

Hate crime third party reporting

The way forward?

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Hampered by good intentions?



What does the Lawrence Inquiry Report say about reporting?

15. That Codes of Practice be established by the Home Office, in consultation with Police Services, local Government and relevant agencies, to create a comprehensive system of reporting and recording of all racist incidents and crimes.

16. That all possible steps should be taken by Police Services at local level in consultation with local Government and other agencies and local communities to encourage the reporting of racist incidents and crimes. This should include:

- the ability to report at locations other than police stations; and
- the ability to report 24 hours a day.

17. That there should be close co-operation between Police Services and local Government and other agencies, including in particular Housing and Education Departments, to ensure that all information as to racist incidents and crimes is shared and is readily available to all agencies.

What's changed since the Lawrence Inquiry Report?

- Widening scope of what constitutes a Hate Crime
- Expanding plethora of reasons why victims don't report
- Third party reporting centres have failed to live up to their promise

'In-efficacy' of third party reporting centres

- Low level of awareness among victims and vulnerable groups
- Staff not aware they were reporting centres
- Limited / No use by victims
- Meagre resources for promotion - out of date information (one centre had closed down 3 years previously)
- Reporting processes 'not fit for purpose'
- High staff turnover
- Limited / No accountability
- Grandstanding

Arguably what hasn't changed...much

- Victims tend not to report less serious crimes - Hate crime or any crime*
- Low expectations of police efficacy
- A bad experience of the police is considerably greater (by 4 to 14 times) than a positive experience**
- Victim desire for anonymity/fear of reprisal

*Smith et al 2012

**Skogan 2006

| Reconfiguring what we're doing

- More realistic policy aims/outcome
- Better/more useful measurement
- Focus efforts on encouraging reporting to the police
- Re-think the use of third party reporting centres and/or make them more accountable

A typology of third party reporting centres

Dimension	Variations
Organisational purpose	<p>Hate crime as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• core business• non-core business
Resourcing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dedicated funding for Hate crime work• Hate crime work resourced from funding which does not specifically cover Hate crime work
Capacity/capability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reporting only• Reporting + advice• Reporting + support and advice• Reporting + enforcement, support and advice
Types of hate crime dealt with	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All• Specific Hate crime type(s)
Strength of links to groups vulnerable to Hate Crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limited• Well embedded
Strength of operational and strategic links to police and other key strategic agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limited operational and strategic• Good operational and limited strategic• Limited operational and good strategic• Good operational and good strategic

What to do with reporting centres?

Problem	Potential solution
Limited or no accountability	Collect data on their performance
Low level of awareness among victims/vulnerable groups	Consider focussing resources and efforts on a single or fewer better resourced centres
Meagre resources for promotion	As above
Poor consistency and standard of reporting process	As above

Areas for Future Research

Third Party Reporting Centres (TPRC's):

- What factors make TPRC's successful?
- How to make hate crime awareness campaigns connect with people more effectively?

Other research areas/new challenges:

- Explaining the changing geography of hate crime
- Perpetrators (esp. physical violence)
- Approaches to managing the wider impact of Syrian crisis

| Thank you.

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