

# Hate Crime Newsletter



Issue no. 18  
August 2018

## Welcome to the hate crime newsletter



Since the publication of the last newsletter, I have chaired my first hate crime coordinator's event which was attended by Area coordinators and inclusion and community engagement managers.

These events are important dates in the coordinators' and inclusion managers' diaries where they can come together, face to face, and talk about local issues and successes and how these can inform national practice.

It was a great day and a fantastic experience for me being part of this group of dedicated specialists. The hate crime coordinators play an invaluable role in driving up performance and the inclusion managers bring so much expertise and knowledge from their invaluable work with communities affected by hate crime. You can read more about the day on [page six](#).

I'm really grateful to GEO for contributing an article for this newsletter on their recently published LGBT action plan this. The action plan comes out of the findings of their National survey which received responses from over 108,000 LGBT people in the UK. I think that goes to show how well informed the action plan is and I'm proud to see the CPS playing an important role in delivering against the plan. This newsletter is actually one of the key ways we will meet our action to raise awareness of successfully prosecuted cases of hate crimes targeting people on the basis of their sexual orientation or transgender identity. GEO's article can be found on [page 10](#).

The CPS has recently published some really useful guidance for prosecutors which will support them in prosecuting hate crime cases. The article on [page three](#) covers the guidelines on the use of community impact statements in hate crime cases. These are important documents and are the only way to give communities affected by hate crime a voice in the criminal justice process. I would really encourage all prosecutors to read and take on board the information in these guidelines.

Our [guidelines on prosecuting cases involving communications sent via social media](#) have also been updated. The internet, and social media in particular, have provided new platforms for perpetrators to commit hate crimes. The revised guidelines contain a more detailed section on hate crime to support prosecutors in dealing with such cases.

To shape the November edition of the newsletter, please send comments, contributions and examples of best practice to: [HateCrime.policy@cps.gov.uk](mailto:HateCrime.policy@cps.gov.uk)

**Chris Long, Hate Crime Champion and Chief Crown Prosecutor**

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Updates and info

## Positive Outcomes and Engagement from CPS Areas Hate Crime Coordinators

Prosecutors and Hate Crime Coordinators are working hard across the country to prosecute hate crimes. Here we celebrate some of our recent successes:

The CPS South East hate crime coordinator Gareth Morgan and DCCP area lead Paul Stimpson together with assistance from CPS PA Ryan Fox and friends attended the community festival for Brighton Pride 2018.

Providing information to festival goers about the work done by CPS South East in tackling hate crime and supporting victims of crime generally - the South East team were a visible presence in the community forum area.

A fantastic day was had which helped to expand knowledge of hate crime work done by CPS to the festival attendees and information about the work of the CPS generally in supporting victims of crime.

With special thanks to [Truevision](#) and [Stop Hate UK](#) who provided some freebies for members of the public such as flyers, pens and key chains.

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CPS London North successfully prosecuted a man who bit into a police officer's cheek while resisting arrest. The offender left the officer with three bleeding bite marks after the attack.

During the attack he shouted racial slurs at the officer and was also caught on the officer's body worn camera saying: "You will have those bite marks for life, that's what you get".

He admitted racially aggravated assault and acting in breach of a restraining order. He was told by the sentencing judge that he would have been sentenced to 36 months' imprisonment but that his sentence would be uplifted to 48 months imprisonment to take into account the racially aggravated offence. He was also sentenced to 16 months imprisonment for the breach of a restraining order adding up to a total of 64 months imprisonment.

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CPS North East successfully prosecuted an individual for homophobically aggravated common assault and a public order offence. The offender went to a care home to visit his mother where he was disorderly and banging on windows and doors. When the manager asked him to leave, the offender became aggressive towards him, shouting, swearing and using homophobic insults. The offender squared up to the victim and spat in his face. After being escorted off the premises the offender continued to shout homophobic abuse at the victim and pulled his trousers down making rude gestures.

The victim outlined the distress the incident had caused him in a Victim Personal Statement.

Each CPS Area has a dedicated webpage on the CPS website. To find out more about the work of the CPS in your area, please visit our website: [www.cps.gov.uk/cps-areas-and-cps-direct](http://www.cps.gov.uk/cps-areas-and-cps-direct)

The offender was found guilty and sentenced to 12 weeks imprisonment on each charge to run concurrently, suspended for 18 months plus 25 days Rehabilitation Activity Requirement and nine months Drug Rehabilitation Requirement. The sentence was uplifted from a community order to reflect the hate crime element.

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In the aftermath of last year's terrorist attacks in London and Manchester there was significant public concern about a rise in associated hate crime against Muslim and other minority communities. This was reflected in an increase in the number of cases referred to the Counter-Terrorism Division in relation to offences of inciting racial or religious hatred. A year on and many of those cases have now successfully concluded with significant custodial sentences.

In response to the London Bridge and Borough Market attacks Ian Evans posted messages on a Facebook community page known as 'The Shrewsbury Group'. In that message he urged people to 'fight back', to 'hunt and kill Muslims' and invited people to attend a protest march at the local mosque on 5 June 2017. Following a guilty plea to two offences of inciting religious hatred he was sentenced to nine months imprisonment.

Peter John Tovey posted a number of threatening messages on Facebook targeting Muslims and foreigners. On 4 and 5 June 2017 he posted messages which said, amongst other things, 'We need a revolution, we need to take to the streets and fight back'. He entered guilty pleas to an offence of inciting racial hatred and two offences of inciting religious hatred and was sentenced on 27 March 2018 to a total of 15 months' imprisonment.

In response to the bombing in Manchester on 22 March 2017, Keegan Jakovlevs posted messages on Facebook inviting his readers to kill every Muslim they see. Following a guilty plea to an offence of inciting religious hatred he was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment. Two weeks later on the night of the tribute concert Andrew Emery published a number of posts on his public Facebook account targeting the Muslim community. On 4 June 2017, he invited serial killers and murderers to target the Muslim community and invited his readers to burn down mosques. He pleaded guilty to three offences of inciting religious hatred and was sentenced to two years' imprisonment. The judge commented that freedom of speech is not an absolute right, and does not extend to words intending to spread religious hatred.

To find out more about the work of the CPS Special Crime and Counter Terrorism Division, please visit our website: <https://www.cps.gov.uk/special-crime-and-counter-terrorism-division-scctd>

## Community Impact Statements and Hate Crime

Alison Plant, Senior Policy Advisor, Prosecution Policy and Inclusion Unit

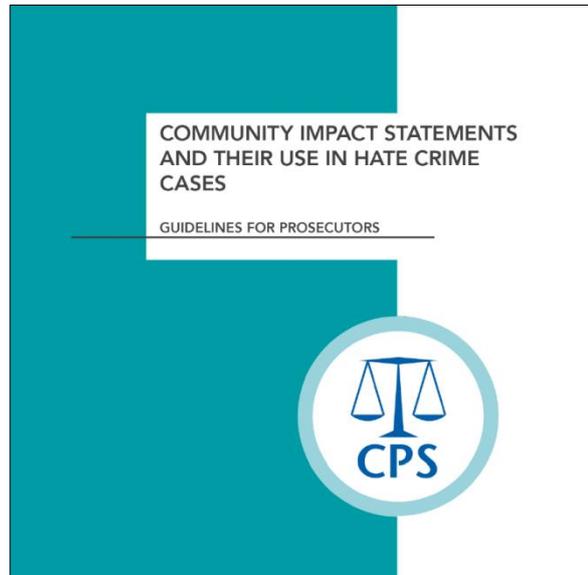
On 16 August, the CPS published [guidelines for prosecutors on the use of Community Impact Statements \(CIS\) in hate crime cases](#).

The guidelines were developed with the support of a working group which consisted of CPS hate crime coordinators, inclusion and community engagement managers, CPS policy and the police. External stakeholders also provided invaluable comments and advice on the content.

A CIS is a short document illustrating the concerns and priorities of a specific community over a set period of time. The statements are compiled and owned by the police in the form of a section 9 witness statement (Criminal Justice Act 1967). A CIS can help criminal justice agencies understand the wider impact of hate crime and can improve decision making and increase public confidence.

Hate crime offences often have a disproportionate impact on the victim because they are being targeted for a personal characteristic, whether it's their disability, race, religion, sexual orientation or transgender identity. The fear and lack of safety felt by the victims of hate crime can have a ripple effect on the wider community, undermining peoples' confidence and security. The use of a CIS allows for both the prevalence and the impact of these crimes to be fully understood and taken into account in appropriate hate crime cases.

A CIS will not be appropriate in every hate crime case and the guidelines provide more information on where CIS may be useful in such cases.



To find the guidelines on the use of community impact statements in hate crime cases, please visit the CPS website: <https://www.cps.gov.uk/legal-guidance/community-impact-statements-and-their-use-hate-crime-cases>

The MoJ legal guidance on community impact statements can also be found on the CPS website: <https://www.cps.gov.uk/legal-guidance/community-impact-statements-adult>

## **A Personal Perspective - Disability Hate Crime**

**Stephen Brooks MBE, Founder and Coordinator of the Disability Hate Crime Network and member of the CPS Community Accountability Forum**

As my last input to the CPS as the retiring founder coordinator of the Disability Hate Crime Network I feel that a 'where we are now' update is relevant.

For the 10 years of its operation other than promoting the importance to Disabled People of reporting matters, one major factor has been at the core of our work; that being the lasting impact of DHC on victims and friends or families, which if not handled speedily, efficiently and with compassion, leads to a break down in confidence in justice.

Historically it is recalled that there have been a number of high profile cases of disability hate crime, such as Brent Martin, Steven Hoskin both with a learning disability, and the deaths of Fiona Pilkington and her daughter Frankie in Leicestershire, as well as David Askew in Greater Manchester.

A fairly recent survey we did at the Hate Crime Network revealed that more than half of Disabled People say they have experienced repeat 'low level' hostility, aggression or violence because of their condition or impairment, and not always from complete strangers, but frequently have not reported it as 'they' won't do anything about it. The 'they' means the police, the CPS and local and national NGOs.

For a long time we have been insisting that criminal justice responses need to be more consistent. The numbers of reports of hate crimes against Disabled People seems slowly to be growing although such crimes often go uncharged. Continual research shows hostility against Disabled People has an impact that extends way beyond the physical and emotional harm experienced by the victims. Statutory bodies and local authorities need to recognise that hate crimes damage cohesion and communities and many Disabled People feel a sense of shame and anger for being seen as more vulnerable than other people.

Family members of disabled hate crime victims, who may not be disabled themselves, are often similarly victimised. And Disabled People who have never experienced hate crime often change or modify their lives to avoid putting themselves at risk. So a priority action has to be for all those involved, statutory, NGO and voluntary to convince disabled people that it is vitally important they do report crimes and incident.

Contacts of the Disability Hate Crime Network who are often victims say that Hate crime against Disabled People needs to be given more priority and taken more seriously. There is thus an urgent need for disability hate crime to become a greater priority, both at the national and local level.

Everyone from all areas including the 3<sup>rd</sup> sector agree that the level of reported disability hate crime is much lower than it should be and does not reflect the actual number of incidents. This tends to be due to lack of confidence in the justice available. Cooperative working between CPS, police and Disability Organisations is critical. So a priority action has to be for all those involved, statutory, NGO and voluntary to convince disabled people that it is vitally important they do report crimes and incident.

Finally, my outgoing message has to be that the tackling of hate crime could be vastly improved if all parties, police, CPS the judiciary and NGO services got together to share their learning and coordinate their practices.

I am proud of what we have achieved within the cooperative work with the CPS and in particular thank the many CPS policy and prosecution staff who specialise in Hate Crime. The Hate Crime Network will continue under the continuing coordinators and continue to work with the CPS and push for disability hate crime to be an important and appropriately resourced priority for the justice system in general and police services in particular across the UK.

## Action on Elder Abuse Conference

**Alison Plant, Senior Policy Advisor, Prosecution Policy and Inclusion Unit**

On 15 June, [Action on Elder Abuse](#) (AEA) held their National Conference and the CPS attended to deliver a workshop on prosecuting crimes against older people.

The conference was a really interesting day and saw talks, presentations and workshops from a range of speakers and organisations including SafeLives, Women's Aid, the Metropolitan Police and the Older People's Commissioner for Wales. There were also presentations from academics from the University of Sussex and the University of Durham.

The keynote speaker was Baroness Sally Greengross who spoke about the extent of the issue, the types of abuse faced by older people and the right of older people to live free from all forms of violence, neglect and abuse.

The CPS was invited to hold a workshop in the afternoon on prosecuting crimes against older people. In the workshop we gave some background about the CPS as well as the policy team working on this area. Jonathan Bushell, Senior Policy Advisor and legal lead on hate crime, talked about the prosecution process including the Code for Crown Prosecutors and the public interest factors to consider and the support available to victims and witnesses. Jonathan also talked about legislation and explained that there is no one piece of legislation which covers elder abuse or crimes against older people. There are therefore various pieces of legislation the CPS can use to prosecute offenders such as theft, public order offences, sexual offences and fraud etc.

The final part of the workshop was opened up to attendees to gain their valuable input into the CPS refresh of the Crimes Against Older People Public Statement. We explained the need to define 'crimes against older people' to enable the CPS to flag, monitor and report on these cases. A consultation on the refresh will be launched in September.

AEA was very pleased to have a presentation from the CPS at its recent conference. We are encouraged that crimes against older people are receiving greater attention both from the criminal Justice System and the media. Currently very few of the 500,000 cases of abuse every year ever reach the courts and hardly any result in a custodial sentence. Penalties are far, far less than similar crimes against children and act as no deterrent even though the victims may be just as defenceless or vulnerable and the crimes often shorten life or end it.

Dr John Beer OBE, Chair AEA.

## Hate Crime Coordinators Event

**Mick Conboy, Hate Crime Stakeholder Manager, Prosecution Policy and Inclusion Unit**

On 26 June the CPS hate crime coordinators and inclusion managers met up for their bi-annual face to face event. The event was the first to be chaired by the newly appointed Hate Crime Champion, Chris Long.

These meetings are a chance to share best practice, talk through issues and challenges and to work together to find solutions and improvements. It is also a chance to hear from external partners and hear about their experiences and perspectives on tackling hate crime. Presentations at this event included:

- Paul Giannasi, Head of the Cross-Government Hate Crime Programme, who spoke about joint working between the CPS and the National Police Chief's Council
- David Ormerod from the Law Commission, who spoke about the Law Commission's review into offensive online communications
- Andrew Hodgson from the HMCPSP who covered the joint thematic inspection on disability hate crime

Prosecutors were especially keen to hear from [Dimensions UK](#) and [the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities](#) (FPLD) about hate crimes targeting those with learning disabilities. The FPLD spoke about research they have carried out on hate crimes targeting people with learning disabilities. FPLD conducted a survey in 2016 which provided examples of learning disability hate crime including testimonials from victims.

Dimensions UK talked about work they completed with the Office for National Statistics which found that people with learning disabilities are more likely to be victims of hate crime than people with other forms of disability. Dimensions referred coordinators to Mencap statistics regarding bullying and harassment of people with learning disabilities. The data shows that perpetrators are usually people in the victim's locality i.e. neighbours and shopkeepers, school children, family members care and support workers etc. The types of incidents experienced cover both verbal abuse and physical abuse.

Both Dimensions and FPLD covered barriers to reporting which include being scared to report hate crimes to the police, finding it hard to remember details, being anxious about giving information and understanding questions and anxiety around the process of giving evidence in court.

The presentations from Dimensions and FPLD resulted in constructive conversations with coordinators and inclusion managers about how to support victims and witnesses to report and give evidence, flagging cases of disability hate crime from the earliest opportunity and how to get the right level of information from the police.

Each CPS Area has a hate crime coordinator. To find out more about the work of the CPS in your area, please visit our website: [www.cps.gov.uk/cps-areas-and-cps-direct](http://www.cps.gov.uk/cps-areas-and-cps-direct)

## Parliamentary Launch of GATEHerts report Sherrie Smith, Project Manager, GATEHerts

On the 19 June, Baroness Janet Whittaker hosted a Parliamentary Launch of the 'Recognise Report Resolve' Report, which has been compiled by GATEHerts in conjunction with Goldsmiths University, in order to highlight hate crime against the Gypsy Roma Traveller community.

Dr Naomi Thompson and David Woodger from Goldsmiths University presented the Report and gave a presentation of the main findings. This was followed by a Presentation given by Dr Margaret Greenfields who is a leading academic in the field. Dr Greenfields highlighted the impact hate crime and hate incidents have on the health of the victims. A 15-year-old community member, Ruby-Leigh Smith, gave a brief talk about her experience in education.

The launch was well supported with 55 people in attendance including MPs, representatives from the Mayor's Office, high ranking Police Officers, Members from the Ministry of Justice, GRT community members and members of the press. Here is a link for the full report: [Annual Report 14 05 18 \(1\) \(3\).pdf](#)



On the 20 June, GATEHerts held a Conference which saw 120 delegates attending. The delegation consisted of a wide range of stakeholders, including the CPS, Council Officials, Police Officers, representatives from Education Authorities and Community members. We are just collating and recording the responses from the feedback forms and will make these available in our full report.

The Conference was chaired by Helen Jones, Chief Executive Officer, Leeds Gate. The Conference was addressed by; Mike Ainsworth, Chair of Independent Advisory Group Hate Crime at the Ministry of Justice; David Woodger and Dr Naomi Thompson from Goldsmiths University London and Claire Rice GATEHerts Hate Crime Officer. Four workshops were held in the morning and again in the afternoon. The focus of the workshops was on LGBTQI hate crime, Education, Health and Planning and MP Dominic Raab's consultation.



A community led Panel was held after lunch, in which the delegation was able to pose questions to the members of the Panel. The Panel was representative of the communities we represent; it comprised five members, Two Pavee (Irish Travellers), Two Roma and one Romany Gypsy.

The Conference was addressed by Josie O'Driscoll, Chief Officer GATEHerts and Sherrie Smith, Project Manager GATEHerts, who discussed the impact of hate crime and how Report Racism GRT can change this.

Finally the conference was addressed by Kate Bellinis, Chief Executive, CDA Herts, and Tim Hayward-Smith, also from CDA Herts who discussed how GATEHerts links with wider networks and the benefits this approach offers.

## **Social Media Guidelines Refresh Unity in the Community**

### **Alison Plant, Senior Policy Advisor, Prosecution Policy and Inclusion Unit**

On 21 August, the CPS updated its guidelines on prosecuting cases involving communications sent via social media. These guidelines were last revised and published in October 2016 following a public consultation.

The Guidelines have been reduced in length and revised to provide greater assistance to prosecutors.

Communications sent via social media may involve the commission of a range of existing offences for example making a threat to kill contrary to section 16 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861 or Harassment or Stalking contrary to sections 2, 2A, 4 or 4a of the Protection from Harassment Act 1997. The guidance makes it clear that where social media is used to facilitate a substantive offence, prosecutors should charge and pursue that offence.

Where social media is not being used to commit another substantive offence, prosecutors may turn to consider the communications offences available under section 1 of the Malicious Communications Act 1988 and section 127 of the Communications Act 2003 (the communications offences).

This distinction between substantive offences and the communications offences has replaced the four categories included in the previous version of the guidelines.

The amended guidelines confirm the referral criteria for cases to be sent to the Director's Legal Advisor's team to consider whether a case can be charge under the Communications Act 2003 or the Malicious Communications Act 1988.

The amended section on the communications offences provides more detail on:

- The differences between section 1 of the Malicious Communications Act 1988 and section 127 of the Communications Act 2003
- Time limits for charging cases under section 127 of the Communications Act 2003
- Considerations around freedom of speech and the Code for Crown Prosecutors (the Code)
- Whether victims are required to give evidence

More detail has been added to the sections on violence against women and girls and hate crime including considerations around the public interest test of the Code and sentence uplift.

To view the guidelines on prosecuting cases involving communications sent via social media, please visit our website:  
<https://www.cps.gov.uk/legal-guidance/social-media-guidelines-prosecuting-cases-involving-communications-sent-social-media>

## Unity in the Community

Ketan Davé, Inclusion and Community Engagement Manager, CPS East of England

On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2018, representatives from the CPS East of England attended the Unity in the Community Event organised by the Huntingdonshire Community Group.



This annual event aims to promote community cohesion and was attended by over 300 members of the local community from very diverse backgrounds. The event was also an opportunity for us to connect with communities in remote parts within our area. The Mayor of Huntingdon and local MP Jonathan Djanogly were also present. It was a fantastic opportunity for us to engage, inform and reassure our communities in a fun and informal environment.

The organisers wanted us to provide information around hate crime: how we define it; how we deal with it; how we work with stakeholders; our role within the CJS; and how we support victims of hate crime. Most of the information on Hate Crime is readily available on [the hate crime page on the CPS website](#) but we are aware that there can be accessibility issues to consider. We therefore took photocopies of our Hate Crime Public Statements to disseminate. It was extremely encouraging to note that many people took time to read the statements and asked questions about them as well as general questions about our work and how we differ from the police. Many of the attendees that we spoke to were not aware about things like sentence uplift; special measures; and victim and witness care.

It was a positive learning experience for not only the community members but also for us as events like this gives us an insight into the communities we serve and how we can make the engagement process more relevant to them.



We have had very positive feedback from the organisers and representatives of various community organisations who attended the event have invited us to attend their trustee meetings and community forums to talk about hate crime.

For more information about the CPS East of England, visit their page on the CPS website: <https://www.cps.gov.uk/east-england>

## GEO LGBT Action Plan Launch Event

Anum Ahmed, LGB&T Policy Adviser, Government Equalities Office

On Tuesday 3 July 2018, the Government Equalities Office (GEO) hosted an event to launch the [LGBT Survey Research Report](#) and the [LGBT Action Plan](#). The event hosted 250 attendees from the LGBT third sector, Parliamentarians as well as academics to learn how Government will be improving the lives of LGBT people over the next four years. The event included an exciting package of Ministerial speeches, a panel session and a series of workshops.

The LGBT Survey Research Report includes findings from the largest National LGBT Survey. The survey gathered information about the experiences of over 108,000 LGBT people in the UK, in the areas of safety, health, education and the workplace.



Though there were some positive findings from the survey, other findings were concerning. For example in relation to LGBT respondent's experiences of their personal safety, we found the following:

- LGBT respondents were less satisfied with their life than the general UK population.
- More than 68% of LGBT respondents said they avoided holding hands with a same-sex partner in public spaces for fear of a negative reaction from others.
- 40% of respondents had experienced at least one negative incident involving someone they did not live with, and 29% experienced at least one negative incident involving someone they lived with. Some of the incidents included verbal harassment, unwanted disclosure of LGBT status or threats of physical violence.
- More than 91% said that the most serious incident they experienced went unreported.
- 2% of respondents had undergone conversion or reparative therapy in an attempt to 'cure' them of being LGBT, and a further 5% had been offered it.
- 11% of all respondents had experienced someone sharing private sexual images or videos of them without their consent.<sup>1</sup>

In response, the GEO launched a LGBT Action Plan, accompanied by a £4.5m fund to support the delivery of some of the action plan commitments.

We're delighted that the CPS have committed to a range of actions, including, working with LGBT stakeholders and specialist press to raise awareness of successfully prosecuted cases involving LGBT victims to increase confidence in reporting crimes. In addition, the CPS will work with partners to improve the recording and monitoring of equalities data for LGBT victims of domestic abuse, rape and hate crime. The CPS will also update their LGBT Hate Crime Schools Pack in partnership with young LGBT people and identity-based bullying professionals to tackle bullying in schools.

Through the 75 commitments in the LGBT action Plan, we want to address the barriers to equality that LGBT people still face in daily life and ensure that Britain is a country that works for everyone, whatever your sexual orientation or gender identity.

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<sup>1</sup>Respondents were asked about their experiences in the 12 months preceding the survey.

## Tackling LGBT hate crime Robert Buckland QC MP



The government is committed to making the UK a country that works for everyone, and that includes ensuring that no one is subject to the ravages of hate crime.

In this edition, I focus on the impact of hate crime in the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community. This is inspired by the cross-government LGBT Action Plan 2018, which was published in July with over 75 commitments to improve the lives of LGBT people.

Sexual orientation hate crime is the second most common form of hate crime recorded in the UK (behind race), so one of the key actions of the plan was to tackle LGBT hate crime through improving the recording and reporting of hate crime, as well as police response. These actions will be tied into the upcoming refresh of the 2016 Hate Crime Action Plan.

Some of our main focus-points will be improving the identification and recording of hate crimes against LGBT people, and increasing the confidence of LGBT people in the criminal justice system to ensure that they come forward and report crimes against them.

I therefore welcome the CPS commitment to work with LGBT stakeholders and members of specialist media outlets to raise awareness of successfully prosecuted cases involving LGBT victims to further increase confidence in reporting crimes.

The work of the CPS will be supported by measures to improve the awareness and skills of police officers and staff to respond to the needs of hate crime victims, and to support local agencies in directing victims of hate crime to appropriate support services.

I also congratulate the actions the CPS are taking to tackle bullying and hate crime in the education system, including a commitment to update the LGBT Hate Crime Schools Pack in partnership with young LGBT people, and the progress already made in refreshing their free LGBT hate crime resources for schools and teachers. These actions will be supported by the wider government, and our plans to ensure that assistance is available in schools for victims of hate crime and online harassment.

I would like to extend my thanks for all of the great work being done by the CPS to tackle homophobic, biphobic, and transphobic hate crime.

To find out more about the Solicitor General and the Attorney General, you can access the Government's website here:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/attorney-generals-office>

## Useful updates and info

Alison Plant, CPS Senior Policy Advisor, Prosecution Policy and Inclusion Unit

### Tell MAMA report

Tell MAMA have published their [annual report for 2017](#) which shows the highest number of annual reports logged since Tell MAMA's launch in 2012. In 2017 Tell MAMA recorded a total of 1,330 reports. Of these reports, 1,201 were verified as being anti-Muslim or Islamophobic in nature and as having occurred in the UK between January and December 2017.

### CST Antisemitic Incidents Report

On 26 July, the Community Security Trust (CST) published its [Antisemitic Incidents Report](#) for the period January to June 2018. This report shows that the number of antisemitic incidents recorded by CST fell by 8% compared to the first six months of 2017, but it still amounted to the second-highest incident total CST has ever recorded for the January to June period of any year.

### Scottish Government report on hate crime legislation

The Scottish Government has published a report by Lord Bracadale following the conclusion of his review into Hate Crime Legislation in Scotland. The report can be found here: <https://beta.gov.scot/publications/independent-review-hate-crime-legislation-scotland-summary-document/>

### Law Commission – offensive online communications

On 5 February 2018, the Prime Minister announced that the Law Commission would undertake an analysis of the laws around offensive online communications. The Commission expects to publish its analysis before the end of 2018. More information can be found on the Law Commission's website: <https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/online-communications/>

### Home Office early intervention youth fund

The Home Office has doubled the early intervention youth fund from £11 million to £22 million. The fund, a work-stream of the Serious Violence Strategy, is designed to pay for projects that seek to keep young people away from violence, using a local focus and according to needs. PCCs/deputy mayors may bid for funding. The link provides further detail: [www.gov.uk/government/news/home-secretary-launches-and-doubles-the-early-intervention-youth-fund](http://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-secretary-launches-and-doubles-the-early-intervention-youth-fund)

We welcome your input so if you would like to contribute to the Hate Crime Newsletter or have comments on this or any other issue, please email: [HateCrime.Policy@cps.gov.uk](mailto:HateCrime.Policy@cps.gov.uk)