



POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

11th AUGUST 2020

REPORT OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

Themed report – Hate Crime

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide an update on Hate Crime performance and highlight areas of good practice to the panel.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Northumbria Police continually monitor Hate Crime performance and the report will highlight areas of performance for the financial year 2019/20. Areas of good practice will also be identified within the report. The wider work around Hate Crime is monitored via the Hate Crime Action plan by the Force lead Superintendent Karl Wilson.
- 2.2 Hate crime and incidents continue to show a rising trend. This is in line with national figures which show an increase of 9% overall in 2018/19 compared to 2019/20.

Hate Type	2018-19	2019-20	Variance		National Variance 2017-18 - 2018-19
Racial	1,742	1,784	42	2%	11%
Faith	223	235	12	5%	3%
Sexual orientation	371	434	63	17%	25%
Transgender	73	61	-12	-16%	37%
Disability	265	381	116	44%	14%
Gender	2	12	10	500%	-
Age	4	2	-2	-50%	-

- 2.3 The greatest volume increase in 2019-20 has been in Northumberland (76 more offences) followed by North Tyneside and Gateshead with 70 more offences each. Northumberland is showing the largest percentage increase followed by South Tyneside. Newcastle has 47 fewer hate crimes in 2019-20 than 2018-19.

Local Authority/Area Command	2018-19	2019-20	Variance	
North Tyneside	285	355	70	25%
Northumberland	261	337	76	29%
NORTHERN	546	692	146	27%
Gateshead	412	482	70	17%
Newcastle	1114	1067	-47	-4%
CENTRAL	1526	1549	23	2%
South Tyneside	180	228	48	27%
Sunderland	428	440	12	3%
SOUTHERN	608	668	60	10%
Force	2,680	2,909	229	9%

- 2.4 Hate crimes targeted at disability show the largest volume and percentage increase in 2019-20 (+116 offences, 44%). The national picture for 2018-19 shows a 14% increase in offences aimed at disability.
- 2.5 Sexual orientation (+17%), faith motivated hate crime (+5%) and racial offences (+2%) are also showing an increase compared to 2018-19. These increases are in line or below the national picture for 2018-19.
- 2.6 In 2018-19, the Force had the 9th (7th in 2017-18) highest number of hate crimes per 10,000 populations in England and Wales (18.7 compared to 17 nationally).
- 2.7 The greatest proportion of hate crimes in Northumbria in 2019-20 are related to public disorder (60%), a decrease compared to 2018-19 (65%). This is similar to the national picture in 2018-19 (54%). The proportion related to violence against the person is 16% in 2019-20 and harassment offences account for 14%.
- 2.8 Harassment and public order offences continue to be the main offence types committed on line. In 2019-20, 17% of disability hate crimes were committed on line. 18% of transphobic and 9% of offences against a person's sexual orientation were committed on line. 8% of all hate crime was committed on line in 2019-20, compared to 4% in 2018-19. In response Community Engagement Teams are providing crime prevention advice to community groups who are potential victims of online crime.
- 2.9 The positive disposal rate for Hate Crimes has remained at 13% this period. The conviction rate for all Hate Crime is 86% which is above the national picture of 85%.
- 2.10 At force level, hate crime victim satisfaction with the whole experience of service has decreased in the 12 months to February 2020, from **84.9%** to **82.5%**. This performance is monitored at the local policing board and actions are in place under the Hate Crime Action Plan to address performance in this area. Actions are in place to address performance in areas of 'Action Taken' and 'Follow Up' with training planned for all frontline staff.
- 2.11 The Force continue to drive awareness of Hate Crime, ensuring visibility at a large number and diverse range of community events, examples such as Pride and Hate Crime Awareness week.

- 2.12 Community Engagement Teams (CET) continue to work alongside community groups and partners building trust and confidence and addressing any concerns regarding Hate Crime. Significant engagement has been undertaken with the Chinese community throughout the pandemic due to targeting of the community.
- 2.13 The Hate Crime Workplace Champions scheme has now been completed and was in the process of being delivered to private and public sector organisations to increase awareness and understanding of the impacts of Hate Crime prior to Covid 19. This scheme is supported by the OPCC and Home Office and received very positive feedback from agencies involved in the scheme.
- 2.14 Hate Crime Tension monitoring groups are now embedded across six local authorities. This ensures a partnership approach with statutory and third sector agencies to increase intelligence and seek to prevent Hate Crime occurring.
- 2.15 There is ongoing work alongside CPS, VFN and 3rd sector agencies to enhance support for victims of Hate Crime and improve satisfaction for victims involved in the Criminal Justice system.