

Essex Hate Crime Prevention Strategy

2018 - 2021



EasyRead Version



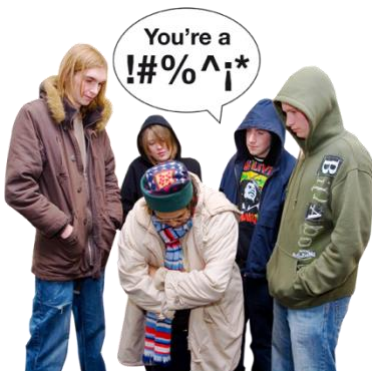
Introduction



My name is Ian Davidson and I am the Chairman of Safer Essex.



I know that people from many different backgrounds live and work in Essex.



I know that **hate crime** is very hurtful.



I know that hate crime damage the whole community as well as the **victim**.

Victim is the word the police use for people who have had nasty things said or done to them.



Hate crime can make people feel that they are not safe in their community.



The **Strategic Hate Crime Prevention Partnership (SHCPP)** is an association that works to reduce hate crime.

Its members include:

- Essex Police
- Police and Crime Commissioner
- Community Voluntary Services
- Community Safety Partnerships
- Schools
- Essex Fire and Rescue





I know that we must work together to reduce hate crime.

Public services and voluntary organisations must work together so people feel that they will be listened to when they report hate crime.

Public services are things like the police, the fire service, councils and health organisations.

Talking about Hate Crime



Hate crime is when someone is nasty to you because of :

- your skin colour or where you come from.



- your religion.



- your disability.



- your sexuality (if you fancy men or women.)



- your gender identity (if you were born a man but feel like you are a woman, or born a woman but feel like a man)



Research shows that hate crime is more upsetting to the victim than other types of crime.



Hate crime can leave the victim feeling:

- Scared
- Angry
- isolated (they may not want to go out)

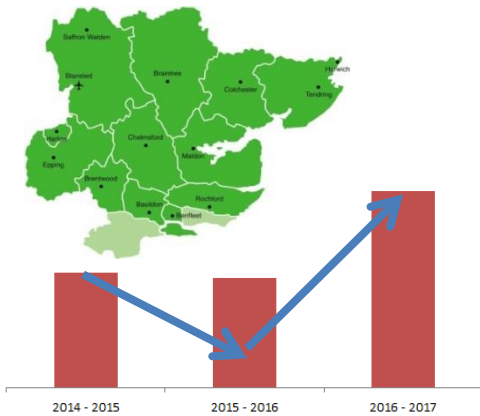


Hate crime can also cause mental illness and physical illness.

Talking about Hate Crime

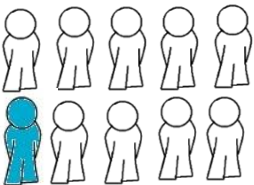


Hate crime has been in the news a lot over the last 18 months.



The number of hate crime attacks reported in Essex has gone up and down over the last 3 years:

In 2014 – 2015 there were 1,135
In 2015 – 2016 there were 1,079
In 2016 – 2017 there were 1,931



Almost 1 in every 10 hate crimes were because the person has a disability.

Talking about Hate Crime

A victim of hate crime said:



"I thought, 'if I report this it's only going to get worse.' I thought maybe if I keep quiet they will stop."



It is difficult to work out exactly how many hate crimes have happened.



This is because many people, especially with disabilities or who are transgender do not report hate crime.



The number of hate crimes often increases after a terror attack.



Some actions are not a criminal offence but they are done out of hate.



It is not only the police who must respond.

It is the responsibility of everybody in Essex to help stop hate crime.



You can go to a Police Station to report a Hate Crime.



You can also report hate crime at a Hate Incident Reporting Centre (HIRC) instead of talking to the police.



There are several Hate Incident Reporting Centres (HIRCs) in Essex.

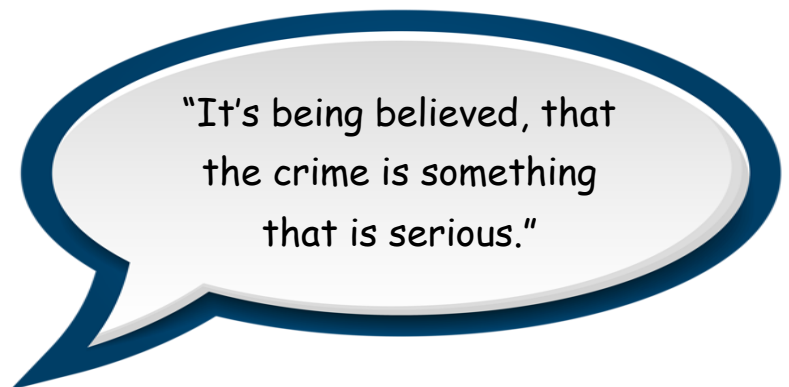
These can be found in places like libraries in your community.



They will give you advice and tell you where can get support.



A victim of hate crime said:



The Hate Crime Strategy



The Strategic Hate Crime Partnership has written this Hate Crime Strategy.

The strategy will last for 3 years, from 2018 to 2021.



The purpose of this strategy is to reduce hate crime.

To do this we have **5 things** we need to do.



1. To understand hate crime

we will find out:

- where and when it happens
- who commits hate crime
- who are the victims of hate crime
- how often hate crime happens
- what actually happens during the hate crime, for example, being called names or being physically assaulted





When we know this we will make sure that information and support is available in the right places.

2. To prevent hate crime

We will:



- Work in areas where hate crime happens most.
- make sure hate crime is a priority in community meetings.
- promote educational work within schools



3. To increase hate crime reporting

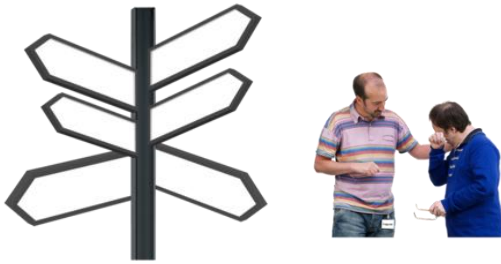
we will make sure that Hate Crime Ambassadors (HCAs) and Hate Incident Reporting Centres (HIRCs) are properly trained.



4. To increase access to support for victims

we will:

- make sure that victims know where and when they can report hate crime.
- make sure that HCAs and HIRCs can tell victims where they can get more help and advice.



5. To improve the response to hate crime

we will:

- talk to community groups, faith centres and victims
- use information from victims to train our partners.



The Strategic Hate Crime Prevention Partnership (SHCPP) works with Safer Essex to agree and promote its policies across Essex.



We must report to Safer Essex about the progress we are making to achieve the aims in this strategy.



We will measure how well we are doing against these aims:



1. To help more victims feel better about how they are treated when they report hate crime.



2. To make it easier to report hate crime.



3. To improve how we respond when hate crime is reported.



4. To make the public more aware of hate crime.



A Hate Crime Co-ordinator will help us to achieve these aims.



The Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner has written 2 plans.





1. The Police and Crime plan:

- promises to respond to the needs of individuals and communities who are vulnerable to hate crime.



- promises to make it easier to report hate crime.



2. The Victim's Needs Assessment:

- promises to review how many victims of hate crime who are referred to the Essex Restorative and Mediation Service.



These promises have been included in the Hate Crime Prevention Strategy 2018 – 2021.



You can find more information about hate crime in Essex and nationally by reading:

- Action Against Hate 2016
- Hate Crime Strategic Profile
- Public Consultation Analysis
- Essex Response to the Safer Bristol Multi-Agency Learning Review