



AGENDA ITEM NO.5

DUNDRY VIEW NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

MONDAY 24th March 2014

Report of: Keith Houghton, Area Coordinator, Neighbourhoods

Title: Dundry View Hate Crime and Community Cohesion Report presentation

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1. Background

1.1 The reasons why a piece of research was undertaken to look into Hate Crime and Community Cohesion in Dundry View NP area come from a number of sources.

1.2. All three wards in the Dundry View Neighbourhood Partnership were recorded as locations within the four highest rates of Race Hate incidents in the city per 1000 BME population in the 2011 Hate Crime Needs Assessment, August 2011, Safer Bristol.

1.3 Bristol City Council Housing Services reported concern at the level of requests from hate crime victims to be re-housed out of the area.

1.4. However, due to under-reporting of incidents of harassment to support organisations such as the Police, Housing, Schools etc. reliable data has been difficult to locate. Many individuals and agencies have raised concerns about observable prejudice-based behaviour happening on a daily basis. As this behaviour is observed and not reported, it has not been formally recorded. Examples include individuals being verbally abused in local shops, on public transport and offensive language being routinely used by young people in youth settings.

1.5. The research had the following objectives:

- To identify ways to encourage Dundry View communities and locally-based organisations to welcome diversity, with a particular focus on children and young people
- To analyse the effectiveness of service responses to hate crime
- to identify ways to raise the confidence of vulnerable individuals and communities to make and maintain homes and lives within the Dundry View area.

2. The Research

2.1. In response to the above issues the Neighbourhood Delivery Team set up a Problem Solving Plan Group. This group agreed to seek funding to employ a researcher to pull together information from victims of a range of hate crime types, research background information and, if possible, perpetrators of hate crime. £6,000 was raised for this project

2.2. A researcher was recruited early in 2013 – Phil Parry, a local consultant with experience in working with SARI and a number of other organisations on discrimination and prejudice-based behaviours.

2.3. Research took place across the summer of 2013. A final Report and Executive Summary was accepted in October 2013. There are some final adjustments taking place before publication which are related to protecting the identity of victims.

2.4. The Problem Solving Plan group has been meeting since 12th December to start work on delivering on the recommendations for local action contained in the Report and on how to pass on the wider, city issues which the Report has raised in order to improve the support for people vulnerable to hate crime.

3. A summary presentation of the key findings and recommendations will be delivered at the 24th March NP meeting

4. A regular update on the work of the PSP group will be included in NP reports