

Title of Report	Hackney Hate Crime Strategy (HCS) 2023/26		
Key Decision No	CHE S277		
For Consideration By	Cabinet		
Meeting Date	27 November 2023		
Cabinet Member	Cllr Susan Fajana Thomas OBE, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Regulatory Services		
Classification	Open		
Ward(s) Affected	All		
Key Decision & Reason	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Yes</td> <td>Significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards</td> </tr> </table>	Yes	Significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards
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Implementation Date if Not Called In	4th December 2023		
Group	Rickardo Hyatt , Group Director, Climate, Homes and Economy.		

1. **Cabinet Member's introduction**

- 1.1. I am pleased to present the Hackney Hate Crime (HHC) strategy for approval.
- 1.2. This document sets out four main objectives to ensure that those that are victims are supported by key stakeholders are every part of the process.
- 1.3. Contained within the document are the following objectives:-
 - To increase the reporting of hate crime and incidents by making it easier for those affected to report hate.
 - Protecting people from harm by implementing an integrated first class response and ongoing support to survivors and communities affected by hate.
 - Building community trust and confidence by improving support for the victims of hate.
 - Preventing hate crime by tackling the beliefs and attitudes that can lead to hate crime.
- 1.4 Each of the objectives contains direct interventions that will ensure sustainable action for the benefit of people in Hackney.

1.5. The interventions include:-

- The implementation of Community Hate Crime Champions.
- Our continued support of Hate Crime Awareness Week, which is in October of each year.
- The creation of a Hate Crime Community Forum to ensure that our communities have their concerns listened to and acted upon.
- Continued support to the Heartstone school “story circles” in support of our young people to recognise and challenge prejudice.

1.6. Finally, we have consulted with many individuals and groups to ensure that the strategy meets their needs. These include:-

- Hackney Safer Neighbourhood Board.
- Hackney CVS- LGBTQI plus forum.
- A Community event attended by key community stakeholders and councillors.
- The Hackney Shomrim.
- The Hackney Advisory Round Table.
- Hackney Policy and Strategy Group.
- Hackney Community Safety Statutory Officers Group.

2. **Group Director's introduction**

- 2.1. The Hackney Hate Crime Strategy 2023/26 brings together a range of partnership interventions under four main objectives.
- 2.2. The Community Safety Statutory Officers Group will provide strategic oversight of the delivery of the objectives contained within a Hate Crime Action Plan.
- 2.3. The HCS also attempts to place victims of hate crime at the centre of our approach by ensuring that their needs are identified and addressed.
- 2.4. The delivery of a first class service to victims of hate crime is dependent upon effective internal and external partnerships that work in an integrated way to prevent hate crime whilst bringing offenders to justice. This strategy goes some way to achieving this aim.
- 2.5. Therefore, I recommend that the Hackney Hate Crime Strategy is approved by Cabinet.

3. **Recommendations**

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- 3.1 **Approves the Hackney Hate Crime Strategy 2023/26.**

4. **Reason(s) for decision**

- 4.1. A Cabinet decision is required as the Hackney Hate Crime Strategy affects the entire borough, is a key decision and is one of the main community safety priorities under the Community Safety Plan 2023/26.

5. **Details of alternative options considered and rejected**

- 5.1. Not applicable.

6. **Background**

Policy Context

- 6.1. The Hackney Hate Crime Strategy 2023/26 replaces the previous strategy.
- 6.2. The Hate Crime Strategy (HCS) will be monitored at the Community Safety Statutory Officers Group and via the soon to be created Hackney Hate Crime Forum.
- 6.3. The HCS contains four objectives (*ibid*) together with an action plan that supports the delivery of the objectives.

Sustainability and climate change

- 6.4. Not Applicable

Consultation

- 6.5. It was agreed that consultation with key community stakeholders and groups was the most effective method of seeking feedback. This decision was taken following a very low response rate to the formal consultation associated with the previous Hate Crime Strategy. The feedback of the key stakeholders was incorporated into the Hate Crime Strategy
- Hackney Safer Neighbourhood Board (SNB). The Hate Crime Strategy was an agenda item at the SNB meeting attended by a variety of community representatives including, Ward Panels, Shomrim, Community LGBTQI Plus, Police, Neighbourhood Watch, Victim Support.
 - Hackney CVS- LGBTQI plus forum. This was taken to the LGBTQI forum but the HCVS representative and feedback provided to inform the strategy.
 - A Community event attended by key community stakeholders and councillors. Representation was from a cross section of our diverse communities in Hackney. This event was held within Hackney Town Hall and attended by representatives from all of our diverse communities. This event was primarily focused onto scrutinising the Hate Crime Strategy with improvement in mind.

- The Hackney Shomrim were consulted with via the President of Shomrim taking the document to the Shomrim Forum and providing them with the opportunity to feed back any areas suitable for amendment,
- The Hackney Advisory Round Table was consulted with by our Prevent Programme Officer and feedback provided.
- Hackney Policy and Strategy Group. The Hate Crime Strategy was an agenda item at the Policy and Strategy Group and all members were given the opportunity to provide amendments to the document.
- Hackney Community Safety Statutory Officers Group. The Hate Crime Strategy was supported and signed off at this forum.
- Muslim Communities via our North London Mosque network were consulted at the SNB and during the Hate Crime Community event.

7. **Comments of the Group Director of Finance and Corporate Resources.**

- 7.1. Budget is held within the Community Safety, Enforcement and Business Regulation Service.

8. **VAT implications on land and property transactions**

- 8.1. None

9. **Comments of the Acting Director of Legal, Democratic and Electoral Services**

- 9.1 Currently the Mayor's scheme of delegation reserves to the Mayor and Cabinet, approval of all corporate policies and strategies and all formal service strategies.
- 9.2 The Mayor and Cabinet are authorised to approve the recommendation set out in 3.1 of this report.

10. **Equality Impact Assessment**

- 10.1 The Hate Crime Strategy will have a positive impact on our diverse communities as it covers the statutory range of protected characteristics defined by the Equality Act 2010 and delivers an integrated partnership approach to ensure that we encourage reporting of hate crime whilst ensuring that we provide a service to survivors that meets their needs.
- 10.2 The corresponding Hate Crime Delivery Plan does not discriminate against any group by providing a service to everyone who may be affected by hate crime in Hackney. The Hackney Hate Crime Forum will have representation from all of our diverse communities that are contained within the Equality Act 2010 to ensure that everyone is provided an effective response to their hate crime concerns.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Hackney Hate Crime Strategy 2023 to 2026

Appendix 2 - Equality Impact Assessment

Background documents

None

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