



Item 4

19th March 2026

Report by Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability

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Glasgow Hate Crime Working Group Update

Purpose of Report:

To update the partnership on:

- The work of the Hate Crime Working Group
- Glasgow Hate Crime Strategy 2018-2028
- Glasgow Partners' Conference – 24 March 2026

Recommendations:

- To note the work of the Hate Crime Working Group.
- To note Hate Crime Awareness Week 2025 feedback.
- To note the date of the Partners Conference.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides the Safe Glasgow Partnership with a progress update on delivery of the Hate Crime Working Group's thematic Action Plans: Preventing, Reporting, and Responding.

Safe Partnership Group Action Update

A new Hate Crime Policy Officer(HCPO), located within NRS, was appointed in September 2025.

Hate Crime Working Group(HCWG)Terms of Reference and Action Plan have been reviewed, alongside membership, to be finalised and approved by the HCWG (last meeting on 03.03.2026). Verbal update will be provided to the Safe Glasgow Partnership on progress. [March and August 2025]

- 1.2 Glasgow Hate Crime Working Group (HCWG) is a multi-agency group that is embedded within Glasgow Community Planning Partnership structures and reports to the Safe Glasgow Partnership. Its purpose is to encourage and coordinate partnership approaches to hate crime.
- 1.3 The HCWG aims are:
- To take a strategic overview of activity to address hate crime citywide.
 - Hold partners accountable for delivery.
 - Develop a co-ordinated approach to hate crime.
- 1.4 The HCWG's membership includes:
- Glasgow City Council (GCC) Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability (NRS)
 - GCC Education Services
 - GCC Social Work/ Adult Protection Committee
 - GCC Corporate Policy
 - Police Scotland
 - Health and Social Care Partnership
 - Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Services (COPFS)
 - Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
 - Wheatley Group
 - Glasgow Disability Alliance
 - West of Scotland Regional Equality Council (WSREC)
 - Coalition for Racial Equality and Rights (CRER)
 - Equality Network/Scottish Trans
 - The Advocacy Project
- 1.5 The HCWG has been chaired by Cllr Elaine McSparran since January 2023.

2 Hate Crime Awareness Week – October 2025

- 2.1 The planning and delivery of this campaign was measured, purposeful, and sensitive to the wider environment. It had taken account of the current landscape, including the frequency of ongoing protests, heightened public discourse, and the consultation on the draft SSI proposing the addition of 'sex'

as a protected characteristic under the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021.

- 2.2 This external landscape, alongside broader issues affecting community cohesion, required a careful and proportionate approach. The campaign reflected this by balancing the need to raise awareness with the need to avoid inadvertently inflaming tensions or contributing to polarisation.
- 2.3 Looking forward, Hate Crime Awareness October Week 2026 should evolve into a programme centred on community confidence, shared ownership, and collaborative impact. The 2026 programme will prioritise:
 - Positive narratives that promote inclusion and belonging
 - Stronger partnership delivery and community co-production
 - Visible improvements to reporting pathways and support for victims.

Glasgow City Council and partners will be adopting a more outcome-focused approach that strengthens trust, improves community cohesion, and demonstrates measurable progress.

3 Hate Crime Strategy 2018 – 2028

- 3.1 A review of the Hate Crime Working Group Terms of Reference and Action Plan is underway. This is essential to ensure continued effective delivery and that the Strategy remains aligned with current risks, community needs, and national policy developments.

4 Glasgow Partners' Conference; Building Resilience: Communities, Cohesion and Shared Responsibility – Tuesday 2nd June

- 4.1 This conference will bring together statutory and third-sector partners to strengthen collective responses to rising hostility, hate and online misinformation. Members of the HCWG are shaping the agenda for the event in collaboration with the HCPO, and will participate in the event. The event will focus on:
 - Enhancing community confidence
 - Reinforcing cohesion and resilience
 - Clarifying shared responsibilities for prevention, reassurance, and support.

The conference will serve as a platform to consolidate partnership learning and accelerate collective action.

5 Recommendations

- 5.1 To note the work of the Hate Crime Working Group.
- 5.2 To note Hate Crime Awareness Week 2025 feedback.
- 5.3 To note the date of the Partners Conference.