

Hate crime

Any crime or incident which you believe is happening because of race, ethnicity, religion or belief, gender identity, sexual orientation or disability is a hate crime. You could also be a victim of hate crime if you believe you are being targeted because the offender perceives you to be different in some way.

It could be a crime or incident such as:

- Physical abuse
- Intimidation
- Vandalism
- Verbal abuse/name calling
- Graffiti
- Harassment
- Cyber-bullying



Any experience of hate crime may leave you feeling angry, alone, stressed, depressed or frightened. You don't have to deal with this on your own, we are here to support you whenever you need our help.

It doesn't matter if you aren't sure whether an incident amounts to a crime or if you haven't reported it to the police. We are here – to talk, to listen, for advice, for help.

All of our services are free and confidential.

What help can I access?

- Our specialist hate crime counsellors will be able to support you and provide expert advice and guidance.
- You will be given support from a case worker, either on a one-to-one or joint basis, based on your needs.
- If you would like to report the crime we can support you through the process – this may mean linking in with the police where appropriate, and only when you are comfortable with this.
- You can also be put in contact with other agencies and support groups within the wider community, to receive further support, help and guidance.
- We can work with you to help you regain your confidence and overcome victimisation – allowing you to move forward with your life.

You may be unsure whether what you have experienced is a hate crime or incident, or not feel it is serious enough to access support.

There is no incident too small for us to be able to support you, please contact us.

Call: 0300 323 0085

Email: info@lancashirevictimservices.org www.lancashirevictimservices.org

   @lancsvs



 **LANCASHIRE
VICTIM
SERVICES**