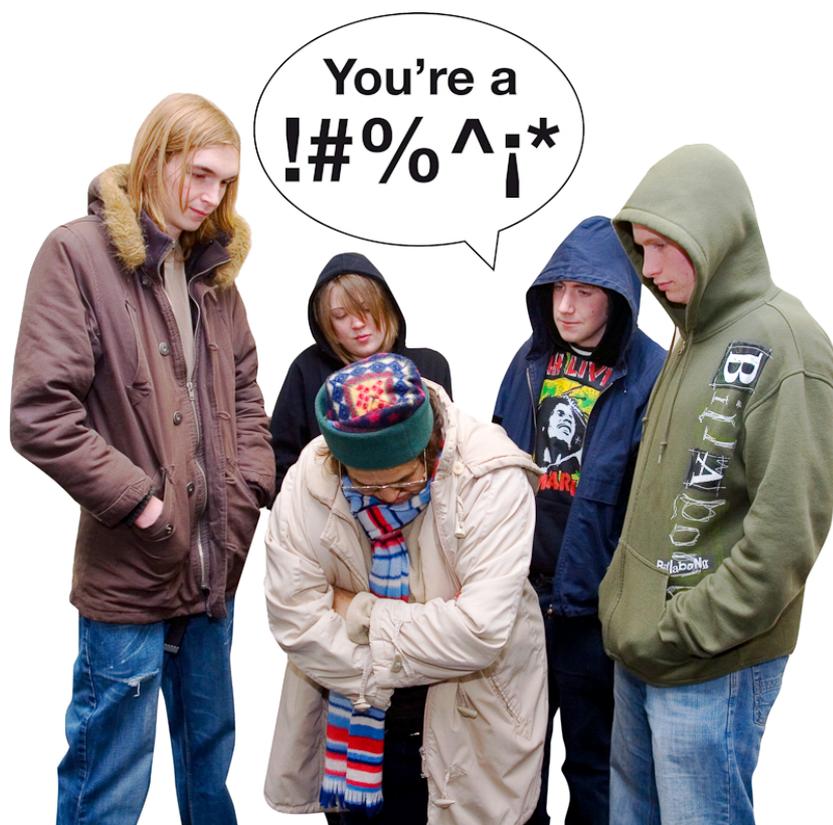


Home Office

# Action Against Hate

The UK Government's plan  
for tackling hate crime

July 2016



Easy Read

# Contents

Page



The Hate Crime Action Plan

3



What is hate crime?

4



About hate crime

6



Progress in tackling hate crime

8



A plan for tackling hate crime

9



1. Preventing hate crime

10



2. Dealing with hate crime in communities

12



3. Getting more people to report hate crime

15



4. Improving support for the victims of hate crime

16



5. Better understanding of hate crime

17



For more information

18

# The Hate Crime Action Plan



This document explains the UK Government's plans to tackle hate crime until May 2020.



This Action Plan applies to England and Wales.



This is the second time we have made a **Hate Crime Action Plan**.

# What is hate crime?

Hate crime is where the person who commits the crime wants to harm someone because of their:



- Race



- Religion



- Sexual orientation. This means whether they are gay or straight



- Disability



- Gender. This includes people who have changed their gender.

The law has 3 types of hate crime.



1. Where someone wants to make people hate someone because of their race, religion, sexual orientation, disability or gender.



2. Where someone hurts someone because of their race, religion, sexual orientation, disability or gender.



3. The law says that judges can give people a longer time in prison or a larger fine if the crime is a hate crime.

# About hate crime



We think that there is on average over 200,000 hate crimes a year in England and Wales.



About 50,000 of these are reported to the police every year.



About half of all hate crimes are against someone's race.



About 17 out of every hundred are religious hate crimes.



About one in every six gay people have suffered from a hate crime.



About a third of all hate crimes are suffered by disabled people.



There are fewer hate crimes against **transgender people** but this group suffer more when a hate crime occurs.



A **Transgender person** is someone who lives as a different gender from the one given at birth.



In around half of all violent hate crimes the attacker has been under the influence of alcohol.



When people do report hate crimes to the police most of the attackers do get punished.

# Progress in tackling hate crime



Our previous action plan was for the period 2012 - 2015.

During this period there has been fewer hate crimes, but more of the crimes have been reported to the police.



Since the last report we have:

- Published details of the amount of hate crime in England and Wales
- Improved the way that the police record hate crimes
- Given money to organisations that work with the victims of hate crime
- Changed the law so that people who commit hate crimes are punished more.



# A plan for tackling hate crime



There are 5 parts to our plans for the next 4 years:

1. Preventing hate crime



2. Dealing with hate crime in our communities



3. Getting more people to report hate crime



4. Improving support for the victims of hate crime



5. Understanding hate crime more

# 1. Preventing hate crime



## In schools

We will support a project which will help teachers to hold discussions with pupils on a range of difficult issues.



We will provide information packs for teachers around hate crime.



We will fund a project in London and the West Midlands to help young people to challenge **prejudice and discrimination**.



**Prejudice** is treating someone worse because of their race, religion, sexuality or disability



**Discrimination** is where someone is treated worse because of their race, religion, sexuality or disability



There is a lot of bullying amongst children. We will look into bullying which is to do with race, religion, sexuality or disability.



We will support organisations that work with schools around prejudice and discrimination.



## **Newspapers, TV and Radio**

We will work with Newspapers, TV and Radio to help people to understand how to talk about hate crime in a fair way.



## **Community Groups**

We have created a new fund that will support community groups who are tackling hatred and prejudice.

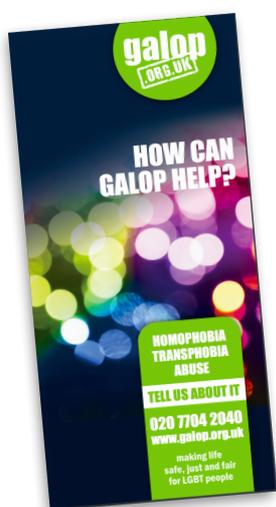
## 2. Dealing with hate crime in communities



We will give money to 3 new projects to look for new ways to deal with hate crime.



We will work with organisations in the gay community to help people who have suffered from hate crimes.



We will help these organisations to get information about hate crime on gay people to many other community groups throughout England and Wales.



We will help the police to create a list of symbols and slogans that are illegal because they are used to make people hate.



The government will continue to support working groups that look at hatred towards Jews, Muslims and Gypsy Travellers.



We will work with organisations and the police to look at the best ways to help disabled people to be safe.



## Keeping communities safe

We will give money to some vulnerable faith communities to help them with security and keeping safe.



We will support new ways to help the police to prevent hate crime on buses and trains.



The police are looking at better ways to keep people safe at night - when there are a lot of drunk people about.

## Online hate crime

There has been an increase in hate messages online.



We still need to learn more about how to deal with this.



We are working together with many organisations to understand how to stop this problem.



We are also supporting organisations that help young people who have suffered from online hate messages.



# 3. Getting more people to report hate crime



We will encourage people to report hate crime through a local organisation if they don't want to go to the police directly.



The police will work with community organisations to help them to encourage people to report hate crimes when they happen.



We will work with **Kick it Out** to stop prejudice and hatred within football supporters.



The police are looking at how they can keep records on hate crimes better.



The police are looking at ways to increase the number of people who report hate crimes.

# 4. Improving support for the victims of hate crime



Victims of hate crimes are likely to be:

- More affected by the crime than other types of crime,
- Less satisfied with the police than other victims



We are supporting projects which provide support to victims of hate crimes and help them to speak up about what happened.



The courts are encouraging victims and witnesses to speak up in court and talk about the effect of the crime on them.



The courts are looking at ways to help disabled people to be heard in court.

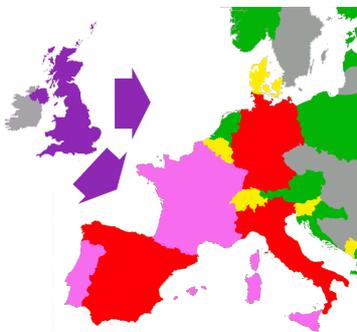
# 5. Better understanding of hate crime



It is important that the Government understands more about hate crime, why it takes place and what we can do about it.



We are working with community groups, the police and experts to understand more.



We are also working with other countries to learn more from what is happening abroad.

# For more information

For more information please contact:



## **Hate Crime Action Plan**

Home Office

3rd Floor Peel North West

2 Marsham Street

London

SW1P 4DF



## **Email:**

[HateCrimePolicy@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:HateCrimePolicy@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk)