

## Support

In Hertfordshire, the police have specially trained hate crime officers. They deal with victims of hate crimes and support anyone who has been affected by hate incidents.

## How to report hate crime

You can report hate crime to police via **101**.

If you would prefer not to go direct to police, there are other ways you can report it. You can go online at **www.report-it.org.uk** to report a hate crime, or you can go to one of the many third party reporting centres in your area.

In an emergency, always call **999**.

## Where you can report hate crimes in Stevenage & North Herts:

### Citizens Advice Bureau

**Stevenage:** Swingate House,  
Danestrete, SG1 1AF

### Letchworth Garden City:

49 Station Road, SG6 3BQ

**Hitchin:** Thomas Bellamy House,  
Bedford Road, SG5 1HL

**Royston:** Town Hall, SG8 7DA

### North Hertfordshire District Council

Council Offices, Gernon Road,  
Letchworth Garden City, SG6 3JF

### Stevenage Borough Council

Daneshill House, Danestrete,  
Stevenage, SG1 1HN

### North Herts Minority Ethnic Forum

Unity House, Whinbush Road  
Hitchin, SG5 1PH

### Westmill Community Centre

John Barker Place  
Hitchin, SG5 2PG

### Jackie's Drop-in Centre

#### Centre for Adults with Disabilities

St Michaels House, Norton Way South  
Letchworth Garden City, SG6 1NY

### Leisure Direct (service users only)

The Icknield Centre  
Letchworth Garden City, SG6 1EF

### Sri Guru Singh Gurdwara

Irvin House, Icknield Way  
Letchworth Garden City, SG6 1EU

Visit **www.hertsagainsthate.org** where you can translate information into other languages and find an easy read leaflet.



HERTFORDSHIRE  
CONSTABULARY



David Lloyd  
Police and Crime  
Commissioner  
for Hertfordshire

County Community Safety Unit

**Report hate crime on 101**  
**Or at [www.report-it.org.uk](http://www.report-it.org.uk)**  
**Dial 999 in an emergency**

**Being different  
is not a crime.**  
**Being victimised  
because of it is.**

**Hate crime is not acceptable.**



**Don't ignore it – report it.**

## What is a hate crime?

Have you ever been targeted for abuse because of who you are? If so, you may have been a victim of a hate crime.

A hate crime is any crime that is targeted against someone because of:

- Their disability or learning difficulties
- Their race or the colour of their skin
- Their religion or beliefs
- Their gender identity
- Their sexual orientation.

Almost any type of crime can be a hate crime. Attacking or harassing someone, damaging property, graffiti and even arson or murder could all be hate crimes.

Even if the abuse happened online, such as on Facebook or Twitter, it can still be a hate crime.

If someone has been targeted because of who they are but a crime has not occurred – or cannot be proven – this is called a 'hate incident'.

People who have been targeted in hate incidents can feel upset, hurt or confused. Support is available to them to help them deal with the situation.

Remember, being different is not a crime. But if someone commits a crime against you because you are different, that is a hate crime.

## Don't ignore it – report it

You might think reporting hate crime is not important. It may be you're embarrassed to discuss it, scared of reprisals, or had bad experience of reporting in the past.

But reporting a hate crime means that the police can do something about it. If no one stops it, it could get worse or it could affect more people. Just think how many people could see offensive graffiti.

Hate crimes that are reported to police will be taken seriously and will be fully investigated. No information will be shared without your agreement and you will be treated with respect.

Anyone who commits a crime will get a heavier punishment if it is proved to be motivated by hate.

