



CABINET REPORT

Report Title	Cabinet Response to Hate Crime Task and Finish Group
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AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC

Cabinet Meeting Date:	16 January 2013
Key Decision:	No
Within Policy:	Yes
Policy Document:	No
Directorate:	Customers & Communities
Accountable Cabinet Member:	Cllr David Mackintosh
Ward(s)	All

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to respond to the recommendations in the Overview and Scrutiny report on Hate Crime, presented to Cabinet 9 May 2012

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the recommendations included in the Overview and Scrutiny report for Hate Crime are accepted.
- 2.2 That the deadline date for recommendation 9 is extended to November 2013 to fit in with the Countywide Hate Incident Review Group (HIRG) best practice case study as detailed in 3.2.1.
- 2.3 That the task and finish group are formally congratulated on a high quality and comprehensive report and thanked for the time and effort given to produce it.

3. Issues and Choices

3.1 Report Background

- 3.1.1 At the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programming event for 2011/2012 the scrutiny of the Council's reporting mechanisms in respect of hate crime were identified as a key priority. This was therefore included within the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2011/2012.
- 3.1.2 A number of meetings were held to gather evidence from a broad range of stakeholders. During this process a significant amount of evidence was heard.
- 3.1.3 10 recommendations are included in the report. They are broadly focussed on how the Council further incorporates the hate crime process into its day to day working and how it works with partners to provide a joined up approach and response.
- 3.1.4 The recommendations are:
1. That details of intervention be incorporated into the case management of the hate crime process.
 2. That Cabinet instructs Officers to publish an Annual Report of Hate Crime Reporting. The Annual Report should include:
 - Overview of reported hate crime over the 12 month period
 - Information and statistics around the incidents of hate crime.
 - Map of hot spots of incidents of hate crime
 3. That the Council's Awareness Training on the reporting of Hate Crime be an integral part of the Councillor Induction Programme and refresher training be programmed into Councillor Development Programme on an annual basis.
 4. That the Council's Awareness Training on the reporting of Hate Crime be an integral part of the Staff Induction Programme. Cabinet instructs that annual refresher training is held for all relevant front line staff.
 5. That Northampton Borough Council appoints a Councillor as a Hate Crime Reporting Champion.
 6. That the Leader of the Council, together with the Councillor Hate Crime Reporting Champion, approaches Partners regarding the most effective way of ensuring hate crime reporting across Agencies.
 7. That the Councillor Champion contacts the Keep Safe Group regarding potential opportunities where the Key Safe Group could work with the Council and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
 8. That to increase awareness in communities of hate crime/incidents and how to report, alternative methods of publicising reporting of hate crime mechanisms be introduced, such as, being included at events held at public locations,

information provided to various community groups and organisations, details in the local media.

9. That in May 2013 a case study be prepared on the process and effectiveness of the changes that have been made to Hate Crime reporting.
10. That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as part of its monitoring regime, reviews the progress and impact of this report after six months.

3.2 Issues

3.2.1 The multi-agency Countywide Hate Incident Review Group (HIRG) will be undertaking an informed best practice case study during 2013, which will inform recommendation 9 of the report. It will therefore not be possible to meet the deadline of May 2013. Therefore it is proposed that this is extended to November 2013.

3.3 Choices (Options)

3.3.1 The Hate Crime 'Single Point of Contact' will lead on the implementation of the recommendations. As detailed in 3.2.1 and extension to the deadline of recommendation 9 is required. Should any of the recommendations not be adopted a full explanation of the reasons will be provided.

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Policy

4.1.1 None at this stage

4.2 Resources and Risk

4.2.1 There are no financial implications at this stage. However recommendations from the task and finish group will need to be reviewed in light of financial constraints and changes in in structure since the review took place

4.3 Legal

4.3.1 None specifically

4.4 Equality

4.4.1 No issues identified. Anybody can be a victim of hate crime. An Equalities Impact Statement has been carried out on the NBC Hate Crime Policy.

4.5 Consultees (Internal and External)

4.5.1 A wide range of stakeholders including members Overview and Scrutiny, the portfolio holder for Community Safety, Cllr David Mackintosh; Head of Public Protection, Steve Elsey; Northants Police; Stop Hate; Northamptonshire

Rights and Equalities Council; Mencap; Victim Support, Pearls of Peace; NBC Youth Forum; NBC Disabled Peoples Forum; NBC Environmental Services; NBC Housing; Northampton Diverse Communities and Equalities Forum.

4.6 How the Proposals deliver Priority Outcomes

- 4.6.1 NBC Corporate Plan – Invest in Safer, Cleaner Neighbourhoods; Celebrating our Heritage and Culture; Creating Empowered Communities; Promoting Health & Wellbeing.
- 4.6.2 Northampton Community Safety Plan - Tackle crimes that are motivated by hate and intolerance

4.7 Other Implications

- 4.7.1 None

5. Background Papers

- 5.1 Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee March 2012

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