



Hate Crime Insight: Night Time Economy



Alamy

What is a Hate Crime?

Hate Crime is a term that describes an incident or crime against someone based on an aspect of who they are, or who they are perceived to be; their Identity. Identity is divided into five Protected Characteristics in relation to Hate Crime. These are categories of identity that might be the target of prejudice, hostility or hate. These characteristics are:

- Race or Ethnicity
- Disability
- Religion of Belief
- Sexual Orientation
- Gender Identity

Night time related Hate Crime

By 'Night Time Economy', we refer to taxi drivers, take away staff, door staff and people working in bars and restaurants.

Little data is available about the night time economy. However, we do know that:

- There are 375,000 taxi drivers within the UK (ONS). In England, 38% of taxi drivers are Asian but there are no statistics available for Wales.
- In the UK there are over 353,774 licensed security operatives, and many more who do not need a licence (University of Portsmouth)
- There are 317,416 roles in the UK (March 2017) undertaking licensable activities such as door supervision in night clubs, searching people and bags at events, guarding property, acting as key holders and other security related activities.
- The combined Pakistani and Bangladeshi (30.7%) and Other Ethnic Groups (23.7%) had the highest percentage of workers within the 'Distribution, hotels and restaurants' sector in the UK (ONS)

It's evident that there is a wide range of ethnic diversity within workers in the night time economy.

Racially motivated hate crimes are the most common cases referred to the police, making up three quarters of all reported cases. In 2018 – 19, 103,379 race related cases were recorded by the police.

Barriers to reporting Hate Crime in the night time economy

“I’ve been working as a door supervisor for 10 years now. The abuse isn’t as bad as it used to be, it used to be that I couldn’t do a shift without getting abuse about being black. It’s not as bad now, but it still happens. It really got to me about one point and I ended up on anti-depressants. I just want to be able to do my job.”

- Dom, Door Supervisor, Newport

Normalising Incidents

- If the hate incidences happen often, people may ‘normalise’ it and attribute it to an expected everyday experience.

Mistrust of Police and Criminal Justice Agencies

- Often minority groups feel a distrust in authorities such as the Police and wider criminal justice agencies. This can cause feelings of frustration and hopelessness when it comes to reporting hate crimes

Workplace Culture

- Victims of hate crime working in the night time economy tell us that how they feel about the hate crime and how they react will often depend on their workplace culture.

“If one of my colleagues on the door brushes it off, I won’t make a fuss even if its upset me. But if they get upset about someone being racist then I’ll more likely stand up to it too. Usually the racism I experience is part of someone being generally aggressive or abusive anyway. I’m never sure if they mean to be racist.” – Ryu, Door Supervisor, Neath

- For those work as night time taxi drivers, their car is their place of work. If you have been targeted in their car that may become an unsafe place for them, making it difficult and over time traumatising to keep re-entering an unsafe place in order to make a living.

Lack of Information

- Victims of Hate Crime may not know that supporting services such as Victim Support exist to support them to move beyond the crime, to overcome what has happened to them.

Fear

- People working in the night time economy may be afraid of creating bad reputations, or neighbour retribution if they report a hate crime. Many victims of hate crime aren't aware that they can access our emotional support service, even if they don't want to talk to the police about what's happened to them.
- When you have experienced hate crime whilst working, you may fear losing your job or losing money whilst working if you report the incidents to the Police. Many do not know that you can report via Victim Support and can make requests for the Police to visit you outside of working hours.

“We have worked hard to be on good terms with the local police. We only need to call them for something bad. If I had to call them for this, I'd be on the phone every weekend.”

- Manish, take-away worker, Newport



How to report a Hate Crime

If a Hate Crime has taken place, we advise that you contact the police by one of the following methods:

- If it is an emergency and the crime is still taking place, call **999**.
- If it is not an immediate emergency, call **101**.
- If you prefer, you can go to your **local police station** and report the crime there.
- Victim Support can report to the Police **on your behalf** and you can choose to remain **anonymous** if you wish
- Witnesses of Hate Crime can also contact **Victim Support** to report an incident

However, we understand some people might be concerned about involving the police for a variety of reasons. Victim Support will provide you with help and support whether you decide to involve the police or not. To talk to us, please contact us through any of the following options:

- To contact our Hate Crime Services at Victim Support contact us on **0300 30 31 982**
- Visit our website at <https://www.reporthate.victimsupport.org.uk/>
- **Twitter@ VictimSupportHC**
- **Facebook: VictimSupportHC**
- **Instagram: vswaleshatecrime**
- If you wish to make a self-referral email: hate.crimewales@victimsupport.org.uk

Regardless of whether you report the crime to the police or contact us directly, we advise keeping a note of all incidents related to Hate Crime. Ideally this would include times, dates and details of what happened. This is valuable if you decide to change your mind reporting it at a later date, or if the abuse is consistent or ongoing.

The support we offer covers helping with simple tasks like filling out forms, offering personal and home security, but we can also assist with bigger problems. These include ongoing emotional support, housing and police advocacy or support with understanding the criminal justice system over the course of your trial. We'll give you the information you need to understand your options and next steps.