



Department for Work & Pensions



Disabled people's groups – making
a difference to disability hate crime

Access Dorset
Nothing About Us Without Us!



Enhancing Everyday Lives in Dorset, Bournemouth and Poole



Easy Read

Important

This booklet is about the difference disabled people's groups are making to disability hate crime.

Green writing

In this Easy Read booklet we explain what some words mean.

The first time we mention any of these words, it is in **bold green** writing. We then write what the words mean in a blue box.

These words and what they mean are also in a Words List at the back of the booklet.

If any of the words are used later in the booklet, we show them in **normal green** writing. If you see words in **normal green** writing, you can look up what they mean by looking for the blue box earlier in the booklet, or by looking at the Words List.

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Contents

- About this booklet4
- Cornwall People First7
- Roots Limited9
- Disability Action Waltham Forest11
- Enable-Solihull14
- What this means15
- Word list19
- Notes.....22

About this booklet

The government is doing all it can to deal with **disability hate crime** and **disability harassment**.

Disability hate crime

If a person breaks the law because they do not like disabled people that is a **disability hate crime**.

Disability harassment

This is when someone acts badly towards another person because they are disabled.

Esther McVey MP is the Minister for Disabled People. She thinks that local councils, the police and schools should work with disabled people's groups to find ways of dealing with **disability hate crime** and **disability harassment**.

How we deal with disability hate crime



Esther McVey thinks it is a good idea to tell people about the 4 reports in this booklet. She thinks that getting different groups to work together is the right way to deal with these horrible crimes.

A new programme has been set up called the Strengthening Disabled People’s User-Led Organisation Programme. In this booklet we will call this programme the Making Disabled People’s Groups Stronger Programme.

The Making Disabled People’s Groups Stronger Programme knows that disabled people’s groups are making a big difference in their local areas when they are dealing with hate crimes.

As part of the Making a Difference programme we have written this booklet to make sure that we share with other groups and other people the things disabled people’s groups find out and their best ways of working.



The Access Dorset disabled people's group put together the 4 reports in this booklet.

The 4 reports show the work disabled people's groups are doing across the country in areas of different sizes.

Access Dorset is run by disabled people and older people.

The Making Disabled People's Groups Stronger Programme

This programme is trying to make sure that disabled people's groups can let everyone know what disabled people have to say.

The Making Disabled People's Groups Stronger Programme is run by 15 people who are called Ambassadors.

The programme has £3 million that can be shared with disabled people's groups to help them do their work. This is called a Facilitation Fund. It was made with the help of disabled people.

If you want to know more about the Facilitation Fund please see the back page of this booklet.

Cornwall People First

Cornwall People First is a **self-advocacy group**.

Self-advocacy group

A **self-advocacy group** is run by disabled people. They have got together to make sure their voices are heard and they support each other. They work together to make sure they have the same rights, choices, and chances as everyone else.

This group is run by people with learning disabilities. And it is for people with learning disabilities.

The Cornwall People First group runs the Safe Places Project with the Devon and Cornwall Police and Cornwall County Council. It helps people with learning disabilities deal with anything that happens when they are out and about in their local area.



The Cornwall People First group lets 7 people work for the local council. These 7 people are called Champs. They help to run the Safe Places Project and they tell other people about the Safe Places Project.

Because of the work these people do it means that people with learning disabilities have a place in their local area that they know is safe for them to use.

Cornwall People First made a DVD. The DVD won prizes and got a local bus company to make their buses safer.



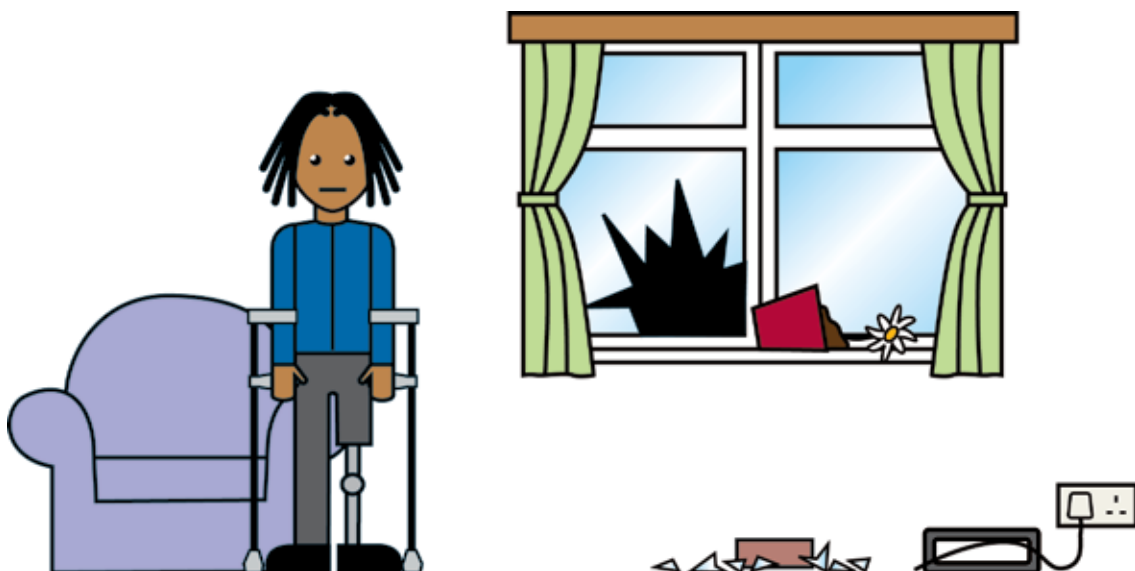
Roots Limited

Roots Limited is a disabled people's group that is based in Leeds. It is run by 5 African Caribbean people with learning disabilities.

Roots Limited makes and gives training courses about **disability hate crime** to these people.

- Disabled people.
- People who look after and help disabled people.
- People who want to teach other people about **disability hate crime**.

Roots Limited wants to tell more people about **disability hate crime** and **discrimination**, especially when someone is **discriminated** against for more than 1 reason.



Discrimination

This is when someone is treated unfairly because of something. People are sometimes discriminated against because of their age, because of the colour of their skin, or because they have a disability.

Because of the work Roots Limited is doing

- Since 2008, 3 times as many people have been taken to court for carrying out a **disability hate crime** or **discrimination**.
- Since 2008, twice as many people have been found guilty of carrying out a **disability hate crime** or **discrimination**.
- By 2011/2012 they helped to get 28 people taken to court. And 21 people were found guilty of **disability hate crime** in West Yorkshire.



Disability Action Waltham Forest

Disability Action Waltham Forest is a disabled people's group in Waltham Forest, East London.

It helps people to report hate crimes to people like the police, bus and train companies and schools.

It also helps people to deal with anything that has happened because of a hate crime.



Disability Action Waltham Forest teaches people like **voluntary sector** groups, the police and local councils to make their services better for disabled people who have been **victims** of hate crime.

Voluntary sector

These are groups outside government that do not make money out of their work. Examples are community groups, voluntary groups, charities, co-operatives and housing associations.

Victims

These are people who are hurt by a crime.

Disability Action Waltham Forest is running the Stay Safe project. This includes a **third party reporting site** that people can use in any way that suits them. For example, they can speak to someone face-to-face or they can use the telephone, text messages, email, Facebook or a website.

Third party reporting site

A **third party reporting site** is a place where you can tell someone what has happened. The **third party reporting site** then tells the police for you.



In the last 2 years, Disability Action Waltham Forest has supported more than 110 disabled people who were **victims** of hate crime.

More people now know about **disability hate crimes**, hate crimes because of a person's race and hate crimes because of a person's **sexual orientation** in the local area.

Sexual orientation

This is about whether a person is lesbian, gay, bisexual or asexual.

- Lesbian means a woman whose partner is a woman.
- Gay means a man whose partner is a man.
- Bisexual means someone who is attracted to men and women.
- Asexual means someone who is not attracted to men or women.

Disability Action Waltham Forest has got some **service providers** to make changes to their services. For example, having a text phone or visiting people at home.

Service providers

These give the support that disabled people and older people need. Examples of **service providers** are local councils, some voluntary groups, and care and support businesses.

Enable-Solihull

Enable-Solihull is a disabled people's group that supports and works with disabled people in Solihull.

Enable-Solihull works with the police so that they know how **disability hate crime** affects disabled people.

Enable-Solihull has made a **disability hate crime** DVD which is used in schools. It teaches children and young people about **disability hate crime**.

Enable-Solihull now has a mobile **third party reporting site**. It goes to places in the local area where disabled people feel more comfortable talking about and making a report of **disability hate crime**.

The number of **third party reporting sites** has gone up from 1 to 22.



What this means

The disabled people's groups we have told you about in this booklet want people who work with them and people who deal with hate crime to think about 10 points.

These 10 points will help them to put together, and make better, their plans for dealing with **disability hate crime**.

The 10 points

- 1 Find the disabled people's groups in your local area.
- 2 Talk to the disabled people's groups in your local area. And get them **involved** when you are making plans and rules to deal with **disability hate crime**.

Involved

Being **involved** is not the same as being asked. Being **involved** means disabled people playing a bigger part in planning, not just being asked about work done by other people.

- 3 Give **victims** of **disability hate crime** a choice of when and where they can tell someone about the **disability hate crime**.



- 4 Talk often to the disabled people's groups in your local area. This will make sure you know these things.
 - Things that have happened to disabled people in your local area.
 - How disabled people are feeling.
 - What things disabled people are worried about.
- 5 **Involve** disabled people when you are making and giving training programmes.

- 6 Give disabled people the chance to work with people who are responsible for hate crime in the police and local councils. This can help find and stop **disability hate crimes**.
- 7 People can be **victims** of hate crime for lots of reasons. For example, it can be because they are disabled, because of the colour of their skin or because of their **sexual orientation**.

Also, people can be **victims** of hate crime for more than 1 reason. For example, it can be because they are disabled and gay or they are disabled and an **ethnic minority**.

Ethnic minority

This means people who, because of their race, colour, culture, language or nationality, are not the same as the majority of the population. For example, black Caribbean people, Pakistani people, Chinese people and Bangladeshi people.



- 8 Get together with disabled people's groups to work out the best ways of helping people who are **victims of disability hate crime**.

You can do this by doing things like putting your money together, by getting your workers to work together and by sharing your best ways of working.

- 9 Work with disabled people's groups to make better ways of getting in touch with and listening to disabled people.
- 10 Work together to make sure disabled people are happy to tell someone about **disability hate crimes**.



Word list

Disability harassment

This is when someone acts badly towards another person because they are disabled.4

Disability hate crime

If a person breaks the law because they do not like disabled people that is a **disability hate crime**4

Discrimination

This is when someone is treated unfairly because of something. People are sometimes discriminated against because of their age, because of the colour of their skin, or because they have a disability.10

Ethnic minority

This means people who, because of their race, colour, culture, language or nationality, are not the same as the majority of the population. For example, black Caribbean people, Pakistani people, Chinese people and Bangladeshi people17

Involved

Being **involved** is not the same as being asked. Being **involved** means disabled people playing a bigger part in planning, not just being asked about work done by other people15

Self-advocacy group

A **self-advocacy group** is run by disabled people. They have got together to make sure their voices are heard and they support each other. They work together to make sure they have the same rights, choices, and chances as everyone else.7

Service providers

These give the support that disabled people and older people need. Examples of **service providers** are local councils, some voluntary groups, and care and support businesses13

Sexual orientation

This is about whether a person is lesbian, gay, bisexual or asexual.

- Lesbian means a woman whose partner is a woman.
- Gay means a man whose partner is a man.
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- Asexual means someone who is not attracted to men or women 13

Third party reporting site

A **third party reporting site** is a place where you can tell someone what has happened. The **third party reporting site** then tells the police for you.12

Victims

These are people who are hurt by a crime12

Voluntary sector

These are groups outside government that do not make money out of their work. Examples are community groups, voluntary groups, charities, co-operatives and housing associations11

Notes

How to find out more about the Facilitation Fund

Email odi.businessperformance@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

Website <http://odi.dwp.gov.uk/dpuloprogramme>

Facebook www.facebook.com/dpulos

Twitter Use the hashtag #dpulo



More information

You can see a longer version of this booklet on our website at <http://odi.dwp.gov.uk/dpuloprogramme>

You can get more information about stopping **disability hate crime** at www.radar.org.uk/people-living-with-health-conditions-disability/disability-hate-crime/

The police have a hate crime website called True Vision at www.report-it.org.uk

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