



## Crime and Disorder Sub-Committee

**Subject Heading:**

Hate Crime

**SLT Lead:**

Jane West

**Report Author and contact details:**

Jessica Finnin – Prevent and Hate Crime  
Coordinator  
01708433225  
[Jessica.finnin@havering.gov.uk](mailto:Jessica.finnin@havering.gov.uk)

**Policy context:**

As part of the Crime Reduction Fund, Havering have a Prevent and Hate Crime Coordinator role as a way of tackling MOPAC's priority of: "Standing together against hatred and intolerance."

In July 2018, the Havering Community Safety Partnership agreed to commission a Hate Crime Problem Profile.

**Financial summary:**

There is no financial impact to this report.

**The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives**

Communities making Havering  
Places making Havering  
Opportunities making Havering  
Connections making Havering

**SUMMARY**

The Council and other statutory partners including Health have a responsibility under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to address crime and disorder within the borough.

This report will outline what Hate Crime looks like in the London Borough of Havering in line with the Hate Crime Problem Profile as commissioned by the

HCSP. The information below will be based on analysis between April 2017 – March 2018, and will be on a borough level.

This report will also demonstrate what the London Borough of Havering is currently doing to raise awareness of Hate Crime and how victims and witnesses are supported.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

That this report be noted.

**REPORT DETAIL**

For the purposes of this report we will be using the agreed definition of Hate Crime / Incident. (Agreed in 2007 by Police, Crown prosecution Service and National Offender Management), under this agreed definition a Hate Crime is; *“any criminal offence which is perceived, by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice towards someone based on a personal characteristic.”*

These characteristics are:

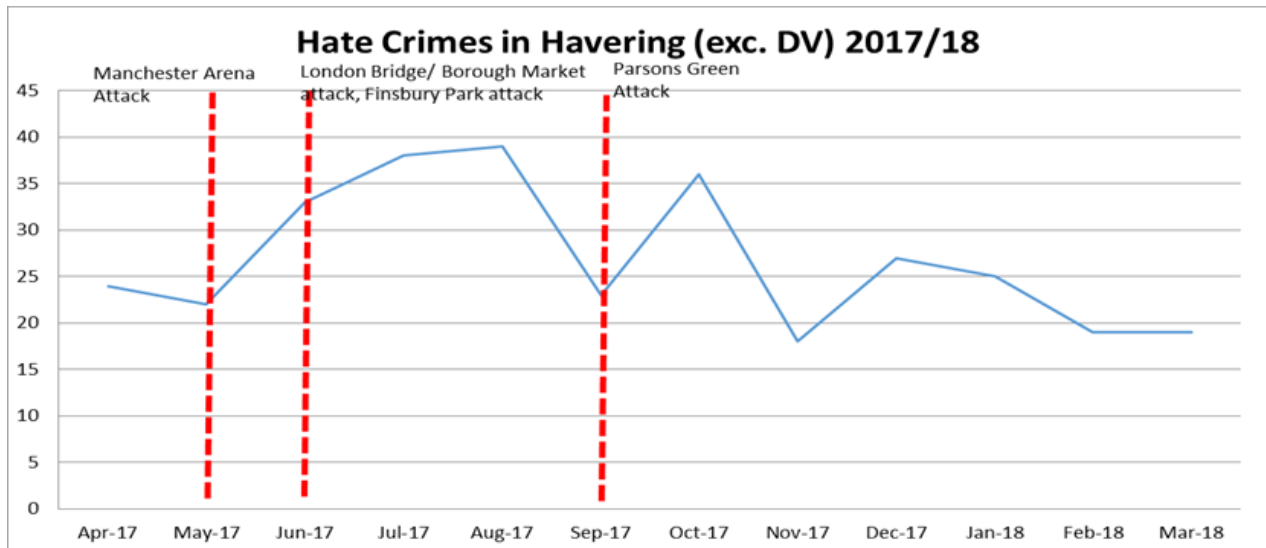
- Race
- Religion / Faith
- Sexual Orientation
- Disability
- Gender-Identity.

It is widely accepted that Hate Crime is significantly underreported, and the recording of Hate Crime on police systems is done in a number of ways and therefore gathering data on Hate Crime can be incredibly difficult. However, Havering’s Tactical Analyst has produced a problem profile outlining what Hate Crime looks like in Havering at a borough level.

Although Havering ranks relatively low in the volumes of crime for most of the 5 hate crime motivations, Havering has the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest rate per 1,000 Muslim populations for Islamophobic Offences behind, Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea. Despite Havering having the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest rate, Havering has the smallest Muslim population; therefore it is evident that Muslims are over represented as victims of Hate Crime in Havering.

There also appears to be a trend where a national event occurs (such as terrorism) Hate Crimes increase in Havering over the following month.

Trends show where a national event occurs regarding hate/terrorism, hate crimes in Havering increase the month thereafter.



The above graph demonstrates notable increases between May and August 2017 with a further increase in October. These correlate to incidents such as Manchester Arena attack, London Bridge, Borough Market and the Parsons Green Attack. Despite the fact that these were national events and there being no discernible way to determine if these were drivers or motivators for the increase in crime. There remains a correlation between the attacks and the timings of the increase of Hate Crime.

Violence against the person is also the crime where a hate motivation is most reported. Specifically harassment and public order offences.

### **Victims & Offenders**

The majority of racial incidents were committed against 25 – 34 year olds and those under the age of 17 were most likely to be a victim of a homophobic incident.

In terms of offenders, 29% of racial incident suspects were aged 17 and under. 33% of incidents where there has been an identified suspect have been in relation to homophobic incidents. 39% of suspects were aged between 18 and 24 where it was considered an Islamophobic incident.

Despite limited data available, 75% of suspects were self-classified as White British and the majority of suspects were males.

32% of suspects lived outside of the borough and 40% were neighbours of the victim. Havering residents were also reported to have offended in 13 of the 32 London Boroughs, these primarily being central and north east London.

## **Crime and Disorder Sub-Committee, 20 November 2018**

The Prevent and Hate Crime role sits within the Corporate and Community Resilience Team. We are currently doing a number of wide-ranging community engagement events around Hate Crime with different Communities. There have been road shows in the Night Time economy around LGBT hate crime and a Hate Crime stall was at Romford Pride in July.

We have also sought to educate young people in the borough about Hate Crime through the Junior Citizen Scheme and highlighted how social media can play a role. Havering participated in a number of awareness events around the borough for National Hate Crime Awareness Week, one of which being in conjuncture with the BME forum in the Mercury Mall.

With MOPAC funding, Havering have also brought the services of Stop Hate UK, who provide a 24 hours a day, 7 days a week helpline for victims or witnesses of hate crime to report. There is also the option to report anonymously, which although unlikely to lead to a prosecution; it can help inform work in a local area.

Stop Hate also signpost to a number of local services and national ones to provide a rounded approach to Hate Crime reporting in the borough.

We are keen to work alongside the community cohesion agenda to help increase reporting and more effectively target any problem areas.

### **IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

#### **Financial implications and risks:**

There are no direct financial implications; any actions listed above have been met by the London Crime Reduction Fund through MOPAC.

#### **Legal implications and risks:**

The Council and other statutory partners including Health have a responsibility under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to address crime and disorder within the borough.

#### **Human Resources implications and risks:**

There are no direct implications.

#### **Equalities implications and risks:**

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have due regard to:

**Crime and Disorder Sub-Committee, 20 November 2018**

- (i) the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (ii) the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;
- (iii) foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

Note: 'Protected characteristics' are: age, sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnerships, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity and gender reassignment.

The Council is committed to all of the above in the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants.

\*\*There are no direct equality implications regarding the matters raised in this report.