

COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Subgroup Update

Title:	Hate, Intolerance, and Extremism, and Tension Monitoring
Date:	Wednesday 5 th October 2022
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Security:	UNPROTECTED

1. Purpose of Presenting the Report and Decisions Required

- 1.1 This report provides a quarterly update to the Community Safety Partnership on activity and work being undertaken by the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham (LBBDD) Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Hate Crime, Intolerance and Extremism (HIE) and Tension Monitoring (TM) subgroup.

2. Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Community Safety Partnership Board:
 - Note the contents of this report.

3. Update

- 3.1 At the time of writing this report the HIE and TM subgroup last met on the 18th of July 2022. The subgroup is chaired by Andy Opie, Director of Enforcement and Community Safety.
- 3.2 The HIE and TM subgroup is responsible for monitoring local tensions, analysing community activity and areas that may lead to potential tensions to understand their reasoning and identify the correct interventions. The areas in which the subgroup monitor on an ongoing basis are
 - Criminal tensions such as gang activity and anti-social behaviour
 - Community tensions and incidents between specific communities [Unprotected/Protected/RESTRICTED]
 - National and International tensions that may potentially impact the local community
 - Political tensions because of extremism political activity including, leafleting and graffiti

- Hate crimes due to sexual, racial, or religious beliefs
- Any planned anniversaries and demonstrations

3.3 The subgroup is focused on reviewing the Community Safety Partnership priority areas to help shape a forward plan to ensure the subgroup is delivering on priority areas set out within the plan. The subgroup will focus on the following agenda items:

- a) Hate Crime Data
- b) Tension Log
- c) Graffiti and Vandalism
- d) School Incidents
- e) Stephen Port Case
- f) Forward Plan
- g) National Hate Crime Awareness Week

3.4 At the June meeting, hate crime data collected by MOPAC up until June 2022 was presented including the following offences: anti-Semitic, disability hate crime, sexual orientation, Islamophobic hate crime, racist hate crime and transgender hate crime. It was noted that there are spikes in crime depending on the season, especially around pride events or any other protests. The police have an operation funded by MOPAC that enables quicker interviews and follow up statements for live hate crime reports. Subsequently, victims of hate crime are also being referred to Catch who are funded by the police. The detection rate in LBBDD is 16.5%, which is better than neighbouring boroughs.

3.4.1 Tension logs show that numbers are low in referrals. Hate messages on social media is being monitored though due to the new Facebook rules the council cannot delete messages – though users writing hate messages can be blocked. Other cases in the physical domain are continued to be forwarded to the Community Safety Team to triage.

3.4.2 The two graffiti reports in the borough have been reported to the police and cleaned.

3.4.3 In light of the Stephen Port case, it was noted that there has been an increased concentration on building rapport with victims of homophobic hate crime. This contact to victims is assigned to an individual LGBT advisor is assigned who would also be a police officer. Homophobic specific hate crime are flagged and were sent to Insp. Melissa Gilmour but now she has retired we are still awaiting confirmation of who is taking over her role.

3.4.4 The Community Safety Plan will be updated regularly to link in with the CSP Board plan. As well as this, the HIETM meetings will continue to focus on a theme area every meeting which overarches the Community Safety Plan.

3.4.5 National Hate Crime Awareness Week is taking place between the 8th-15th October this year and it is an opportunity of raising awareness of hate crime, encouraging reporting hate crime, and helping victims of hate crime within the borough. The NHCAW itinerary for this year was built on last years plan. This year will include specific focus on homophobic and disability hate crime due to the Stephen Port case and the recent nationalised news the murder of a disabled man in West London. These NHCAW activities will include online training sessions for the public and staff by Galop, Stop Hate UK, Hidayah, and Stay Safe East. An information stall

with different partners will also be held in Barking Town Centre to raise awareness of NHCAW and provide advice to residents.

4. Key Challenge(s)

4.1 The subgroup has identified challenges in receiving tensions within the community. This informed the work in setting up a local protocol which outlines when and how the council will engage with residents.

5. Support required from CSP Board

5.1 The Board to note the ongoing progresses agreed and set in place to monitor local tensions and hate related crimes.

5.2 Support the development of the emergency planning response to national and local tensions.

6. List of Appendices: N/A