



Contact us at [help@tacklingdisabilityhatecrime.com](mailto:help@tacklingdisabilityhatecrime.com)

30<sup>th</sup> July 2015

Dear Provider,

The Tackling Learning Disability Hate Crime Group focuses on Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents which target people with Learning Disabilities.

The group is comprised of representatives from Police Scotland, Association for Real Change Scotland (ARC Scotland), Learning Disability Alliance Scotland (LDAS), Scottish Consortium for Learning Disability (SCLD), People First (Scotland) Inclusion Scotland, Quarriers, Enable Scotland and Cornerstone.

We are interested in sharing good practice and addressing the nationwide under-reporting and lack of recognition around Hate Crime and Hate Incidents, particularly against people with Learning Disabilities.

We have asked that the Care Inspectorate circulate this letter in order to draw your attention to the Hate Crime Toolkit produced by Inclusion Scotland which is designed to inform organisations such as yourselves how to address the under reporting of these incidents.

We are aware that support staff working within the Voluntary Sector will often be the first people to hear about an incident from someone they support. We hear from individuals with a learning disability that

staff will often, with the best of intentions, suggest that people try to forget about the incident.

Disability Hate Crimes are recognised as being brought to Police attention far less often than incidents for other equality groups, National statistics reinforce this. Police Scotland are very clear of the importance of reporting all incidents, no matter how trivial they may seem, so that they can identify patterns and develop strategies to stop Disability Hate Crime.

We are therefore seeking your support and ask that you send a clear message throughout your organisation that staff should encourage anyone they support to report any incident where they are bullied, harassed, taken advantage or generally ill treated. We ask that you look to the good practice gathered by the Tackling Learning Disability Hate Crime Group and make a plan to train your staff using the resources identified by the group. Please contact us for more details of the resources via the e mail at the end of this letter.

Individuals or staff can either report directly to the Police or to a Third Party reporting Centre. There is a list of these across Scotland on <http://www.scotland.police.uk/assets/pdf/205073/hate-crime-3rd-party-reporting-centres>

We would also like to make you aware of two publications by SCLD.

You can find these on

<http://www.sclid.org.uk/?s=disability+hate+crime>.

In addition to these resources, the Keys to Life website now hosts a range of other helpful resources to raise awareness of Disability Hate Crime <http://keystolife.info/?s=hate+crime>.

Several of the organisations in the Tackling Learning Disability Hate Crime group are experienced in delivering training to both staff and self advocates on Tackling Hate Crime. For further information on this, or to find out more about the work of the Group, please contact us via [tacklingdisabilityhatecrime.com](http://tacklingdisabilityhatecrime.com).

We thank you for your support in these matters.

Yours sincerely,

Keith Lynch (People First Scotland)  
On Behalf of the Tackling Learning Disability Hate Crime Group.

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