



LEARNING DISABILITY HATE CRIME

Good Practice Guidance for Crime & Disorder Reduction
Partnerships and Learning Disability Partnership Boards

*This good practice guide was funded
by The Home Office Violent Crime Unit*



Contents

Introduction	1
Who is the Guide For?	1
What is Hate Crime?	1
What is Disability Hate Crime?	2
What do we know about Hate Crime against people with learning disabilities?	3
1 Gathering Information about Disability Hate Crime	4
2 Independence and Safety	5
3 Promoting Greater Understanding	6
4 Raising Public Awareness	7
5 Reporting Disability Hate Crime	8
6 Supporting Victims, Witnesses and Survivors	9
7 Working in Partnership	10
Helpful Organisations and websites	11
Find more information about the good practice in this Guide	11
The groups in this guide	13
Advocacy/Self Advocacy Groups	13

Foreword



Vernon Coaker, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Crime Reduction, Home Office

I am delighted to introduce this good practice guidance which is designed to help us to tackle Hate Crime against people with learning disabilities. I think it is important that we help the community safety family to work together and make our neighbourhoods safer. That includes tackling Hate Crime, particularly where it is faced on a daily basis by members of our society.

It is important that people feel they can speak up and that their voice will be heard. That includes people with learning disabilities. We must find ways to help people to report what happens to them, for that is the only way the police and crime and disorder reduction partnerships can tackle the problem. Once people do report they must feel confident that it will be taken seriously and that steps are taken to stop it happening again. And of course we must make sure we bring more offences to justice so the perpetrators know that their behaviour is not acceptable and will not be tolerated.

We must all work together for a better outcome for people with learning difficulties. I am grateful to Coast 2 Coast and Inclusion North for bringing this together and sharing what they have learnt and ideas for tackling the problem with other people. I hope everyone will find it useful in tackling Hate Crime.

Vernon Coaker

Introduction

In the spring of 2007, Inclusion North and Coast 2 Coast were asked by the Valuing People Support Team (VPST), to find out what was happening about Hate Crimes against adults with learning disabilities in England. A copy of this report is available at www.valuingpeople.gov.uk

The research asked how organisations were addressing the problems, and the way they were dealing with Hate Crimes against people with learning disabilities and the wider public.

The report produced came at an important time. We had seen examples of institutional abuse against people with learning disabilities in 2006 and early 2007. And in 2007 there have been a number of high profile cases involving the murders of adults with learning disabilities.

The Survey showed that there is a need to continue to develop good practice in England, to make sure that Disability Hate Crime is understood and addressed.

This Guide builds on the good practice that was found in the original survey, and provides all those working in this area with ideas about how they might help people with learning disabilities feel **safer**, able to exercise their **rights** and gain access to **justice**.

This is the time to celebrate the achievements of those who are beginning to challenge the idea that independence means vulnerability. For that reason we would like to thank all the people who shared their hard work and ideas.

Who is the Guide For?

This Guide is for everyone who may, in the course of their work, come across people with learning disabilities who are, or may become, victims of Hate Crime.

What is Hate Crime?

The Association of Chief Police Officer's (ACPO) definition is:

"Hate crimes and incidents are taken to mean any crime or incident where the perpetrator's prejudice against an identifiable group of people is a factor in determining who is victimised."

This is a broad definition, but the following types are 'Monitored Areas' or areas the Police have a particular interest in:

- Disability
- Race
- Religion
- Sexual orientation
- Transgender

Hate Crime may take many forms:

- Physical attacks – such as physical assault, damage to property, offensive graffiti, neighbour disputes and arson
- Threat of attack – including offensive letters, abusive or obscene telephone calls, groups hanging around to intimidate and unfounded malicious complaints
- Verbal abuse or insults – offensive leaflets and posters, abusive gestures, dumping of rubbish outside homes or through letterboxes and bullying at school or in the workplace
- Acquisitive crime – mugging.

To see more about what the Home Office is doing about Hate Crime, visit www.homeoffice.gov.uk.

During 2008 the Home Office are developing a special web site on Hate Crime. This will be at <http://www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk/hatecrime/hatecrime001.htm>

What is Disability Hate Crime?

ACPO describe a Disability Hate Crime as:

“Any criminal offence which is perceived to be motivated because of a person’s disability or perceived disability, by the victim or any other person.”

A Disability Hate Incident is:

“Any incident which is perceived to be motivated because of a person’s disability or perceived disability, by the victim or any other person”

For the purposes of Section 146 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003, Disability is defined as ‘Any physical or mental impairment’. (See also ‘Policy for Prosecuting Cases of Disability Hate Crime’ CPS 2007 for fuller explanation of Section 146 and when it might apply).



What do we know about Hate Crime against people with learning disabilities?

The effects of any Hate Crime can be widespread and long-lasting. Physical or verbal assaults may lead people to feel isolated and vulnerable, causing people to remain in their home, give up jobs or even move house. It is no different for people with learning disabilities.

Research also indicates that a segregated education system can result in people with learning disabilities having few 'real' friends, which in turn may further contribute to patterns of exclusion, isolation and being marked out as 'different' from the mainstream in their communities. It is as important for local partnerships to tackle the underlying causes of Hate Crime, as it is to tackle Hate Crime itself.

In 1999 Mencap's report, *Living in Fear*, identified that nine out of ten of those who participated in their study had been bullied in the past year. Almost half had been victims of verbal abuse, 29% had been threatened and 21% reported physical attacks.

Higgins (2006) in a survey of people with learning disabilities, it was found that 20% experienced attacks at least once a week. If these figures were reflected in England, it would mean that around 32,000 adults experience Hate Crimes every week. That means more than 190 incidents every hour of every day.

Higgins goes on to say that the majority of people who carry out these crimes are aged between 16-44 years. Perpetrators cannot simply be labelled as 'children, who don't know any better'. Perpetrators of Hate Crimes against people with learning disabilities are mostly working-age adults leading everyday lives.

In London, 50 percent of respondents to the Mayor of London's survey reported experiences of abuse and bullying (2003) and a Survey by the Disability Rights Commission in the same year found that 21 percent of disabled people had been harassed in public in relation their disability.

References:

Living in Fear Mencap 1999

Another Planet? Disabled and Deaf Londoners and Discrimination Greater London Authority, December 2003

Attitudes and Awareness Survey Disability Rights Commission 2003

Some Victims Less Equal Than Others. Higgins, K. (2006) SCOLAG Journal, August 2006, pp 162-163.

1 Gathering Information about Disability Hate Crime

The original VPST research (2007) found that Hate Crime surveys had been carried out by different organisations in different areas. The different methods used, and different questions asked reflected the different priorities of the Advocacy Groups and Community Safety Partnerships who conducted them. The result is a confusing picture.

What needs to be done?

Advocacy Groups, Learning Disability Partnership Boards and Community Safety Partnerships **must** work together to produce a **single** report that explores the experience of Hate Crime.

Each group member should be encouraged to contribute something they know well. For example, Advocacy Groups might provide more qualitative information telling real life stories, whilst Community Safety Partnerships may be able to offer more facts and figures.

Educational materials and wider campaigns to raise awareness of and address Hate Crime need to have a reliable local and national evidence base.

How?

Surveys can be used to explore the experiences of people with learning disabilities, their carers and practitioners. Some areas have used web-based surveys or devised accessible questionnaires.

Audits of police records can reveal the range of reported crimes.

Many self-advocacy groups have developed partnerships with the Police that allow them to share training and to exchange information.

1) Leicestershire County Council lead a multi-agency Hate Incident Monitoring Project (HIMP). Its purpose is to encourage reporting of hate incidents through an expanding network of reporting centres across the county. The project collates details of hate incidents reported to the Leicestershire Constabulary, the HIMP and Leicestershire schools.

They are currently developing an easy to understand form to make it accessible to people with learning disabilities. Training for staff in services and for people with learning disabilities will be delivered to enable people with learning disabilities to access and be counted through the same mechanisms as the general population.

2) Hertfordshire People in Partnership 'PIP Pack' includes an easy to use reporting form and is available at the front counter of all police stations and third party reporting centres across the county.

The PIP Pack is a resource pack for people with learning difficulties and services working with them. It is in easy words and pictures and on CD. It contains information about the rights of people with learning difficulties, personal safety information, tools to aid crime reporting and signposts to community services. ACPO recognises the PIP Pack as good practice.

2 Independence and Safety

Many people with learning disabilities are afraid of going out after dark. Consequently, they are more likely to travel in pairs when in the community, restricting their independence and freedom.

What needs to be done?

The development of initiatives which

- acknowledge and support the right of people with learning disabilities to go out at night without feeling afraid
- help people to manage risk for themselves and
- help to reduce the fear of crime.

How?

3) In Newham there is a Community Safety Training programme with the Learning Disabilities Partnership Board working with the Metropolitan Police, which holds Community Safety workshops/training for adults with learning disabilities. They use a mixture of talking, role plays and accessible information on a 1 ½ day programme.

4) Services in Bournemouth and Devon have developed a Safe Place scheme – where shops and public buildings display stickers that say they are safe places to go for help, if you are in danger or a victim of crime.

People with Learning Disabilities are encouraged to carry a card with the contact details of their carers or support workers.

This work commenced in South Hams and is being rolled out in Teignbridge, West Devon & Torbay. It is hoped that the scheme will be adopted across the whole of Devon and Cornwall.

5) In Worcestershire, a series of one-day courses have been developed, teaching people with learning disabilities the skills needed to stay safe.

They have developed a training pack about Hate Crime and keeping safe which is available from SpeakEasy N.O.W. It has been written for people with learning disabilities. Soon they will also have a trainers pack available for people wishing to run their own Hate Crime courses.



3 Promoting Greater Understanding

It is essential that organizations involved in responding to Hate Crime share a common vision if we are to tackle the problem effectively.

What needs to be done?

Police staff should be encouraged to undertake placements with people with learning disabilities.

People with learning disabilities should be represented on Independent Advisory Groups.

ALL staff and managers should be aware of the legal, policy, and procedural frameworks that inform and support the reporting and prosecution of Hate Crime incidents.

How?

Many advocacy groups have established close relationships with the Police. Many have Police representation on their liaison or management groups, and have officers delivering training to people with learning disabilities.

In some areas, people with learning disabilities have devised information packs and delivered training to the Police, local magistrates, and even to the Crown Prosecution Service.

Such awareness raising increases understanding, and encourages people with learning disabilities to see the police as approachable. It also enables those involved with catching and prosecuting alleged perpetrators to have a better understanding of the needs of people with learning disabilities, and the effect that Hate Crimes can have upon them.

6) In Lincolnshire, Advocacy organisations are members of Police Liaison Groups. This helps to ensure that the needs of people with learning disabilities are represented at a high level, and makes sure that the Police are working in close partnership with representative groups.

7) Several areas have worked with Police Authorities to provide student police officers with placements in all types of learning disability services, such as Advocacy organisations, respite residential services and day services.

8) Sunderland People First have made an Alerter Guide to increase people's understanding of abuse. They have also made a training pack called 'How to protect yourself and others', and hosted an Anti - Abuse conference in Sunderland.



4 Raising Public Awareness

Once the nature and extent of Hate Crime against people with learning disabilities is understood locally, the organisations should agree a way to raise awareness. The material produced needs to be jointly agreed by different organizations, to make sure that it works.

What needs to be done?

All Hate Crime materials should refer to Disability Hate Crime and are targeted at the whole community.

Some may need to be targeted at specific groups (e.g. people with sight or hearing loss, or whose first language is not English) and produced in accessible or easy read format.

These materials should acknowledge that people might experience more than one kind of Hate Crime, or that Hate Crimes might have more than one motive. e.g. race and disability.

How?

There are a wide range of educational and information tools being developed. Here are some examples:

- The use of the Theatre and Arts
- Publicity and awareness raising campaigns (print, poster)
- Talks to community groups such as tenants associations and Community & Voluntary Services Groups
- The development of publicity materials, information sheets and news articles
- Alerter Guides
- Anti-abuse and Hate Crime conferences and seminars with the involvement of a wide range of organisations
- Police delivering anti-bullying training to people with learning disabilities
- CDRP's holding Anti-Hate Crime Awareness weeks annually.

The most successful events have involved people and groups from a variety of backgrounds, from the public, shop-keepers and transport providers to local politicians.

9) Mid Suffolk District Council is working towards expanding their Racial Harassment Initiative to include both homophobic and disablist Hate Crimes. It is intended for this work to be carried out by an independent voluntary organisation via a service level agreement.



5 Reporting Disability Hate Crime

One of the biggest barriers to change is the lack of reliable data surrounding the incidence and nature of Hate Crimes. Reporting processes must be clear, accessible, consistent, and the information collected reliable and allow for comparison. This data must then be analysed at regular intervals, for trends and patterns, to develop crime reduction strategies.

What needs to be done?

It should be made easier for people with learning disabilities to report a Hate Crime. The more ways this can be done, the better.

Encouraging self-reporting and making opportunities for people with learning disabilities to talk about the Hate Crimes they have experienced.

Taking positive steps to raise awareness among local people with disabilities or mental health needs about what to report and how to report Hate Crime. Learning Disability Partnership Boards or Self Advocacy Groups can help support and develop this.

How?

Many Advocacy Groups and Learning Disability Partnership Boards have campaigned for local Hate Crime incident reporting to include Disability Hate Crime. This has helped to raise the profile of this type of Hate Crime in local communities.

Many initiatives are in the early stages of being developed, they include:

- Easy to read report forms
- Verbal reporting processes

- Third party reporting systems
- Internet Reporting.

An addition to the series of 'True Vision' Hate Crime reporting Packs is due to be released soon for people with disabilities. For more information visit www.report-it.org.uk

10) A subgroup of the Safer Devon Partnership has developed an action plan to improve reporting and responses to allegations of Hate Crimes. It includes racial, homophobic and disability Hate Crime.

11) Birmingham Victim Support produce visual (photographic) evidence of both domestic and Hate Crimes on behalf of the victims. This can then be used if and when the person feels able to make a report to the Police. Visit www.victimsupport.org.uk

12) Coventry have involved a local self Advocacy project in Hate Crime Awareness Training for front line staff working out in the community. They have worked in partnership with the same project to produce easy-read leaflets encouraging people with learning difficulties to report Hate Crime. The Self Advocacy Project is a member of The Hate Crime Reduction Partnership, which is a sub group of the Community Safety Partnership.

13) The 'True Vision' national initiative assists both with raising public awareness and the reporting of Hate Crimes and incidents.

Reporting packs that acknowledge that people may experience Hate Crime or incidents because of their Race and /or Religion or because they are Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Transgender are available and used both by the public and the police. An online reporting system is soon to be re-launched alongside a Disability Hate Crime reporting pack. An easier to use Learning Disability reporting pack will also be available. To find out more visit www.report-it.org

6 Supporting Victims, Witnesses and Survivors

People with learning disabilities may sometimes need support, encouragement and assistance to give an account of an incident (e.g describing people, events and times). This type of assistance is not always readily available.

Victims and Witnesses: What needs to be done?

Using skilled and trained staff to deal sensitively with reports.

14) In Portsmouth, workers at a local centre have been trained by the police to take details of a Hate Crime or Hate Incident and support those who have been victims.

Recognising the importance of understanding (and using) 'Special Measures' under **Youth Justice & Criminal Evidence Act 1999**.

15) In Liverpool, there is a 'Witness Profiling Service' working jointly with the police to enhance the evidence of victims and witnesses with learning disabilities.

Ensuring that those working with people with learning disabilities, know and understand what constitutes Disability Hate Crime and how to act on it.

16) Diversity Training that includes an understanding of disability and mental health. Referral to generic services for Victims and Witnesses e.g. Sexual Abuse & Rape Centres, Victim Support, Court Witness Support Schemes, the Intermediaries scheme etc, with support where appropriate.

People with learning disabilities remain fearful about how the Police may respond if they do report something. They worry that they won't be listened to or taken seriously, or that they may be the ones who will get into trouble. A positive response from those in authority and a referral to survivor support services at an early stage is important if people are to be reassured and find help to recover.

Supporting Survivors: What needs to be done?

Referral to/working with Victim Support.

Referral to the Court Witness Service.

17) In Surrey there is a local protocol with the Magistrates Courts across the County aimed at improving the experience of all people with learning disabilities using the courts.

Disability Awareness Training for all criminal justice professionals.

18) The Valuing Medway People Partnership Board held a Keeping Safe Event for the Crown Prosecution Service, Police, Transport providers, people with disabilities, supporters, social and health care practitioners. A film depicting the experiences of victims of Hate Crimes has been produced to be shown to schools and other stakeholders. The Police have agreed to participate in Keeping Safe training workshops, and to produce easy-read information for the training.

Agencies need to have knowledge of any national or local specialist support services for people with learning disabilities where appropriate.

19) A list is provided in the back of this guidance and local specialist support should be sought where appropriate.

Hate Crime Training for key criminal justice system staff.

20) Greater Manchester Police's Learning and Development Branch have been providing this training to Magistrates.

7 Working in Partnership

The VPST survey discovered a confusing picture of how Hate Crime has been identified, and who has taken responsibility for addressing it. Some Local Authorities did not have a person responsible for addressing learning disability Hate Crimes. Others thought it was the responsibility of advocacy organisations.

Community Safety Partnerships should lead on developing integrated strategies and establishing partnerships with Learning Disability Partnership Boards and other representative groups. These groups should talk together, plan together, and act together to develop local strategic plans and solutions.

What needs to be done?

Local networks and shared strategies should be established to tackle disability Hate Crime, particularly between:

- Local Partnership Boards
- Advocacy and Self Advocacy Groups
- Voluntary Services
- Criminal Justice Boards
- Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnerships
- Safeguarding Adults Boards.

21) In Kingston upon Thames there is a Learning Disability Parliament. They are currently working closely with the local Police and the Community & Police Partnership to look at ways of improving contact with the Police and to raise awareness of issues relating to people with learning disabilities.

22) Coventry Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership have a Disability Hate Crime Sub Group.

Some areas have moved beyond ensuring simple representation on different committees.

23) In Lincolnshire an Assistant Director for Crime and Disorder has been jointly appointed by the Local Authority and the Police. They also have police engagement officers on 'Local Action Groups'

24) In Leicestershire, hate incidents have been identified as a priority within the Local Area Agreement for 2006 – 2008 and within a new Sustainable Communities Strategy 2008 – 2011. There is also a county wide Hate Incident Reduction and Monitoring Steering Group bringing together key partner agencies, including representation from the Valuing People Board.

25) In North Lincolnshire, people with learning disabilities have been contributing to the local implementation of the 'True Vision' - tackling crime against race, religion and disability. They have recognized that this is a key objective for the Partnership Board linking to the Community Safety Partnership theme, safer communities and involvement of people with learning disabilities in neighbourhood action teams.

The Partnership Board is also linked to the Local Strategic Partnership Safer and Stronger Community work stream.

Helpful Organisations and Websites

The Ann Craft Trust
tel: 0115 9515400
www.anncrafttrust.org

The British Institute of Learning Disabilities
tel: 01562 723010
www.bild.org.uk

The Crime Reduction Website
www.crimereduction.gov.uk

The Crown Prosecution Service
www.cps.gov.uk

The Equality & Human Rights Commission
www.equalityhumanrights.com

The Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities
tel: 020 7803 1100
www.learningdisabilities.org.uk

The Local Government Ombudsman
tel: 0845 602 1983
www.lgo.org.uk

Mencap Helpline
tel: 0808 808 111
help@menicap.org.uk

Mind
www.mind.org.uk/anotherassault

National Forum
www.nationalforum.co.uk

Office for Criminal Justice Reform
www.cjsonline.gov.uk

Public Concern at Work
tel: 020 7404 6609
www.pcaw.co.uk

Respond
tel: 0808 808 0700
www.respond.org.uk

Sense
tel: 0845 127 0060
www.sense.org.uk

Speak Up Self Advocacy Ltd
www.speakup.org.uk

Valuing People Support Team
www.valuingpeople.gov.uk

Values Into Action
www.viauk.org

Victim Support
www.victimsupport.org.uk

Voice UK
tel: 0845 122 8695
www.voiceuk.org.uk

WITNESS against abuse by health and care workers (formally POPAN)
tel: 08454 500 300
www.popan.org.uk

Find more information about the good practice in this Guide

1) & 24) Leicestershire pg 4 & pg 10

The Learning Disability Partnership Board
Anita Taylor, The Valuing People Team
Room 420, County Hall, Glenfield,
Leicester, LE3 8RL
atailor@leics.gov.uk

2) Hertfordshire pg 4

PIP in Action tel: 01992 413731
info@pippackinaction.co.uk
www.herts.police.uk/report/PIP.htm
or you can contact

North Hertfordshire PIP Pack
Alex Morris tel: 01462 422055
advocacy@nhpeoplefirst.freeserve.co.uk

3) Newham pg 5

The Learning Disability Partnership Board
Jackie Pringle
Community Involvement Team, Unit 7/8
Stratford Office Village, 4 Romford Road
Forest Gate, E7 8AB
tel: 0208 2507500

4) & 10) Devon pg 5 & pg 8

Safer Devon Partnership
www.pippack-devonandcornwall.org.uk

South Hams Safer Place Scheme

Peter Dale , South Hams District Council,
Follaton House Plymouth Road, Totnes, TQ9 5NE
tel: 01803 861278

Devon & Cornwall Police Partnership Office
Wendy Harvey, Partnership Support Manager
Ashburton Police Station tel: 08452 777 444
wendy.harvey@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

5) Worcestershire pg 5

Speakeasy N.O.W.

116 Norbury House, Priory Lane, Droitwich
Worcs, WR9 8EZ tel: 01905 774247
mail@speakeasynow.co.uk

6) & 23) Lincolnshire pg 6 & pg 10

Paula Wood – Community Safety
Emma Krasinska – Lincolnshire
Partnership Board
Orchard House, Orchard Street, Lincoln
Lincolnshire, LN1 1BA
emma.krasinska@lincolnshire.gov.uk

8) Sunderland pg 6

Sunderland People First
www.sunderlandpeoplefirst.org.uk/
tel: 0191 5498168

9) Mid Suffolk pg 7

Mid Suffolk District Council
Joanne Rogers, Community Development Officer
Council Offices, High Street, Needham Market
Suffolk IP6 8DL.
joanne.rogers@midsuffolk.gov.uk

11) Birmingham pg 8

Visual Evidence for Victims (VEV)
www.victimsupport.org.uk – West Midlands

12) & 22) Coventry pg 8 & pg 10

Learning Disability Partnership Board
tel: 0247 6785481
Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership
tel: 0247 6832123
HAVOC, 123 Upper Spon Street,
Spon End, Coventry, CV1 3BQ
tel: 024 7683 2118 or 024 7663 1040
grapevinesap@btconnect.com

13) True Vision pg 8

www.report-it.org.uk

14) Portsmouth pg 9

Portsmouth Self Advocacy Project
Frank Sorrell Centre,
Prince Albert Road, Southsea,
Portsmouth, PO4 9HR

15) Liverpool pg 9

Geraldine Monaghan
Investigations Manager
Investigations Support Unit,
Community Safety,
Community Services Municipal Buildings,
Dale Street, Liverpool, L69 2DH
tel: 0151 233 4994

17) Surrey pg 9

Surrey Partnership Board
Mary Hendrick, Partnership Board Manager
mary.hendrick@surreycc.gov.uk
www.surreypb.org.uk/Home.xml

18) Medway pg 9

Enable

Colin Guest
enableuk@btinternet.com
tel: 01304 239987

The Valuing Medway People Partnership
Medway Learning Disability Partnership
Board, Municipal Buildings,
Gillingham, ME7 5LA
tel: 01634 306000
www.valuingmedwaypeople.org.uk/KeepingSafe.shtml

20) Greater Manchester pg 9

Michelle Watson
Community and Race Relations Officer
Trafford Community and Partnership
Support Team
tel: 0161 856 7757
Michelle.watson@gmp.police.uk
Or The Training Unit Keith Schmechel,
Segley Park, Pretswich Manchester.
tel: 0161 856 0420

21) Kingston upon Thames pg 10

Learning Disability Parliament
www.kingstonld.info
jackie.batten@rbk.kingston.gov.uk

25) North Lincolnshire pg 10

Learning Disability Partnership Board
Julie Clark, Learning Disability Services
The Hollies Resource Centre, Normanby Road
Scunthorpe, North Lincs, DN15 6AR
julie.clark@northlincs.gov.uk
tel: 01724 271982

Who are Inclusion North?

Inclusion North are a membership organisation that supports the Learning Disability Partnership Boards across Yorkshire, Humberside and the North East.

This means working with people with Learning Disabilities, their families and professionals to help them make things better.

Who are Coast 2 Coast?

Coast 2 Coast are a three year Big Lottery funded project.

Coast 2 Coast teaches people to keep themselves safe from Hate Crime, at home and in the community

The groups in this guide

Learning Disability Partnership Boards were set up in each Local Authority to make sure that things got better for people with learning disabilities. They talk about the things that the Government says should happen in a paper called *Valuing People*.

If you want to find out more about this look at the website www.valuingpeople.gov.uk

You can find out the address of your Partnership Board on the website too. The website is easy to use.

The people who go to the **Learning Disability Partnership Board** are people who work for the council (like in Social Services or housing), people who work in the health services, people with learning disabilities, family carers, and anyone else who can make things change for

people with learning disabilities. You could ask the **Learning Disability Partnership Board** to organise this training in your area.

The **Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (Community Safety Partnership)** is a group that talks about all sorts of crime in each Local Authority area.

It is a meeting for people to work as a team to do something about crime. It is their job to talk to the public to make a plan about what to do about crime.

The people who go to it are the police, the council, fire and ambulance services and people from health, education, social services, business, voluntary sector.

CDRP's were set up by the Government. By law, they have to have a local plan about Crime and Disorder. The National Plan says they should do something about ALL Hate Crime. Some of these groups have already done something about Disability Hate Crime. You can find out more at www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk/regions/regions00.htm

Advocacy/Self Advocacy Groups

Self Advocacy groups help people speak up for themselves. These are sometimes called **People First** or **Voice groups**.

Valuing People states that advocacy is one of the ways people with learning disabilities could get more choice and control in their lives.

It said there should be more advocacy, so that people could choose which kind of advocacy suited their needs.

Some of the different types of advocacy are:

- Self advocacy – speaking up for yourself
- Citizen advocacy – people who get to know someone with a learning disability so that they can help get their wishes understood and heard
- Short term, issue based or crisis advocacy – where people are (usually) paid to speak up for someone about a particular issue, or when they are in a crisis.

The Context of this Guidance

The guide has been developed to complement and support a range of resources and guidance currently available or being developed by different agencies involved in tackling Learning Disability Hate Crime.

In 2008 the Home Office are developing a web site resource on Hate Crime. This will be at www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk/hatecrimelhate_crime001.htm

This Guidance should be read in conjunction with:

Learning Together Training Pack

The pack has been developed with this guide to assist people with Learning Disabilities and professionals to work together to tackle Hate Crime.

Safeguarding Adults with learning disabilities: Information for Partnership Boards Department of Health (October 2007)

Policy for Prosecuting Cases of Disability Hate Crime' & 'Disability Hate Crime: A report about crimes against disabled people Crown Prosecution Service (2007)

Valuing People Now Department of Health (Consultation began Dec 2007) Final publication expected (2008)

Acknowledgements:

We would like to thank everyone who helped us with the Learning Together project. We are really grateful for everyone's ideas and contributions, particularly the people who contributed to or commented on the guide & training pack.

However any errors or omissions remain ours and not those of people who contributed.

The following people and organisations were asked to comment on the Good Practice Guide:

- Values Into Action
- PAVA UK
- VOICE UK
- The Home Office
- Ann Craft Trust
- Valuing People Support Team
- National Forum
- Jane Dellow - PIP Pack in Action
- Ursula Siegle – Valuing People Coordinator, East Riding
- Grant James – Temporary Joint Commissioner for Learning Disabilities, Bradford
- Jon Beech
- Paul Giannasi, ACPO / Home Office

The Learning Together Advisory Group:

- Mark Redmond
- Joanna Perry, Victim Support
- Sgt Kathryn Crompton, Greater Manchester Police
- Ruth Scott, Policy Officer, SCOPE
- Peter Dale, South Hams District Council
- Bev Duncan, Redditch Community Safety Team
- Jenny Anderton, VPST
- Keith Shortman, National Forum
- Geoff Hodgson, Centre Events
- Juliet McCammon, Violent Crime Unit, Home Office
- Daksha Mistry, Violent Crime Unit, Home Office
- Samantha Clark & Louise Lamb, January 2008