



Hate Crime and Disability Workshop Facilitated by Terri Balon and Diane Strettle

Key Issues covered in this workshop included:

- People did not want to waste police time by reporting every incident.
- Police stations not accessible and difficult when people are unable to speak.
- Not everyone has Internet access for reporting.
- Although range of incidents reported to Police, other agencies may be better situated to deal with some of them.
- People with disabilities 'get used' to the abuse.
- Examples given on the frustration people felt in changing people's attitudes also in receiving support to make changes.
- Concern expressed regarding vulnerable adults and reporting incidents of abuse.
- Clarification was needed on access to venues for wheelchairs in particular health and safety issues and licensing requirements.
- Need for multi agency work in tackling issues.
- The need for a change in attitudes and raising awareness of disability.
- Some confusion over a hate crime and a hate incident.
- Issues raised over parity in dealing with reports.
- People with learning disabilities generally do not report abuse.