

Putting together a Hate Crime Reduction Strategy for London

Easy Read

Hate Crime Reduction Strategy: this is a plan of how the Police Service in London is going to lower the levels of hate crime.



Consultation on what we plan to do

Hate Crime Reduction Strategy:

Vision and Aim: setting out where we want to be in the future



The Mayor's vision is for London to be the safest city in the world. Part of this is helping communities to have the confidence to report hate crime. People need to know that the police and other organisations will meet their needs.



Confidence: feeling happy and comfortable about doing something or turning to someone that you feel you can trust.

The city of London has one of the biggest mixes of different people in the world. This is a really good thing. However, unfortunately, some people are picked on just because of who they are.

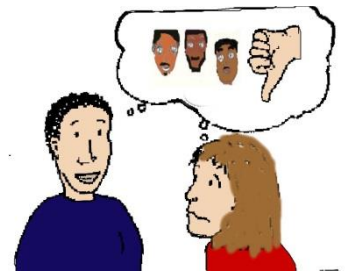


One hate crime can mean that a whole community feels like a **victim**. Hate crime can change the way that people think about crime.



Victim: someone who is hurt by a crime

It can change how different communities come together. It can lead to people who are part of a community feeling scared, alone and like they are seen as bad people. This can happen even when a person has not been a victim themselves.



As well as this, hate crime can be very bad for communities that do not have much confidence in the police.



This will make a difference to whether they will report a hate crime. It will also make a difference to whether they use the services that are there to give help and support.



In the Mayor's Police and Crime Plan, he says that there is too much hate crime and that not enough people report hate crime.



Getting the number of hate crimes down is very important for the Mayor. This can only be done by working together with other organisations.



There was a meeting called the **Challenge on hate crime** run by the **Mayor's Office for Policing And Crime**. This was in February 2014.



At this meeting a number of organisations said that they would work together to put together a plan to deal with hate crime across London.



Challenge on hate crime: this is a meeting that happens every month. At the meeting organisations and people speak to the police service in London. They check that the police service is doing what they said they will do in their Police and Crime Plan.

Mayor's Office for Policing And Crime: this government office is in charge of keeping people in London safe. As well as this they are in charge of the Police and Crime Plan. They also make sure that other government services are working in a way that is fair and helping to keep crime down in London.

There were government organisations that took part such as; the **Crown Prosecution Service**, **Metropolitan Police Service** and **Ministry of Justice**. There were also voluntary and community organisations.



Crown Prosecution Service: this is the government service that takes cases to court when someone has taken part in a crime.

Metropolitan Police Service: this is the service that is in charge of the law in London.

Ministry of Justice: they are government department in charge of making sure that people are treated fairly when they are a victim of a crime.

About this document

The things that are looked at and planned in this document come from research done by people working at the Mayor's Office for Policing And Crime, the Metropolitan Police Service and other organisations.



There is quantitative research which is research done using numbers and figures.



It also uses qualitative research, which is more about finding out about people's experience.

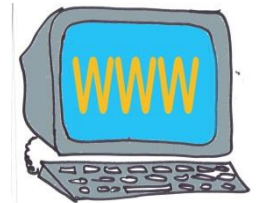


We got the information using:

- Information that we got from speaking to people at the Mayor's Office for Policing And Crime challenge in February 2014.



You can find information about this meeting at:
<https://www.london.gov.uk/priorities/policing-crime/how-we-work/mopac-challenge/2014/13-february-2014-challenge-board-hate-crime>



- Going to key **stakeholder** meetings

Stakeholder: this is a person or organisation with an interest in the work being done by the Mayor's Office for Policing And Crime.



- Meetings with other voluntary and community organisations



- Looking at key documents, reports or papers that have been written about hate crime.



Using this information, this document sets out what is happening in London at the moment. It also talks about some of the difficulties that need to be looked at to really deal with hate crime across London.



A number of key **objectives** and possible **strategies** are put forward.



This has been done so that people can start to talk about the objectives and possible plans. We would like your feedback so that we can make sure we are working on the most important things and in the right areas.

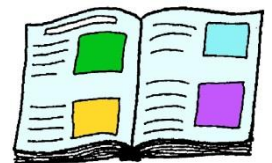


Objectives: these are the results that we hope to get.

Strategies: these are plans of action to help us meet our aims

Definition of hate crime

The Government's plan to deal with hate crime in a document called 'Challenge it, Report it, Stop it' was written in March 2012. This sets out the following definition for hate crime:



"This is when someone does something against the law to another person because of hate or because they are afraid of difference. For example, a person may carry out a crime because of someone's race, religion or belief, **gender identity, sexual orientation** or disability."



Gender identity: this is whether you feel that you are a man or a woman.

Sexual orientation: this is whether you feel like you would like to be with a man, a woman or both.

A hate crime incident is anything that happens, that is not a crime but is done to another person because they are afraid of difference. For example, a person might do something because of someone's race, religion or belief, **gender identity**, **sexual orientation** or disability.



There are many different types of hate crime, some examples of hate crime could be:

- Verbal abuse: this means saying horrible things to people
- Hurting someone physically: this could be punching, pushing or kicking someone
- Abuse at home: this could be hurting or saying horrible things to someone at home
- Harassing someone: this could be when a person feels scared or worried because a person or group of people will not leave them alone.
- Damaging someone's property: this is breaking or harming something that does not belong to you

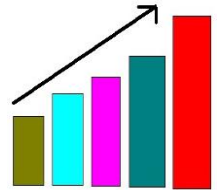


The consultation so far has shown us that for this strategy we need to use a definition of hate crime that does not leave anything out.

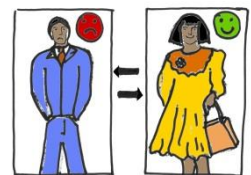


Information about different types of hate crime in London

Below we are looking at the information that we have about hate crime in the 12 months up to May 2014. This shows that the number of crimes that we know about in each area have gone up.



- Disability hate crime has gone up by 13% (from 107 to 121 crimes)
- Faith hate crime has gone up by 25% (from 673 to 843 crimes)
- **Homophobic** hate crime has gone up by 7% (from 1106 to 1185 crimes)
- Racist and religious hate crime has gone up by 8% (from 9187 to 9918 crimes)
- **Transgender** hate crime has gone up by 65% (from 51 to 84 crimes)



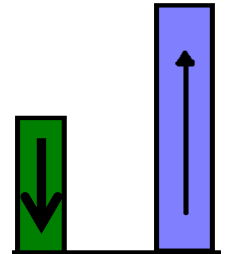
Homophobic: this is when a person does not like someone because they are homosexual. A person is homosexual when they want to be with people of the same sex.

Transgender: this is when a person feels that the sex that they were born with is not the sex that they are. The person can dress like or have an operation to be the sex that they feel they are.

Just because the number of hate crimes that we have information about has gone up, we cannot say for sure that the amount of hate crime happening has gone up.



For example, we have information that shows that since 2007-08 the reports of homophobic hate crime has gone up by 21%. But the Crime Survey for England and Wales shows that homophobic hate crime has gone down by 44%.



This difference could be because more people are reporting hate crime and not that hate crime has gone up. There is no reason to think that hate crime is worse in London than anywhere else.



This means that it is fair to think that the reason for more crimes being reported is because people feel more confident about reporting hate crime.



The Crime Survey for England and Wales shows that the gap between the number of crimes that happen and the number of crimes that are reported is now smaller.



Hate crime reporting

Not enough people reporting hate crime is a big problem:

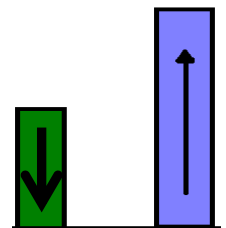
Hate crime is not reported enough. The Crime Survey for England and Wales shows that 43% of hate crimes not reported to the police.



This may be for a number of reasons. It could be because people do not have confidence that the police or other organisations will take them seriously. It could also be because sometimes people do not know when they have been a victim of a crime.



Racist and religious hate crimes are the most reported hate crimes. Transgender and disability hate crimes are least reported.



There are some communities where victims are less likely to report crime. We need to make sure that we meet their needs. The information that we have makes us think that this is a big problem for a number of groups.



Some of the groups of victims are disabled people, **new migrant communities** and transgender people.



New migrant communities: these are groups of people from different countries that have come to the UK not long ago. .

The Stonewall 'Gay British Crime Survey (2013) said that more than three-quarters of **gay, bisexual** and **lesbian** victims of hate crime did not report it to the police.

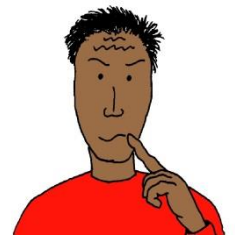


Gay: this is when a man wants to be with other men.

Bisexual: this is when a person wants to be with both men and women.

Lesbian: this is when a woman wants to be with other women.

It is not always clear what can be called a hate crime with some types of hate crimes. In 2013 **Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary**, the Crown Prosecution Service and **Probation Service** looked at disability hate crime.



Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary: this service checks up on the police all over England and Wales.

Probation Service: this service keeps a check on people who have taken part in crimes and are at risk of doing it again. They are people who now live in the community.

It showed that it was not clear or understood what can be called a disability hate crime. This makes it difficult to get information about how many disability hate crimes there are. It can also lead to problems when trying to charge someone for a hate crime.

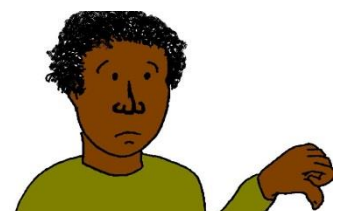
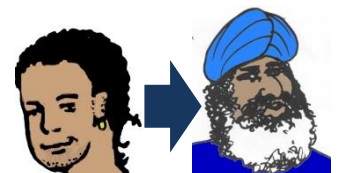
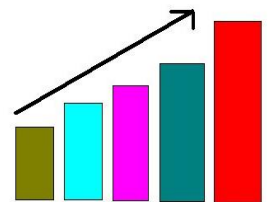


Hate crime victims

An important issue is that many people are victims of hate crime more than once. Another issue is making sure that victims of hate crime are happy with the service that they get.

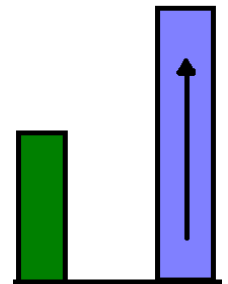


- The number of victims that we know about has gone up in all areas of hate crime. This information is from the year ending May 2014.
- Victims of hate crime are mostly male and aged 20-49.
- The number of people that are victims of crime more than once is higher for hate crime than for crime overall. This can be seen when looking at the Crime Survey for England and Wales for 2011/12 and 2012/13 together.
- Victims of hate crime were more likely to say that they were emotionally affected than



victims of crime overall. Emotionally affected means that a person is upset, scared or worried as a result of being a victim of a crime.

The percentage of people feeling emotionally affected was 94% for people that were victims of a hate crime and 82% for people that were victims of crimes overall. This can be seen when looking at the Crime Survey for England and Wales for 2011/12 and 2012/13 together.



People that were victims of hate crime were also more likely to be 'very much' affected than victims of crime overall. This was 34% of people that were victims of a hate crime and only 14% of people that were victims of crimes overall. This pattern has been the same over time.



- In terms of how happy victims are with the service that they get from the police in London, this has either stayed the same or gone down.
- The gap between how happy disabled victims are and how happy non-disabled victims are is getting bigger. The percentage of people that are happy with the service is 73% for disabled people and 80% for non-disabled people.



Spotting a hate crime, taking a case to court and finding a person guilty of a crime

The number of hate crimes that are cleared up either stayed the same or went down. A big problem in the Criminal Justice System is the gap between the number of cases that are known about and the number of cases that are cleared up.



This needs to be looked at and made better so that victims going through the system get fair and fast results.



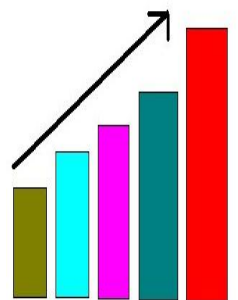
Of 11,075 hate crimes known about by the police in the year ending May 2014, 38.2% of the crimes were cleared up.



There are two times as many cases cleared up for hate crime than for other types of crime. However the information shows that the number of hate crimes that are cleared up is either staying the same or going down.



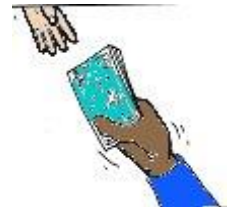
The number of people that go to court for racial or religious hate crime in London has gone up in the last 10 years. This is the most reported type of hate crime. The number of people that are found guilty for this type of hate crime has gone up and was 65% in 2012.



The number of people that go to prison for hate crime has gone down compared to other results. Other results could be getting a fine or doing community service. The number of years that a person goes to prison for a hate crime has gone down a lot in the last 10 years.



Most people that take part in a hate crime are given a fine or have to do community service.

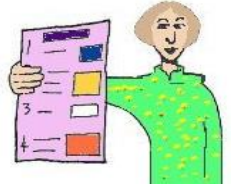


When we say that a number of crimes have been '**cleared up**' this is also known as a '**sanction detection rate**'. This means that:

1. A crime has happened and the police know about this crime
2. The person who did the crime has been found and spoken to
3. There is enough proof that they did the crime
4. The victim has been told that the person who did the crime has been found
5. Some kind of legal action has been taken against the person who did the crime. This could be a warning, being charged for the crime or being taken to court

What we have found out so far from our consultation

So far our consultation with stakeholders has shown that organisations working in this area need to work together across London to:



1. Make sure people have more confidence in reporting a hate crime.



2. Support victims of hate crime and make sure that less people are victims more than once.



3. Make sure that the law can be used well against the people that are guilty of hate crimes.



To make sure that people have more confidence to report a hate crime, stakeholders have said we need to:



- Make sure that people learn about hate crime as part of education.
- Use a definition of hate crime for this strategy that covers everything. For example, make sure that it includes sex and age.



- Know that hate crime is not reported enough in general. Also see that there are types of hate crime that are reported even less such as disability hate crime.



- Make sure that people know about the different ways of reporting a hate crime. Also make sure there are better ways of reporting hate crime to other organisations that are not part of the London police service.



- Put together a training package for Police Officers and other officers. This is so that they understand hate crime and what to do when it happens.



To support victims of hate crime and work so that less people are victims more than once, stakeholders have said we need to:



- Know that internet hate crime happens and is happening more often
- See that hate crime victims have many different support needs. Make sure there are a number of different ways for people to access services that meet their needs.



To make sure that the law can be properly used against the people that are guilty of hate crimes, stakeholders have said we need to:

- Make sure the people in the Criminal Justice System are better at dealing with hate crime. This could include training for lawyers on different types of hate crime.
- When a victim of hate crime wins a case, make sure that this is known about.
- Look at other ways of people paying for what they have done without using the Criminal Justice System. This could be through **restorative justice**, for those who want it.



Restorative justice: this is a way of bringing together victims of a crime and the person or people that take part in the crime. It is about getting in touch and finding a way to move forward together.

Key objectives

Organisations that we work with and stakeholders have been very important in putting together the 3 key objectives for the strategy:



Objective 1: Work with communities and other organisations to make sure that people know what is happening and can feel more confident to report hate crime.



Objective 2: Work with organisations to support communities that are at risk of hate crime. Also work so that less people are victims more than once.



Objective 3: Work with organisations in the criminal justice system to make sure that victims going through the system get fair and fast results.



Objective 1: Work with communities and other organisations to make sure that people know what is happening and can feel more confident to report hate crime.

What we want to do (Objective): make sure that people know what is happening and feel more confident to report hate crime.



1. How we could do it (Possible Strategy):

Work with organisations to put together hate crime information and campaigns, letting people know about the good things that are happening.



What results we would hope to get: (Outcomes):

- Communities know more about the support that they can get
- Communities feel more confident about the service that they will get from the police and other organisations



2. How could we do it (Possible Strategy):

Work with voluntary and government organisations, and safer schools officers to give out information about hate crime for schools. This information would tell people about hate crime and what it does to people and the community.



What results we would hope to get (Outcomes):

- Young people would feel more confident
- More reporting of hate crime in schools
- Have a better idea about what is going on to be able to spend time and money on the areas that need it most
- Less people being treated in an unfair way, this can be called victimisation



3. How could we do it (Possible Strategy):

Work with organisations to make sure there are places to report hate crime that are separate from the police. This must be in line with the work being done by the **Home Office** looking at the services that people can use.



Home Office: this government office is in charge of law around crime, drugs, people coming into the country and passports, and terrorism.

What results we would hope to get (Outcomes):

- Communities feeling more confident
- More reporting of hate crime



4. How could we do it (Possible Strategy):

Work with the Ministry of Justice to get together information and tools for London. This information would then be part of the True Vision reporting and information website. This is a hate crime service paid for by the government.



What results we would hope to get (Outcomes):

- More confidence in communities
- More people reporting hate crime
- Less people being treated in an unfair way, this can be called victimisation



5. How could we do it (Possible Strategy):

Make sure that the Police Service in London looks at internet hate crime as part of the plan on fighting internet crime.



What results we would hope to get (Outcomes):

- Victims of internet hate crime are supported in the same way that other people are supported after being a victim
- More people reporting hate crime
- Have a better idea about what is going on to be able to spend time and money on the areas that need it most



- Less people being treated in an unfair way, this can be called victimisation



6. How could we do it (Possible Strategy):

Make sure that the Police Service in London finds and gets in touch with communities that are at risk of hate crime.



This should be part of the big plan to get in touch with the community. This should also be a part of plans to get in touch with boroughs and smaller areas in different boroughs.



What results we would hope to get (Outcomes):

- Work, money and time are aimed at the communities that need it most and are at most risk of hate crime
- Communities feel more confident
- More reporting of hate crime



7. How could we do it (Possible Strategy):

Work together to make sure that everyone shares more information with other organisations, for example **social landlords** and the police.



Social landlords: these are the organisations that run social housing. These organisations can be housing associations or local authorities.

This is to make sure that we can find and get in touch with hate crime victims. This is very important in areas where there is a lot of **antisocial behaviour**.



Antisocial behavior: this is when someone acts in a way that makes another person or group of people feel upset or worried.

What results we would hope to get (Outcomes):

- Have a better idea about what is going on to be able to spend time and money on the areas that need it most
- Work, money and time are aimed at the communities that need it most and are at most risk of hate crime



Objective 2: Work with organisations to support communities that are at risk of hate crime. Also work so that less people are victims more than once.

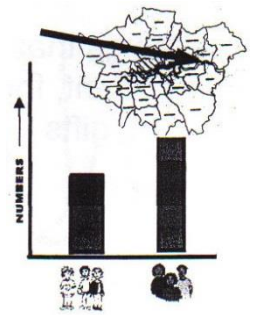
What we want to do (Objective):

Support communities that are at risk of hate crime and work so that less people are victims of hate crime more than once.



1. How could we do it (Possible Strategy):

Use information to put together a map which shows where hate crime is happening the most. This will help to understand communities and push forward local plans to stop hate crime.



What results we would hope to get (Outcomes):

- We can see where people are most likely to be a victim of hate crime more than once. We can then put plans in place to stop this from happening



2. How could we do it (Possible Strategy):

Push forward new ways of stopping people from being a victim more than once. For example we can use big meetings that different organisations working in this area go to.



These meetings are called Hate Crime Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences. At these meetings they look at where people are at risk and what can be done.



What results we would hope to get (Outcomes):

- Work, money and time are aimed at the communities that need it most and are at most risk of hate crime



- Less people are victims of hate crime more than once



3. How could we do it (Possible Strategy):

Make sure that all organisations put the **Victims Code of Practice** into place for hate crime.



Victims Code of Practice: this is a list of rights that people have when they have been a victim of a crime.

What results we would hope to get (Outcomes):

- Victims have better support and are able to cope and move forward. They are also supported so that they are not victims of hate crime more than once
- Communities are more confident about the service that they will get from the police and other organisations



4. How could we do it (Possible Strategy):

There is a strategy for deciding what services are needed for victims; this is called the Victims' Commissioning Strategy.



It is written by the Mayor's Office for Policing And Crime. Support services for hate crime victims should be a very important part of this strategy.



What results we would hope to get (Outcomes):

- Victims are found or come forward and are given support on their journey through the Criminal Justice System
- Victims are well supported and are able to cope and move forward



Objective 3: Work with organisations in the criminal justice system to make sure that victims going through the system get fair and fast results.

What we want to do (Objective):

Make sure hate crime victims get fair and fast results.



1. How could we do it (Possible Strategy):

The police service in London and the Crown Prosecution Service make sure that the law around hate crime is used well.



What results we would hope to get (Outcomes):

- Victims will feel more confident in the service that they will get from the police
- More people that take part in hate crime will be punished. This could be through paying a fine, going to jail or doing community service



2. How could we do it (Possible Strategy):

Give people in organisations working in this area the skills to deal with hate crime in all communities. This could be by putting together training for people in the Metropolitan Police Service, the Crown Prosecution Service and Court Services.



It could also be by training police officers and lawyers so that they have special skills for dealing with hate crime.



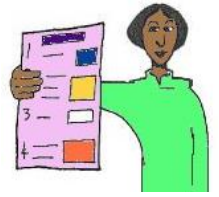
What results we would hope to get (Outcomes):

- Victims will feel more confident in the service that they will get from the police
- A better service around hate crime
- More people that take part in hate crime will be punished. This could be through paying a fine, going to jail or doing community service



3. How could we do it (Possible Strategy):

Let people know when a case has a good result and a person that has taken part in hate crime is punished. Use different ways of getting in touch with communities to tell them about this.



What results we would hope to get (Outcomes):

- People feeling more confident and less scared in communities at risk of hate crime



4. How could we do it (Possible Strategy):

The gap between crimes that are known about and crimes that are cleared up needs to be made smaller. As well as this, less people should get off for hate crimes that they are guilty of.



This needs to be done through organisations working in criminal justice pushing forward new ways of working. One way of doing this is by having **hate crime advocates**.



Hate Crime Advocates: these are people that work with victims of hate crime. They talk to a person about their rights and support a person to speak up in meetings about the crime.

What results we would hope to get (Outcomes):

- Better results for victims
- Victims cases being taken forward in a better way



5. How could we do it (Possible Strategy):

There is a strategy for deciding what services are needed for victims, this is called the Victims' Commissioning Strategy.



This is written by the Mayor's Office for Policing And Crime Strategy. In this strategy there should be a choice for victims about whether they want to use restorative justice.



What results we would hope to get (Outcomes):

- Better results for victims
- Less people being treated in an unfair way, this can be called victimisation



6. How could we do it (Possible Strategy):

Work with Criminal Justice organisations around making sure that the victim has a better journey through the system. Also make sure that victims of hate crime are supported well through the whole journey.



What results we would hope to get (Outcomes):

- Better results for victims
- Victims cases being taken forward in a better way

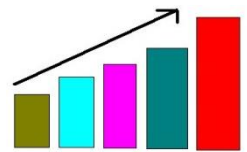


Measures of Success: checking how well we are doing

The final strategy uses a number of different ways of checking how well we are doing. Some of the ways of looking at this are in the list below:



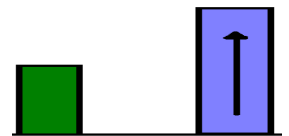
- The number of reported hate crimes going up



- The number of people that are victims more than once going down



- The number of cases cleared up and the number of good results for victims going up



- The number of people feeling confident with the police going up



- The gap getting smaller between the number of hate crime victims feeling confident with the police and the number of other crime victims feeling confident with the police

- The number of hate crime victims feeling happy with the service that they get from the police going up



Questions for consultation

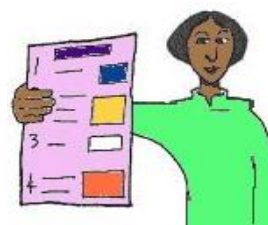
This document has set out a possible way forward for putting together a plan around hate crime. This is so that we can make sure that hate crime goes down in London.



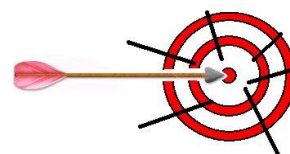
The strategies that we have put forward for doing this are shown above. They are there to get you thinking about ideas for moving forward and we would like your feedback.



The Mayor's Office for Policing And Crime would like you to reply to this document which is not the final copy. We would like you to really think about the following questions:



1. Are the right objectives shown on page 20? Do you have any other ideas?



2. Are the right possible strategies shown on pages 21 to 31? Do you have any other ideas?



3. What are the right ways of checking how well we are doing for this strategy (see page 32)?



4. Is there any other information which the Mayor's Office for Policing And Crime can use to add to this strategy?



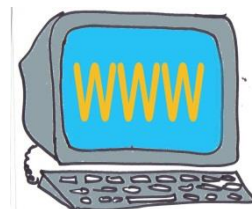
5. Can you or your organisation help us to deal with hate crime? If so, how?



Contact Details

You can fill in this consultation questionnaire on the internet at this address:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/priorities/policing-crime/consultations>



Or you can send information for this consultation by email to:

Laura.duckworth@mopac.london.gov.uk



Or you can send information by post to:

Laura Duckworth, Research Assistant

Mayor's Office for Policing And Crime

City Hall, The Queen's Walk

London SE1 2AA

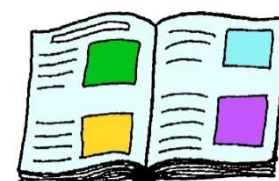


If you need any support to fill in the questions, please call 020 7983 6532



The consultation will close on 5 September 2014

The final strategy will be finished and ready for reading in Autumn 2014



M O P A C

MAYOR OF LONDON
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME