

Report of Director of Environments and Neighbourhoods

Report to South Leeds (Inner) Area Committee

Date: Wednesday 13th February 2013

Subject: Hate Crime in Inner South Leeds

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Beeston & Holbeck City & Hunslet Middleton Park
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues and corporate governance considerations

1. This report details levels of reported hate crime in Inner South Leeds and proposals to improve the same.

Recommendations

2. The Area Committee is asked to:
 - a) note the contents of the report and make comment as appropriate.

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To bring to Members' attention an overview of reported incidents of hate crime in Inner South Leeds during 2012 and to raise awareness of the review of the Hate Crime Strategy and planned changes to improve on hate crime reporting and responses by services.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1 Members will recall at the January 2012 Area Committee, a report was requested providing information on this subject.
- 2.2 The Hate Crime Strategy for Leeds is currently being reviewed by the SMT of Leeds Community Safety. Further updates on progress of the review will be presented to Members at a future meeting.

3.0 Reported incidents of Hate Crime in Inner South Leeds

- 3.1.1 This section provides details of numbers of reported incidents. Improvements to the way reports are collated are being developed and are discussed later in the report. It should also be acknowledged that hate crime is an issue that is often under-reported and this is particularly true of disability related hate crime
- 3.1.2 The following tables show data from Leeds Anti Social Behaviour Team. Data within the report is based upon either Enquiries recorded as ASB and responded to by LASBT, or Cases opened by LASBT. An enquiry is either an initial request for service, or a record of information received. A case represents investigation and response from the LASBT.

Hate Crime Enquiries - City Wide	2011/12				2012/13			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Disability	17	34	21	10	12	18	11	0
Faith	12	4	7	8	2	3	2	0
Race	119	143	121	225	206	253	197	0
Sexuality	22	17	11	25	21	34	21	0
Other	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	171	198	160	268	241	308	231	0

LASBT Hate Crime ASB Enquiries - South	2011/12				2012/13			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Beeston Holbeck	6	7	6	2	3	8	4	0
City Hunslet	10	22	20	8	2	6	9	0
Middleton Park	3	8	3	5	2	7	16	0

LASBT Hate Crime ASB Cases Opened- South	2011/12				2012/13			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Beeston & Holbeck	0	0	0	1	3	0	1	0
City & Hunslet	1	2	2	0	2	2	0	0
Middleton Park	1	2	2	2	1	2	8	0

4.0 Responses to hate crime

4.1 Leeds ASB Team are a multi-agency team. In the south area, the team is comprised of Leeds City Council, West Yorkshire Police, Victim Support, Aire Valley Homes and Belle Isle TMO. The team investigate all hate incidents where consent to do so is given by the victim.

4.2 All hate incidents in Leeds are logged centrally by LASBT as 'for information only' or 'for response.' For information only incidents are those reports that are made anonymously, where the victim does not give consent to share information or take action against the perpetrators, or where WYP are dealing with the report. This information is discussed at local Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences and used to identify patterns, consider safeguarding needed in communities, and plan targeted resources.

4.3 'For response' enquiries to LASBT receive contact within 24 hours of making a report. The ASB case officer conducts an initial visit to assess the needs and vulnerabilities of the victim. The case officer provides reassurance and advice, and will offer support and referrals to partner agencies including Victim Support. The ASB case officer liaises with the WYP hate crime co-ordinator to achieve a positive outcome for the victim. The approach is a victim-centred approach and the officer will be guided by the needs of the victim.

4.4 Repeat incidents of hate crime or cases where there is a serious risk can be referred with the victims consent to the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). This is a multi agency group that applies a problem solving approach to resolving the issues for the victim. The group is also developing its remit to develop responses to tackle persistent problems in local areas.

5.0 Improvements to Hate Crime Reporting Processes

5.1 A revised Multi Agency Hate Incident Report (MAHIR) form has been developed to improve the quality of information collected in relation to hate incidents. The form takes into accounts the 5 monitored strands of hate crime: race, faith, disability, sexual

orientation and transgender. It has been amended to include collection of nationality following feedback about ethnicity codes not being reflective of local communities.

- 5.2 The MAHIR form is embedded into the Contact Leeds system and all enquiries will be recorded by Leeds ASB Team.
- 5.3 Reports can be made to Leeds City Council, West Yorkshire Police, Stop Hate UK and Hate Incident Reporting Centres. Further information about how to report a hate incident and details of Hate Incident Reporting Centres can be found in **Appendix 1**. The integrated hate crime process was developed so that all hate incidents are centrally recorded by LASBT in order to give agencies a clearer picture of repeat incidents and identify repeat victims.
- 5.4 LASBT are working with Children Services to further develop reporting to make it easier for schools to report hate incidents. Young people are identified as a gap in reporting.
- 5.5 LASBT have developed a media plan for 2013 to raise the awareness of hate crime, particularly in relation to disability hate crime which is significantly under reported. We have a stock of publicity resources provided through our contract with Stop Hate UK to raise awareness in local communities. Materials can be targeted towards different minority groups and are available in a wide array of formats. There is also significant improvements to the website and use of online social media resources. Discussions are ongoing with the South Leeds Hate Crime MARAC to ensure that the plan addresses local needs through the most appropriate partners.
- 5.6 A training plan for Hate Incident Reporting Centres (HIRC) is being rolled out in 2013 to support HIRCs in identifying hate incidents and providing reassurance to victims. The sessions will run on a quarterly basis.

6.0 Corporate Considerations

6.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 6.1.1 There are no consultation or engagement implications identified as part of this report.

6.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 6.2.1 This report outlines the approach in south to addressing hate crime. Hate crime is harmful to communities and individuals. Addressing hate crime promotes the equality and diversity of the citizens of Leeds and enhances cohesion and integration.

6.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

- 6.3.1 The activity outlined in this report contribute to targets and priorities set out in the following council policies:

- Vision For Leeds
- Safer and Stronger Communities Plan

6.4 Resources and Value for Money

6.4.1 There are no resource implications as a result of this report.

6.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

6.5.1 All decisions taken by the Area Committee in relation to the delegated functions from Executive Board are not eligible for Call In.

6.5.2 There are no key or major decisions being made that would be eligible for Call In.

6.5.3 There are no legal implications as a result of this report.

6.6 Risk Management

6.6.1 This report provides an update on work in progress to address hate crime and at this time no risks are identifiable.

7 Conclusions

7.1 This report summarises the current position with regards to hate crime and the activities to improve reporting processes. Further information will be provided as part of the annual community safety report in September 2013.

8 Recommendations

8.1 The Area Committee is asked to:

a) note the contents of the report and make comment as appropriate.

Background documents¹

There are no background papers associated with this report

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available for inspection on request for a period of four years following the date of the relevant meeting. Accordingly this list does not include documents containing exempt or confidential information, or any published works. Requests to inspect any background documents should be submitted to the report author.