



Hate Crime

and how to report it

English



3rd Party
Reporting


hatecrimescotland.org

Don't Stay Silent About Hate Crime

“Crime motivated by hatred is not only a wrong against the individual, but is an affront to our collective values as a community, creating division and fear. That is why the Crown treats hate crime so seriously and why it will continue to do so.

It is encouraging that many victims of hate crime have the confidence to report this type of offending and we would encourage all to do so.”

The Lord Advocate, James Wolffe QC

WHAT IS HATE CRIME

The Scottish Government defines Hate Crime as crime committed against a person or property that is motivated by ‘malice or ill-will towards an identifiable social group’. It is possible that you have been a victim or witness of a Hate Crime if you believe that you have been targeted, or witnessed someone being targeted, because of prejudice based on:

- Race (including nationality, ethnicity or skin colour).
- Religion
- Sexual orientation
- Transgender identity
- Disability (including physical disability, sensory impairment or learning disability).

If you believe that you have been targeted because of any of the above, please tell the Police about it. They take Hate Crime very seriously. If you tell them that you think an incident is motivated by prejudice, the Police must record and investigate this.

Hate Crime can take a number of forms, including, but not limited to:

- Physical assault
- Criminal damage to property e.g. graffiti, arson, vandalism.
- Intimidating or threatening behaviour including obscene calls or gestures.
- Online abuse such as Facebook and Twitter posts.
- Written materials such as letters, leaflets, posters.
- Verbal abuse or insults including name-calling.
- Emotional and psychological abuse.
- Bullying
- Acts of violence and murder

What to do if you experience or witness a Hate Crime or Hate Incident

If you experience or witness a Hate Crime and report it, this will be recorded and taken seriously by the Police. It doesn't matter how small or insignificant you think the incident is, or if you are unsure if it is a Hate Crime or not, please don't hesitate to make a report, as this information is valuable and helps to build up a picture of what is happening in the community and how to make things better.

You can make a report:

- Through independent organisations that will provide you with support to report.
- By calling Police Scotland on 101.
- Through the Online Reporting Form on the Police Scotland website. This can be completed anonymously so you don't need to give your name if you don't want to.

**REMEMBER – ALWAYS CALL THE POLICE ON 999
IF YOU NEED IMMEDIATE HELP.**

Why report a Hate Crime ?

There are a number of reasons why reporting Hate Crime is important.

- All reports help to build a picture of Hate Crime in Glasgow. They tell us if there's a problem in a particular neighbourhood or if a particular community is being regularly targeted. This helps us to tackle the problem.
- Reporting Hate Crime may prevent a situation from developing into a more serious one.
- If you are a victim you will get access to support and advice.
- It could stop the perpetrator from offending again.
- You will help to raise awareness of the issue, which in turn can lead to a change in attitudes.
- Your information may lead to an arrest and conviction.
- You will help law enforcement services prevent Hate Incidents in the future.

Why are there Independent Organisations providing Support to Report to the Police?

Many people, for various reasons, are reluctant to report crime directly to the Police. Victims and witnesses of Hate Crimes can report, without contacting the Police directly, through an independent organisation providing support to report. These organisations provide a safe and supportive space to discuss your complaint. If you want to report an incident to the Police, these organisations can do this on your behalf. The Police act on this as if they had received the report directly from you.

You can ask the organisation that is supporting you to report, to give as much or as little personal information to the Police as you want - you don't have to give your name if you don't want to.

These organisations have received appropriate training and can provide you with additional support or advice. They can also signpost you onto other support services.

You can find a selection of a few of the Glasgow organisations that provide support to report at the end of this leaflet. For a full list please visit the website:

www.scotland.police.uk

How do I report to the Police online?

Online reporting lets you make a direct and confidential report to Police Scotland through its website. The report can be anonymous although this may limit the action that the Police can take. To report online visit **www.scotland.police.uk** and click on Report Hate Crime.

What Happens After You Report



The Police will record the incident and investigate the circumstances to **determine whether or not a crime has occurred**

If this is the case, they will **investigate** the circumstances further and **gather evidence**

If there is sufficient evidence, the perpetrator will very likely be **arrested** and a **report will be submitted to the Procurator Fiscal**



The Procurator Fiscal (PF or Fiscal) **works for the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS)**, which is the body responsible for prosecuting crime in Scotland



The Procurator Fiscal (PF) considers the Police report and decides if there is sufficient evidence to proceed. If there is, the Procurator Fiscal will then decide what, if any, action it is appropriate to take

Actions range from **prosecution in court**, direct measures such as **warnings, fiscal fines, compensation offers** and **social work diversion**



The Procurator Fiscal can also decide to **take no action**. When this happens, **the victim can ask for an explanation of the decision**

If court proceedings are appropriate, **the PF will decide which court these should be taken in.** This decision will depend on:

- the nature of the offence
- the sentencing powers of the respective courts
- whether the accused has a criminal record

Organisations that can support you to report a hate crime

Amina Muslim Women's Resource Centre

Citywall House
32 Eastwood Avenue
Glasgow, G41 3NS
0808 801 0301

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Citywall House
32 Eastwood Avenue
Glasgow, G41 3NS
0808 801 0301

British Deaf Association (Scotland)

Suite 58, 93 Hope Street
Glasgow, G2 6LD
0141 248 5554

DRC Generations

102 Kingsway
Glasgow, G14 9YS
0141 584 3211

Elderpark Housing Association

31 Garmouth Street
Govan
Glasgow, G51 3PR
0141 440 2244

Glasgow Centre for Inclusive Living

117-127 Brook Street
Glasgow, G40 3AP
0141 550 7468

Glasgow Disability Alliance

Unit 301 Templeton Business Centre
Templeton Street
Glasgow, G40 1DA
0141 556 7103

Glasgow Women's Library

23 Landressy Street
Bridgeton
Glasgow, G40 1BP
0141 550 2267

Govanhill Housing Association

Samaritan House
79 Coplaw Street
Glasgow, G42 7JG
0141 636 3636

LGBT Youth Scotland

3/2, 30 Bell Street
Glasgow, G1 1LG
0141 552 7425

Luke and Jack

45 Virginia Street
Glasgow, G1 1TS
0141 552 5699

Maryhill Integration Network, SCIO

35 Avenuepark Street
Glasgow, G20 8TS
0141 946 9106

Positive Action in Housing

98 West George Street
Glasgow, G2 1PJ
0141 353 2220

Queens Cross Housing Association

45 Firhill Road
Glasgow, G20 7BE
0141 589 7424

Scottish Ethnic Private Hire Welfare Association

71-73 Kingston Street, 2nd floor
Glasgow, G5 8BJ
07859 995637

Scottish Refugee Council

Floor 6, Portland House
17 Renfield St
Glasgow, G2 5AH
0141 248 9799

The Well Multicultural Advice Centre

42-44 Albert Road
Glasgow, G42 8DN
0141 424 4523

Victim Support Scotland

Abbey House, 2nd Floor
10 Bothwell Street
Glasgow, G2 6LU
0141 553 2415
Helpline - 08001601985
(Mon-Fri, 8am-8pm)

West of Scotland Racial Equality Council (WSREC)

39 Napiershall Street
Glasgow, G20 6EZ
0141 337 6626
Email: reportit@wsrec.co.uk

Waverley Care African Health Project

12 Queen's Crescent
Glasgow, G4 9AS
0141 332 2520

For a complete list of up to date organisations that can support you to report, visit:

www.scotland.police.uk/contact-us/hate-crime-and-third-party-reporting/



Eastgate, 727 London Road, Glasgow G40 3AQ.

Tel: 0141 276 7400