

South Wales Police and Crime Panel

Statement: The Rise in Racist Hate Incidents following the EU Referendum Result

The South Wales Police and Crime Panel is concerned by the National Police Chiefs Council announcement that it has seen a rise in the number of racist incidents following the EU Referendum Result.

Whilst we have been assured by the Police and Crime Commissioner that this has not been the case in the South Wales Force area, the Panel would like to state that it has a zero tolerance policy in respect of racist and all other forms of hate crime and discrimination.

This statement is intended to complement reassurance messages from both the Commissioner and Police and to unify the positions issued by the Local Authorities within the South Wales Force area.

The Panel believes it would be useful to remind people of the Home Office definition of a hate crime:

Hate crime involves any criminal offence which is perceived, by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice based on a personal characteristic. Hate crime can be motivated by disability, gender identity, race, religion or faith and sexual orientation.

How can you report hate crime?

There are several ways you can report a hate crime, as a victim, witness, or reporting on behalf of someone else:

In an emergency: call 999. To report non-urgent crime call 101 where you can speak to a member of South Wales Police, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Victims are always encouraged to contact the police but you can report the incident directly to **Victim Support on 08456 121 900** 24/7 and support services will be offered within 48 hours

You can also report online via the www.reportheate.victimsupport.org.uk website where further information and advice can be found.

For more information, visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/report-hate-crime>