

Response from Islington resident

Points that I would have liked to make:

Due to this being an overview, I can see why Disability Hate Crime is given only a passing mention along side the various other forms of Hate Crime. But due to all the unfortunate and often grossly misleading publicity being given to disabled people, Disability Hate Crime is increasing. I would like to have as assurance that all reports of such crimes are logged both locally and centrally under the heading of Disability Hate Crime, so that the true scale can be seen and tackled.

Perhaps it might be an area where restorative justice could be tried. I can remember when I first moved into a flat in Lofting Road, the local children tended to giggle and shout at me. When I was able to stop and talk to them - not that easy as my speech is slow and a trifle unclear - they asked where I worked. I was able to say that I worked for the Civil Aviation Authority, and glossing over the technicalities somewhat, I said that I helped the Air Traffic Controllers control the planes in the sky. I never heard a giggle again.

I think if children see disabled people as individuals, and perhaps have some understanding of why we might look and sound different the level of sheer bullying might go down.