

# Hate crime easy read version

Southwark Council, the police and partners in the community are working hard to keep you safe.

## Introduction

This information sheet has been developed in partnership by members of the Southwark hate crime working group.

This gives further details and information regarding hate crime with a list of Southwark support services at the back of the document.

If you have any suggestions for material to be included, please contact

Email [Luton.Sinfield@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:Luton.Sinfield@southwark.gov.uk)

Telephone 020 7525 0316

Further information can also be found online here [www.southwark.gov.uk/hatecrime](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/hatecrime)

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## What is Hate crime?



Hate Crimes and incidents are any crime or incident where hostility against an identifiable group of people is a factor in deciding who is victimised.

**Hate crime is when someone gets harassed or attacked because of who they are.**

**Hate crime is a crime against someone or a group because...**



- They have a **disability**

Because of their **race** •



- Because of their **religious beliefs**, or because they do not have **religious beliefs**

They are **lesbian, gay, or bisexual** •



- They are **transgender**



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The law only lists these five groups of people as possible victims of Hate Crime, but people also suffer for other reasons, such as their **age**, their **gender** or their **lifestyle**.



The Police will record and monitor any offences motivated by prejudice against any group, so **it is important that you report any victimisation that you suffer, whether you belong to one of the five groups or not.**

## Here are some examples of what is a hate crime



- Being hit, pushed or hurt



- Having insulting graffiti sprayed on a house or car



- Having something you own vandalised



- Threats to you, your friends and family



- Stealing from you

## A hate crime can make you feel



- Afraid to go to places



- A loss of trust in people



- Angry



- Alone



- That you are a bad person



- Unhappy
- Upset



**Hate crime is always wrong**



## There are five things we want to do in Southwark



1. Let people know where they can go for support after suffering a hate crime or incident



2. To see more people reporting hate crimes & incidents



3. To see all communities working together



4. To increase the positive experiences of people who report hate crimes



5. To reduce the number of hate crimes that happen

## Why it is important to report hate crime



- We need to know what groups of people are victims so that we can support them.



- People who commit hate crimes and are not prosecuted may then target other people too. If people report, then it is possible that the numbers of crimes will reduce and less people are hurt.



- At least half of all hate crime is not reported to the police this means that a large number of people are not getting the help they deserve.

## Anyone can report hate crime including



- People who live in the area
- People who rent where they live



- People who are visiting Southwark



- Community and faith groups



- Employees



- A witness to a hate crime

## If you experience a hate crime it is helpful to have



- A description of the people who took part



- Details of anybody who saw the crime



- A list of days or times that this may have taken place before



- Remember, do not remove any evidence of a crime, let the police or support service see this.



- If you don't have any evidence, it is important that you still ask for help and support



## **People to contact**

### **Metropolitan Police**



The police's duty is to investigate the reported crime and collect evidence for the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS). It is then the CPS who decides whether the case will go to court.

#### **Emergency - 999**

In an emergency you should always dial 999. You should use this service to contact police in situations when you need an immediate response – if the crime is happening now or if anyone is in immediate danger.

#### **Non-emergency – 101**

In a non-emergency you can contact the police on the 24 hour number 101. You can also use this number to contact your local Safer Neighbourhood Teams.

The Policing Pledge sets out the standards of service you can expect from the Metropolitan Police. This can be found at [www.met.police.uk/pledge](http://www.met.police.uk/pledge)

**Southwark Police Hate Crime Unit - Telephone 020 7232 6237**

### ***"Do I have to go to the Police?"***

People are sometimes not comfortable going to the Police when they have suffered victimisation. This can be for many reasons, such as wanting to remain anonymous or not wanting to make the situation worse.

There are many independent organisations who will offer advice & support on a confidential basis.

**Here are some of them...**



**Stop Hate UK**

Stop hate UK provide 24 hour support to people who have been affected by Hate Crime. Victims and witnesses can contact us by phone, text, post or online to report Hate Crimes, access support, and get information. Click [here](#) for more information, or to make a report.

Phone: **0800 138 1625**

Phone (Text Relay): **18001 0800 138 1625**

Text: **07717 989 025**

#### **Electronic**

Email: [talk@stophateuk.org](mailto:talk@stophateuk.org)

Web chat: [www.stophateuk.org/talk](http://www.stophateuk.org/talk)

Online form: [www.stophateuk.org/tell](http://www.stophateuk.org/tell)



## True Vision (Online Reporting)

You can report a hate crime using True Vision's online reporting service.

Web [www.report-it.org.uk/](http://www.report-it.org.uk/)



## Bede House Association

Bede House helps victims of domestic violence and hate crime. Bede House can help you with

- Advice
- Counseling
- Emotional support

Contact details

Bede House Association, 351 Southwark Park Road, Bermondsey, London, SE16 2JW

Telephone **020 7232 1107 / 0207 237 3881**

Fax 020 7394 7586

Email [hatecrimesproject@bedehouse.org](mailto:hatecrimesproject@bedehouse.org)

Web [www.bedehouse.org](http://www.bedehouse.org)



## Southwark Mediation Centre

Southwark Mediation helps Southwark residents who are involved in disputes such as

- Neighbour disputes
- Antisocial behaviour
- Hate Crime

Mediation is a voluntary process where people compromise and bring creative and practical solutions to problems. It is easy and straightforward with support from trained mediators.

Contact details

Southwark Mediation Centre, 92 Camberwell Road, London, SE5 0EG

Telephone **020 708 4959**

Fax 020 7708 5568

Email [admin@southwarkmediation.co.uk](mailto:admin@southwarkmediation.co.uk)

Web [www.southwarkmediation.uk.com](http://www.southwarkmediation.uk.com)



## Victim Support

Victim Support helps Southwark residents cope with the effects of crime. They provide confidential support and information to victims of crime and to witnesses attending local courts. You can contact Victim Support even if the crime has not been reported to the police.

Victim Support can help you with

- Emotional support
- Practical help
- Support with the court process from the witness service

Contact details

Victim Support, Southwark Community Services, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Hannibal House, Elephant and Castle, London, SE1 6TE

Telephone **0207 277 1344**

Fax 020 7708 5522

Web [www.victimsupport.org.uk](http://www.victimsupport.org.uk)



## Metro

If you are from the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, or Trans (LGBT) community and live in greater London, Metro can provide you with help and advice, including assistance reporting to police (anonymously if you prefer):

Telephone **020 8305 5000**

Web [www.metrocentreonline.org/advice-and-info/lgbt-hate-crime-service/](http://www.metrocentreonline.org/advice-and-info/lgbt-hate-crime-service/)



## Galop

If you are from the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual or Trans (LGBT) community and live in greater London, Galop can provide you with help and advice, including assistance reporting to police (anonymously if you prefer):

Helpline: 020 7704 2040

Web: [www.galop.org.uk](http://www.galop.org.uk)



## Tell MAMA

Tell MAMA supports victims of anti-Muslim hate and is a public service which also measures and monitors anti-Muslim incidents.

Contact Tell MAMA in confidence on 0800 456 1226 or go to [www.tellmamauk.org/](http://www.tellmamauk.org/)



## Crimestoppers

For over 25 years Crimestoppers has helped people who want to stop crime that hurts them, their family, and their community. This anonymous service gives people the opportunity to speak out when their personal circumstances could silence them.

Call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111 or report online at [www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org)