## WHAT IS HATE CRIME?

A hate incident is any kind of behaviour that causes fear, alarm or distress where the victim or anyone else feels that they have been targeted because of their racial heritage, religion or beliefs, disability, gender identity or sexual orientation.

If a criminal offence has been committed a hate incident becomes a hate crime.

This can mean threats, damage to property, verbal abuse, offensive graffiti, harassment and violence. It may be targeted at one person or at a group of people.

- "I was going to the shop in my wheelchair when a group of people spat at me and called me names, this hurt my feelings."
- "I was on Facebook when I saw racist comments on a friend's page and this offended me."
- "I was at a nightclub when someone hit me and shouted verbal abuse about the colour of my skin."
- "I saw an adoption poster covered in graffiti saying horrible things about same sex couples adopting children."

Hate crime in any form is wrong but if it goes unchallenged, it will continue to happen. That is why it is important that if you experience, see or know about hate crime in your community, you should report it. We all need to say NO to hate.

# HOW CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT IT?

There are lots of ways that you can tell us about it. You don't have to give your personal details if you don't want to or provide any evidence.

By reporting a hate incident when it happens, you can help us to stop it happening again and we can ask you about any support that you or the person affected may need.

We encourage you to tell the police, but you can also go to one of our reporting centres. We have five reporting centres in Cornwall, where you can talk to trained staff about your experiences and they can give you help and support.

They can also help you make a report to the police or any other organisation if you wish to or make a report on your behalf (this is called third party reporting).

If you have seen it, experienced it, know about it or need help, tell us about it using any of the contacts provided in this leaflet.

## CAN I ACCESS SUPPORT IF I DON'T REPORT?

Yes, our independent third party reporting centres can provide support and advice, to anyone who has experienced any form of hate crime even if you choose not to report.

## OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

Our vision is to make Cornwall a welcoming place, where equality, freedom, fairness and opportunity are open to all.

We want everyone to feel valued, to celebrate diversity and to understand people's different needs and aspirations whether they are living, visiting or working here.

Hate crime has a devastating effect on victims, their families and friends and impacts on whole communities. But we can all do something about it.

Safer Cornwall is a partnership and our commitment to tackle hate crime means that many organisations have pledged to work together to:

- Make it easier to report hate incidents
- Provide help and support to victims and anyone else affected
- Recognise and respond to hate crime better

We do not want hate crime in Cornwall.

We say NO to hate.



www.safercornwall.co.uk/hatecrime

### MAKE A PERSONAL PLEDGE TO SAY NO TO HATE

Sign our pledge to say NO to hate crime at **www.safercornwall.co.uk/hatecrime** or look out for our Pledge Wall at local events.

Our website also has lots more information about hate crime, reporting and support.

## WHERE CAN YOU REPORT IT?

#### **POLICE**

If you or someone else is in immediate danger Ring or text/SMS 999
Minicom/Textphone 18000

If it's not an emergency or to be directed to the victim care unit:

Ring 101 or text/SMS 67101 Minicom/Textphone 18001 101 Email 101@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

#### **ONLINE**

**True vision:** www.report-it.org.uk

**Police website:** www.devon-cornwall.police.uk

Victim Care Unit website:

www.victimcaredevonandcornwall.org.uk

#### **VICTIM SUPPORT**

I do not want to report the incident to the police but I still want support

Victim Supportline: 0300 303 0554

Email: devon.cornwall@victimsupport.org.uk

If you have hearing difficulties, you can call the **TextDirect access number:** 18001 0300 303 0554

## FOR MORE HELP AND SUPPORT

Or the following organisations can offer you specialist support

#### **DISABILITY CORNWALL**

**Telephone**: 01736 756655 or 759500

**Email:** info@disabilitycornwall.org.uk or via their website

**Website:** www.disabilitycornwall.org.uk

#### **LGBTQ YOUTH CORNWALL**

**Email:** info@lgbtqyouthcornwall.co.uk or via their website

**Website:** www.lgbtqyouthcornwall.co.uk

#### **PENTREATH LTD**

Telephone: 01726 862727
Email: info@pentreath.co.uk
or via their website

Website: www.pentreath.co.uk

#### THE INTERCOM TRUST

**Telephone:** 01209 211360 (Cornwall office)

**Helpline**: 0800 612 3010

Email: office@intercomtrust.org.uk or helpline@intercomtrust.org.uk

Website: www.intercomtrust.org.uk

#### **TRAVELLERSPACE**

**Telephone:** 07939 210014

Email: tspace@travellerspace-cornwall.org

Website: www.travellerspace-cornwall.org



SAFER CORNWALL safercornwall.co.uk/hatecrime

# **Hate Crime**

Seen it?

Experienced it?

Know about it?

Need help?

Then tell us about it!

