

Date: 27 January 2020
Our Reference: FOIA-2020-001

RE: Freedom of Information Act 2000 Request

I write in response to your Freedom of Information Act 2000 (or 'FoIA 2000') request dated 02 January 2021 in which you requested information relating to hate crime and disability.

When a request for information is made under FoIA 2000, a public authority has a general duty under section 1(1) of the Act to inform an applicant whether the requested information is held. There is then a general obligation to communicate that information to the applicant. If a public authority decides that the information should not be disclosed because an exemption applies, it must, under section 17(1) cite the appropriate section or exemption of the Act and provide an explanation for relying upon it. It is important to note that a freedom of information request is not a private transaction. Both the request itself and any information disclosed are considered suitable for open publication, that is, once access to information is granted to one person under the legislation, it is then considered public information and must be communicated to any individual should a request be received. In light of this, our responses and disclosures are published on our external website at a later date.

Decision

After conducting careful searches for any information relevant to your request I can confirm that there is information held. I have noted in the language used that your request appears to be aimed at an operational setting, which the College is not, and strategy development is not our role. However, I have provided responses to the questions in the context of the College, in the hope that this assists in your research. I have dealt with each question in turn below.

1. Is there an identified senior officer responsible for addressing the response to disability hate crime or hate crime within the College of Policing?

Hate crime sits within the portfolio of the Policing Standards Manager for Investigation, with oversight being given by the Head of the Crime and Criminal Justice Faculty and the Director of Operational Standards. We also have a lead for Diversity and Inclusion.

2. Is there an exclusive strategy on disability hate crime, and does this form part of the key strategic priorities?

The College does not develop policing strategy this is an operational function for the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) and individual police forces. We do however publish guidance on how police forces should respond to hate crime. Disability is included within the wider Authorised Professional Practice (APP) on Hate Crime as a protected characteristic which is also monitored for statistical purposes. This will be supported by a subject specific briefing note which is currently in development.

3. Is this strategy shared or published with the public (or an edited version)?

The APP on Hate Crime is publically available and can be accessed here: [Hate crime \(college.police.uk\)](https://college.police.uk/hate-crime)

4. How long has the strategy been in place?

The APP was published in October 2020 and replaced earlier guidance on hate crime.

5. How often is the strategy reviewed?

The APP is reviewed in light of inspections, developments and feedback.

6. Could I have a copy of the strategy please?

The APP on Hate Crime can be accessed here [Hate crime \(college.police.uk\)](https://college.police.uk/hate-crime).

7. Has there been an uplift in shared engagement with Chief Constables or LROs across England and Wales to enhance the priorities or learning of disability hate crime? In what setting is this engagement (i.e. conferences or one to one engagement)

No information held

8. Is there specific training or academic research on disablist hate crime given to Chief Constables or LROs, and what is the syllabus, or subject areas covered?

No. Hate crime is included within the general investigative curriculum. Chief Officers have access to a range of resources, including academic research, statistical data and information is cascaded through the NPCC working group.

9. Are IAGs or Non-Governmental Organisations invited to contribute to the strategy for disablist hate crime, and how often?

The latest version of the APP was subject to consultation with stakeholders, the cross government IAG and the public.

10. Has there been any good practice that can be shared with me?

Please see the APP on Hate Crime, in particular the resources page.

11. Has this good practice been shared with other Chief Constables, either one to one or through a national award scheme?

Yes

12. Do Chief Constable or LRO invite the College of Policing to review or inspect their response to disablist hate crime, outside of the HMICFRS inspection?

Chief Officers can commission a peer review if they feel there is a local need.

I trust this letter answers your questions. Your rights are provided in **Appendix A**.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Lawrence | Legal Advisor
Information Management and Legal Team
College of Policing

Email: FOI@college.pnn.police.uk Website: www.college.police.uk

Appendix A

Rights

If you are dissatisfied with the handling procedures or the decision of the College of Policing made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act) regarding access to information you can request that the decision is reviewed internally.

Internal review requests should be made in writing, within **forty (40) working days** from the date of the refusal notice, and addressed to: FOI team, Central House, Beckwith Knowle, Otley Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG3 1UF or email: FOI@college.pnn.police.uk

In all possible circumstances the College of Policing will aim to respond to your request for internal review within **20 working days**.

The Information Commissioner

If, after lodging an internal review request with the College of Policing you are still dissatisfied with the decision you may make application to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether the request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

For information on how to make application to the Information Commissioner please visit their website at <https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/official-information/>.

Alternatively, write to:

Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

Cheshire

SK9 5AF

Phone: 0303 123 1113