

# Safer Southwark Partnership Hate Crime Strategy Brief 2004

## BACKGROUND

Hate Crime in Southwark includes race crime, homophobic crime and domestic violence. Hate Crime has been identified as a key priority in the crime and disorder strategy 2002/05. The Best Value Review of Community Safety identified the lack of a Hate Crime strategy as a strategic weakness.

*In 2001 Goldsmiths University carried out baseline research on hate crime in Southwark Crime and Disorder strategy framework*

## PROCESS

*The Hate Crime strategy will be informed by*

Mapping exercise

### 1. Desk Research

- A national literature review will be undertaken that will focus on identifying models in other areas across the country and highlighting areas of good practice
- Analysing existing relevant guidance from Southwark including baseline research
- Other agency/departmental strategies to identify actions relevant to hate crime

### 2. Data Collection

Key staff will be interviewed in order to map:

- Responses of different agencies to hate crime and processes for dealing with reports
- Levels of reporting
- Referral pathways
- Levels of awareness amongst staff of other support services<sup>1</sup>
- Barriers to effective delivery of services

In consultation with the Head of Community Safety and the hate crime sub group a process will be agreed that will enable contact to be made with different groups of professional (listed below) in the most comprehensive way possible.

The agreed process will include a combination of the following:

- Semi structured interviews with managers
- Group interviews at team meetings
- Focus groups for key staff selected from agencies working in related fields
- Borough-wide consultation workshops/open days
- Presentations at relevant forums and voluntary sector umbrella groups (notes from recent domestic violence strategy seminar will be made available)
- Attendance at LGBT Community Needs Seminar in March

### 3. Identifying agencies to be contacted

In collaboration with the Hate Crime Strategic Planning Group, identify agencies to be contacted.

These agencies are likely to include (this is not an exhaustive list):

#### Statutory professionals

- Southwark Police Community Safety Unit
- Youth Service/Connexions
- Housing Community Support Team
- Social services – children and families
  - Adult services

---

<sup>1</sup> Recommendations will be incorporated into the existing training programme

- Mental Health

- Housing
- Health promotion
- LBS Social Policy
- Primary Care agencies
- LBS Education/schools

Voluntary and community organisations

Southwark Mediation Centre

Victim Support Services

Community of Interest Forums including:

- Anti-homophobic Forum/LGBT Network
- Domestic Violence Forum
- Racial Incidents Forum

Young Peoples' services e.g. Southwark Young Victims of Crime

Faith Groups

**KEY DELIVERABLE**

A generic hate crime strategy outlines the borough-wide approach to tackling all types of hate crime that includes:

- An overview of Hate Crime in Southwark
- Progress against Baseline
- Strategic aims and priorities
- Partnership roles/contribution
- Implementation plan – moving aspirations to identified activities/projects.
- Further sections that will outline the approach to Race Crime, Homophobic crime and Domestic Violence

**PROJECT TIMETABLE**

To be completed by June 2004