Advice for victims of hate crime

Avoid confrontation and get yourself somewhere safe before considering reporting.

Keep a note of what happened to the best of your ability, including; time, location, and a description of the offender(s).

Try to retain any information or evidence relating to the incident e.g. text messages, social media posts, letters, etc.

Remember, support is available even if you don’t want to report the incident.

Hate crime causes great distress to its victims and the wider community.
A hate incident/crime can be any incident/crime if it is motivated by hostility towards an individual’s or group’s identity.
Norfolk and Suffolk Police take this type of crime very seriously and is committed to tackling it to make our communities safer.

What is ‘hate’?

Hate is when an offender is hostile towards an individual’s or group’s identity because of a prejudice against their:

- Race, ethnicity or nationality
- Religion or belief (or lack of)
- Disability (this may include physical, sensory, learning disability, or mental health related disability)
- Sexual orientation
- Transgender identity

What type of incidents can be a hate incident?

Here are examples of non-crime hate incidents:

- Spreading rumours
- Being refused service

However, any incident may be classified as a hate incident if motivated by the prejudices above.

What is hate crime?

When a hate incident becomes a criminal offence, it becomes a hate crime e.g.

- Harassment
- Criminal Damage
- Violence
- Fraud (including ‘mate crime’ taking advantage of a vulnerable individual)

Any type of crime may be classified as a hate crime if motivated by the prejudices above.

What do the Police do about Hate Crime?

We record and investigate hate crime, and give high priority to the investigation of these incidents.

We recognise that, although some incidents may seem minor to others, they are often much more serious when part of a pattern of behaviour directed at members of a minority group.

People who witness, or are the victim of hate crime, are encouraged to report the incident directly to the police or through other means as soon as possible.

Reporting Hate Crime

To report hate crime, you can either use our website or call 101, where someone will be able to help you.

Always dial 999 when life is threatened, people are injured, if there is a crime in progress or an immediate police response is necessary.
First Principle: Related links

Check out all of our Crime Prevention information using the following links or by using the QR code to take you to the First Principle Pages Alternatively go to our website at https://www.suffolk.police.uk/ and look in the 1st Principle A-Z of Crime Prevention.

Allotment Security
Anti-Social Behaviour
ATM Security
Beach Hut Security
Boat Security
Building Site Security
Business Security
Caravan Security
Caravan Storage
Card Security
Catalytic Converters
Church Security
Cold Callers
Commercial CCTV
Counterfeit Banknotes
County Lines Advice for Landlords
Cyber Crime
Cycle Security
Dangerous Dogs
Dog Fouling
Dog Theft
Domestic CCTV
Domestic Violence
Farm Security
Fraud Prevention
Grooming
Hate Crime
Heating Oil
Home Improvements
Home Security
Home Security for Tenants
Horses and Stables
Keyless Vehicles
Key Safe Security
Lock Snapping
Mopeds and Scooters
Motorcycle Security
Neighbour Disputes
Occupiers Liability
Personal Security
Power Tool Security
Products Brochure
Rural Crime
Security Alarms
Sheds and Garages
Social Media
Social Media for Parents
Suspicious Behaviour
Shoplifting
Taxi Driver Safety
Vehicle Security
Windows and Doors

Other Links you might find helpful

Ask the Police
Secured by Design
Sold Secure

Crimestoppers
0800 555 111

Victim Care
0300 303 3705