

## Challenge it, Report it, Stop it

### A Hate Crime Strategy for Barking and Dagenham, 2013 – 2016

**Vision:** To ensure that the Community Safety Partnership has an effective co-ordinated community response to hate crime.

#### The key objectives of the Strategy are to:

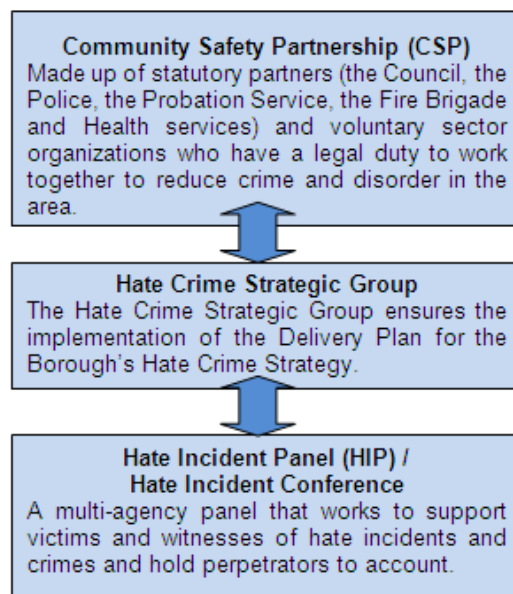
1. **Prevent** hate crimes from happening by challenging the attitudes and behaviours that foster hatred, and encouraging early intervention to reduce the risk of incidents escalating.
2. **Increase** the reporting of hate crime through increasing victims' confidence to come forward and by increasing their knowledge of how to report; and through working with partners to ensure the right support is available when they do.
3. **Improve** the strategic and operational response to hate crime both in regard to the victim and the perpetrator, through working with Criminal Justice agencies.

#### The Strategy aims to improve the reporting of hate crimes by:

- **Raising awareness** through leaflet drops to residents' homes, word of mouth campaigns and publicising how offenders are punished to demonstrate the results of reporting.
- **Improving the ways to report** utilising technology such as apps and text messages, making the website reporting form easier to use, increasing third party reporting at trusted locations, attending centres where potential victims meet to discuss reporting, as well as improving signposting to the right points of contact to ensure victims of hate crime incidents can find support.
- **Improving support to victims** by having a dedicated, confidential and supportive helpline and support group.
- **Community engagement** encouraging people who witness hate crimes against others to report them.
- **Community cohesion** promoting cultural awareness through publishing articles and holding workshops which promote the understanding of other cultures.
- **Prevention** by having a named person in schools whom young people can talk to in confidence, discussing how to act after being a victim or witness of a hate crime to know how to respond, and promoting equality in schools so that young people understand that hate incidents are unacceptable.
- **Sensitive responses** from services will ensure that victims feel listened to, taken seriously and reassured, which can improve reporting of future incidents.
- **Service provision** to have more consistency in the level of support provided to victims, and to train disability services workers to listen and support disabled people to report hate crime incidents.

#### Structure of Governance Arrangements:

It is recognised that Hate Incidents and Hate Crimes are a Community Safety Partnership priority which requires a collaborative response. The structure of the governance of the Hate Crime Strategy is outlined in the diagram on the right. Throughout the life of the Strategy monitoring, evaluation and review will be undertaken by the Hate Crime Strategic Group which is accountable to the Community Safety Partnership. The Hate Crime Strategic Group's role is to develop and monitor the Strategy and its Delivery Plan. The group meets every three months and will share its updates on the Delivery Plan with the Council's Website and other relevant web presences. The membership of the Hate Crime Strategic Group is drawn from across the Partnership and includes representation from the statutory and voluntary sector. The Delivery Plan will be reviewed by the CSP Board in 2014-15 to ensure it remains appropriate.



#### Delivery Plan:

The Community Safety Partnership recognises that hate crimes vary in seriousness and that the most serious incidences are thankfully rare. However we believe that if we can encourage people to report the lower level abuse then the process will also be in place to report the most high risk cases too. Therefore the priorities set out in the Delivery Plan purposefully focus upon lower risk hate incidents.