

**Performance outcomes**

We hope to achieve the following outcomes by 31 March 2010 to demonstrate improved partnership working and handling of hate crimes:

1. An increase in the clearance rates (injunctions, transfers, evictions and convictions) of hate crime, hate incidents and harassment within housing.
2. An increase in the number of offenders brought to justice (i.e. cautioned or convicted)
3. An increase in the number of ways to report hate crime within Lambeth.
4. The development of a centralised database which allows for the collection and analysis of all hate crime data.
5. A pilot within Lambeth schools which to support the recording of incidents such as faith, homophobic and disability in addition to race.
6. All hate crime reports will be responded to (reports taken, referrals made if necessary).
7. Details of ways to report hate crime and support services available will be available in a range of locations, languages and media.
8. Training to key statutory and voluntary agencies on what hate crime is, how to report it and what support services are available.
9. Annual progress reports at the end of each financial year.

A full detailed version of this document is available on the Internet, for further information or a copy of the strategy contact Yvonne Okiyo on 020 7326 2689 or visit [www.lambeth.gov.uk/SaferLambeth/HateCrime](http://www.lambeth.gov.uk/SaferLambeth/HateCrime)

# LAMBETH HATE CRIME STRATEGY 2007-10

A SUMMARY OF HOW  
THE SAFER LAMBETH  
PARTNERSHIP WILL  
ADDRESS HATE CRIME

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## Introduction

Hate crime is serious social issue that has significant impact on victims, families, communities within Lambeth. As a result of this, a strategy has been developed on behalf of the Council and Safer Lambeth Partnership to address these crimes.

The Safer Lambeth Partnership is made up of the local authority, police, probation, health agencies, and a range of voluntary, community and faith based organisations who work together in order to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in the borough.

This summary outlines the main focus of the strategy and what we plan to do to achieve a reduction in hate crimes in the borough. For a copy of the complete strategy visit

[www.lambeth.gov.uk/saferlambeth/hatecrime](http://www.lambeth.gov.uk/saferlambeth/hatecrime)

## What is hate crime?

Hate crimes can have a broad definition, and so the Safer Lambeth Partnership has agreed to draw on the definition of hate incidents and crimes as given by the Home Office and Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO). These are:

A 'hate incident' is:

Any incident which may or may not constitute a criminal offence that is perceived by the victim or any other person, as being motivated by prejudice or hate.

And a 'hate crime' is:

Any incident which constitutes a criminal offence that is perceived by the victim, or any other person, as being motivated by prejudice or hate.

Therefore, in this strategy, the definition for hate crime that we will use will be:

**'All hate incidents based on race, disability, sexual orientation and faith whether or not they constitute a criminal offence'.**

## Our Vision and Ambition

Our Vision

**Lambeth, a Borough where diversity and difference is celebrated and hate crime is not tolerated.**

To work towards our vision, the Partnership will focus on:

- Increasing reporting of hate crimes (which the Partnership widely accepts as being under-reported);
- Developing preventative work;
- Improving partnership responses to victims and witnesses of hate crime;
- Bringing more offenders to justice;
- Gathering and using evidence to inform and develop long term hate crime reduction strategies.

## Our Ambition

**To prevent and reduce the levels of hate crime, by ensuring victims and witnesses of hate crime are supported and offenders are brought to justice. This Strategy provides a framework for Lambeth's statutory, voluntary and community organisations to work in partnership to achieve our ambition.**

Our Hate Crime Strategy provides a framework for a range of organisations to address hate crime within the Borough. To achieve these aims, it will mean that agencies and organisations from both the statutory and voluntary sectors, and in particular, Lambeth Council, Metropolitan Police, Victim Support, Probation and the Courts; will all have a role to play. However, to address the issue of hate crime effectively, the support and commitment of all Lambeth communities and service providers is required.

Based on findings from recent research and consultation, the Strategy identifies key priorities and strategic aims for the Partnership. It also looks at how the use of an action plan can be used to meet these objectives over the next three years.

## The Strategic Aims

**Strategic Aim 1: Improve statutory, voluntary and community service providers' responses to hate crime**

**Strategic Aim 2: Increase the reporting of hate crime**

**Strategic Aim 3: Bring more offenders to justice**

**Strategic Aim 4: Prevent hate crime**

**Strategic Aim 1: Improve statutory, voluntary and community responses to hate crime**

This means:

- **Responsive services** which are equipped to respond to victims and witnesses.
- **Inclusive services** which are sensitive to victims and witnesses diverse needs.
- **Person-centred approach** where the individual victims and witnesses needs are the priority.
- **Can-do approach** which is proactive and action orientated.

Having focused on improving the provision of hate crime services, we will also need to focus on increasing the level of hate crimes that are reported.

**Strategic Aim 2: Increase the reporting of hate crime**

This means:

- **Increasing community confidence** in agencies to respond appropriately and efficiently, so that victims and witnesses are more willing to report hate crimes.
- **Develop a range of options** to make reporting accessible to all who experience hate crime.
- **Listening to stakeholders**, to establish what reporting options communities would like to see developed.
- **Raising awareness** so residents know where and how to report hate crime, the support services available and the actions taken against offenders of hate crime.

To ensure public confidence in the police and criminal justice system, we need to bring those who commit crime to justice. We will continue to work closely with our criminal justice system partners to make the legal process as effective and efficient as possible.

**Strategic Aim 3: Increase the numbers of offenders brought to justice**

This means:

- **Dealing swiftly and efficiently** with offenders to raise confidence that the Partnership will address hate crime efficiently.
- **Learning from high risk**, difficult and unresolved cases and promoting good practice
- **Criminal justice system partners working together** to ensure efficient handling of cases.

Although increasing reporting and providing responsive services is important, our long term goal remains on focused 'prevention'.

**Strategic Aim 4: Prevent hate crime**

This means:

- **Promoting diversity** to increase understanding of different groups and to challenge the stereotypes, myths and attitudes that lead to hate crime.
- **Challenging prejudice within services** to ensure that all victims and witnesses receive quality services.
- **Raising awareness of actions taken against offenders** to act as a deterrent to potential offenders.

## The Scale of the Challenge

Local research and consultation with victims and service providers has identified key issues requiring attention if Partnership responses to hate crime are to improve, including:

- Data collection
- Information sharing
- Community engagement
- Responsive services
- Increased reporting options
- Preventative programmes.