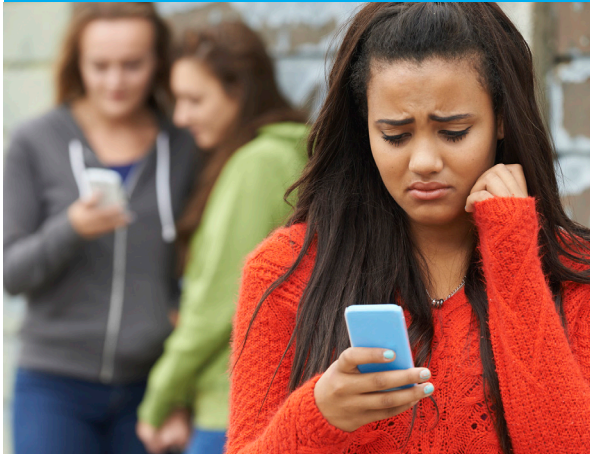


Wiltshire and Swindon **HATE CRIME** Group Strategy



In Wiltshire and Swindon a Hate Crime Group has been set up to combat all forms of hate crimes and incidents by working together to meet the needs of victims, take firm action against offenders and prevent hate crimes happening



Our aim

To put victims and witnesses at the heart of everything we do, reduce the harm caused by hate crime, increase the trust and confidence of victims and work together to identify and prosecute offenders

Wiltshire and Swindon Hate Crime Group

- ▶ Crown Prosecution Service, www.cps.gov.uk/wessex
- ▶ Citizens' Advice Witness Service, www.cabwiltshire.org.uk
- ▶ Dorset & Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service, www.dwfire.org.uk
- ▶ Horizon, www.wiltshire.police.uk/horizon
- ▶ Intercom Trust, www.intercomtrust.org.uk
- ▶ Police & Crime Commissioner for Wiltshire and Swindon, www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk
- ▶ Swindon Borough Council, www.swindon.gov.uk
- ▶ Swindon Community Safety Partnership, www.swindon-csp.org.uk
- ▶ Victim Support Wiltshire, www.victimsupport.org.uk
- ▶ West Wiltshire Multi-Faith Forum, www.wmff.org.uk
- ▶ Wiltshire Community Safety Partnership
- ▶ Wiltshire Islamic Cultural Centre, www.wiltshireicc.org
- ▶ Wiltshire People First, www.wiltshirepeoplefirst.org
- ▶ Wiltshire Police, www.wiltshire.police.uk
- ▶ Wiltshire Racial Equality Council, www.wiltsrec.wordpress.com
- ▶ Wiltshire & Swindon Users' Network, www.wsun.co.uk
- ▶ Wiltshire Youth Offending Team Early Help Service, www.wiltshire.gov.uk

Wiltshire and Swindon

HATE CRIME

Group Strategy



What is hate crime?

A hate crime is any unacceptable behavior that a person thinks has been caused by the hostility, prejudice or hatred of others against them or their property. This may be because of their:

- **Race** - Skin colour, nationality, ethnicity or heritage
- **Religion** - Faith or belief including agnostics and atheists
- **Gender** - Male, female or non-binary
- **Gender identity** – Transgender, birth gender, gender variance, questioning
- **Sexual orientation** - Lesbian, bisexual, gay, heterosexual, questioning
- **Disability** - Physical, learning disability, autism, hearing loss, visual impairment, mental health.

Hate crime can happen in many different ways, it could be:

- verbal abuse and name-calling or
- threats or intimidation or
- physical attacks or violence sexual violence and murder or
- graffiti or abusive writing or
- damage to property, including arson or
- bullying or harassment or
- online trolling

Core principles

To prevent hate crime in Wiltshire and Swindon the group will focus on the following core principles:

- Increase awareness and understanding of hate crime
- Promote community cohesion
- Increase reporting and access to support
- Improve the response to hate crime

This strategy together with a supporting action plan aims to deliver the following improvements to those victims and communities affected by hate crime.

- Build trust and confidence of those affected by hate crime
- Bring offenders to justice
- Promote community cohesion together with partner agencies
- Work with partner agencies to improve services to victims of hate crime creating high quality victim support
- Increase reporting of hate crime and hate incidents and reduce under reporting
- Establish a better understanding of the nature and extent of hate crime and raise awareness