

## Hate Crime Awareness Week 4th – 10th February 2019

Cumbria Constabulary and partners are raising awareness of hate crime, as everyone should be able to live their lives harassment free.

The aim of the week is to raise awareness of what hate crime is, how to respond to it, to encourage reporting and to promote local services and resources.

Last year 511 hate crimes were reported to police in Cumbria.

These types of crimes have been traditionally under reported so officers are seeing this as a sign that people are becoming more confident in coming forward to say what has happened to them.

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### What is a hate crime?

Hate crimes are any crimes that are targeted at a person because of hostility or prejudice based on one of the following things;

- disability
- race
- religion
- transgender identity
- sexual orientation.

#### **Hate Crimes include:**

- threatening behaviour
- physical attacks
- verbal abuse
- robbery
- damage to property
- emails and texts
- inciting others to commit hate crimes
- harassment

If you believe something is a hate incident it should be recorded as such by the person you are reporting it to. All police forces record hate incidents based on these five personal characteristics.

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## Cumbria Constabulary

Cumbria Constabulary is working to spread the message that everyone should be able to live their life free from harassment and every individual can make a difference within our community by making the pledge not to be bystander.



Detective Chief Inspector Craig Smith, force lead for Hate Crime, said:

“We take hate crime extremely seriously and I urge anyone who’s been a victim, witness, or someone who is aware of information that needs to be reported to use one of the many ways to report hate crime. There is no place for hate crime in Cumbria, and all reports will be fully investigated. These types of incidents are regularly unreported so we are continuing to work hard with partners and in local communities to build trust and confidence”

Cumbria’s Police and Crime Commissioner Peter McCall said:

“In tackling crime, and making Cumbria even safer, it is critical to address hate crime and make it clear that it will not be tolerated. I encourage everyone to play their part in helping to make it completely unacceptable and I want to make it very clear the police will and do take hate crimes seriously.

“We need to make sure everyone knows what hate crime is, what impact it has on our communities and how we can work together to prevent it.

“No-one should ever have to feel afraid of being who they are, because of their sexuality, beliefs, race, gender or disability. The most important thing is that we can make sure everyone knows how to report hate crime and feels confident enough to report it.”

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## How to report Hate Crime

### Hate Crime can be reported;

- By phone: Call 101 or 999 in an emergency
- Textphone: 18000 – the 101 number for people who are deaf or hearing of speech impaired
- In person: Visit a police station or police desk or approach an officer on patrol
- [Report online](#)

### For more information;

Stop Hate UK have published easy read leaflets – [what is a hate crime?](#)

[Listen to Detective Inspector Matthew Scott discussing Cumbria Constabulary’s week of action to raise awareness of Hate Crimes](#)

[News & Star article – don’t be afraid to report hate crime](#)

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## Get in touch!

For more information about the training please contact us:

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