
NATIONAL INDEPENDENT ADVISORY GROUP ON HATE CRIME FOR POLICING AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Open Statement in response to the Baroness Casey Review of the Metropolitan Police

The National Independent Advisory Group (IAG) on Hate Crime for Policing and Criminal Justice was disappointed, but not surprised to read the conclusions of the Casey Review. We are made up of key organisations (TellMAMA, The Community Security Trust, GALOP etc), key academics and individuals, including Dr Neville Lawrence OBE. We advise the National Police Chiefs' Council and the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners on policies and strategies to reduce hate crimes and incidents.

We were established in 2007 as the IAG to the Cross-Government Hate Crime Programme and served until the programme was dissolved by the current Government. We are currently helping develop a Criminal Justice Action Plan for Hate Crime. Our work is focused on preventing the devastating corrosive impact prejudice and hatred has on individuals and communities.

We are indebted to the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry report and agreed with all 70 of the recommendations, including the concept of institutional racism as defined in paragraph 6.34. It was no surprise to us that the Casey review found institutional racism misogyny and homophobia. If individual officers cannot feel confident to challenge prejudice and discrimination when they see it performed either by other officers or supported by policies practices and culture then the institution is supporting prejudice and unfair discrimination.

The Metropolitan Police decided not to monitor offences of misogyny despite the positive impact this had on community confidence in other forces and counter to our advice.

The IAG now urges the Metropolitan Police to refocus its efforts to ensure effective handling of Hate Crimes and Incidents. Specifically, the force and the CPS needs to urgently review why fewer Hate Crimes are being prosecuted while more are being reported to the police. Without this renewed focus on all Hate Crimes, both monitored and unmonitored, rebuilding community confidence will not be possible. We are aware of a number of officers already working in this area who have a clear commitment to prevent the rise of hatred and prejudice - we ask that there will be put in place clear transparent, accountable structures to take on the recommendations of the report and that they are given support from the MPS senior leadership.

We stand ready to offer any support we can to help rebuild trust in the MPS.



Mike Ainsworth (he/him)

Independent Chair,

National Independent Advisory Group on Hate Crime
for Policing and Criminal Justice

29th March 2023