



Barnet Zero Tolerance to Hate Crime Project

Barnet Safeguarding Adults
Board – Lunch and Learn

27 July 2021



Addressing Hate Crime in Barnet

- The anti-Hate Crime Strategy in Barnet
 - *“Building safe and strong communities where people get along well and taking a zero-tolerance approach to hate crime”*
- **Barnet Council Hate Crime Strategy**
- How to increase reporting?
 - Racist and Religious Hate Crime
 - Disability Hate Crime
 - Anti LGBT Hate Crime
- How to support victims?
- Increasing community confidence.
- Improving cross agency working to tackle hate.
- Safeguarding vulnerable adults and children from the impact of hate crime.

Barnet Zero Tolerance to Hate Crime Project

- The Barnet Zero Tolerance to Hate Crime Project running since 2018.
- Led by Barnet Mencap and Barnet Council and supported by Metropolitan Police and other local voluntary and community organisations.
- Aims to prevent hate crime by challenging the beliefs and attitudes that underline such crimes, e.g. through community engagement work.
- Encourage reporting of hate crime, e.g. through training or frontline practitioners.
- Respond to localised hate crime, for example disputes involving neighbours or local community groups.
- Co-ordinated approach to hate crime reporting between Reporting Centres, the Council, Police and key voluntary and community organisations.



National Hate Crime Figures during the Pandemic

- In 2019/20 the **Metropolitan Police** recorded 105,090 hate crime offences across England and Wales.
- Almost three-quarters of those were **racially motivated**
- Over 76,000 reported hate crimes linked to **race and religion**.
- In incidents where the victims' religion was recorded:
 - 50% were targeted against Muslim people; and
 - 19% were Anti-Semitic.
- Home Office publishes Hate Crime figures for England and Wales in October each year. Data for 2020/2021 will be reported in October 2021.

Barnet Hate Crime Figures



Category of Hate Crime	2021 May	2021 Jan-Apr	2020	2019	2018	2017
Race and Religion	137	233	794	824	738	702
- Anti-Semitism	48	44	129	180	193	127
- Anti-Muslim	4	2	20	35	26	67
Disability	4	8	15	18	14	23
Homophobic	6	25	66	70	35	48
Transgender	0	2	3	6	5	3

Hate Crime during the Pandemic

- **Online Hate Crime and Abuse:**
- Reduction in face-to-face assault, but an increase in online hate crime, e.g. Hijacking of Zoom calls and other video-conferences, including live streamed Synagogue services.
- **Interpersonal Hate Crime:**
- Increase in hate crime where the victim knows the perpetrator. This was particularly prevalent in disputes between neighbours.

Racially Aggravated Hate Crime during the Pandemic

- Start of 2020 saw an emergence **nationally** of hate crime towards people that appear of Chinese or South-East Asian origin following the outbreak of COVID-19.
- January to March 2020, Police recorded 267 incidents including racially aggravated assaults, harassment, malicious communications and criminal damage.
- Three times higher than that period in the previous two years.

Racially Aggravated Hate Crime during the Pandemic

- In Barnet:
- Graffiti in the East Finchley area in June 2020.
- Reported to the Police and Council and was removed by our Council Street Team.



Reporting Racially Aggravated Hate Crime during the Pandemic (Barnet)

- **Zero Tolerance to Hate Crime Project** provided support for our **Chinese community including elderly and more vulnerable adults.**
- **March 2020** - Community meeting at Barnet Wellbeing Hub.
- Members of Meridian Wellbeing invited to discuss any concerns with the Hate Crime Reporting Co-Ordinator, Barnet Council Community Safety Team Hate Crime Lead and local Police from the Safer Neighbourhood Teams.
- **September 2020** – Follow-up Webinar hosted by Meridian Wellbeing and with a presentation by Hate Crime Reporting Co-Ordinator.

Anti-Semitic Hate Crime during the Pandemic

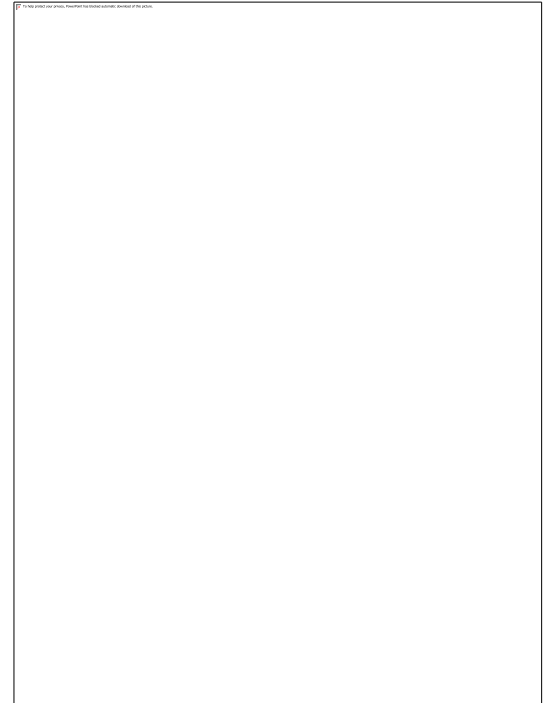
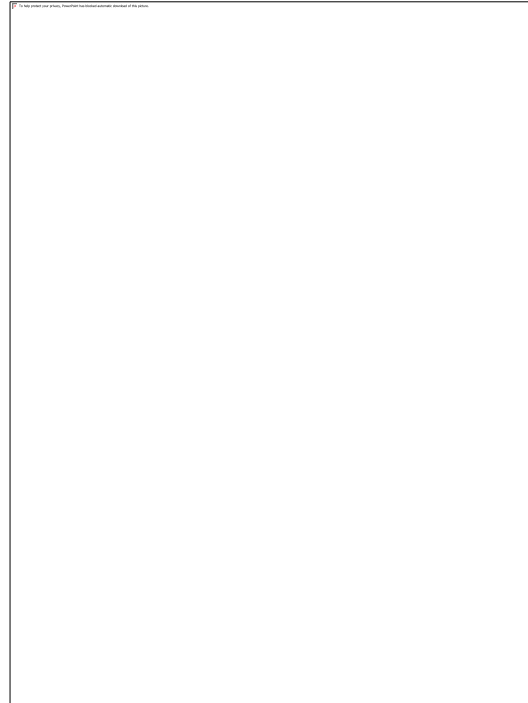
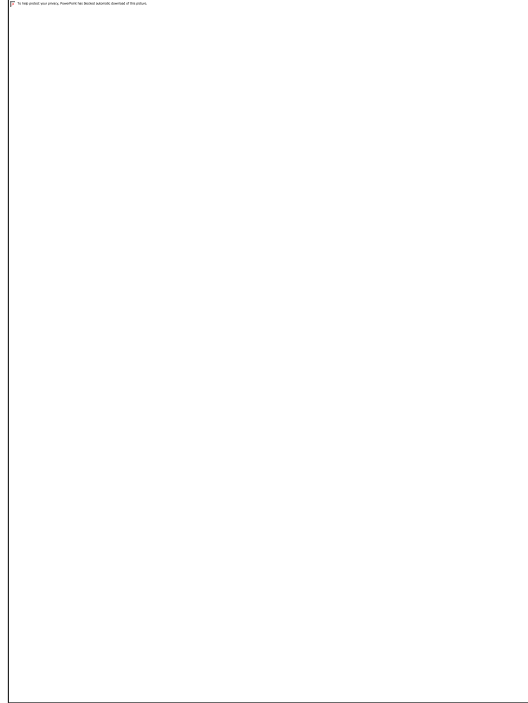
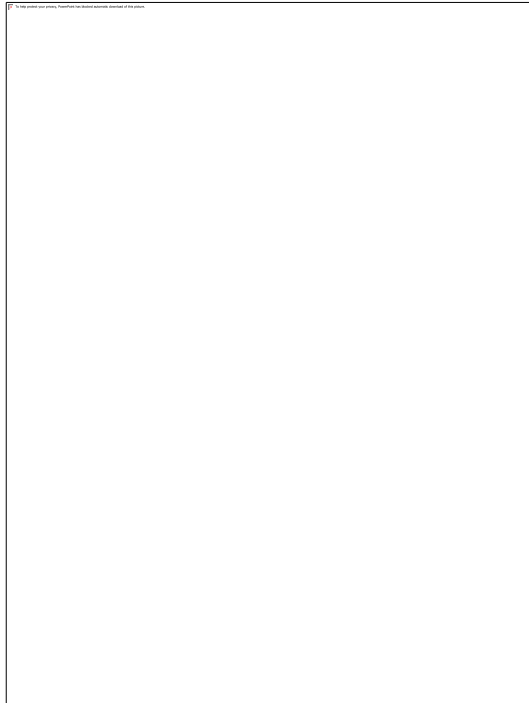
- In 2020 CST recorded 1,668 anti-Semitic incidents across the UK.
- 41 incidents that referenced the pandemic and/or antisemitic language.
- For example, conspiracy theories alleging Jewish involvement in creating and spreading Covid-19.
- 19 cases of Jewish religious, educational or social events being 'zoom bombed' by anti-Semites who accessed the events to express antisemitic abuse.
- Of the 941 incidents recorded across Greater London in 2020, **243 occurred in Barnet, which is home to the largest Jewish population in the UK.** This included graffiti on a children's playground.

Anti-Semitic Hate Crime this year

- The Police recorded **48 Anti-Semitic incidents** in Barnet in **May 2021**, as compared to **44 from January to April**.
- Rise in connection with the escalation of violence in Israel and Palestine.
- CST published its Anti-Semitic Incidents Bulletin in April 2021.
- Nationally CST has recorded 116 anti-Semitic incidents in March 2021, 105 in February and 85 in January.
- In **Barnet**, CST recorded 25 incidents in March.
- Data for April and May has not yet been published.

Anti-Semitic Hate Crime this year

- Surge in March 2021 was due to two spates of graffiti across the Capital; one in North London and one in East London.
- Perpetrator placed far-right posters in Barnet and Haringey.
- These incidents are being investigated by the Police.



Barnet - Say **NO** to



Reporting Hate Crime in Barnet

Barnet Says: Stop **Hate** Crime
Speak Up, Get Support, Report It

Challenges to Reporting Hate Crime

- Lack of understanding and a fear of asking questions from authorities including the Police, Schools and Health and Social Care Professionals.
- Fear of reprisal – particularly interpersonal hate crime.
- “Police will not believe me” and “Police will not do anything about it”.
- Victims placed on trial – assumptions made about credibility – “Can’t believe anyone would do that”.
- Difficult to prove (only 1% get a sentence uplift).
- No effective training/treatment programme for offenders.

Barnet Hate Crime Reporting Centres

- 2017 we launched Barnet's Hate Crime Reporting Centres.
- Set-up so victims of hate crime can receive support to report hate crime to the Police via a local trusted community organisation.
- Nine sites carefully selected to represent a diverse cross-section of the community.
- Four more have joined in 2020/21 – expanding the network.

Barnet Hate Crime Reporting Centres



Barnet Homes

Barnet Mencap

Community Barnet

Community Security Trust

Galop

Hft

Inclusion Barnet

Your Choice Barnet

Barnet Hill Academy

Barnet Multifaith Forum

Middlesex University

Referral and Signposting to Local Organisations

- Victim Support
- Barnet Mencap
- GALOP
- MIND
- Community Security Trust
- Tell MAMA
- Wellbeing Hub
- Meridian Wellbeing



Staff Training

- Staff training for **350 staff at over 36** organisations within the borough (including all third party Reporting Centres).
- Workshops include information on identifying hate crime, encouraging victims to report to the Police and information on support services.
- Resulted in an increase in reports taken at five Reporting Centres.
- Staff confident to support victims through reporting process and refer/signpost to appropriate organisations.



Community Engagement



- Hate Crime Awareness Week
- Information Stands
- Hate Crime Reporting Champions
- Hate Crime Bulletins and offer of free workshops
- Over **200 Hate Crime Reporting Champions** signed up to support reporting of hate crime in both 2018 and 2019.

Community Events



- Increase community confidence and cohesion:
 - we work with Barnet's Prevent Team to monitor localised tensions between ethnic groups;
 - we work with Barnet Metropolitan Police and local faith organisations to increase community cohesion.
- March 2019 – Following the terror attacks in Christchurch New Zealand
- An awareness raising stand at the Islamic Association of North London
- PCSOs engaged with over 250 local residents

Barnet - Say NO to



Reporting Hate Crime

In an Emergency CALL 999

If it is not an emergency, call 101 or Report Online at:

www.met.police.uk/ro/report/

www.report-it.org.uk

For safety reasons, do not confront those who commit hate crime

Barnet Says: Stop Hate Crime

Speak Up, Get Support, Report It

For more information or support with hate crime reporting contact:

Barnet's Hate Crime Welfare Officer Reshma Hirani at

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