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

Thursday 11th April 2024
Online meeting

Attending Members

Mike Ainsworth - Chair
Sue Sanders - Schools Out
John Azah - KREC
Dr Mark Brookes MBE - Dimensions
Julie Miller - Translucent
Mark Healey - 17-24-30 National HCAW
A representative of - CARG
A representative of - CST
A representative of - Stonewall
A representative of - Tell MAMA
Jemma Tyson - University of Portsmouth
Nathan Hall - University of Surrey

In attendance

Paul Giannasi (Secretariat)
Eleanor Farrow (CPS)
Maya Flax (Guest)

1. Welcome and introductions

MA welcomed everyone to the meeting and reviewed and approved the earlier minutes.

2. Hate Crime Recording - Dr Maya Flax

Dr Flax outlined her research history and her particular interest around the subject of 'intersectionality' where victims are thought to be significantly more at risk when they have more than one minority characteristic. She outlined that she has obtained funding to research this subject and sought the support of the IAG.

The group welcomed the research and offered their assistance. It was agreed that they would engage in a focus group to contribute their initial contribution and would be happy to assist as the work develops.

4. NPCC Gold Group - Middle East tensions

PG gave an update on the work of the NPCC Led Community Tensions Gold Group which had sat regularly in the wake of critical incidents since 2013 to assess levels of threat and oversee work to mitigate risk. He outlined how the Gold Group had met immediately after the Hamas Terrorist attack on 7th October and had carried out its role to assess tensions and monitor hate crime trends. It also oversaw activity to mitigate those threats.

PG outlined that there had never been an incident since 2013 that had so tested our structures for so long. He outlined that;

- The MPS had seen a 1,280% increase in antisemitic crime and 280% increase in Anti-Muslim Hate Crime in the first month of the conflict.
- The groups had assessed that the tensions were much broader than merely Muslim and Jewish communities as was often portrayed in the media and political narratives.
- The tensions had placed huge strain on those involved particularly the police in London and Manchester but significantly also on civil society actors like the [Redacted].
- Multi-faith community work had been dented and many good actors were unwilling or unable to carry out effective remedial work

PG paid praise to the IAG members for their invaluable work in the Gold Group. He felt that 70-80% of the community intelligence came from IAG members and this showed the true value of the group. MA had represented the views of the group and had been forthright in challenging political or state actors when they were deemed to have contributed to tensions or acted in a substandard responses but he was regularly congratulatory to positive interventions .

PG wanted to express particular gratitude to [Redacted] who had worked tirelessly in unbearable circumstances. Their dedication was outstanding but what most stood out was their unstinting support for each other's communities. PG felt their conduct was an excellent example of moral leadership and a lesson to political and community leaders everywhere.

5. Update on current issues including recent Employment Tribunals, the murder of Brianna Ghey, and Hate Incidents

MA outlined the impact of a number of civil and criminal cases that had impact on our work one particular concern that he identified that some professionals had failed to recognise the hostility that contributed to the tragic murder of Brianna Ghey. EF reassured that the hostility was recognised in the CPS and was brought to the attention of the court.

6. Disability Hate Crime

MB and JT outlined their plans for research into disability hate crime. The work was ongoing and both would update on progress in future meetings.

7. LGBTQ Hate Crime - Police LGBT+ Network

MA outlined that he had contact with members of police staff support networks and had found this to be a useful discussion, particularly on the issue of transgender rights. The political and media narrative was at times very hostile to trans people and police advice on the subject was often device and contested.

MA had offered the support of the IAG in any future deliberations and would stay in touch with the SSN's

9. Any other Business

None

Actions

1. MF and MA to liaise out of meeting to arrange a time for MF to meet members of the group.

Date of Next Meeting

4pm Thursday, Thursday 11th July 2024 - Online meeting