

Smile! Stop Hate Crime

SAFER FUTURE COMMUNITIES
Empowering local voluntary & community partnerships

Smile! Stop Hate Crime aims to tackle hate crime against adults with learning disabilities in Nottinghamshire County and Nottingham City.

The project works with the general public to let them know what hate crime is and how to report it. It runs training sessions throughout the City and County and works with a wide range of agencies and people with learning disabilities to stamp out hate crime.

The hate crime training, which is open to everyone to look at, covers the scale of the problem, what hate crime is and what to look for in an individual who may be experiencing hate crime. It highlights the need to report hate crime and advises on how and when to report it.

Smile! Stop Hate Crime works with people with learning disabilities in order to assist the police, courts, carers and organisations in the public and private sectors to report and deal effectively with learning disability hate crime.

The work of the project contributes to the increasing awareness of third party reporting of hate crime to Stop Hate UK. In addition, it is raising awareness of the Nottinghamshire Police Pegasus Scheme, a scheme designed to assist with the fast and easy reporting of crime and problem incidents to the police by people with learning disabilities.

By increasing effective communication and understanding between people with learning disabilities and the wider community Smile! Stop Hate Crime is working towards a time when all hate incidents against adults with learning disabilities are no longer tolerated. If just

one of the thousands of members of the general public the project has spoken to report a hate crime and a life is saved, then those involved in the project will know it has been worthwhile.

The main lessons learnt throughout the project are that we are all responsible for stamping out hate crime in our communities and that people with learning disabilities will only take their rightful place in society when they feel safe to do so.

The Smile! Stop Hate Crime project is funded by Nottingham City Council, Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottinghamshire City Health CCG. The project is managed by Nottingham Mencap.

For further information on Smile! Stop Hate Crime visit

www.nottinghammencap.org.uk/What-We-Do/smile-stop-hate-crime.html.