

What happens when you report a hate crime

Hate is not welcome in Islington.

We believe everyone deserves to live free of fear and abuse but to act against those responsible, the police rely on reports from the public. It is the first step towards ensuring that the offender is caught and stopped from committing a crime again.

Unfortunately, many hate crimes are not reported. If more people make reports, we can gain a better understanding of the problem and how we can prevent it. It can also help you to access support to help you to recover from the experience. You can also report a hate crime as a witness, even if you do not know the victim.



The journey of hate crime reporting

Hate crime takes place

Unfortunately, hate crimes do take place in the borough, in many different forms. Support is immediately available to you – please see other side for a list of organisations who can help.

Reporting to the authorities

Report the incident to police

- Call 999 in an emergency
- Call 101 in a non-emergency · Visit www.report-it.org.uk
- Call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111
- Speak to a police officer or visit a police station directly

A crime report will be created

- Crime reports are generated following an allegation of crime. This can either be in person to a police officer, at a police station or through third party reporting sites online.
- The victim can apply through freedom of information act if they wish to have a copy of the crime report.
- The crime report will exist either in paper form or digitally.
- Victims will be given a crime reference number which will help them to follow up their case

Further investigation

Following the creation of a crime report it will be initially supervised in order to identify risk and assess which unit is best placed to investigate. The crime report will be allocated to an officer who will in turn make contact with the victim.

Contact by police

You should be contacted by a police officer within 24 hours. They are likely to ask for more details about the event (where it took place, what happened, what the person looked like, were there any witnesses)

Follow-up

Using initial evidence and information, police will decide on the next steps and what additional information they may need. Police will gather all evidence available, in addition to your statement, to create a full overview of the incident. This may also include CCTV footage and statements from witnesses.

If there is enough evidence, the offender will be cautioned and arrested. Your case could also be referred to the Crown Prosecution Service to be considered for court. Evidence will be presented at a trial, and the person will either be found guilty or not guilty. A range of outcomes is available for a guilty verdict.

If the Crown Prosecution Service do not accept the case, it will be unfortunately be closed. The police will keep your information on file, which may help them with future hate crime incidents.

At any point during the hate crime reporting journey, you can reach out to the below organisations who can help.

Support

There are several support services available to anyone who has experienced a hate crime.

Victim Support

0808 168 9111

www.victimsupport.org.uk

Victim Support helps people cope with the effects of crime whether the crime is reported or not. It also provides information on local victim support groups.

Tell MAMA

0800 456 1226

<http://tellmamauk.org/>

Tell MAMA supports victims of anti-Muslim hate and is a public service which measures and monitors anti-Muslim incidents.

GALOP

0207 704 2040

www.gallop.org.uk/how-we-can-help/

GALOP supports victims of hate crime who are members of the LGBT+ community.

Forum+

www.camdenlgbtforum.org.uk

Formerly Islington and Camden LGBT Forum, this group supports local victims of hate crime who are members of the LGBT+ community.

Citizen Advice witness service

0300 332 1000

www.citizensadvice.org.uk

Citizen Advice Witness Service provides free help and support for victim/witness of crime. If you are worried about going to court you can contact Citizens Advice Witness service.

See www.islington.gov.uk/hatecrime for more details and access an online hate crime training on what hate crime is and how to report it.