

Responding to hate incidents in North Somerset

Have you experienced or witnessed a hate incident?
If so, report it.





You can use the hate incident reporting process if you are a victim of a hate incident or if you witness an incident happening to someone else.

A hate incident is any incident that is perceived by the victim or any other person as being motivated by the prejudice towards someone's:

- race, colour, nationality or ethnic origin
- religion or belief
- sexual orientation
- age
- gender
- disability.

Hate incidents cover a wide range of behaviour, including:

- verbal abuse
- to property damage
- offensive behaviour
- harassment
- sending a letter or e-mail conveying offensive messages
- an offensive telephone call or text message
- assaults.

Incidents in North Somerset (RHINS)

The RHINS partnership was established in 2002 and is a group of local organisations who work together to support the victims of hate incidents.

This partnership approach means that all of the organisations work together to offer support to victims and witnesses, take effective action to stop any further incidents and with consent to take action against the perpetrator.

RHINS is opposed to all forms of hate incidents and will positively support anyone who is a victim or witness of any such incident. Victims will receive a prompt, sympathetic and sensitive response from the partners.

Members include:

- North Somerset Council
- Avon and Somerset Constabulary
- NHS North Somerset
- Registered Social Landlords representatives
- Weston College
- North Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau
- EACH – Educational Action Challenging Homophobia
- SREC – Somerset Race Equality Council
- SARI – Support Against Racist Incidents
- Victim Support

You can report a hate incident in a number of ways:

 **Call: 01934 888 801**

Monday to Friday
from 8am to 6pm



Log onto:

[www.n-somerset.gov.uk/
community/equalities](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/community/equalities)

and complete an online reporting form

or



You can report in person at:

Police stations, Town Hall, For All Healthy Living Centre, The Campus, Libraries, Citizens Advice Bureau in Weston-super-Mare, all Housing Offices and Weston College.

All you need to do is complete the reporting form and tell us as much information you can. The person who receives the report will make sure that it is sent on to the right organisation to deal with it. You can report anonymously if you wish, but we would like you to give your details so that we can support you.

The information about the incident will be recorded and shared with organisations in the RHINS partnership to help us monitor what is happening in the area.

If you provide your details you will be contacted within ten working days.

No personal information will be shared with any other agency without your consent. If you choose not to give your consent, then the report will be used only for monitoring purposes.

**If you or your property are in danger call the police on 999 or
0845 456 7000 for non emergencies.**



Some of the organisations that can help:

Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)

We provide the advice people need for the problems they face. We value diversity, promote equality and challenge discrimination.

 www.nscab.org.uk

 Tel: **01934 836 201**

Educational Action Challenging Homophobia (EACH)

EACH is a charity that supports adults and young people affected by homophobia.

 www.eachaction.org.uk

 Tel: **0808 1000 143**

Somerset Racial Equality Council (SREC)

Supporting people from Black and Minority Ethnic backgrounds in North Somerset to ensure they are receiving appropriate support and services.

 www.srec.org.uk

 Tel: **01934 414 455**

Support Against Racist Incidents (SARI)


SARI provides support to victims of racial harassment.

 www.sariweb.org.uk

 Tel: **0117 942 0060**

Victim Support


Give free and confidential help to victims of crime, their family, friends and anyone else affected. We give information, emotional support and practical help.


 www.victimsupport.org.uk

 Tel: **0845 456 6099**

Council documents can be made available in large print, audio, easy read and other formats. Documents on our website can also be emailed to you as plain text files.

Help is also available for people who require council information in languages other than English.

 Call: 01934 634 832
or

 Email: equality@n-somerset.gov.uk

