

Hate Incident Monitoring Project Reporting Update

The Hate Incident Monitoring Project (HIMP) is a multi-agency initiative, its purpose is to develop effective reporting of incidents and inform work undertaken across Leicestershire County in tackling hate incidents.

‘A hate incident is any incident where you or someone else has been targeted because they or you are believed to be different, or any incident you believe was motivated by: age, disability, gender identity, race, religion / belief or sexual orientation’

Over 20 agencies have agreed to become reporting centres across the county to enable people to report hate incidents at a range of locations within the community. These agencies are shown in figure 1 (below).

Figure 1 : HIMP report centres and partner agencies

Charnwood Racial Equality Council	Mosaic: shaping disability services
Leicestershire County Council	North West Leicestershire – Council for Voluntary Services
All 7 District Council	South Leicestershire Council for Voluntary Services
LAMP Leicestershire	Trade Sexual Health Project
Leicester Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Centre	Victim Support Leicestershire & Rutland (Leicestershire Branches)
Leicestershire Connexions	Vista – Society for the Blind
Leicestershire Constabulary	Voluntary Action Charnwood
MENCAP Leicestershire	Voluntary Action Oadby & Wigston

The police estimate that most racist and religious hate crime, and as much as **90%** of homophobic crime, goes unreported because victims are too frightened or embarrassed to let someone know¹.

This under-reporting prevents us from being able to take effective action. We need to know the number, type and range of hate incidents in Leicestershire. This will show us where the problem areas are and help us to improve services to deal with hate incidents.

background

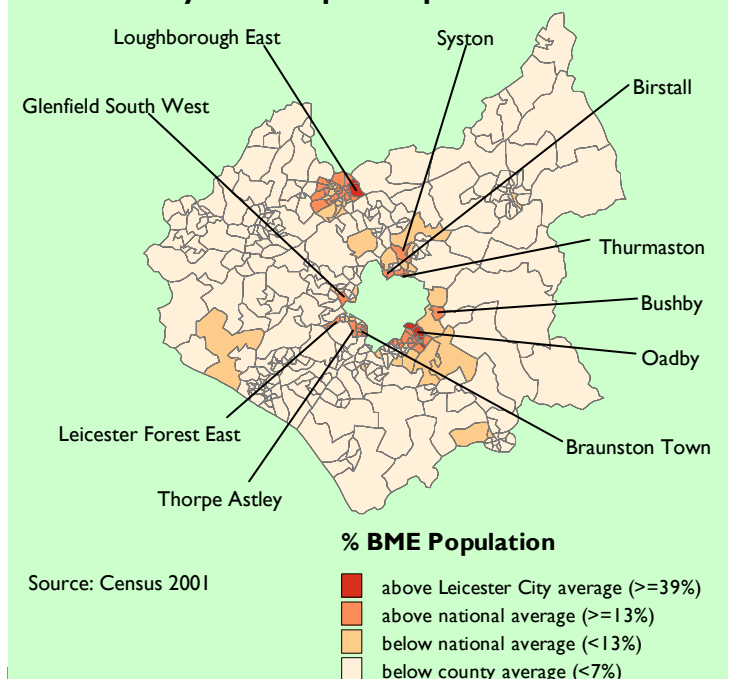
According to the 2001 census the BME² population account for 13% of the total population of England. The corresponding figures for Leicestershire and Leicester City are 7% and 39% respectively.

Though the overall proportion of BME residents in Leicestershire is below the national average there are communities across the county where the proportion is considerably higher.

Map 1 (right) shows the proportion of BME residents across Leicestershire, by lower super output area³.

- The map highlights those areas where the proportion of BME residents is above the national average. It also shows those areas where the proportion of BME residents is comparable or above the average figure for Leicester City.

Map 1 : % BME population across Leicestershire by lower super output area³



1 source: Hate Crime: Delivering a Quality Service, March 2005, Home Office Police Standards Unit
 2 BME is defined as all ethnic groups other than White British as defined by the ONS census of population 2001
 3 lower super output areas are geographical areas containing approximately 1,500 residents.

racist incident reporting : 2005 to 2006

The Hate Incident Monitoring Project (HIMP) has a wider remit than the previous Racist Incident Common Monitoring Project (RICMP). The RICMP collated details of racist and religious incidents from the following three sources.

- incidents recorded to Leicestershire Constabulary
- incidents reported through the RICMP
- incidents reported in Leicestershire schools

Table 2 (right) shows the number of racist and religious incidents reported through the above three sources during 2005 and 2006.

- The number of reported racist and religious incidents was **4% lower** in 2006 compared to 2005. This difference is primarily due to the lower number of incidents reported within Leicestershire schools in 2006, down by 10%. However, as not all schools have completed their racist incident return¹ it is likely that the 2006 figure will increase as more schools complete their returns.

Table 2 : Number of racist and religious incidents reported to the RICMP

incidents reported to	2005	2006
Police	463	472
County Council (RICMP)	58	47
County Council (schools) ¹	292	264
total	813	783

- ¹ Leicestershire schools provide a return at the end of each academic year. The figure for the academic year 2004/05 has been used in the 2005 total and the figure for the academic year 2005/06 has been used in the 2006 total, in table 2. Not all schools have provided returns; in 2004/05 43 schools did not provide a return and in 2005/06 88 schools have not yet provided a return.

hate incident reporting : 2006

Hate incidents monitored by the new project will be broadened to include age, disability, gender identity, race, religion / belief or sexual orientation.

Table 3 (below) shows the proportion of the different types of hate incidents reported to the police in Leicestershire during 2006. This includes incidents perceived to be motivated by race, religion, sexual orientation and, since the introduction of separate reporting categories, age, disability and gender.

- Racist and religiously motivated incidents accounted for the majority (89%) of all hate incidents reported to the police in Leicestershire in 2006.
- Homophobic incidents accounted for a further 10% of incidents reported to the police. This highlights the importance of the HIMP, broadening the collation of reported incidents, beyond racist and religious incidents.

The new Hate Incident Monitoring Project will bring agencies together to collectively record and monitor hate incidents across Leicestershire. Details of incidents will be recorded in a common format, in one secure location and agencies will have a regular, up to date and holistic profile of hate incidents across the County.

Table 3 : Types of hate incident reported to the police in 2006

type of hate incident	% of all hate incidents
racial	83%
homophobic	10%
religious	6%
ageist	1%
disablist	0%
gender	0%

Source : Leicestershire Constabulary CIS

Note : Leicestershire Constabulary introduced age, sex and disability as separate recordable reasons for the motivation of hate incidents in April 06. The figures for these incident types are therefore not complete for 2006.

where have hate incidents been reported?

Table 4 (left) shows the number of hate incidents reported to the Police in each district of Leicestershire during 2006, compared to 2005.

- There were a total of 525 hate incidents reported to the police in Leicestershire during 2006, a slight increase (2%) on the number of incidents reported in 2005. This compares to a decrease of 7% in the number of hate incidents reported in Leicester City during the same period.
- Almost 60% of all hate incidents reported within Leicestershire are within Charnwood and Hinckley and Bosworth. Both of these districts had an increase in the number of reported hate incidents during 2006.
- The number of reported hate incidents in Hinckley and Bosworth increased by 68% in 2006 compared to the previous year. This increase was primarily down to an increase in racist incidents, up from 55 in 2005 to 99 in 2006.

Table 5 : Location of hate incidents reported to the police within Leicestershire

location of hate incident	count	%
public place	208	40%
dwelling	134	26%
shop/bank/garage	75	14%
commercial	39	7%
licensed premises	34	6%
educational establishment	15	3%
outbuilding/garden	14	3%
other	6	1%
total	525	100%

Map 6 (right) shows the distribution of hate incidents reported to the police in Leicestershire during 2005 and 2006, by lower super output area¹ (LSOA).

- The map highlights twelve LSOAs with the highest number of hate incidents reported to the police within 2005 and 2006.
- The map highlights concentrations of incidents in town centre locations, including Hinckley, Loughborough, Coalville and Wigston. There are also concentrations of reported incidents around the retail centres of Fosse Park and Thurmaston.
- There is a lower concentration of incidents reported within more rural areas of Leicestershire.

¹ lower super output areas are a geographical area containing approximately 1,500 residents.

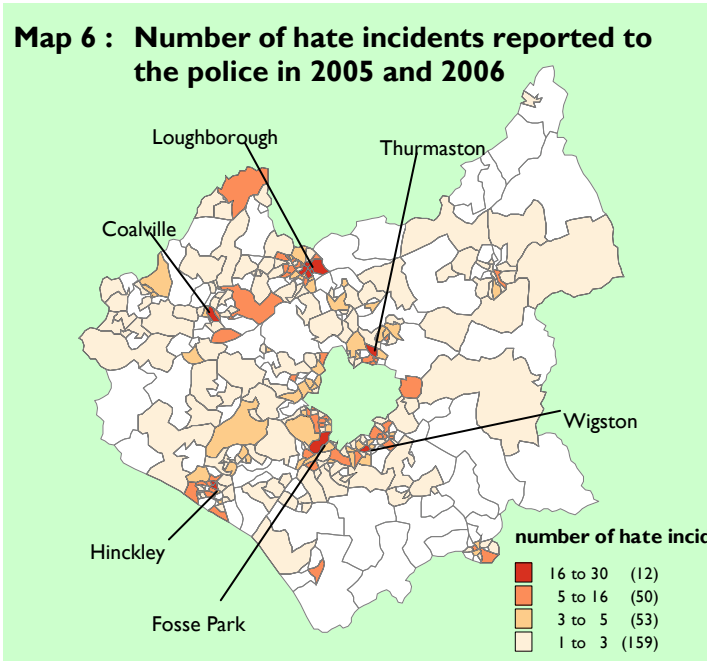
Table 4 : Number of hate incidents reported to the police in 2006 by district

district	2005	2006	% change
Charnwood	193	201	4% ▲
Hinckley and Bosworth	65	109	68% ▲
Blaby	93	70	-25% ▼
NW Leicestershire	57	61	7% ▲
Oadby and Wigston	55	46	-16% ▼
Harborough	34	21	-38% ▼
Melton	16	17	6% ▲
Leicestershire	513	525	2% ▲
Leicester City	1048	970	-7% ▼

Source : Leicestershire Constabulary CIS

Table 5 (left) shows the location of hate incidents reported in Leicestershire during 2006.

- The largest proportion of incidents are reported to have happened in a public place, usually in the street.
- One quarter of incidents are reported to have happened in the victims home.
- The relatively low number of incidents reported to the Police from educational establishments emphasises the role of schools as reporting centres.



attitudes towards a diverse Leicestershire

A recent survey carried out locally asked residents in a number of locations across Leicestershire¹ the following question.

“Your neighbourhood is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together”.
To what extent do you agree or disagree with that statement?

This survey found that three quarters (75%) of respondents in Leicestershire agreed² that they lived in an area where people from different background got on well together.

The same question was asked as part of the 2005 Citizenship survey³. This survey found that four-fifths (80%) of respondents agreed that they lived in an area where people from different backgrounds got on well together. The slightly lower figure for Leicestershire (75%) suggests that residents of Leicestershire are slightly less likely to agree that that neighbourhood is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together, when compared to the whole of England and Wales (80%).

¹ Summaries are based on the findings of the Leicestershire Social Capital Survey (2006) carried out by Leicestershire Together, the CVS Community Partnership and the Centre for Social Action, De Montfort University. 20 different areas within the county were surveyed, amounting to a total of 2,300 respondents.

² based on respondents who answered ‘definitely agree’ or ‘tend to agree’. The proportion did not consider those respondents who answered ‘don’t know’, ‘too few people in local area’ or ‘all same backgrounds’.

³ 2005 Citizenship Survey of England and Wales commissioned by the Dept. for Communities and Local Government.

what happens next?

A **quarterly hate incident update** will be produced by the Hate Incident Monitoring Project. This report will be available to all reporting centres and partner agencies. The quarterly update will provide a profile of all reported hate incidents; including the total number of hate incidents reported, emerging trends and a high level county and district level profile. These reports will be available quarterly from June 2007.

At the end of each year a **detailed hate incident annual report** will be produced to provide a more in depth profile of hate incidents across Leicestershire. This will include a breakdown of the different types of incident, profiles of victims and offenders, patterns and trends of reported incidents over time and the identification of geographical areas where hate incidents may be a problem. The aim of the report is to meet the monitoring needs and information requirements of the reporting centres and partner agencies.

to report a hate incident?

Hate incidents can be reported on-line at www.leics.gov.uk/reporthate. A report form can also be downloaded from this website. Forms are also available from the reporting centres, including all council receptions.

need more information?

For information regarding the Hate Incident Monitoring Project contact

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