

# What is a Hate Crime?

Any crime can be prosecuted as a hate crime if the offender has either: Demonstrated, or been motivated by, hostility based on race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or gender reassignment.

Any experience of hate crime may leave you feeling angry, alone, stressed, depressed, or frightened. You don't have to deal with this on your own, LVS are here to support you whenever you need our help. It doesn't matter if you aren't sure whether an incident amounts to a crime, or if you haven't reported it to the police. LVS are here – to talk, to listen, for advice, for help.

# Restorative Justice.

There is evidence to suggest that Restorative Justice can repair the harm caused by Hate Crime. It can help to challenge prejudices that underpin various forms of hate crime and hate incidents. Restorative Justice provides victims with an opportunity to enter into communication with the offender responsible for the crime. Lancashire Constabulary has an internal Restorative Justice team. For further information on how it could benefit you, please contact the team on 01772 412545 or email us at RJAdmin@lancashire.police.uk

# Hate Crime Victim Care Pack



# Victim's Code.

Victims of crime should be treated in a respectful, sensitive, and professional manner without discrimination of any kind. You also have the following rights to:

- be able to understand and be understood.
- have the details of the crime recorded without unjustified delay.
- be provided with information when reporting the crime.
- be referred to services that support victims.
- be provided with information about the investigation and prosecution.
- make a Victim Personal Statement.
- be given information about the trial, trial process, and your role as a witness.
- be given information about the outcome of the case and any appeals.
- be paid expenses and have property returned.
- be given information about the offender following a conviction.
- make a complaint about your rights not being met.





### Here no matter the crime.

LVS advocates are well trained to support anyone who has been left hurt or upset following any crime including:

- anti-social behaviour
- burglary
- child abuse
- criminal damage and arson
- cyber crime
- driving offences
- drugs and alcohol
- fraud and forgery
- gangs and gun crime
- harassment and stalking
- harmful traditional practices
- knife crime
- modern slavery and trafficking
- terrorism
- violent crime

Don't worry if you can't find the crime you have been affected by listed above. There is no crime too big or small – LVS is here for support when you need it, when you're ready for it.



# How can LVS support you?

Specialist hate crime advocates at LVS will be able to support you and provide expert advice and guidance.

You will be given support from a case worker, either on a one-to-one, or joint, basis, based on your needs.

If you would like to report the crime, LVS can support you through the process – this may mean linking in with the police where appropriate, and only when you are comfortable with this.

You can also be put in contact with other agencies and support groups within the wider community, to receive further support, help and guidance.

We can work with you to help you regain your confidence and overcome victimisation – allowing you to move forward with your life.

# Contact LVS.

#### Call

0300 323 0085 Lines are open 24/7

### **Email**

info@lancashirevictimservices.org

### Write

Lancashire Victim Services Percy Street, Preston, PR1 1HQ

**Referral Form** 

Referral or Self-Referral