

**Building Confident and Cohesive Communities**

Oldham is launching the grant application process for Hate Crime Awareness Week 2020 - Monday 3 February to Sunday 9 February 2020

Many parts of the Borough are changing fast – hundreds of new homes are being built, new academies have been re-located and many neighbourhoods are becoming more ethnically and socially diverse as Oldham’s population changes.

While these are positive developments, change creates disruption and uncertainty for residents and communities need support to get through this process.

A small minority of individuals act in divisive ways, for example by committing hate crimes or acting in other ways which damage good race and community relations.

We need to challenge this behaviour – we need to:

* Ensure that people feel safe in their neighbourhoods and that people from different backgrounds get on well together;
* Tackle hate crime and improve the support provided to victims;
* Manage threats to good race and community relations in the borough;
* Create a sense of shared belonging and promote opportunities to participate in the community.

**The Community Safety and Cohesion Partnership Board** is committed to tackling all hate incidents, whether these are motivated by hatred against people because of their race, religion, disability, sexuality, gender identity, or alternative lifestyle/sub-culture. The Partnership will create a culture whereby discrimination, actual or perceived, is challenged and eradicated.

We want to build on this by funding innovative ways of raising awareness and sharing the message, primarily throughout Greater Manchester Hate Crime Awareness Week but also throughout the year.

Groups can apply for a grant of up to £1,000.

This funding can be used to assist with events and/or activities that take place during Hate Crime Awareness Week or towards supporting a longer length project (up to a year). The funds can be used to cover the costs of speakers, food, arts/crafts, running workshops, developing a play or a film, or any other reasonable costs that helps the project meets at least one of the five key aims of the fund.

The five key aims are:

1. Preventing hate crime;
2. Responding to hate crime in our communities;
3. Increasing the reporting of hate crime;
4. Improving support for the victims of hate crime;
5. Building our understanding of hate crime.

To be eligible,

* Your activity/project must be specific to the hate crime themes/culture/diversity
* You must be part of a group that is either a constituted voluntary, community or faith organisation, a registered charity or registered social enterprise based in and of benefit to people living in the borough of Oldham
* Able to confirm that at least one or more members of the organisation will attend a Hate Crime Awareness Session on Thursday 23 January 2020 1pm to 3pm.
* We cannot fund volunteer time expenses.
* We will supply branded marketing materials such as bags and pens.

Please be considerate and only budget for what you need, this will enable more groups to deliver activities across Oldham.

One-off events must take place between **Monday 3 February and Sunday 9 February 2020**

**Longer running projects must be completed by Friday 11 December 2020**

The deadline for receipt of the forms is

* for projects taking place during Hate Crime Awareness Week - **Friday 21 February 2020**
* for longer running projects **– Friday 8 January 2021**

For more details contact Virbai Kara, Senior Communities Officer.

Stronger Communities Service, Communities and Reform Directorate

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More information about hate crime and for ideas and support please visit the following:

* [www.stophateuk.org/](http://www.stophateuk.org/)
* [www.letsendhatecrime.com/](http://www.letsendhatecrime.com/)
* [www.sophielancasterfoundation.com/](http://www.sophielancasterfoundation.com/)
* [www.theproudtrust.org/](http://www.theproudtrust.org/)
* [www.stonewall.org.uk/](http://www.stonewall.org.uk/)

**To apply:** Please return this application by email with the subject line “Hate Crime Awareness Week Grant” by Friday 10 January 2020 before 5pm to grants@actiontogether.org.uk

