

# Scrutiny Working Group Hate Crime and Community Cohesion

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2017



Cyngor **Abertawe**  
**Swansea** Council

# The Purpose

- To give an overview of the Council's work to support and promote Community Cohesion and tackle issues around Hate Crime
- It is about partnership working, working with diverse communities, the Police, Victim Support, Welsh Government, citizens and Community Groups. Governed through Community Safety Partnership.

## **Frameworks for delivery**

- *WG Getting on Together – A Community Cohesion Strategy for Wales'* (i.e. to achieve a fair and just society).
- *WG Tackling Hate Crimes & Incidents – A Framework for Action.*

# Definitions

- Swansea Council has agreed their own definition of

- **Community Cohesion:**

- *“Enabling different groups of people to get on well together and respect the differences in our society. Community Cohesion is the absence of hate crime and the absence of attitudes of hate or ignorance.”*

- **Hate Incident:**

- 'Any incident, which may or may not constitute a criminal offence, which is perceived by the victim or any other person, as being motivated by prejudice or hate.'

- **Hate Crime:**

- 'Any hate incident, which constitutes a criminal offence, perceived by the victim or any other person, as being motivated by prejudice or hate.'

# Community Cohesion

The new National Community Cohesion Plan 2017 – 2020 has 4 objectives:

- **Objective 1:** Work at a strategic level to break down barriers to inclusion and integration across marginalised groups
- **Objective 2:** Work at a local level to break down barriers to inclusion and integration for particular groups and communities
- **Objective 3:** Supporting migrants, refugees and asylum seekers and host communities during the integration process
- **Objective 4:** Tackling discrimination, hostility, tensions and extremism

# Community Cohesion

Work on **Equalities**, on **Community Cohesion**, and on **Community Safety** strengthens overall **community resilience**, where work to strengthen equal rights and opportunities and foster good relations prevents downstream community safety incidents such as hate crime and vulnerability to radicalisation.

Page 5



# Community Cohesion

WG has funded Equality & Inclusion Projects grant:

Organisation	Project name
<b>Equality Grant</b>	
Ethnic Youth Support Team (EYST)	Representative body Race
Stonewall Cymru	Representative body Gender Re-assignment and Sexual Orientation (LGBT
Women's Equality Network (WEN) Wales	Representative body for Gender Equality
Disability Wales	Representative body Disability
<b>Inclusion Projects</b>	
Victim Support	All Wales Hate Crime Report and Support Centre
Tros Gynnal Plant	Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Advice and Advocacy Service
Welsh Refugee Council	National Support Services for Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Migrants

# Hate Crime

- Hate crimes and incidents are tackled in respect of the protected characteristics under the ***Equality Act 2010***:- disability, race, religion, age, sexual orientation and gender reassignment.
- Swansea Council's objectives align to Welsh Government's National Strategy on tackling Hate Crime, '***WG Tackling Hate Crimes & Incidents – A Framework for Action***'.
  - **Objective 1: Prevention**
  - **Objective 2: Supporting victims**
  - **Objective 3: Improving the multi-agency response**

# Hate Crime

- **Delivery plan:-**

Swansea Council Hate Crime Stakeholder Action Plan has been developed with partners to deliver specific actions from the Strategic Objectives.

- **This is managed and monitored through:-**

Hate Crime Stakeholder Group comprising of the Police, Victim Support, Swansea University, the Western Bay Community Cohesion Co-ordinator and Swansea Council Officers, organised and chaired by Swansea Council



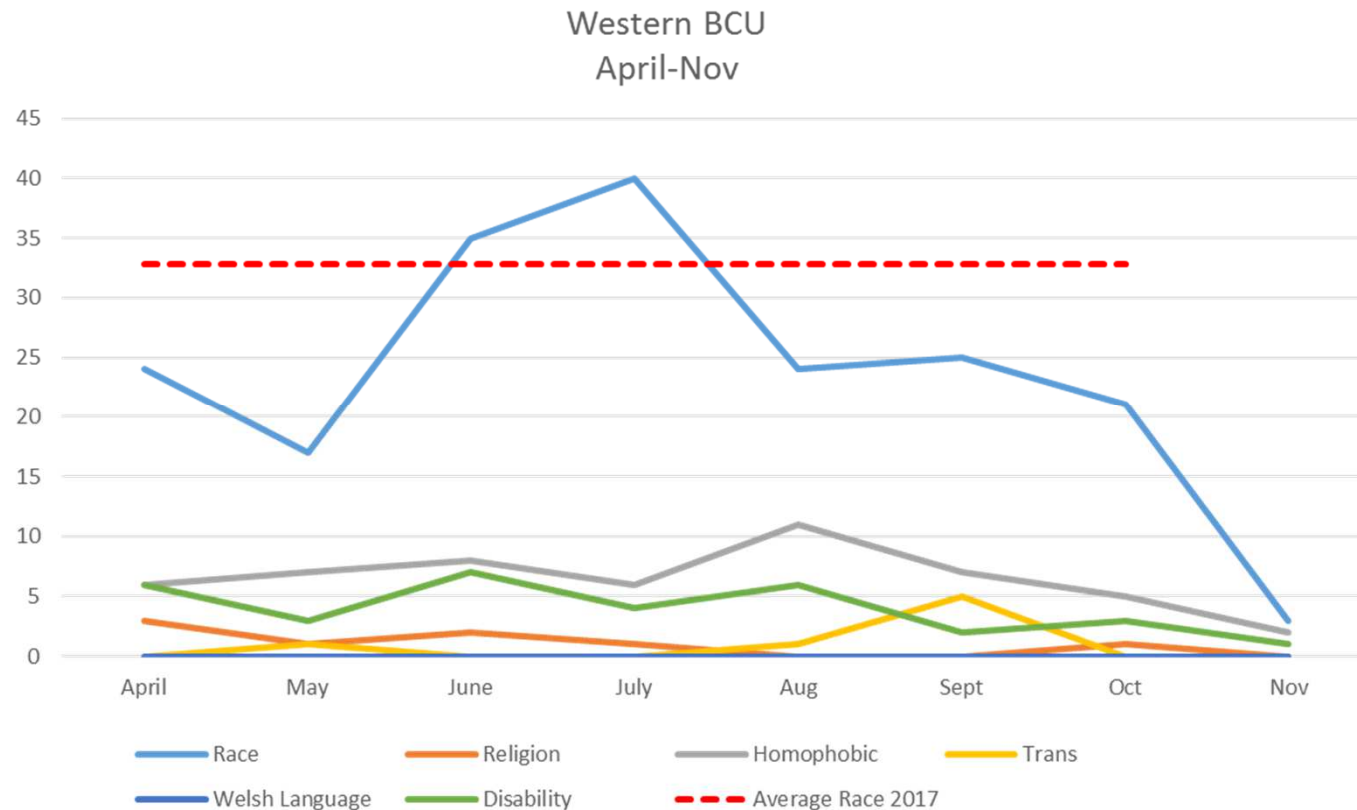
# Trends

## Last three years Hate Crime Statistics (Swansea):-

Month	2015	2016	2017
Jan	19	25	26
Feb	20	19	29
March	31	35	25
April	23	23	29
May	32	40	21
June	27	27	49
July	22	26	39
Aug		37	33
Sept	23	33	40
Oct	29	24	-
Nov	37	25	-
Dec	34	25	-
Average	27	28	32

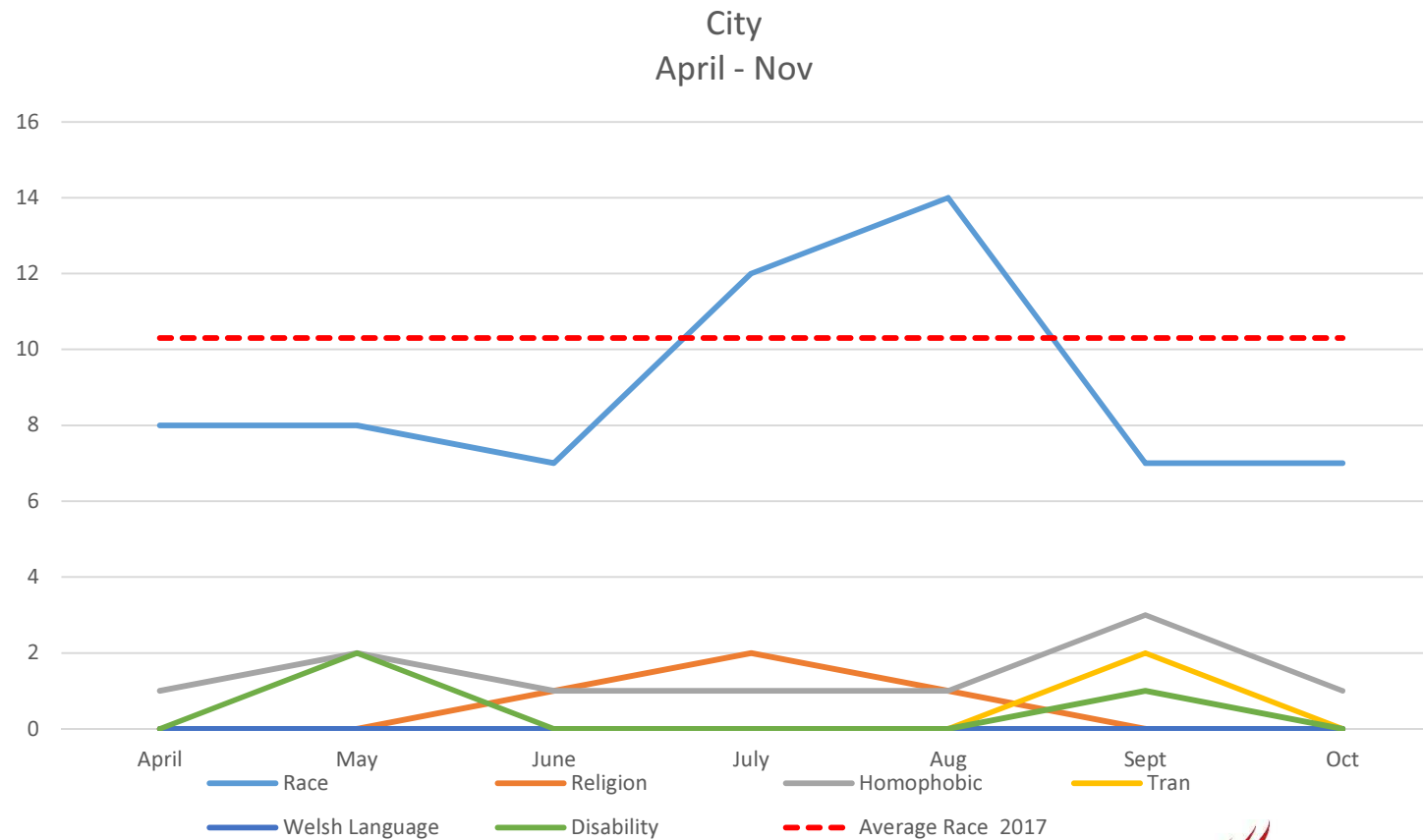
# Trends

## WESTERN DIVISION OVERALL STATISTICS April – Nov 2017



# Trends

## CITY STATISTICS April – Oct 2017



# Key Achievements

## Mainstreaming Community Cohesion examples:-

- **Local Wellbeing Plan** – Stronger Communities theme
- **Strategic Equality Plan** – equality measures
- **Hate Crime Stakeholder Action Plan** – raise awareness & reporting
- **Local Strategic Framework for Migration** – inclusive communities
- **Intercultural Cities** – positive diversity

# Future Challenges & Opportunities

- Greater partnership promotion and raising awareness on how to report Hate Crime – especially disability & LGBT.
- Refocus of Safer Swansea Partnership – Hate Crime & Community Tension and working together to create a safer city.
- Safer Swansea Partnership Strategy and Plan – **priorities**
  - VAWDASV
  - Substance Misuse
  - Safe, Confident & Resilient Communities
  - Evening & Night Time Economy
  - Hate Crime & Community Tension