

# Public Document Pack



## Safer Policy and Performance Board

**Tuesday, 15 September 2020 at 6.30 p.m.  
Via public remote access (please contact  
the Clerk named below for instructions)**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'David Walsh'.

**Chief Executive**

### **BOARD MEMBERSHIP**

Councillor Dave Thompson (Chair)	Labour
Councillor Norman Plumpton Walsh (Vice-Chair)	Labour
Councillor Sandra Baker	Labour
Councillor Ellen Cargill	Labour
Councillor Eddie Dourley	Labour
Councillor Valerie Hill	Labour
Councillor Peter Lloyd Jones	Labour
Councillor Kath Loftus	Labour
Councillor Geoffrey Logan	Labour
Councillor Margaret Ratcliffe	Liberal Democrats
Councillor Geoff Zygadlo	Labour

***Please contact Gill Ferguson on 0151 511 8059 or e-mail  
gill.ferguson@halton.gov.uk for further information.***

***The next meeting of the Board is on Tuesday, 17 November 2020***

**ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH  
IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**Part I**

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Page No.</b>
<b>1. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	
<b>2. MINUTES</b>	<b>1 - 3</b>
<b>3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST (INCLUDING PARTY WHIP DECLARATIONS)</b>	
Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or Other Disclosable Interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda, no later than when that item is reached or as soon as the interest becomes apparent and, with Disclosable Pecuniary interests, to leave the meeting during any discussion or voting on the item.	
<b>4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME</b>	<b>4 - 6</b>
<b>5. SSP MINUTES</b>	<b>7 - 11</b>
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<b>6. ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE MISUSE - HALTON</b>	<b>12 - 17</b>
<b>7. CHESHIRE ANTI SLAVERY STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP</b>	<b>18 - 25</b>
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*In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act the Council is required to notify those attending meetings of the fire evacuation procedures. A copy has previously been circulated to Members and instructions are located in all rooms within the Civic block.*

**SAFER POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD**

*At a meeting of the Safer Policy and Performance Board on Tuesday, 14 July 2020 via public remote access*

Present: Councillors Thompson (Chair), N. Plumpton Walsh (Vice-Chair), E. Cargill, Dourley, V. Hill, P. Lloyd Jones, K. Loftus, Logan, Ratcliffe and Zygadlo

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Baker

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Andrews, C. Patino, G. Ferguson, D. Perchard and S. Burrows

Also in attendance: Councillor D Cargill under Standing Order No.33

**ITEM DEALT WITH  
UNDER DUTIES  
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

	<i>Action</i>
SAF1 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS	
There were no Chair's announcements.	
SAF2 MINUTES	
The Minutes of the meeting held on 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2020 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.	
SAF3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	
It was reported that no questions had been received.	
SAF4 COVID-19 - TRADING STANDARDS	
The Board received an update report on the work of the Trading Standards service between March and June 2020. The Government gave responsibility for the regulation and enforcement of business closures to Environmental Health and Trading Standards. Given the resource issues for Trading Standards and some capacity in the Environmental Health Team resulting from business closures, the decision was taken that Environmental Health would lead on the issue in Halton and Trading Standards would provide support if formal enforcement action was	

necessary.

The report provided information on the work of the Trading Standards Team around dealing with scams, iCAN and awareness training, price gouging, dealing with non-compliant personal protective equipment for sale and working with the national illegal Money Lending Team to raise awareness of the dangers of loan sharks.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

#### SAF5 COVID-19 UPDATE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The Board received a report of the Director of Public Health which provided an update on the work of the Environmental Health service since March 2020. The report set out the routine services that had been maintained or adapted and the activities carried out directly in response to Covid 19. In direct response to Covid 19 the team assumed responsibility for business closures, Covid safe workplaces, outbreak management and supporting the Covid 19 HUB. With regarding to routine environmental health work the team had:

- ensured business continuity plans were implemented;
- saw a 400% increase in noise complaints;
- adapted pest control services; and
- supported urgent food safety inspections and developed a revised risk assessment and safe system of work to ensure the safety of staff.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

#### SAF6 COVID19 - NEW WORKING ARRANGEMENTS

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources, which set out the range of services that Halton Community Safety Partnership had put in place during the COVID 19 pandemic to support the community. During this time a wide range of services and support continued to be available throughout Halton to respond to concerns about crime, anti-social behaviour and other issues that impact on community safety. Members received an update on the work surrounding the following services and the impact of COVID on those services:

- Widnes and Runcorn policing;
- Operation Pandas;
- Schmikool Liaison;

- Domestic abuse – raising awareness, press releases, open door Webchat, local domestic abuse services;
- The impact on Alcohol/licensing night time economy;
- Digital safety; and
- Challenges for counter terrorism and channel policing.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

*Meeting ended at 7.00 p.m.*

**REPORT TO:** Safer Policy & Performance Board

**DATE:** 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources

**SUBJECT:** Public Question Time

**WARD(s):** Borough-wide

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To consider any questions submitted by the Public in accordance with Standing Order 34(9).
- 1.2 Details of any questions received will be circulated at the meeting.

### **2.0 RECOMMENDED: That any questions received be dealt with.**

### **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 Standing Order 34(9) states that Public Questions shall be dealt with as follows:-

- (i) A total of 30 minutes will be allocated for dealing with questions from members of the public who are residents of the Borough, to ask questions at meetings of the Policy and Performance Boards.
- (ii) Members of the public can ask questions on any matter relating to the agenda.
- (iii) Members of the public can ask questions. Written notice of questions must be given by 4.00 pm on the working day prior to the date of the meeting to the Committee Services Manager. At any one meeting no person/organisation may submit more than one question.
- (iv) One supplementary question (relating to the original question) may be asked by the questioner, which may or may not be answered at the meeting.
- (v) The Chair or proper officer may reject a question if it:-
  - Is not about a matter for which the local authority has a responsibility or which affects the Borough;
  - Is defamatory, frivolous, offensive, abusive or racist;
  - Is substantially the same as a question which has been put at a meeting of the Council in the past six months; or

- Requires the disclosure of confidential or exempt information.
- (vi) In the interests of natural justice, public questions cannot relate to a planning or licensing application or to any matter which is not dealt with in the public part of a meeting.
- (vii) The Chair will ask for people to indicate that they wish to ask a question.
- (viii) **PLEASE NOTE** that the maximum amount of time each questioner will be allowed is 3 minutes.
- (ix) If you do not receive a response at the meeting, a Council Officer will ask for your name and address and make sure that you receive a written response.

Please bear in mind that public question time lasts for a maximum of 30 minutes. To help in making the most of this opportunity to speak:-

- Please keep your questions as concise as possible.
- Please do not repeat or make statements on earlier questions as this reduces the time available for other issues to be raised.
- Please note public question time is not intended for debate – issues raised will be responded to either at the meeting or in writing at a later date.

#### **4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

None.

#### **5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

None.

#### **6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

6.1 **Children and Young People in Halton** - none.

6.2 **Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton** - none.

6.3 **A Healthy Halton** – none.

6.4 **A Safer Halton** – none.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal** – none.

**7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

7.1 None.

**8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

8.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.



**REPORT TO:** Safer Policy and Performance Board  
**DATE:** 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020  
**REPORTING OFFICER:** Chief Executive  
**SUBJECT:** Specialist Strategic Partnership minutes  
**WARD(s):** Boroughwide

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The Minutes from the last Safer Halton Partnership meeting, which are subject to approval at the next meeting of the Safer Halton Partnership, are attached for consideration.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the minutes be noted.**

## **3.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 None.

## **4.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 None.

## **5.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

### **5.1 Children and Young People in Halton**

None.

### **5.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton**

None.

### **5.3 A Healthy Halton**

None.

### **5.4 A Safer Halton**

None.

### **5.5 Halton's Urban Renewal**

None.

**6.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

6.1 None.

**7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

7.1 None.

**8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

8.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.



# Safer Halton **PARTNERSHIP**

a member of the Halton Strategic Partnership

## Action Points From 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019

### Present:

Chris Patino	HBC (Operational Director – Acting Chair)
Cllr Dave Cargill	HBC (Community Safety Portfolio Holder)
Ceri Schofield	CGM CRC
Deana Perchard	HBC Trading Standards
Hayley Dooley	DWP/JCP
John Bucknall	HBC (Childrens Services – Commissioning)
John Davidson	National Probation Service
Lisa Gill	Remedi – “Got Your Back” project
Martin Cambell	Cheshire Constabulary
Mike Andrews	HBC (Community Safety Manager)
Mike Clarke	Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service
Patricia Preston	HBC (Housing Solutions)
Rebecca Stokes	Cheshire Constabulary
Samantha Atkinson	Halton CCG
Simon Bell	HBC (Public Health)
Simon Parsonage	Cheshire Constabulary
Sharon Morris	Halton Housing
Shélah Semoff	HBC (Partnership Officer)

- 1) **Welcome and Introductions** **Action**
- 2) **Apologies**  
D Parr, D Thompson, M Cotgreave, B McCrorie, S Johnson-Griffiths, L Mauler, S Holmes
- 3) **Minutes of the Last Meeting and Matters Arising**  
Minutes from 17<sup>th</sup> July 2019 agreed with the addition of Deana Perchard to attendance list.
- 4) **Presentation : Got Your Back - project update**  
General discussion took place with partners about other areas of work that link back to the outcomes for this project such as County Lines and Children’s Safeguarding. It was suggested the Children’s Trust might welcome the same presentation. It was noted that GYB intervention was a wake up call for parents and that other members of the victim’s families were also starting to engage with services. LG/SS
- 5) **Task Group Updates:**

- a) **Alcohol** : report noted. In addition it was noted that good progress is being made towards implementing the Halton alcohol strategy action plan; during quarter 1, Cgl commenced atrial fibrillation checks - which takes only 30 seconds to complete and provides a warning for those who may have atrial fibrillation and enables a prompt referral to the Stroke team for review and to look at preventative treatment to reduce the risk of stroke and heart attack - within the first week of testing, Cgl identified one individual with an abnormal reading; the positive work of the ETE coordinator was highlighted with quarter 1 showing, 86% of individuals who had gained employment previously, reaching their 6 month sustainment in employment – with the coordinator supporting people to maintain their employment whilst continuing to work on their recovery and relapse prevention - in addition a further 6 individuals gained employment during the quarter in a variety of sectors in the local community.
- b) **Crime, Anti-Social Behaviour and Partnership Tasking** : report noted. In addition it was noted that the work in Halton around knife crime was being rolled out across Cheshire; Drop the Knife group discussing with the PCC about an off road scrambler track.
- c) **Domestic Abuse** : report noted. In addition it was noted that a new contract for service provision should be signed off in the New Year, but no other emerging issues were identified.
- d) **Substance Misuse** : report noted. In addition it was noted that there is some work to be done with service users who don't see the use of some types of drugs (i.e. crack and cocaine) as a problem but heroin is; also concerned was noted around young people (aged 15-24) being admitted to hospital with issues related to prescribed or over the counter drugs; no other emerging issues were identified.

6) **Minimum Pricing Unit**

The report previously presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board was shared with members for information, and their support was requested as part of the lobbying activities highlighted in the report. Data from a research project undertaken showed a significant reduction across various areas of crime and health related activities when the cost of cheap alcohol was increased due to the MPU being brought into an area. Its still early days in Scotland and colleagues are keeping a close eye on developments. David Parr, as the LCR lead Chief Executive was given a mandate of support from the SHP.

7) **Prevent, Contest and Channel Panel**

Halton has had its first Sections 36 referral (Counter Terrorism and Security Action 2015). This put the responsibility on local authorities and partners of local panels to provide support for people vulnerable to being drawn into any form of terrorism. It's up to the local panel to decide on the action taken.

8) **Police and Crime Commissioner**

Discussions have continued over funding related issues, which are still on going.

9) **Police and Crime Panel**

Nothing to note.

10) **Serious Organised Crime**

Currently at streamlining groups/meetings as there is some duplication – looking

at a similar model to that of the contextual safeguarding, with a longer view taken of individuals journeys and where they end up after interventions. There is a piece of work ongoing looking at assessment tools. County lines still one of the biggest issues currently being handled by Partners. Coming up to Christmas there is another push around the "Asian Gold", trying to engage with communities. It was also noted that there have been multiple operations around illicit tobacco.

11) **Information Items**

All items were noted.

12) **AOB**

13) **Date and Time of Next SHP Meeting**

**19<sup>th</sup> February 2020 @ 10:00** : Ground Floor Boardroom, Municipal Buildings, Widnes

Agreed As A True And Accurate Record

**REPORT TO:** Safer Policy and Performance Board

**DATE:** 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020

**REPORTING OFFICER** Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources

**PORTFOLIO:** Community Safety

**SUBJECT:** Alcohol and Substance Misuse in Halton

**WARDS:** Borough Wide

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To update the board on both ALCOHOL and SUBSTANCE MISUSE services work that provided support for vulnerable local people during the COVID 19 pandemic. Work is now underway to remobilise service provision and to learn from the innovative practices, such as video consultations and digital support to ensure they can be developed into local best practice.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That**

**2.1 The report be noted; and**

**2.2 The Board consider the information presented and raise any questions of interest or points of clarification following the presentation.**

## **3.0 ADULT SERVICES**

- 3.1 Adult services are now moving back towards business as usual but with social distancing and COVID secure measures in place. A reduced staff team is working from Aston Dane, prioritising emergency appointments and there has been a significant switch to telephone and online support. The Runcorn Hub is closed at this time, but remains as a COVID secure facility should anything happen to the Widnes office.

Since lockdown (to 09/07/20), **15,164** attempted contacts have been made with **8,389** successful contacts by telephone, **231** successful contacts by video and **335** successful face to face contacts.

### **3.2 Alcohol**

A temporary alcohol pathway has been put in place and the service is still able to offer alcohol detoxes where appropriate.

An area of concern is for alcohol dependant service users who are required to self-isolate but are unable to purchase alcohol/receive alcohol from friends/relative when detox is not wanted by service user. A review of what other local areas are doing to coordinate/support/address this is underway whilst we await national guidance.

### 3.3 **Opiate Substitution Therapy**

The service has suspended the “Supervised Consumption of Methadone” to reduce social contact and pressure upon local pharmacies. A multi-disciplinary team including prescriber and safeguarding lead has risk assessed all service users for suitability of larger amounts of take home medication as a part of the process of changing take home doses.

Since the changes there have been no deaths due to the changes in prescribing and dispensing and only one incident of lost medication (espranor) and one incident whereby a service user contacted to advise they have taken over their prescribed dose to date (not resulting in overdose but a subsequent shortage of medication).

All clients are being contacted regularly (at least weekly) and have had locked storage boxes and naloxone if they didn't already have them. There is also an outreach team who are visiting the few people that cannot be contacted by telephone and CGL (Halton Integrated Recovery Service) have provided some service users with mobile phones when this has been a barrier to being able to contact. All Opiate Substitute prescribed service users are required to have a full risk review completed every 12 weeks or if there is a change to risk, updated immediately. Our service is currently at **100%** of prescribed service users having their risk in light of dispensing changes, reviewed within the last 12 weeks.

### 3.4 **Prisons**

In relation to prison releases good communication networks exist with the prisons and the releases have been staggered in a way that has been manageable. All prison release service users are receiving daily dispensing on release for a period. The majority of Halton residents who are on short term sentences have been resettled in to the community. There are just a small number who have gone back in to the custodial setting.

### 3.5 **Needle Exchanges**

Additional stocks have been delivered to pharmacies. The team have also contacted those on their caseload who regularly utilise the Needle Exchange to ensure they receive equipment.

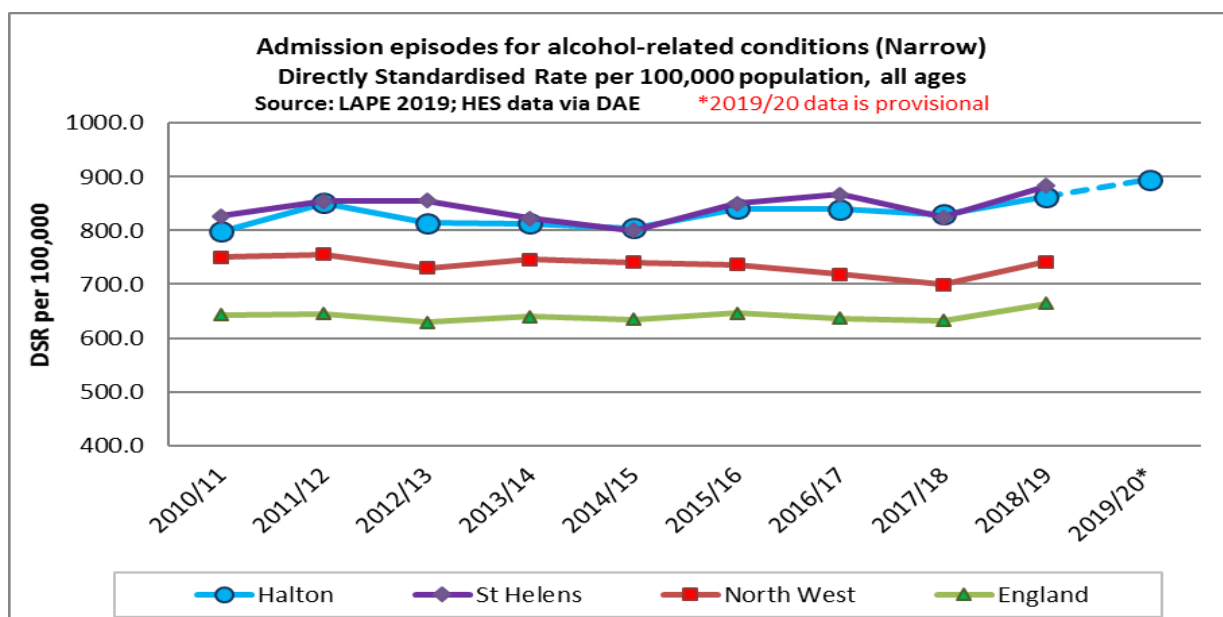
### 3.6 **Care Packages**

CGL have been granted £1,000 funding from the Police & Crime Commissioner to create care packages for vulnerable service users which will include COVID advice and other essential equipment.

### 3.7 Hospital admission data

Admissions due to alcohol related conditions (narrow) decreased from a peak in 2011/12; however, the rate has increased since 2014/15, and remains significantly higher than the England average. Data for 2018/19 shows that the Halton rate increased from 2017/18, however, the North West, England and St Helens rates also increased.

Provisional Halton data for 2019/20 also suggest that the rate has increased again.



## 4.0 SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLES

4.1 The specialist support service has continued to support young people remotely through the pandemic.

Within Halton there will be changes to the provision of Youth Services from 1st August 2020. The two current contracts, one for Specialist Youth Support and Treatment Service and the second contract for Integrated Youth service will cease on 31st July 2020. The Council has taken the opportunity to consider how it provides youth support in Halton in the future and from 1st August 2020 Halton Borough Council’s Early Help and Intervention team will provide dedicated support to young people in a holistic family way (known as the youth support and treatment service).

Over the next few months the Council will be working in partnership with young people and partners to develop an Integrated Youth Offer. This service currently includes Duke of Edinburgh, Mayor Award and Youth Centre provision and any

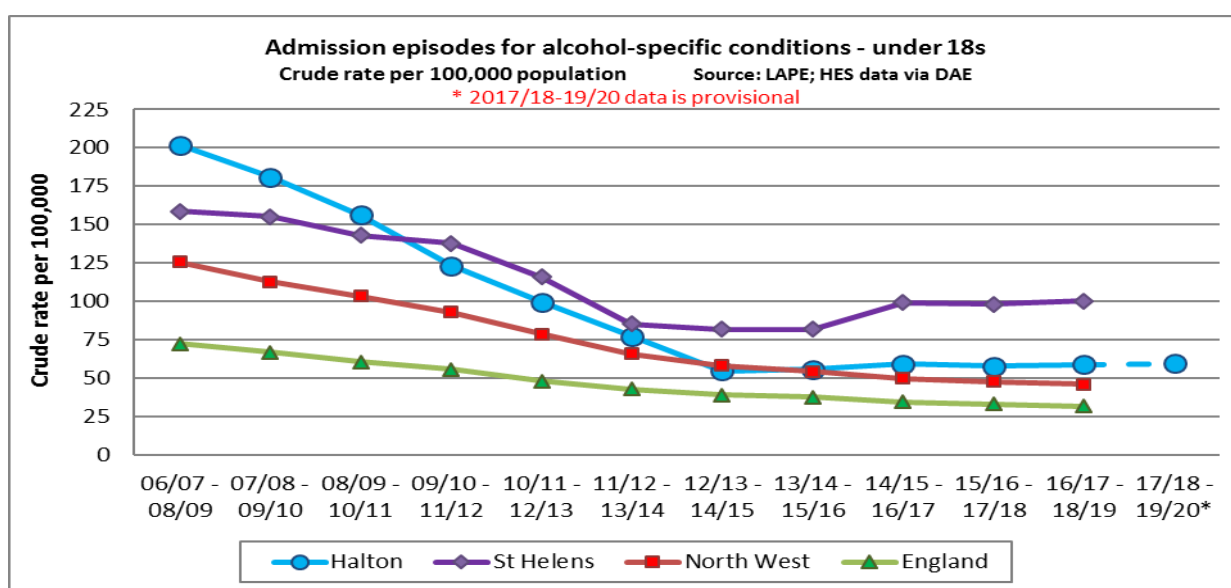


work on developing a new service will need to recognise financial challenges, the changing service needs and the current and future landscape due to COVID 19.

#### 4.2 Under 18 alcohol-specific admission episodes

The provisional data for 2017/18-19/20 suggests that the Halton rate has increased slightly from the previous year.



Overall, Halton saw a greater reduction (71%) compared to England (56%), the North West (63%) and St Helens (37%), from 2006/07-2008/09 to 2015/16-2018/19. Despite this overall decrease, the Halton rate remains significantly higher than the England average. However, the rate is similar to the North West average and significantly lower than the St Helens rate.



#### 4.3 PROGRESS AGAINST RELATED LAA TARGETS

Formal reporting against KPIs has been suspended during the pandemic although services have continued to collect performance information. A full report on progress against LAA targets will be submitted upon resumption of normal reporting structures.

Ref	Objective	
PH 04	Reduction in the harm from alcohol: Working with key partners, frontline professionals, and the local community to address the health and social impact of alcohol misuse:	
Milestone	Progress	Supporting Commentary

Milestone		Progress	Supporting Commentary			
Implement the Halton alcohol strategy action plan working with a range of partners in order to minimise the harm from alcohol and deliver on three interlinked outcomes: reducing alcohol-related health harms; reducing alcohol-related crime, antisocial behaviour and domestic abuse and establishing a diverse, vibrant and safe night-time economy.			<p>Good progress is being made towards implementing the Halton alcohol strategy action plan. Key activity includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Developing a coordinated alcohol awareness campaign plan.</li> <li>▪ Delivery of alcohol education within local school settings (Healthtude, 0-19 Service, Young Addaction, Amy Winehouse Foundation, Cheshire Police).</li> <li>▪ Ensuring the early identification and support of those drinking above recommended levels through training key staff members in alcohol identification and brief advice (alcohol IBA).</li> <li>▪ Reviewing alcohol treatment pathways</li> <li>▪ Working closely with colleagues from licensing, the community safety team, trading standards and Cheshire Police to ensure that the local licensing policy supports the alcohol harm reduction agenda, promoting more responsible approaches to the sale of alcohol and promoting a diverse night-time economy.</li> <li>▪ Working to influence government policy and initiatives around alcohol: 50p minimum unit price for alcohol, restrictions of all alcohol marketing, public health as a fifth licensing objective.</li> </ul>			
Ref	Description	Actual 2018/19	Target 2019/20	2019/20	Direction of Travel	Supporting Commentary
PH LI 07  (SCS HH 1)	Admission to hospital episodes for alcohol-related conditions (narrow)  (Rate per 100,000 population)	862.7	848.0	894.6  (provisional)		The provisional 2019/20 data suggests that the admission rate has increased from 2018/19.

## 5.0 FINANCIAL UPDATE

No significant impacts within the quarter from a financial perspective.

## 6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

### 6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the health, safety and well-being of young people.

**6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton**

**None**

**6.3 A Healthy Halton**

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the Health, safety and well-being of the residents of Halton.

**6.4 A Safer Halton**

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the Health, safety and well-being of the residents of Halton.

**6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal**

**None**

**6.6 RISK ANALYSIS**

**None**

**6.7 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

**None**

**7.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

**REPORT TO:** Safer Policy and Performance Board

**DATE:** 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources

**PORTFOLIO:** Community Safety

**SUBJECT:** Cheshire Anti-Slavery Strategic Partnership

**WARD(S)** Borough-wide

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

**1.1 To inform the Board of the work being undertaken to ensure a Pan-Cheshire response to the issue of Modern Day Slavery.**

### **2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That:**

**2.1 The report be noted; and**

**2.2 The Board consider the information presented and the attached protocol (appendix 1) ,raise any questions of interest or points of clarification following the presentation.**

### **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 3.1** The Modern Slavery Act 2015 introduced requirements for law enforcement agencies, working in partnership with other agencies, to pursue, disrupt and bring to justice those engaged in human trafficking and slavery, servitude and forced labour. It also introduced a range of measures to enhance the protection of victims.
- 3.2** The Act is designed to combat [modern slavery](#) in the UK and consolidates previous offences relating to [trafficking](#) and slavery. The act extends to England and Wales, and received Royal Assent and became law on 26 March 2015.
- 3.3** In 2018 the Government commissioned an independent review of the Modern Slavery Act. As part of its response to the 80 recommendations, a further consultation on Transparency in Supply Chains has been undertaken, of which the final outcomes may change statutory obligations. As it stands now, the Government hasn't refreshed their timescale for completion, which has been delayed and the outcome of the review is as yet unknown.

- 3.4 Since 2016, funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner, there has been, working across Cheshire an Anti-Slavery Network, bringing together key Partners. Supported by an Independent Chair, who is a well-respected expert in the field, this network has worked towards developing training packages, ensuring clear victim pathways, and sharing best practice. This has ensured a consistent approach across Cheshire to support vulnerable victims.
- 3.5 In late 2019 it was agreed that the four local authorities in the Cheshire Sub-Region and the Police and Crime Commissioner would fund the Cheshire Anti-Slavery Network (CASN) for two years with a joint funding pot of a one off contribution of £4,000 each, totalling £20,000. Whilst this is a considerable reduction in funding than previously available, with some changes, and an additional offer of in-kind support from the Chester Diocese, it will be possible to continue with the Network.

### **4.0 Way Forward**

- 4.1 The current governance structure has the modern day slavery agenda sitting under the Harmful Practices Sub-Group of the Pan Cheshire Protecting Vulnerable People Board.
- 4.2 Following a review of this sub-group it's been suggested that it should be a 12 month task and finish group, working towards ensuring other more traditional Harmful Practices (such as Forced Marriage, Honour Based Violence and FGM) are embedded across other groups. It was felt that due to the low numbers, as highlighted by data, this was a better use of resources as opposed to a dedicated group.
- 4.3 With that in mind, a new strategic partnership has been formed which will focus solely on Modern Day Slavery, which will provide direction and scrutiny for the operational Network. This Cheshire Anti-Slavery Strategic Partnership (CASSP) will report to the PVP Board, and be chaired by the Chief Executive of Halton who is currently the Chair of the PVP Board.
- 4.4 The joint funders and the Independent Chair have agreed the work plan highlighted below, which provides details on role, responsibilities and suggested outcomes.

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Est Comp Date</b>	<b>Responsible Officer/organisation(s)</b>	<b>Success Criteria</b>
Quarterly CASN meetings	Ongoing	CASN Chair with support from Chester Diocese, and CASN Members	Meetings held and minutes shared with PVP Board Relationship development Sharing best practice Consistent messages Established rota for meeting management
Monthly Briefing document	Ongoing	CASN Chair and Chester Diocese	Monthly email to members
Review of the Pan Cheshire Strategy and Action Plan	Ongoing	CASN Members	CASN members to feed into review Draft Strategy & Action Plan to be presented and agreed by Cheshire PVP Board
Development of business forum	Ongoing	CASN Chair and members	Formal business forum in place with a nominated representative at the CASN
Development of a Pan Cheshire Code of Conduct	Sept 2020	CASN Chair and members	Draft Code to be presented and agreed by Cheshire PVP Board
Dedicated victim pathway	Sept 2020	CASN Chair and members	Draft Pan-Cheshire Victim Pathway agreed by PVP Board
Consistent training materials	Ongoing	CASN Chair and associated members	Programme of training sessions, across Partner organisations, to be agreed by CASN members  Materials to be updated in line with recommendations from Parliamentary review

## **5.0 FINANCIAL UPDATE**

No significant impacts within the quarter from a financial perspective.

## **6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

### **6.1 Children and Young People in Halton**

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the health, safety and well-being of young people.

**6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton**

**None**

**6.3 A Healthy Halton**

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the Health, safety and well-being of the residents of Halton.

**6.4 A Safer Halton**

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the Health, safety and well-being of the residents of Halton.

**6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal**

**None**

**6.6 RISK ANALYSIS**

**None**

**6.7 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

**None**

**7.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

There are no background

**APPENDIX 1**

**Protocol for Cheshire Police, Local Authority Social Care and Housing services responding to adults identified at risk following police operations in cases of suspected modern slavery.**

**Introduction:**

The Modern Slavery Act 2015 introduced the powers that law enforcement agencies need to pursue, disrupt and bring to justice those engaged in human trafficking and slavery, servitude and forced labour. It also introduced a range of measures to enhance the protection of victims. The Cheshire Modern Slavery Strategy helps inform our approach to ensuring the legislative framework is effective in Warrington.

The difficulties in identifying crimes of modern slavery and the significant barriers for potential victims coming forward are well understood. In Cheshire and Warrington, a number of police operations have confirmed that acts of Modern Slavery occur in our borough and that services can help support police operations by working together to help prevent and combat the effects of these crimes. The process of identification can be very challenging, in particular establishing the means and purpose of activities and differentiating in terms of the Act, those adults who are subject to poor or illegal work conditions and those who are victims of Modern slavery through the use of force, control, deception and threat.

This protocol has been produced in order to give clarity to organisations responding to victims identified during police operations who are perceived to be at risk and who may otherwise be considered ineligible or unable to access the support required to protect them. It has been informed by learning and areas for improvement identified during a table top review of practice in a case which occurred in 2017. This identified areas for development in current pathways and inter-organisational responsibility which needed to be addressed in order that clear, effective and timely responses to victims can be provided.

The protocol makes the following assumptions:

- Agencies are fully conversant with the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and their responsibilities within it
- Each service has identified senior officer leads for Modern Slavery.
- Any suspicion of criminal activity is reported and investigated by the police in order that perpetrators can be held to account.
- Potential victims of Modern Slavery are offered the support of the National Referral mechanism and where this is not taken up, Duty to Notify responsibilities are enacted

This protocol will apply to adult victims where the adult has requested repatriation and;

- The adult is not identifying themselves as a victim of MS however there is an active criminal investigation into alleged crimes that suggest they may be a victim, potential victim or otherwise at significant risk; OR
- the adult is identifying themselves as a victim and has refused the support of the NRM; OR the adult has been referred to the NRM and there is a delay in providing the support and accommodation

**Information Sharing**

Cheshire Police, Warrington Borough Council agree that this protocol will be underpinned by the sharing of information under the Safeguarding Adults Information Sharing Protocol in order that effective, safe and appropriate arrangements can be made to victims. Information will be shared between organisations, held at an appropriate level within organisations and delegated on a need to know basis in order to provide appropriate support and to minimise potential risks to victims and others, including staff. Responsibility for delegating information will rest with the senior officers within each service.



## **Initial response and identifying next steps with the adult**

When a potential victim is identified during a police operation, the police will need to consider and gain information in the context of their criminal investigation. In relation to this, all the usual considerations will apply including any relevant to the victim's immediate health and safety. In order to interview the adult, the police officers will need to establish any barriers to effective communication include any care and support needs.

It will be the police's responsibility to obtain and secure an interpreter where this is required.

Where there are concerns about the adult's ability to give evidence venerable witness protocols should be followed.

Where the adult has identified care and support needs, a Safeguarding referral must be made.

The police will try to establish whether an adult is a potential victim of slavery under the Modern Slavery Act. When appropriate the police will discuss with the adult the NRM and where there is eligibility and consent, make a referral. Where the adult will not consent\* to a referral but there is concern, the Duty to Notify (DTN) should be made by the police. (\* This should not preclude other agencies re-visiting this with the adult, as appropriate, subsequently).

## **Notifying other agencies**

The police will identify housing services and adult social care as soon as a victim is identified under this protocol.

Adult Social Care will be notified by contacting the First Response team (working hours) 01925 444239. This number will redirect to Out of Hours Service were appropriate and they will ensure that Housing Support will be notified at that time.

The nominated senior police lead will also inform the nominated leads for Housing and adult Social Care of the incident.

## **Agency Responsibilities:**

### **Police**

When the adults' wishes and feelings have been established in relation to acceptance of support and local support arrangements are required, the police will need to initiate appropriate next steps. When there is a referral to the NRM and this is accepted, support will be activated as soon as is possible. Whilst a safe transfer can usually be undertaken the same day, this might not always be the case. If the NRM arrangements are immediate, it will normally be the police's responsibility to arrange a safe transfer.

Where there is to be a delay in accessing NRM support, or the adult has requested re-patriation (or other support) the police will need to refer to Adult Social Care and Housing Support services in order that interim arrangements can be made to provide the necessary support.

This will not be limited to but is likely to include:

- Accommodation
- Care or support coordination
- Money
- Food
- Travel including repatriation

### **Housing**

Housing support will offer an appropriate accommodation and meals package to ensure that the adult has basic accommodation and sustenance. The location and type of accommodation should take into account accessibility and practicality in relation to ongoing support/police enquiries and the risks posed to the adult. The usual (default) offer will be a full board arrangement in a neighbouring authority. Arrangements should be made so this can be accessed for sufficient period as is likely to be required, or until an agreed review point and should not be commissioned on a day to day basis which results in the Adult having to vacate their room without any follow on accommodation being secured.

Wherever practicable housing support will also provide basic welcome packs for to the victims to include standard items such as toiletries.

Where the adult has requested to be re-patriated and the police have confirmed that this would not interfere with criminal processes, housing support will arrange the repatriation.

Where accommodation and support is to be provided under the NRM in another area, Adult social care will arrange a transfer to the care of the NRM to ensure that the vulnerable individual is escorted to the new location.

### **Adult Social Care (ASC)**

ASC will provide a care support coordination service. This will involve wherever possible and practicable, direct face to face contact under the principles of Safeguarding Adults and making Safeguarding Personal in order to establish/check the adults wishes and desired outcomes and to establish any welfare needs. It will be the responsibility of adult social care to ensure that basic needs can be met within the support arrangements and access to any necessary support service is considered. This may include the provision of cash or other arrangements to meet essential needs.

### **Children Social Care**

Where a child or young person is identified as a victim or associated with a victim during a police operation, initial contact (during office hours) must be made with the Warrington Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (M.A.S.H.) on 01925 443400 who will be able to provide advice, information and help, including, the provision of appropriate support where the child or young person is considered vulnerable or at risk of harm.

### **HMRC**

HMRC is committed to the cross government strategy to tackle modern slavery. While HMRC is not a 'first responder', it can use its wider enforcement powers around taxation, benefits and credits and the National Minimum Wage to target the activities of those who perpetuate these appalling crimes by going after the one thing they hold dear – their finances.

An exploitative employer of illegal workers is unlikely to be keeping their tax affairs in order, while employers who pay their workers less than the National Minimum Wage could be committing welfare fraud. HMRC is well placed to disrupt this activity, helping stop modern slavery in its tracks.

If you believe you have any information that would be of interest to HMRC then contact our Illegal Working and Modern Slavery Team via their dedicated email in-box:

[mailbox.illegalworking/modernslaveryreferrals@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:mailbox.illegalworking/modernslaveryreferrals@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk)

## Useful Contacts

### Warrington Children's Social Care

Child and Young Person Referrals call:  
Warrington M.A.S.H.: 01925 443400  
(Out of hours call 01925 444400)

### Warrington Adult Social Care

Adult Referrals call:  
Warrington Access to Social Care Team: 01925 444239  
(Out of hours call 01925 444400)

### Other useful strategic contacts:

Margaret Macklin: 01925 444291  
Warrington Safeguarding Boards (Children's and Adults) Unit: 01925 443126

### Housing

Emergency Homelessness Duty Officer for emergency housing support (Office hours): Warrington Borough Council:  
01925 443322 (General Number)

Housing Officer: Ann Woods 01925 246861

### Reception Centre

Warrington Community Centres

Barbara Parratt 01925 256904 or Chris Skinkis 01925 444143(Office hours)  
(Out of hours reception centre call Emergency community centre out of hours 07730075916)

### Cheshire Police

General Number: 101  
Emergency: 999  
Modern Slavery Coordinator: Clare Ellis: 01606 365823  
Warrington SPOC: Darren Wright: 01606 3634890

### Sexual Health Services – provided by Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

Sexual Health Service  
Bath Street Health & Wellbeing Centre  
Legh Street  
Warrington WA1 1UG  
Tel: 01925 843776

### Drug and Alcohol Services – provided by CGL (Change, Grow, Live) – known locally as Pathways

14-16 Bold Street  
Warrington  
Cheshire  
WA1 1DE  
01925 415176

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	Safer Policy and Performance Board
<b>DATE:</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> September 2020
<b>REPORTING OFFICER:</b>	Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources
<b>PORTFOLIO:</b>	Community Safety
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	New Hate Crime and Harassment Reduction Strategy for Halton
<b>WARD(S)</b>	Borough-wide

### 1.0 **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To inform the Board that Halton's Hate Crime and Harassment Reduction Strategy and Action Plan is in need of a refresh and to advise the Board of the plan which has been put in place to do this.

### 2.0 **RECOMMENDATION: That:**

- i) **The Board support the proposed refresh timetable and provide any comments on the old Strategy and Action Plan.**

### 3.0 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 3.1 Councils have a vital role to play in building community cohesion, combating extremism and in encouraging the victims of hate crime to come forward and report the matter to the police.

- 3.2 Hate crimes reflect on us as a society. Hate crimes can cause lasting physical and emotional damage. They can evoke despair, anger, and anxiety in victims, and spread fear and mistrust in communities, thus weakening the glue that binds our society together. They strike at the heart of our democracy by undermining the fundamental rights of equality and non-discrimination. Hate crimes can affect any person, regardless of their race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or transgender identity.

- 3.2 In 2016 the Government published their four year plan to combat Hate Crime in the UK, this was followed in October 2018 with a progress report entitled Action Against Hate, where it was suggested that the noticeable increase in incidents across the Country could be traced back to the Referendum vote. It is timely to see a refresh of Halton's Strategy, for whilst there has been no Government announcements about their own, it is anticipated that in light of

issues related to leaving the EU at the end of the calendar year, there is likely to be some increased activity around this issue.

3.3 The Hate Crime Strategy will sit alongside other areas of work such as the Prevent/Challenge agenda, a refreshed Single Equality Scheme and a more strategic approach to tackling Modern Day Slavery and Human Trafficking. All of the above are strands of work that help ensure the Council is compliant with the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equality Duty.

3.4 The Strategy will encourage the challenging of behaviours and attitudes that foster hatred and encouraging early intervention to reduce the risk of incidents escalating;

- Encourage more victims to come forward and report hate crime;
- Improve the response to hate crime by better identifying and managing cases

The Action Plan will also encourage local partners and the Council to work jointly with the criminal justice system to bring offenders to justice, by, for example, making available information on hate crime and local support services.

3.5 Cheshire Constabulary has responded to the Government's Plan to tackle hate crime by updating their Hate Crime Action Plan. The council will work in conjunction with Cheshire Constabulary and aligned our Action Plan with theirs.

3.6 The refreshed Strategy and Action Plan will continue to promote effective and co-ordinated action against hate crime. We continue to work with the Safer Halton Partners, including the Police, voluntary sector support groups and the council to gain a better understanding of reported incidents within Halton. We are also looking at how we can better support victims by developing confidence in the criminal justice system to bring perpetrators to justice, more alliance of services and reporting mechanisms and more importantly preventing hate crime from occurring in the first place.

3.7 The draft refreshed Strategy will be shared with Partners and community organisations over the course of September and October, as part of a consultation process. The final plan will go to the Safer Halton Partnership meeting for approval in early November.

3.8 It is anticipated that the Strategy will remain very similar to what is already in place except for any new actions that will hopefully come out of the consultation phase and a review of the structures that are in place to support the activity. For example the attached old plan

mentions Police Authorities, which of course no longer exist. Nor do the majority of 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Reporting Centres following a review last year by Cheshire Police which clearly showed people weren't using them and other means of reporting needed to be identified.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no direct policy implications from the refresh of the Hate Crime and Harassment Strategy and Action Plan.

5.0 **OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 None identified.

6.0 **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

Hate Crime impacts negatively on the lives of young people leaving victims afraid and destroying their self-confidence. Hate incidents and crimes can occur in schools, on the internet and in their neighbourhoods, often giving victims no escape from the abuse and having a long-lasting impact on victim's lives. Preventing hate crime and educating young people will have a positive impact on their lives.

6.2 **Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**

Hate crime negatively impacts on the lives of victims destroying their confidence. This makes it difficult for victims to gain employment and access training. Hate crime can occur in the work environment, with victims leaving employment to escape their abusers. Tackling hate crime will have a positive impact on this priority.

6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

Hate crime has a significant impact on the victim's physical and mental health, so bringing offenders to justice and supporting victims of hate crime will positively impact on victim's health.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

Hate crime is a criminal offence taken seriously by the police and is a priority for the Safer Halton Partnership. Partners are working together to bring offenders to justice, support victims and encourage reporting and most importantly prevent incidents from occurring in the first place.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

Hate crime has a negative impact on communities, making residents fearful and can be accompanied by criminal damage, hate graffiti and anti-social behaviour, sometimes creating no-go areas or areas

where people avoid in the evenings or after dark. By tackling and preventing hate crime we will also have a positive impact on environment and regeneration.

**7.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 By not working with partners to tackle hate crime and incidents we would risk perpetrators not being brought to justice, incidents going unreported and victim's suffering abuse which would be likely to escalate.

**8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 Hate crime is based on prejudice and targets victims based on their identity, therefore tackling hate crime has a positive impact on equality and diversity.

**9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

None Identified

Attachments: Hate Crime and Harassment Reduction Strategy 2012-2017

# Hate Crime and Harassment

## Reduction Strategy

2012-17



Safer Halton

**PARTNERSHIP**

a member of the Halton Strategic Partnership



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## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Hate crime affects the residents of Halton. Hate crime is the targeting of individuals, groups and communities because of their identity and it can have a devastating and psychological effect on its victims. Whilst it is often perceived that hate crime affects a small number of individual victims, the nature of hate crime is that it is based on prejudice, hostility or hatred towards a particular group in society, and therefore it has a wider impact on the confidence and cohesion of the wider community.
- 1.2 Hate crime is widely accepted amongst public authorities to be under reported, where many perpetrators target victims at a level that will not be reported. Some victims do not even realise that they have been a victim of a hate crime and will not report the incident as they either do not know how to report, or feel they will not be taken seriously. Hate crimes are often tolerated by victims, who then go on to suffer severe trauma and a distress which will affect their everyday lives.
- 1.3 Victims often suffer repeat attacks, which will cause further trauma and may also then impact on the victim's family and wider community. Hate crime can breed mistrust, alienation and exclusion. Experiencing a hate crime as an individual or witness may leave the person feeling angry, fearful, isolated, distrustful and afraid to make new friends or to leave their homes.
- 1.4 The Safer Halton Partnership understands the importance in addressing this crime and the action plan sets out the steps it will take to ensure that all relevant services work together to prevent hate crime and provide support for victims, encourage reporting of incidents and take effective action against perpetrators.

## 2.0 Defining and Identifying Hate Crime and Harassment

### 2.1 What is hate crime?

2.2 The Home Office defines hate crime as any criminal offence committed against a person or property that is motivated by an offender's hatred of someone because of their:

- race, colour, ethnic origin, nationality or national origins
- faith/religion
- gender identity
- sexual orientation
- disability

2.3 It is important to recognise the difference between a hate crime and a hate incident. All hate crimes are incidents, but not all hate incidents are hate crimes. The distinction between a hate '*crime*' and a hate '*incident*' is outlined below:

**Hate Crime** is any criminal offence where anyone believes the victim has been targeted because of their race/ethnicity, religion/belief, gender/gender identity, disability, age, sexual orientation or any other actual or perceived difference.

**Hate incidents** are incidents that do not constitute a criminal offence but cause alarm, distress or harassment where anyone believes the victim has been targeted because of their race/ethnicity, religion/belief, gender/gender identity, disability, age, sexual orientation or any other actual or perceived difference.

2.4 A **hate crime** is targeted victimisation which can take many forms. The three main categories are:

- **Physical attacks and criminal damage** - such as physical assault, damage to property or pets, offensive graffiti and arson;
- **Threat of attack** – including offensive letters, abusive or obscene telephone calls, groups hanging around to intimidate and unfounded, malicious complaints; and
- **Verbal abuse, insults and other offensive behaviour**- offensive leaflets and posters, abusive gestures, dumping of rubbish outside homes or through letterboxes and bullying at school or in the workplace.

2.5 As well as resulting in physical injury, hate crime can affect people's mental health and quality of life and increases their fear of crime. It can lead to anger, insecurity, stress and depression and isolation can leave some people afraid to leave their home. Hate crime can happen anywhere and at any time, the main types are:-

**Isolated Incidents** - People may experience a hate crime as a one-off event; the perpetrator may be acting on their own or as part of a group, under peer

pressure or under the influence of alcohol and drugs. One-off events can happen in any situation such as when people are on public transport, on the street, at a take away, sports ground, etc.;

**Cyber** - Individuals can be sent offensive text messages or emails or they may be contacted or targeted through a social media sight such as Facebook or Twitter. Attacks can be anonymous and therefore it might be difficult to locate the source and secondly can be a very public way of attempting to intimidate an individual. Additional issues for people are that these 'virtual' hate crimes can occur anywhere and can happen 24/7;

**Environment** - A community group might be targeted entering or leaving the venue at a particular location. Local residents who belong to a community group may also be targeted as the hate crimes widen to include others by association, for example, a gay pub may cause local residents to target neighbours they suspect might also be gay;

**Association** - People may experience a hate crime just due to their being at a particular location, perhaps while visiting a friend or partner, even though they may not be from the group that the perpetrator is targeting. For example, someone who is not from the LGBT community, but who is exiting from or standing outside a LGBT venue might be targeted or friends or relatives of people with a learning disability being targeted during a visit to the disabled person; and

**Neighbours** - Verbal abuse, usually delivered near the victim's home, is the main form of hate crime experienced by people, with the perpetrator usually, although not always, being known to the victim. The majority of these hate crimes go unreported as people may fear reprisals or simply feel that no appropriate action would be taken following a report to the police or other organisations. In some instances, unreported hate crimes may continue for a number of years, with individuals, couples or whole families being targeted.

2.6 It can be difficult to identify the causes of hate crime from one individual to another and between one hate crime and another as there are often many factors involved. A hate crime may stem from intolerance towards people with different beliefs or lifestyles leading to a sustained level of antisocial behaviour that may last over a number of years. Equally a hate crime can be a 'flash in the pan' one off event in a public place aiming to intimidate or harass an individual. It is important to establish and understand the motivation of the offender in order to help address hate crime. Furthermore, local, national and global events can influence levels of hostility to certain groups.

2.7 Media coverage of events and certain groups, such as refugees, asylum seekers, and migrant workers, can affect a local situation. Looking at levels of reported hate crime and harassment in recent years, significant evidence demonstrates that hate crime trends follow major national incidents. Following the London Bombings in July 2005, there was a steep increase in the number of race and faith hate crimes, with 273 incidents reported compared with only

41 in the same period of the previous year. In the three days following the bombings, Police recorded 68 faith hate crimes in the capital alone. A similar rise in racially and religiously aggravated offences was reported between September and November 2007, following the national security incident at Glasgow Airport and the attempted bombing of London's Tiger Tiger restaurant.

2.8 Regardless of where or when any hate crime takes place, it can have devastating effects and its impact may last well beyond the period during which the hate crime was experienced having an effect on how people interact with their local community and/ or society at large. People may believe that no action can or will be taken and therefore resist reporting. A number of reasons for non-reporting have been put forward:

- the victim does not understand that a crime has taken place;
- a lack of confidence in the police and/or the criminal justice system;
- victims do not understand the reporting options available to them;
- victims feel that hate crimes occur too frequently to report;
- victims feel that what happened was not serious enough to report;
- victims feared that they would be victimised for reporting and there may be retribution or an escalation of incidents as a result.

2.9 Whatever the reason, the outcome remains the same – crimes are not reported and perpetrators are not brought to justice and remain potentially able to reoffend. This strategy and action plan sets out to improve awareness of the importance of reporting hate crimes and incidents and the options available by which to do so.

### **3.0 Local Strategy - Safer Halton Plan**

Responsibility for managing crime and disorder across Cheshire and Halton sits within the remit of the Safer Halton Partnership (SHP), which has existed since the introduction of the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act. The partnership comprises of Halton Borough Council, Cheshire Police, Heath Care Service providers, and Probation and Victim Support who work together to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour within the borough. The SHP board is currently jointly chaired by the Police Chief Superintendent and Chief Executive for Halton Borough Council. The Safer Halton Partnership vision statement (*as set out in the Sustainable Community Strategy*) is:-

*“To ensure pleasant, safe and secure neighbourhood environments with attractive, safe surroundings, good quality local amenities and the ability of people to enjoy life where they live.”*

The Safer Halton priorities, which include hate crime, are listed below.

- Safeguarding Young People
- Crime Reduction

- Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour
- Reducing Alcohol Harm and Disorder
- Reducing vulnerability of being a victim of hate crime and domestic abuse
- Reducing the Re-Offending rate of Repeat Offenders
- Community engagement, Consultation and Participation

Tackling hate crime forms a key part of our approach to making Halton a safer place to live. Harassment is recognised as one of the major contributing factors to unnecessary stress. It often leads to depression for the victim and can have a devastating effect on their quality of life. The same can be said for hate crime victims.

Partners have been working to ensure that the data reported through an established framework is robust and that everyone involved understands what exactly is being reported, where and how often. There has also been a combined effort to raise the awareness of hate crime incident reporting and to ensure colleagues, and Halton's residents, are clear about how to report and what to report.

Local and Pan-Cheshire Hate Crime Scrutiny Panels have now been put in place, following a review and monitoring process by Cheshire Police. Halton is also now involved with the Crown Prosecution's Local Involvement and Scrutiny Hate Crime Panel. Halton's hate crime and hate crime incident figures go to the Adults and Children's Safeguarding Boards on a quarterly basis, as well as other groups within the Partnership structure (see item 4).

Tackling hate crime is an intrinsic part of the Halton LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transsexual) Strategy. This strategy is being prepared as part of our Children's Trust Equality and Diversity action plan. Despite the origins as a Children and Young People initiative the strategy will benefit the whole LGBT community. A hate crime reporting campaign is being undertaken and a number of actions have already been completed.

The attached Action Plan is based on that adopted by the Criminal Justice Board and Cheshire Police. Whilst some actions are quite specific to those Partners, they have been included in this plan to ensure that everyone involved is aware of the work being undertaken to reduce hate crime and harassment, and improve the lives of our residents. The Action Plan will support the Partnership's aim of working better together, with partners and stakeholders to understand community cohesion issues in Halton, share experiences and data, raise the profile of cohesion and help reduce tensions that could potentially escalate into hate crime incidents.

### **3.4 Bullying in Schools**

The Halton Children's Trust has developed an Anti-Bullying Policy and Charter to which all schools can sign up. These documents ensure a consistent approach is taken to address bullying across schools in Halton. The Anti-Bullying Charter introduces a Halton Children's Trust Charter Mark to give

accredited recognition to schools, with three levels of bronze, silver and gold. Each level builds upon robust anti-bullying practise and policy across five standards; school involvement, policy, curriculum, training and support. Achievement and progress can be matched against the qualifying criteria at each level of the award.

There is also an Anti-bullying Operational Group which currently sits under the Halton Children's Trust. This group has worked with schools to support victims of bullying and to provide guidance, advice and tools to parents and staff in mitigating the impact bullying can have on young people, their educational attainment and emotional wellbeing. The Group has also led on the planning and running of an annual regional anti-bullying conference. There is a recommendation that this group looks at widening its membership and remit to include adult victims of bullying, looking at the larger safeguarding issues related to identifying and supporting vulnerable individuals of whatever age. Discussions have started to take this forward.

### **3.5 Prejudice based bullying**

The Race Relations Act 2000 recommended that schools record, deal effectively with and report to the School Governors and the Local Education Authority all racist incidents which happen in or travelling to and from their school. Whilst this has never been a legal requirement it is considered good practice and an effective means of counteracting racism in schools.

Recent national thinking has recommended that schools extend their reporting systems to recording, dealing with and reporting on bullying incidents which are based on prejudice against any persons protected characteristic or characteristics, including perceived characteristics.

A prejudice based bullying incident is any incident which is or is perceived to be, by the victim or any other person(s), one of which is motivated by an individual's protected characteristic(s), or perceived characteristics(s).

The Council has produced guidance to help schools deal with all prejudice based bullying, which should be read in conjunction with the Anti-Bullying Charter.

The recording process involves schools classifying prejudice based bullying incidents according to a four point scale of reporting:-

1. No offence intended or taken
2. Hurt or distress was caused but offending behaviour unlikely to be repeated
3. Hurt or distress was caused and the person responsible had previously been warned of unacceptable behaviour
4. Hurt or distress was caused and the behaviour was based on substantial hostility and prejudice may be repeated

Schools will decide the appropriate action to be taken at each level of prejudice based bullying incident. The number of each level of incidents should be summarised and reported to the local authority at the end of each term.

- 3.6** The Halton Safeguarding Adults Board have in place an Anti-Bullying Policy 2011. The Policy aims to ensure a unified approach is practised across agencies when dealing with bullying behaviour towards adults (i.e. people 18 years of age or over) whose circumstances render them vulnerable to abuse. This would include, for example, people with learning disabilities, mental health problems, physical disability or sensory impairment and older people in need of support.

## 4.0 Current Reporting Arrangements

- 4.1 There are a number of methods by which a member of the public may report a hate crime as set out below:

- An emergency call to the police;
- A non-emergency call to the police;
- In person to the police;
- Through the [police force website](#);
- Via the [True Vision website](#);
- Via the post to the police:

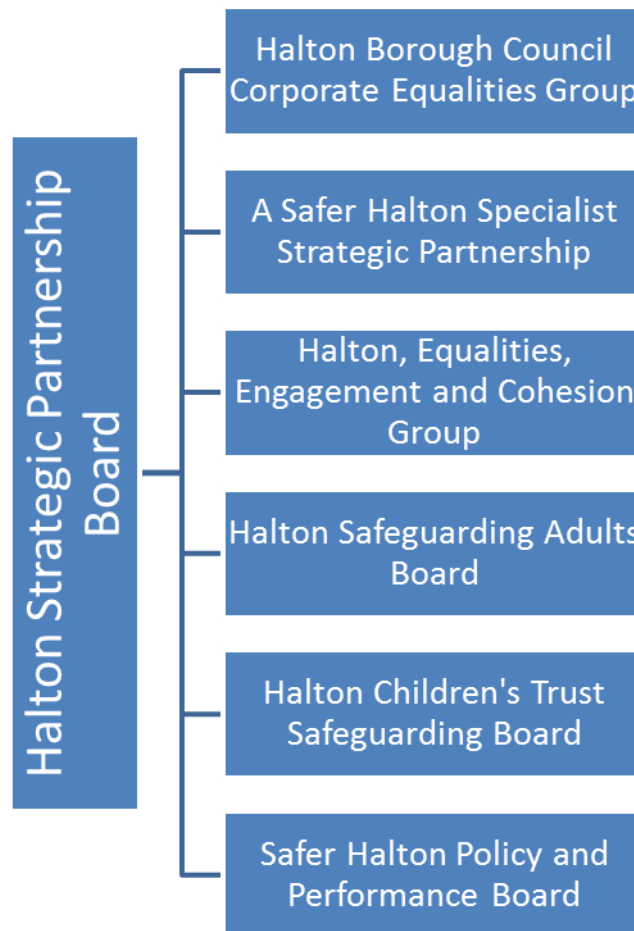
Cheshire Constabulary Headquarters  
Clemonds Hey  
Oakmere Road  
Winsford  
CW7 2UA

- Through a third party reporting centre; (listed in **Appendix B**) and
  - Through a referral from another agency in the borough.
- 4.2 Reporting centres are a way to overcome the communication boundaries that sometimes exist between the police and local communities. They enable victims of hate crime to report their incident in an environment of their choosing where they feel confident. Victims are able to report anonymously which will still enable the police to gather information on the levels of hate crime and hot spots to information share. The centres ensure a victim led approach and also ensure victims who may not have previously reported incidents get the relevant help and support they require. Reporting centres provide a clearer picture on what is happening and where. This allows police resources, communities and agencies to work together to tackle hate crime.
- 4.3 Nominated staff within each reporting centre has received training and support on dealing with reports of hate crimes and incidents from Cheshire Police. There is an electronic form which is completed within the centre and submitted to the relevant Cheshire Police officer (**Appendix C**). The designated officer



inputs the information on to the force’s system and the normal operating procedures then apply. Incidents are coded by Cheshire Police to clearly differentiate reported incidents into hate “crimes” and hate “incidents”.

- 4.4 Raising awareness sessions have also been carried out with front line service providers across Halton, as well as targeted service user groups. These sessions are different and separate to those delivered by Cheshire Police on how to report a hate incident. The awareness sessions are more to do with recognising that vulnerable victims may not wish to report an incident to a Police Officer, however they will share the information with someone they have an existing relationship with, such as a health visitor or social worker. The sessions give these front line colleagues the knowledge to report on incident as a 3<sup>rd</sup> party.
- 4.5 Data on hate crimes in Halton are reported through the Halton Strategic Partnership Board via this framework:



**5.0 Aims and Objectives**

5.1 The key aims of this Strategy are to:-

Increase victim and community confidence in the criminal justice system by:

- Doing what matters to the Victim
- Doing what matters to the Community
- Doing whatever is in the best interest of the Offender
- Doing what is in the Public Interest

## **6.0 Partners involved in the Delivery of the Strategy**

6.1 It is important to keep local communities informed of what actions are being undertaken. It is essential that this strategy and the progress in its delivery, is shared and discussed with the residents of Halton, through all appropriate means and forums.

6.2 This strategy is an active and working document. It has been developed to bring about further and real improvements in tackling hate crime and harassment in Halton local communities and neighbourhoods. This action plan will be delivered by the following partners working together:

- Halton's Community Safety Team
- Cheshire Police
- Youth Offending Service
- Victim Support
- Housing Providers
- Voluntary & Community Groups
- Cheshire Probation Service
- Halton Borough Council Safeguarding Adults Services
- Halton Borough Council Children and Young People's services

## **7.0 Governance**

7.1 The work will be monitored and evaluated by members of the Safer Halton Partnership who will then review the successes gained and areas in which we still need to develop.

7.2 Success of the actions contained within this strategy will be partly monitored via the Cheshire Police's Satisfaction Survey, which will indicate if people are satisfied with the service received.

7.3 Additionally, hate crime and incident statistics provided by the dedicated Cheshire Police Officer will be monitored to evaluate the success of this strategy, both in relation to the number of incidents reported and the number of crimes detected.

## 8.0 Action Plan

NOTE: This plan is based on that adopted by the Criminal Justice Board and Cheshire Police, and whilst some actions are quite specific to those Partners, they have been included to ensure that everyone involved is aware of the work being undertaken.

### Aims:

**Increase victim and community confidence in the criminal justice system by:**

- **Doing what matters to the Victim**
- **Doing what matters to the Community**
- **Doing whatever is in the best interest of the Offender**
- **Doing what is in the Public Interest**

### Doing what matters to the victim

Action	Owner	Rationale	Measures	Update
<p>Develop a directory of services including advocacy services to support hate crime victims to both report crimes/incidents and gain advice and support</p> <p>To identify pathways for victims into</p>	<p>All Agencies/local authorities</p>	<p>Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime</p> <p>Mencap Stand By Me campaign</p> <p>To address undetected hate crimes where the</p>	<p>Victims signposted to appropriate support and facilities</p>	<p><b>Police</b></p> <p>The Force website carries details of all Community Reporting Centres across the area, which provides help and support together with reporting facilities.</p> <p><a href="http://www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-information/hate-crime.aspx">http://www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-information/hate-crime.aspx</a></p> <p><b>YOT</b></p> <p>Victims of all types of crime are offered a menu of services from</p>

advocacy services and help improve access and increase referrals.		offender is known through supporting victims to take the matter to court following a complaint		HWYOT, including Restorative Justice processes
2. Explore opportunities for victims to be involved in future development of support services	Police/victim support/partner agencies	Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime  Hidden in Plain Sight Inquiry into Disability Harassment  'Out in the Open'	Better understanding of public attitudes.  Services tailored to local concerns.  All agencies working with minority organisations to increase involvement from minority communities.	<b>Police</b> The Force Hate Crime advisor works with minority support groups to build the confidence of service users to report any hate crimes and incidents. Focus sessions held with minority groups to ensure service user opinions and experiences are known and incorporated into future services.  Continue support for existing engagement activities e.g. Carers Support Groups
3. Carry out mystery shopper survey of 3 <sup>rd</sup> party/ Community Reporting Centres to ensure all centres remain up to date.	Office of the PCC	Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime	Gaps identified and appropriate action taken.	The Police Authority carry out a 'mystery shopper' survey of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party reporting centres every few years. Relevant feedback is given around identified gaps. Refresher training has been delivered to those centres requiring it.
Vulnerable people highlighted in police	Police	'Hidden in Plain Sight'	All partners carry out risk assessments to identify	Multi-Agency Meetings (MAM) to discuss cases where there is a threat

and other partner risk assessments and information shared to reduce their risk of victimisation			vulnerable people and share data When appropriate cases taken to the MAM meetings for discussion	of repeat incidents or risk of harm.
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### Doing what matters to the community

4. Raise awareness across Cheshire of what hate crime is across all five categories	All Agencies	Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime.  EHRC report 'Out in the Open'	Increased understanding of hate incidents and hate crimes at a local level will inform action to prevent hate crime and the escalation of hate crime.  Development of early interventions and local initiatives to raise confidence in minority communities.  Increase the number of reported incidents of hate crime	<b>Police</b> The hate crime advisor attends multiagency conferences, support groups and community events to publicise hate crime. The Force website has a full explanation of all categories of hate crimes and incidents and how to report and carries the electronic 'True Vision' site for online reporting. <a href="http://www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-information/hate-crime/true-vision.aspx">http://www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-information/hate-crime/true-vision.aspx</a>  <b>Safer Halton Partnership</b> Safe in Town, the scheme is about providing a safe sanctuary for people with learning and physical disabilities and is being piloted in several areas across Cheshire.
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				Hate Crime awareness raising sessions to front line service providers, community and voluntary groups
5. Ensure that the views of communities are considered in order to identify local concerns	All Agencies	<p>Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime</p> <p>Hidden in Plain Sight Inquiry into Disability Harassment Mencap Stand By Me campaign</p> <p>Cheshire Constabulary Equality Objectives 1 &amp; 2</p> <p>Partnership Community Engagement Strategy</p>	<p>CSPs will be equipped with the information and guidance necessary to devise and deliver local hate crime action plans.</p> <p>All agencies develop approaches for effective joint working.</p> <p>Implement the Community Engagement Strategy Action Plan to share consultation findings and avoid duplication. Carry out health checks against the action plan to identify how partners use consultation findings to change the way services are delivered.</p>	<p><b>Police</b> The hate crime advisor and local partnership officer work with individuals and local support groups to identify vulnerable individuals and their concerns.</p> <p>Focus sessions held to ensure service user opinions and experiences are known and incorporated into future services.</p> <p><b>Safer Halton Partnership</b> Develop and keep up to date the Hate Crime Strategy for Halton.</p> <p>Halton Strategic Partnership Board Community Engagement Strategy health check to be completed and recommendations put forward</p>
6. Undertake consultation with	All Agencies	Cross-Government	Communities will be engaged with local efforts to	<b>Police</b> Focus sessions held to ensure

<p>local communities on strategies and plans</p>		<p>Action Plan on Hate Crime</p> <p>Hidden in Plain Sight Inquiry into Disability Harassment</p> <p>Mencap Stand By Me campaign</p> <p>‘Out in the Open’</p> <p>Cheshire Constabulary Equality Objective 2</p> <p>HSPB Community Engagement Strategy</p>	<p>tackle hate incidents and hate crimes and be enabled to hold local agencies to account for their performance in delivering action on hate crime.</p>	<p>service user opinions and experiences are known and incorporated into future services. Local authorities use this information to develop relevant hate crime strategies.</p> <p>Extensive consultation was conducted in respect of the Constabulary Equality Objectives set in April 2012.</p> <p><a href="http://www.cheshire.police.uk/about-us/equality-diversity-and-human/equality-objectives.aspx">http://www.cheshire.police.uk/about-us/equality-diversity-and-human/equality-objectives.aspx</a></p> <p>HSPB Residents’ Survey to address community safety and hate crime issues. Next survey will be 13/14</p>
<p>7. Develop partnership working to incorporate advice, guidance and best practice on how to prevent and tackle hate crime</p>	<p>All Agencies</p>	<p>Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime</p> <p>Hidden in Plain Sight Inquiry into Disability Harassment</p>	<p>Professionals will be equipped with detailed guidance on the circumstances and processes</p> <p>Adult and Children’s safeguarding boards to work</p>	<p><b>Police</b></p> <p>A Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel has been formed. Each BCU local scrutiny group feeds into the overarching panel.</p> <p>The Diversity Monitoring Review Group (DMRG), which is multiagency reviews hate crime</p>


		<p><b>Out in the Open</b></p>	<p>with other agencies to develop learning from case reviews.</p> <p>All partner agencies work with local partnerships on Hate Crime Panels to develop approaches for effective joint working, including data sharing.</p>	<p>across the force area on a quarterly basis.</p> <p><a href="http://www.cheshire.police.uk/about-us/equality-diversity-and-human/equality-information.aspx">http://www.cheshire.police.uk/about-us/equality-diversity-and-human/equality-information.aspx</a></p> <p>A Hate Crime Sgt (Alison Ross) has been appointed for a 6 month period to look at the way hate crime was investigated across the Force area and to identify possible ways to improve crime investigation, staff training and support for victims.</p> <p>Close links to Safeguarding teams are being developed to ensure information is appropriately shared and all agencies are aware of each other's work. Hate Crime case studies be taken to both Safeguarding Boards to identify how partners could have responded differently to help prevent hate crime.</p> <p><b>Probation</b> Membership of DMRG – Police lead. Sharing hate crime data across the agencies.</p>
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				<p><b>CPS</b> A Local Scrutiny and Involvement Panel for Cheshire and Merseyside is in place. The LSIP is chaired by the Chief Crown Prosecutor and includes representatives from a range of voluntary and community sector organisations. File scrutiny will focus on Trans Hate Crime later in the year.</p>
8. Create multi-agency training programme on hate crime for key partner agencies	Police, Safer Halton Partnership and CPS	Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime  Out in the Open	Local services will be better equipped to support victims and witnesses in hate crime cases. This will help encourage victims and witnesses to come forward to ensure equal access to justice and facilitate successful prosecutions.	<p><b>Police</b> The hate crime advisor delivers hate crime training to key partner agencies staff including, PCT, NHS, CWaC, HBC, WBC, Community support groups and local colleges.</p> <p>A Hate Crime Sgt has been appointed for a 6 month period to look at the way hate crime was investigated across the Force area and to identify possible ways to improve crime investigation, staff training and support for victims.</p> <p><b>CPS</b> Disability Hate Crime Training course was devised to help improve</p>

				<p>the knowledge and skills of prosecutors in relation to DHC cases. Every Prosecutor in the Area, including the Chief Crown Prosecutor and Deputy Chief Crown Prosecutor will have completed the training by the end of the year.</p> <p>Training on Transgender issues is being delivered to CPS Merseyside-Cheshire prosecutors and members of the CPS Merseyside-Cheshire LSIP. The LSIP also includes representation from the Trans community.</p>
9. Develop procedure for good hate crime governance	Sub group?	Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime	A good practice product. The practice guidance will provide practitioners with the tools for improving practice on hate crime.	<p><b>Probation</b></p> <p>Cheshire Probation Trust has developed practice guidance around hate crime for staff that links to CPS guidance. This will ensure that more hate crime offenders can be identified.</p>
10. Identify and develop effective systems for hate crime/incident reporting at a local level	All Agencies	Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime	<p>Reporting of Hate Crimes and incidents will be more accurate and consistent.</p> <p>Staff have increased awareness and recognition of hate crime/incidents.</p>	<p><b>Police</b></p> <p>Community (3<sup>rd</sup> Party) Reporting Centres and individual community/partner reporters have been set up across the Force area. Leaflets, stickers and posters advertise these services.</p>

			<p>Repeat, victims, offenders and locations are identified and appropriate action taken</p> <p>Map pathways into victim and witness support and other advocacy services that support victims of hate crime. Work with partners such as Age UK and registered providers to give them the info they need to refer people into these services when appropriate.</p>	<p>An initiative specifically targeting hate crime against taxi drivers has been set up across the Force area. This advertises to offenders offences of hate crime and encourages drivers to report incidents.</p> <p><b>Probation</b> Cheshire Probation Trust has a hate crime incident form and reports to the police any incidents that require reporting.</p> <p><b>YOT</b> HWYOT's database does not allow for specific hate crime identification and therefore information gathering has to be completed manually. However on an individual case basis if an offence is identified as a hate crime specific interventions can be done with the young person relating to Race and Religion, Disability, Gender and Sexuality</p>
11. Introduce local Hate Crime Scrutiny Panels to ensure aims and objectives are achieved.	All Agencies/local authorities	Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime Hidden in Plain	Gaps in the evidence on the nature and extent of hate crime will have been mapped.	<p><b>Police</b> A Force wide Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel has been created.</p>

		<p>Sight Inquiry into Disability Harassment</p> <p>Out in the Open</p>	<p>Increased understanding of hate incidents and hate crimes at a local level will inform action to prevent hate crime and the escalation of hate crime.</p> <p>All partner agencies work with local partnerships on Hate Crime Panels to develop approaches for effective joint working.</p>	 <p>H:\Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel T of R.</p> <p>There are also local hate crime scrutiny groups on each BCU.</p> <p>The Hate Crime Advisor sits on all relevant Hate Crime, Equality and Safeguarding groups across the Force area ensure that information and good practice is shared in relation to all aspects of hate crime.</p> <p><b>Safer halton partnership</b> Hate Crime case studies are to be reported to Safeguarding Boards and the Safer Halton Partnership to identify what could have been done differently by partners to achieve a better outcome for the victim</p> <p><b>YOT</b> HWYOT as a single agency would not undertake its own hate crime scrutiny panel but would be involved if required by either Halton or Warrington LA</p> <p><b>CPS</b> A Local Scrutiny and Involvement</p>
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				Panel for Cheshire and Merseyside is in place. The LSIP is chaired by the Chief Crown Prosecutor and includes representatives from a range of voluntary and community sector organisations.
12. Work to increase the number of hate crimes/incidents reported and successful outcomes achieved	All Agencies/local authorities	<p>Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime</p> <p>Hidden in Plain Sight Inquiry into Disability Harassment</p> <p>Out in the Open</p> <p>CC Equality Objective 1</p>	<p>Increased reporting of hate crimes with more cases being brought to successful conclusions.</p> <p>Increased community cohesion and victim confidence in the criminal justice system.</p> <p>Transport providers develop reciprocal reporting arrangements and work in partnership</p> <p>Increase referrals to victim and witness support services and use restorative justice to prevent escalation of incidents</p>	<p><b>Police</b> The hate crime advisor and local partnership officer work with individuals and local support groups to build confidence amongst members of minority communities and encourage the reporting of all hate incidents.</p> <p>A Cheshire wide Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel has been created, which includes representatives from local minority communities.</p> <p>Good news stories about hate crime cases that had been dealt with in a positive manner, published in relevant newsletters to increase confidence of minority groups. Also share these case studies with safeguarding groups and the Safer Halton Partnership and the council Safer Halton PPB.</p>

				<b>YOT</b> All HWYOT are aware of the definition of a Hate Crime and the views of the victim are always sought in terms of Restorative Justice Processes
13. Carry out gap analysis to identify any barriers to reporting and how these can be addressed	<b>Sub group</b>	Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime Out in the Open	Gaps in the evidence on the nature and extent of hate crime will have been mapped including reporting especially from marginalised groups.	<b>Police</b> Hate Crime Location maps have been produced. This provides a new data set showing details of Repeat Hate Crime Locations

#### Doing whatever is in the best interest of the Offender

14. Reduce offending and reoffending of hate crimes/incidents across Cheshire, by working with perpetrators.	Cheshire Probation Service/HMCS	Hidden in Plain Sight Inquiry into Disability Harassment	Fewer hate incidents and hate crimes will occur.  More cohesive and resilient communities	<b>Probation</b> Cheshire Probation Trust has a 14 session individual programme – Promoting Human Dignity (PHD) – for offenders convicted of hate crime. This is court mandated as a Specified Activity Requirement. Information leaflets have recently been revised to take account of the Government Hate Crime Action Plan. Guidance and training for staff, including court staff, has been put in place to ensure
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				greater awareness of hate crime and what PHD covers to be able to work with all offenders connected to hate crime to challenge their thinking and reduce the opportunities for reoffending.
15. Secure the provision of a programme to educate prisoners convicted of hate crimes or who demonstrate hate motivated behaviour	Cheshire Probation Service/HMPS	Hidden in Plain Sight Inquiry into Disability Harassment  Out in the Open	Fewer hate incidents and hate crimes will occur.  Increased community cohesion and victim confidence in the criminal justice system.	<b>Probation</b> See above re PHD programme available in the community. There is currently no hate crime programme available in Cheshire prisons.
16. Ensure that all prisoners convicted of hate crime or who demonstrate hate motivated behaviour can access and complete a programme that helps them address this behaviour	Cheshire Probation Service	Hidden in Plain Sight Inquiry into Disability Harassment  Out in the Open	Fewer hate incidents and hate crimes will occur.  Increase use of restorative justice and referrals to victim and witness support	<b>Probation</b> PHD available in the community.

## Doing what is in the Public Interest

<p>17. Identify resources and funding from internal and external sources to develop a range of publicising materials e.g.: posters leaflets etc.</p>	<p>All Agencies</p>	<p>Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime Mencap Stand By Me campaign</p>	<p>Multiagency materials produced.</p>	<p><b>Police</b> The Hate Crime Advisor and CWP have developed an easy read hate crime leaflet. This has been distributed to all partner and voluntary agencies.</p> <p><b>Probation</b> Cheshire Probation Trust has already revised and will be putting sentence and offender leaflets in place.</p> <p><b>YOT</b> HWYOT deal with a very small number of young people that are involved with hate crime incidents and/or offences. Therefore interventions are carried out on a one to one basis using an educational approach with the young person and utilising restorative justice principles wherever appropriate.</p>
<p>18. Develop partnerships across non-CJS sectors to</p>	<p>Chair of subgroup</p>	<p>Cross-Government Action Plan on</p>	<p>CDRPs/CSPs will facilitate mechanisms to inform local communities and local</p>	<p>The Hate Crime Advisor works with members of the local NHS and PCT together with the CSPs</p>



<p>distribute publicising materials</p>		<p>Hate Crime</p>	<p>needs.</p>	<p>and local support groups to ensure that all publicity material reaches the wider communities.</p> <p><b>Safer Halton Partnership</b> Hate Crime work is promoted at Locality Area Forums, PACT Panels and other local area based meetings.</p>
<p>19. Provide information materials and training about the difference between hate crimes and hate incidents to ensure clarity and avoid raising expectations</p>	<p>Police and CPS</p>	<p>Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime Mencap Stand By Me campaign</p> <p>Out in the Open</p>	<p>Increased understanding of hate crime and more accurate reporting.</p>	<p><b>Police</b> The hate crime advisor and local partnership officer work with individuals and local support groups to build confidence amongst members of minority communities and encourage the reporting of all hate incidents. A Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel has been created.</p> <p><b>Safer Halton Partnership</b> Ongoing training is being delivered, developing close links to Safeguarding teams to ensure information is appropriately shared and all agencies are aware of each other's work. Continue to review information on Halton council's and other</p>

				<p>partner's website and update as necessary, ensuring there is sufficient information on what constitutes a hate crime, how to report it and where to go for advice and support. Ensure that all contact numbers and links are up to date.</p> <p>Specific work has been carried out with local LGBT and disability groups after specific gaps in services have been identified, through Halton Speak Out disability partnership, Halton Speak Out etc.</p>
<p>20. Develop protocols to agree the role of each agency within the hate crime process and to ensure that relevant information can be appropriately shared across all agencies</p>	<p>All Agencies  Safer Halton Partnership</p>	<p>Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime  Out in the Open</p>	<p>Improved information sharing. Increased understanding of the nature and prevalence of hate crime.</p>	<p><b>Police</b> The Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel has Information Sharing Agreement in place.</p>  <p>H:\ISA Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel Final.d</p> <p><b>Safer Halton Partnership</b> Develop the Scrutiny Role of the SHP and Safeguarding Boards through the use of case studies</p>

<p>21. Set up reporting and monitoring mechanisms across all agencies and collect data in relation to number of hate crimes/incidents and attrition rates at each stage of the process</p>	<p>Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel</p>	<p>Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime Hidden in Plain Sight Inquiry into Disability Harassment</p> <p>Out in the Open</p>	<p>Increased understanding of the nature and context of hate crime.</p>	<p><b>Police</b> The Diversity Monitoring Review Group (DMRG), which is multiagency reviews hate crime across the force area on a quarterly basis. The Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel has been formed.</p> <p>The hate crime advisor meets with BCU Partnerships Inspectors, local hate crime scrutiny groups and Partner Agency representatives to ensure all relevant data is collated and reviewed to identify any gaps.</p> <p><b>Probation</b> Cheshire Probation Trust is part of the DMRG where such data is shared. CPT can share the numbers of PHD commencements and completions.</p>
<p>22. Report and analyse data and outcomes on a quarterly basis via Hate Crime Scrutiny Panels and the</p>	<p>All Agencies</p>	<p>Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime</p> <p>Out in the Open</p>	<p>Improved local data collection and analysis on hate incidents and hate crime</p>	<p><b>Police</b> A quarterly report is produced for the DMRG. The Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel reviews individual incidents and crimes and identifies any issues, which are</p>

Diversity Monitoring Review Group				<p>then investigated by the relevant agency.</p> <p><b>Probation</b> As above</p> <p><b>YOT</b> HWYOT's database does not allow for specific hate crime identification and therefore information gathering has to be completed manually. HWYOT is in the process of implementing a new data base where such reporting in terms of specific areas will be easier to complete</p> <p><b>CPS</b> The Strategic Lead chairs a quarterly meeting for internal staff, to review hate Crime performance data, explore case studies, share good practice and identify improvement actions.</p>
23. Record and monitor when an uplift/enhanced sentence is announced in open court	HMCS	Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime Hidden in Plain Sight Inquiry into	<p>Greater transparency and accountability will improve trust and confidence.</p> <p>Section 146 of the Criminal</p>	

		Disability Harassment  Out in the Open	Justice Act 2003 is appropriately, consistently and transparently applied.	
24. Reduce the level of CJS attrition.	Police/CPS	Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime  Out in the Open	Increased successful outcomes at court	
25. Set up systems to enable the reporting of offending and reoffending rates across Cheshire in relation to all categories of hate crime	Police/CPS/HMCS/Cheshire Probation Service	Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime  Out in the Open	Increased understanding of the nature and context of hate crime.  Increased awareness and recognition of hate crime/incidents, repeat, victims, offenders and locations.	<b>Police</b> Hate Crime Location maps have been produced. This provides a new data set showing details of Repeat Hate Crime Locations, Repeat Victims and Repeat Offenders (where the offender details are known). This information is shared with partner agencies at the DMRG
26. Monitor national initiatives and implement them locally if appropriate	All agencies	Cross-Government Action Plan on Hate Crime  Out in the Open	CDRPs/CSPs and other local partners will have increased awareness of good practice both nationally and locally.  Identify and implement interventions to prevent harassment occurring in the	<b>Police</b> The hate crime advisor carries out Environmental Scanning and liaises with hate crime advisors from other forces for relevant hate crime initiatives.  <b>Safer Halton partnership</b> Safe in Town, the scheme is

			first place and develop responses to prevent escalation.	<p>about providing a safe sanctuary for people with learning and physical disabilities and is being piloted in several areas across Cheshire.</p> <p><b>YOT</b> Any Youth Justice Board initiatives are communicated through the YJB Bulletin which is distributed to all staff. These are then discussed at HWYOT Management Team Meeting in order to feedback/implementation to be agreed</p>
Develop a school reporting system that incorporates all bullying information and details on hate incidents.	Schools/Cheshire Police	April 2013	Reduce the duplication of reporting mechanisms.	<p>Sharps system in all secondary schools but not primary.</p> <p>Where appropriate consider restorative justice in response to incidents for example in schools and with youth groups</p> <p>Halton Borough Council has developed a prejudice based bullying reporting system and are piloting in schools. This sits alongside a new Anti-Bullying policy and Charter Mark.</p>

## The Legislative Framework

## APPENDIX A

### ***National Legislation and Policy Developments***

The Macpherson Inquiry into the racist murder of the black teenager Stephen Lawrence laid the groundwork for the legal recognition of racist hate crime. In the years that followed, it has been recognised that hate crime on the basis of religion, sexual orientation, gender identity and disability came into existence. National legislation in the UK follows the principle that crimes motivated by hostility, prejudice of hate towards an aspect of a person identity should be treated differently to other crimes.

There have also been a number of policy documents written in the past by a range of public bodies on the various strands of hate crime. Key documents to note are:

The **Equalities Act 2010** (section 149) put in place a 'Public Sector Equality Duty'. This means that a public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and person who do not share it
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it

**Protected characteristics** - The Act defines a number of characteristics which are protected: -

- (a) Age
- (b) Disability
- (c) Gender reassignment
- (d) Marriage and civil partnership
- (e) Pregnancy and maternity
- (f) Race
- (g) Religion or belief
- (h) Sex
- (i) Sexual orientation

The Equalities Act is overarching and has replaced other legislation including:-

**The Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006** – As of October 2007 this act makes provision about offences involving stirring up hatred against persons on racial and religious grounds.

**The Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004** – As part of this act the Victims Code of Practice came into effect from April 2006 giving victims the right to information about the crime within specified timescales. It also sets out the minimum

levels of enhanced services that should be offered to “vulnerable” victims of crime by criminal justice agencies.

**The Criminal Justice Act 2003** created a range of new racially and religiously aggravated offences and sets of provisions for the following offences:

- Assaults (section 29)
- Criminal Damage (section 30)
- Public Order Offences (section 31)
- Harassment (section 32)

The act also introduced tougher sentences for offences motivated by hatred of the victim’s sexual orientation or disability, and this must now be taken into account when sentencing as an aggravating factor, in addition to race or religious motivation.

**The Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000** – This act requires the court to consider racial or religious hostility as an aggravating factor when sentencing for an offence.

**The Protection from Harassment Act 1997** – This act allows the courts to grant an injunction to restrain any actual or threatened harassment.

**Public Order Act 1986 Part III Incitement To Racial Hatred** Under this Act it is an offence to commit an act that is threatening, abusive or insulting and which is intended or likely in all the circumstances to stir up racial hatred.

**Football Offences Act 1991** (Amended by section 9 of the Football (Offences and Disorder) Act 1999) An offence is committed when a group of people, or one person acting alone, chants something of a racist nature at a designated football match. To prove this offence, the prosecution has to show that the chanting was threatening, abusive or insulting to another person because of that person’s colour, race, nationality (including citizenship) or ethnic or national origin.

**Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (As amended by the Anti- Terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001)** This contains a number of specific offences of racially or religiously aggravated crime. These offences carry higher maximum penalties than the basic offence equivalents. The Act places a duty on the courts to treat more seriously any offence.

**Human Rights Act 1998** This places a duty on all public authorities to uphold and promote human rights in everything they do. This means that their policies, programmes and services should ensure that individuals are autonomous, safe and can participate in the decisions that affect their lives; further, that they are treated fairly, with dignity and respect and that the rights of the wider community are also safeguarded.

**Criminal Justice Act 2003 S145:** in addition to the specific offences created by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, this places a general duty on courts to treat more seriously any offence that can be shown to be racially or religiously aggravated or



motivated. S146: places a duty on courts to increase the sentence for any offence aggravated by the demonstration or motivation of hostility based on the victim's disability (or presumed disability) or sexual orientation (or presumed sexual orientation)

**Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006** Under this Act an offence is committed if a person uses threatening words or behaviour, or displays any written material which is threatening, if he intends thereby to stir up religious hatred. Abusive or insulting words or behaviour intended to stir up religious hatred is not enough.

Possession, publication or distribution of inflammatory material is also an offence. The offence can be committed in a public or private place, but not within a dwelling unless the offending words and behaviour were heard outside and it was intended that they were heard. For an offence to have been committed, the defendant must have intended to stir up religious hatred.

**Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008** This amends the Public Order Act 1986 to include incitement to hatred on the grounds of sexual orientation

**Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill** was introduced during May 2013. The Bill is expected to receive Royal Assent by summer 2014. The Bill sets out the Government's continuing commitment to protect the public from crime, serious disorder and anti-social behavior by giving local police forces the ability to take decisions that fit the needs of the area they serve and to ensure that they are accountable to local people for these decisions.

**Equality and Human Rights Commission: 'Hidden in plain sight', Inquiry into disability related harassment, August 2011**, made several recommendations to public authorities with regards to addressing and investigating disability hate crime, as well as supporting victims.

The key recommendations for the purposes of this action plan are:

- Always consider whether a victim of anti-social behaviour is disabled, and whether their disability is part of the motivation for the harassment.
- When responding to anti-social behaviour and crime against disabled people (particularly the police, local authorities and housing providers), agencies should consider whether such harassment is disability –related.
- Where the behaviour is identified as disability-motivated, agencies should apply the relevant legal and policy frameworks.
- Where crimes have been committed, police should investigate them thoroughly and gather evidence to identify perpetrators. This should include consideration of how to support disabled people and how to identify other corroborating sources of evidence.
- Ensure that systems are in place to identify repeat victims. Urgent action should be taken to bring repeat harassment to an end rather than dealing with incidents as isolated events.
- Implement a corporate approach to adult protection, with training for all public facing staff and their managers on identifying and referring people at risk of harm.

- Develop and implement partnership approaches to prevent harassment and safeguarding adults at risk of harm.
- Provide information to the public about reporting harassment that they are experiencing or know a disabled person is experiencing.
- Public authorities should challenge cultures of disbelief of disabled people who make allegations of crime.

**Out in the Open: Tackling disability related harassment: A manifesto for change** The follow up report to Hidden in plain sight makes recommendations in 7 strategic areas which it says need to be addressed if disability harassment is to be reduced:

- Improved reporting, recording and recognition of disability related harassment so disabled people know their account of being tormented or worse, is taken seriously at every stage.
- Gaps in legislation and national policy to be addressed, such as tougher use of sentencing for those found guilty of harassment and more involvement of disabled people in public life e.g. jury service.
- Adequate support and advocacy to be provided, especially for those with a learning difficulty who may need someone to speak up on their behalf or provide emotional support.
- Improved practice and shared learning. Government and others need to work together to drive up standards and learn from any mistakes.
- Better redress and access to justice. A disabled person's account should be equally as credible as a non-disabled person in a court of law.
- Improved prevention, deterrence and understanding of motivation. If research is invested in understanding why people commit these crimes, it will be easier to profile potential perpetrators and thus intervene earlier on.
- More transparency, accountability and involvement of disabled people in developing policies and responses to disability related harassment.
- Looking at authorities and other organisations which are handling the issue well, the Commission highlights their work in three main areas:
  - A commitment to monitoring Section 146 of the Criminal Justice Act and data sharing which will help to identify 'at risk' individuals;
  - Addressing cyber bullying; and
  - Tackling anti-social behaviour in social housing.

### **Challenge it, Report it, Stop it: The Government's Plan to Tackle Hate Crime -**

The plan provides a blueprint for the Government's role over the next three years to help set a national direction and support local efforts to combat hate crime. It is divided up into three key areas: prevention, increasing reporting and improving the operational response to hate crime.

#### **Preventing hate crime**

This section sets out the steps being taken by the Government to prevent hate crime from occurring by challenging the bigotry and prejudice that foster hatred. These include:

- Working with schools and voluntary sector partners to increase the resources available to help tackle bullying in schools.
- Developing a new cross-Government Disability Strategy, which will include action on changing attitudes and behavior.

### **Increasing reporting and access to support**

This section sets out how the Government wants to make it easier for victims of hate crime to come forward and report offences.

- The Home Office and the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) will be working with councils, police forces and housing providers to improve the handling of public calls about anti-social behavior so that hate crime victims can be better identified.

### **Improving the response to hate crime**

This section of the plan focuses on the Government's goals and actions for the criminal justice system and calls on councils and other local partners to work jointly with the criminal justice system to bring offenders to justice by, for example, making available information on hate crime and local support services.

## APPENDIX B – Hate Crime Reporting Centres in Halton

### Community Reporting Centres for Hate Crime in Halton

<p><b>Riverside College (Cronton)</b> Cronton 6th Form Campus Cronton Lane Widnes, Cheshire, WA8 5WA</p>	<p><b>Riverside College (Runcorn)</b> Runcorn Campus Campus Drive Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 4RE</p>
<p><b>Riverside College (Kingsway)</b> Kingsway Campus Kingsway Widnes, Cheshire, WA8 7QQ</p> <p>Open for students</p>	<p><b>Halton Speak Out</b> The Old Police Station Mersey Road Runcorn Cheshire, WA7 1DF</p> <p>Phone No: 01928 588 526</p>
<p><b>Liverpool Housing Trust</b> Priory House, Northway Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 2FS</p> <p>Phone: 01928 796000 Open for Liverpool Housing Trust tenants</p>	<p><b>Affinity Sutton Housing (Widnes)</b> 265 Cherrysutton Estate Widnes WA8 4TH Phone: 0845 217 8601</p> <p>(Open for all tenants on Wednesdays only)</p>
<p><b>Gay and Lesbian Youth Service</b> Phone: 07747 473 829 for further information.</p> <p>Open for all LGBT young people</p>	<p><b>Riverside Housing</b> Halton Brook Avenue Halton Brook Runcorn Cheshire, WA7 2NW</p> <p>All tenants of Riverside</p>
<p><b>Halton Citizens Advice Bureau – Widnes Office</b> Unit 3, Victoria Buildings Lugsdale Road Widnes, WA8 6DJ</p> <p>Open to All</p>	<p><b>Halton Citizens Advice Bureau –Runcorn Office</b> Ground Floor Grosvenor House Runcorn, WA7 2HF</p> <p>Open to All</p>
<p><b>Ditton Youth &amp; Community Centre</b> Dundalk Road Widnes Cheshire, WA8 8DF Club Tel No: 0151 420 0001 Community Centre No: 0151 423 3121</p> <p>Outreach mobile number is: 07724 615 988</p>	<p><b>Chapelfield Youth Club</b> Chapelfield Community Centre Wilsden Road Hough Green Widnes, WA8 7XS Club Tel No: 0151 495 1662</p> <p>Outreach mobile number is: 07724 615 988</p>
<p><b>Murdishaw Youth Club</b> Moorings Close Runcorn Cheshire, WA7 6DQ Club Tel No: 01928 710 273</p> <p>Outreach mobile number is: 07821 396 977</p>	<p><b>Palacefields Community Centre</b> The Uplands Runcorn Cheshire, WA7 2UA Club Tel No: 01928 797784</p>

<b>CRMZ</b> Kingsway Widnes WA8 7QE  0303 333 4300	<b>West Bank Youth Club</b> Transporter House Mersey Road Widnes WA8
	<b>Grangeway Youth &amp; Community Centre</b> Grangeway Runcorn Cheshire, WA7 5HA  Club Tel No: 01928 583 320 Community Centre No: 01928 569 474
<b>West Runcorn Youth Centre</b> Russell Road Weston Point Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 4DP  Club Tel No: 01928 581 722	<b>Duke of Edinburgh</b> West Runcorn Youth Centre Russell Road Weston Point Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 4DP  Club Tel No: 01928 581 722
<b>Castlefields Community Centre</b> Chester Close Castlefields Runcorn, WA7 2HY  Phone No: 01928 563 839	<b>Upton Community Centre</b> Hough Green Road Widnes WA8 4PF  Phone No: 0151 423 1386
<b>Halton Housing Trust</b> Daresbury Point Green Wood Drive Manor Park, Runcorn, WA7 5LT  Phone No: 0800 195 3172 or 0303 333 0101	<b>Halton Housing Trust</b> Foundry Lane Widnes WA8 8TZ  Phone No: 0800 195 3172 or 0303 333 0101
<b>Murdishaw Community Centre</b> Barnfield Avenue Murdishaw Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 6EP  Phone No: 01928 718 285	<b>Staff within Halton's Direct Link Contact Centres have also been trained and can be contacted via the Council's main number:</b>  0303 333 4300
<b>Staff with Halton's One Stop Shops have also been trained. These are drop-in facilities and do not have phone numbers:</b>	
Widnes Direct Link One Stop Shop 7 Brook Street Widnes Cheshire, WA8 6NB	Halton Lea Direct Link One Stop Shop Concourse Level Rutland House Halton Lea, Runcorn, WA7 2ES
Runcorn Direct Link One Stop Shop Church Street Runcorn Cheshire, WA7 1LX	<b>True Vision Website</b> (owned by the Association of Chief Police Officers)  <a href="http://www.report-it.org.uk">www.report-it.org.uk</a>

**Appendix C: Third Party Reporting Form**



**ELECTRONIC FORM FOR COMPLETION**

**Please e-mail to**

**[hate.crime.reporting@cheshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:hate.crime.reporting@cheshire.pnn.police.uk)**

**ABOUT THE INCIDENT**

**Are you the victim or a witness?**

- Victim                       Witness                       Third party

**What do you think motivated this crime?**

- Racism                       Faith                       Disability
- Homophobia (sexual orientation)                       Transphobia (gender)

**Tell us about the incident in your own words, giving as much detail as possible** *(please use a separate sheet if necessary):*

**When did the incident take place?**

Time  Day  Date

**Where did it happen?**

Street name / location

Town / City

**Were there any injuries?**

Yes (if 'yes' please give details)

No

**Did any loss or damage to property result from the incident?**

Yes (if 'yes' please give details)

No

**ABOUT THE VICTIM**

Age

Gender

First language

(please state whether you require a translator.)

**To help us deal with hate crime correctly, please tick how you would describe yourself.**

**Faith**

- Buddhist
- Christian
- Hindu
- Jewish
- Muslim
- Rastafarian
- Sikh
- Other
- No religion
- Prefer not to say

**Sexual Orientation**

- Heterosexual
- Bisexual
- Gay/Lesbian

**Ethnicity**

- White British
- White Irish
- Any other white background
- White & Black Caribbean
- White & Black African
- White & Asian
- Any other mixed background
- Indian
- Pakistani
- Bangladeshi
- Black Caribbean
- Black African
- Any other black background
- Chinese
- Any other ethnic group
- Gypsy
- Traveller community
- Prefer not to say



**ABOUT THE OFFENDER(S)**

**How many offenders were there**

**Do you know them?**

Yes

No

*If 'yes' please give names and if possible addresses).*

**Can you give a description?**

*(Consider age, gender, height, ethnicity, build and clothing).*

**Please describe any distinguishing marks or features about the person.**

**Was a vehicle used?**

*Please describe the vehicle e.g. colour, make, model*

**PERSONAL DETAILS**

The details you have provided to us so far will be recorded for monitoring purposes.

If you wish this incident to be investigated please include how you would prefer to be contacted.

Your name

Your address

Postcode

Telephone number

E-mail

Please tell us how you would prefer to be contacted e.g. only at a certain time or location.

**Agency contact for help and support**

**Do you agree to this information being passed to your local agency partnership?**

Incident details only

Yes

No

My details

Yes

No

Office use

## Appendix D

### Hate Crime - National data

Hate crime and harassment is recognised as a national issue. In September 2012, the Home Office published statistics on hate crimes recorded by the police in England and Wales for the first time. In 2011/12, 43,748 hate crimes were recorded by the police, of which:

- 35,816 (82 per cent) were race hate crimes
- 1,621 (4 per cent) were religion hate crimes
- 4,252 (10 per cent) were sexual orientation hate crimes
- 1,744 (4 per cent) were disability hate crimes
- 315 (1 per cent) were transgender hate crimes

Race hate crimes accounted for the majority of hate crimes recorded in all police forces.

Disability crime includes crimes against those with learning difficulties or mental health issues. Research by Mind found that 71% of people with mental health needs had been subjected to a disability hate crime at least once in the preceding two years. Mencap's "Living in Fear" survey found that 88% of people with learning disabilities had been subjected to a disability hate crime or incident in the preceding year and that the effect on them can be "cumulative and devastating".

Nationally we know that hate crimes are hugely under-reported, estimates suggest that a mere 20-30 per cent of all hate crimes are actually reported to the police. In addition, it is difficult to know how to interpret fluctuations in the numbers of reports of hate crime incidents. There are several possible explanations for reports of hate crime increasing for example such as:

- More crimes taking place
- Projects encouraging people to report
- People having more confidence in reporting structures

Nationally most hate crime perpetrators live in the same neighbourhood as their victims and the majority of hate crimes happen near to the victim's home while they are going about their daily business.

Since 2006/07, the number of hate crime cases referred to the Crown Prosecution Service for decision by the police has steadily increased from 14,133 to 15,519. The proportion of these cases charged has also increased from 59.4% to 72.0%.

Over the same period, the proportion of decisions not to prosecute for evidential or public interest reasons has dropped from 20.7% to 16.8%. This trend over time suggests that aspects of investigation and prosecution are improving as we become better at recognising and responding to hate crime across all strands.

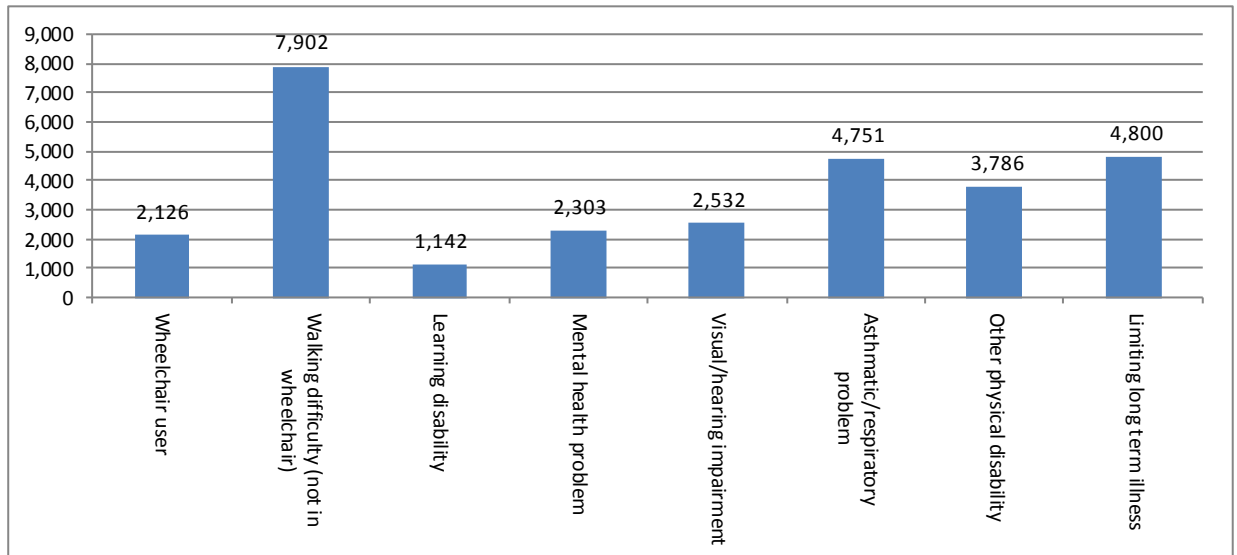
Between 2006/07 and 2010/11, the proportion of successful convictions across all types of hate crime has increased from 76.8% to 82.8%, while the number of



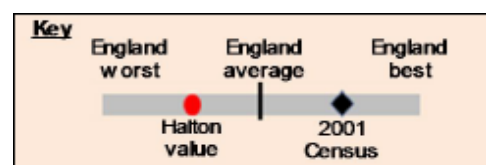
Limiting illness	1	limited a lot	11.6%	n/a	8.3%	14.2%		4.4%
	2	limited a little	9.8%	n/a	9.3%	13.2%		6.0%
	3	not limited	78.6%	n/a	82.4%	74.0%		88.8%
	4	limited a lot: Age 16 to 64	5.9%	n/a	3.6%	7.2%		1.2%
	5	limited a little: Age 16 to 64	5.6%	n/a	4.6%	6.4%		2.9%
	6	not limited: Age 16 to 64	54.1%	n/a	56.5%	46.9%		72.2%
Health	7	Very good health	46.7%	n/a	47.2%	38.2%		57.8%
	8	Good health	31.6%	n/a	34.2%	28.5%		37.8%
	9	Fair health	13.9%	n/a	13.1%	8.7%		18.3%
	10	Bad health	6.1%	n/a	4.2%	7.3%		2.1%
	11	Very bad health	1.7%	n/a	1.2%	2.2%		0.6%


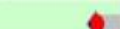

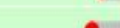


The 2010 Strategic Housing Market Assessment SHMA found that an estimated 15,104 households in Halton contained someone with a support need, representing 29% of all households in the Borough. People with a walking difficulty were the most predominant group, affecting 7,902 households (15% of all households) as shown in figure 1.1.

Figure 1.1 - Households containing someone with a support need



**Ethnicity** - The majority of residents (97.8%) in Halton are white and 2% non-white as set out in the table below. As can be seen by the chart on the right, the number of white residents is proportionately high compared to other English areas and the non-white population in Halton is low compared to other English areas. Christianity is the main religion in Halton, well above the national average. However, this has dropped from the 2001 Census with more people stating no religion (a trend seen nationally). As at January 2012, Halton had 82 Gypsy and Traveller Caravans. From the 2011 School Census the main first language apart from English was Polish.



Ethnicity	5	% white	97.8%	98.8%	85.5%	29.0%		98.9%
	6	% non white	2.0%	1.1%	14.5%	1.1%		71.0%
	7	% no people in household have English as a first language	0.6%	n/a	4.4%	0.3%		24.3%
	8	% of pupils w hose first language other than English (primary)	0.9%	n/a	16.8%	0.9%		77.8%
	9	% of pupils w hose first language other than English (secondary)	0.9%	n/a	12.3%	0.4%		70.4%
	10	% No English Identity	15.5%	n/a	29.9%	13.5%		75.7%

The ethnicity of the 2% non-white population in Halton is shown below.

Ethnicity	Percentage of Halton population (source 2011 census)
White	97.8%
Mixed/Multiple Ethnic groups	1.1%
Asian	0.6%
Black/ African/ Caribbean/ Black British	0.2%
Other Ethnic Group	0.1%

### Hate Crime Data

The table below shows hate crime data for Halton, Cheshire and England and Wales national data for 11/12. Halton is shown to have lower levels of religious and transphobic hate crime than Cheshire or nationally and similar levels of homophobic and racist hate crime to Cheshire. However homophobic hate crimes are higher than those nationally and racist hate crimes slightly lower. Halton has a higher percentage of disability hate crime than Cheshire and slightly higher than that seen nationally in 11/12. This may reflect the fact that Halton has higher numbers of people who consider themselves in poor health or with an illness that limits their daily activities, compared with national data.

	Hate Crime Data for Halton		Hate Crime Data for Cheshire <i>Source: Home Office Hate Crimes England and Wales 2011/12 tables</i>		Hate Crime national data	
	11/12	Percentage	11/12	Percentage	11/12	Percentage
<b>Religious</b>		0%	1	0.2%	1,621	3.7%
<b>Transphobic</b>		0%	4	1.1%	315	0.7%
<b>Disability</b>	3	4.9%	7	1.9%	1,744	4%
<b>Homophobic</b>	10	16.4%	58	16.2%	4,252	9.7%
<b>Racist</b>	48	78.7%	289	80.5%	35,816	81.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>		<b>359</b>		<b>43,748</b>	

The table below shows the number of hate crimes in Halton over the last three years. The vast majority of hate crimes in Halton reflect the national picture and are race-related (82.5%), with 15.1% homophobic related and 2% disability related. Over the last three years there have been no religious or transphobic motivated hate crimes reported in Halton. Of the racially motivated hate crime in Halton, the majority relate to Asians, which may reflect the fact that Asians are the largest ethnic minority in the borough (0.6%).

<b>Hate Crimes Halton data</b>				<b>Totals</b>	<b>Percentage (of total over the three years)</b>
	<b>9/10</b>	<b>10/11</b>	<b>11/12</b>		
<b>Religious</b>					
<b>Transphobic</b>					
<b>Disability</b>	1		3	4	2.3%
<b>Homophobic</b>	10	6	10	26	15.1%
<b>Racist</b>	46	48	48	142	82.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>Total 172</b>	

Nationally most hate crime perpetrators live in the same neighbourhood as their victims. Using national data the majority of hate crimes happen near to the victim's home while they are going about their daily business, again a pattern reflected in Halton and shown on the maps below which highlight the location of hate crimes across Widnes and Runcorn. Cyber hate crime nationally is also on the increase, again a pattern reflected in Halton.

Approximately 50% of all hate incidents reported to the police in Halton are classed as hate crimes, with detection rates of approximately 30-40%, which is higher than for other crimes. However there are a significant number of crimes that are classed as undetected, even though the offender is known, because the victim does not want to take the matter to court. Work is underway to support victims through the complaints process and any resulting actions.

