

Re: The urgent need for a renewed National Hate Crime Action Plan

16 October 2025

Dear Ministers,

As too many distressing and painful events over the past few years have shown, hate crime remains one of the most pressing challenges facing our communities. The most recent Government Hate Crime Action Plan expired in spring 2020. Since then, police-recorded hate crime has risen by 31%, with 137,550 offences recorded across all strands in the year ending March 2025.

We, the undersigned civil society organisations, academics, and experts working to confront hate crime and support victims, see the daily impact of these harms. Hate crime drives communities apart, isolates victims, and erodes trust in public services. These harms are being intensified by the growth of far-right exclusionary narratives, fuelling hostility, emboldening perpetrators, and spreading fear through targeted communities.

In the absence of a national action plan, responses remain piecemeal and inconsistent, leaving many victims without the support they need and undermining efforts to build safer and more cohesive communities.

There is an urgent need for the Government to prioritise and deliver a new Hate Crime Action Plan for England and Wales. The recent [Manifesto for Change](#), developed by the Centre for Hate Studies and Protection Approaches in consultation with hundreds of organisations, practitioners, and people with lived experience, sets out ten clear, practical, and achievable recommendations that could provide the foundation for such a plan.

These include improving awareness of hate crime, ensuring victim support is available across the country, strengthening police expertise, introducing parity in the law, tackling online hate, and appointing an independent Hate Crime Commissioner.

The evidence is clear: a renewed action plan, grounded in research and supported by the sector, would not only improve the lives of victims of hate crime but would also strengthen trust, cohesion, and resilience across society.

We call on the Government to act now and to work with experts and communities in developing and implementing this plan. We stand ready to support the government in this endeavour.

Yours sincerely,

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Friends, Families and Travellers
GATE Herts Report Racism GRT
Hilary Barber - Vicar of Halifax
Mark Healey, Founder and CEO - 17-24-30 National Hate Crime Awareness Week
Marwa Soliman, Director - Empowerment for Heya
Mike Ainsworth - Chair, National Independent Advisory Group on Hate Crime for Policing and Criminal Justice
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On Your Side
Professor Jon Garland
Professor Mark Walters - Chair of Advisory Board, International Network for Hate Studies
Professor Matthew Williams, Director of HateLab
Protection Approaches
Race Equality First
Shamsher Chohan, Director - Communities Inc
Simon Blake, CEO - Stonewall
Stop Funding Hate
Stop Hate UK
Sue Sanders, Founder - LGBT+ History Month
Tell Mama
The Sophie Lancaster Foundation
Translucent
Why Me?