

# See it, Hear it, Report it.



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

## Disability Hate Crime

- There were 2,508 recorded disability hate crimes in England and Wales in 2014/15. 202 of these were in Wales. (Office for National Statistics, 2015)
- The combined 2012/13 to 2014/15 Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) dataset estimates that there were 70,000 disability motivated hate crimes per year on average (CSEW 2015)
- 35% of disability hate crimes involved violence against the person; of these offences, 31% involved injury. Public order offences accounted for 37% of disability hate crimes (Crime Survey for England and Wales, 2015)
- Disabled respondents were 1.4 times more likely to think that there was a hate crime problem in their local area, were more fearful of becoming a victim of hate crime than non-disabled respondents and 30% stated that they have attempted to conceal their disability to minimise victimisation. (All Wales Hate Crime research, 2013)
- 88% of people with a learning disability had been a victim of a hate crime, a hate incident, bullying and harassment. Half of these had suffered verbal abuse and a quarter had been physically abused. (Mencap, 2013)
- People in England & Wales with mental health issues are:
  - three times more likely to be a victim of crime than the general population
  - five times more likely to be a victim of assault, rising to 10 times more likely if you're a woman
  - In terms of people with a severe mental illness, 45% had been victims of crime in the past year.

*(At risk yet dismissed 2013, Mind & Victim Support)*

- Research shows just 40% of disabled people say the UK is a good place to be a disabled. 62% are treated differently because of their disability. (Scope, 2015)
- Half of disabled people have experienced discrimination in shops, a third in cinemas and theatres. Two thirds of the public admit they feel uncomfortable talking to disabled people. (Scope, 2015)

## Case Study . . .

Steven has cerebral palsy and a facial disfigurement. He is 27 years old. He lives on his own in supported accommodation, and otherwise lives an independent life and has a job working as a packer at an out of town industrial complex.

To get to and from his place of work, every day he takes a bus from the town centre. The morning bus is predominantly full of school children, who have taken to taunting Steven and more recently this has escalated to minor assaults on him, including ruffling his hair, pouring cans of drink over his head and stubbing out cigarettes on the back of his coat. This has made him very depressed and increasingly fearful of taking the journey to work.

He had not told anyone about this and consequently had 'suffered in silence'. He has a support worker in the community who had noticed a change in his behaviour and eventually managed to persuade Steven to tell him about what has been happening.

Together with Steven his support worker has reported this to the Police, and also approached Victim Support to see what help they can offer Steven. This has included working with the local Police (Neighbourhood Police Teams and PCSOs) to ensure that Steven received a thorough response when incidents occur. There has also been work with the bus company to raise the awareness of staff to these incidents and to ensure that there is a proper response from drivers to incidents as they occur. The School has also been contacted to deal with the perpetrators and to increase better understanding around equality and diversity. Steven has been supported to ensure he is accessing specialist support groups.

Mae'r ddogfen yma hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg.  
This document is also available in Welsh.

**Watch Simon** Green from Bridgend speak about his experiences of disability hate crime and the impact it has on disabled people in Wales.



**Find out further  
information  
and let us know  
your views**

[www.wales.gov.uk/hatecrime](http://www.wales.gov.uk/hatecrime)  
#HCAWCymru16

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