

## **Glasgow Hate Crime Working Group - Presentation noted etc.**

**8** There was submitted and noted a report by the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability regarding the progress of new Scottish hate crime legislation and circumstances around Third Party Reporting, advising

- (1) that the report provided the Partnership with progress on delivery of the Glasgow Hate Crime Working Group's (HCWG) thematic Action Plans: Preventing, Reporting, and Responding;
- (2) that the HCWG was a multi-agency group that was embedded within Glasgow Community Planning Partnership structures and reported to this Partnership and its purpose was to encourage and co-ordinate partnership approaches to hate crime;
- (3) of the aims and membership of the HCWG, as detailed in the report;
- (4) that, additionally, the HCWG contained within its sub-groups a focus on training, Third Party Reporting and the delivery of activity for the National Hate Crime Awareness Week;
- (5) that hate crime in Scotland was defined as any crime perceived as motivated by malice towards a social group and the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act, passed in 2021, consolidated and modernised hate crime laws;
- (6) that the Act added age and variations in sex characteristics to the list of protected characteristics, covering intersex conditions, extended existing laws to criminalise 'stirring up hatred' broadly, protecting all specified characteristics, which mirrored the 'stirring up racial hatred' provision in the Public Order Act 1986 and included protections for freedom of expression;
- (7) that a potential new protected characteristic of sex would be addressed separately to manage crimes amplified by misogyny and the Act also abolished the common law of blasphemy and mandated more detailed annual reporting of hate crimes by Police Scotland, with greater detail on victims and perpetrators;
- (8) that reporting methods, including Third Party Reporting, remained unchanged and the Scottish Government planned to review those procedures with Police Scotland, whilst protection still applied regardless of the victim's actual membership in or affiliation with the targeted group, for example, a homophobic crime remained as such even if the victim was not gay;
- (9) of the detailed circumstances surrounding Third Party Reporting, as detailed in the report.

After consideration, the Partnership

- (a) noted the changes to national hate crime legislation and policy as a result of new hate crime legislation implemented in April 2024; and
- (b) recognised the input of Third Party Reporting sites in Glasgow, as detailed in the report.