

# TONY LLOYD

POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER  
GREATER MANCHESTER

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*Dear Carolyn*


Thank you for your letter dated 9<sup>th</sup> January 2015. I agree with Oldham Council that more could be done both to improve our response to reports of disability hate crime and indeed to encourage the reporting of such crimes.

As you rightly point out, a great deal of work has been undertaken across Greater Manchester to address the issue, however I am positive more could be done with the right influence in the right places. One improvement the police have made following consultation with disabled members of the public, has been to establish an accessible reporting system. This can be accessed through the following link and does address the issue that you raise regarding reporting procedures to be accessible to those who have hearing impairment or a learning disability:

<http://www.gmp.police.uk/content/WebsitePagesMobile/ED3E19E94B1AA236802579FB003A3056>

You may be aware that I have been leading a piece of work around mental health for the conurbation and one of the recent developments within that work is in relation to how we engage service users in validating both whether and how the changes we are implementing are effective. I will ensure that the issue of responding to disability hate crime is included within that engagement activity and I am sure that the service users, who we are working with in respect of this issue, will have some excellent ideas regarding how we can better engage with people within this vulnerable community.

Disability hate crime should be treated with equal prominence in terms of both investigation and prosecution. I hope my response goes some way to reassuring you in respect of the concerns you raise. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information, in the meantime, I will share your letter with the Chief Constable, to ensure that appropriate action is taken.

*Regards,*  


Tony Lloyd  
Commissioner

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