

# HATE CRIME IN CRICKLEWOOD & MAPESBURY, AND WILLESDEN

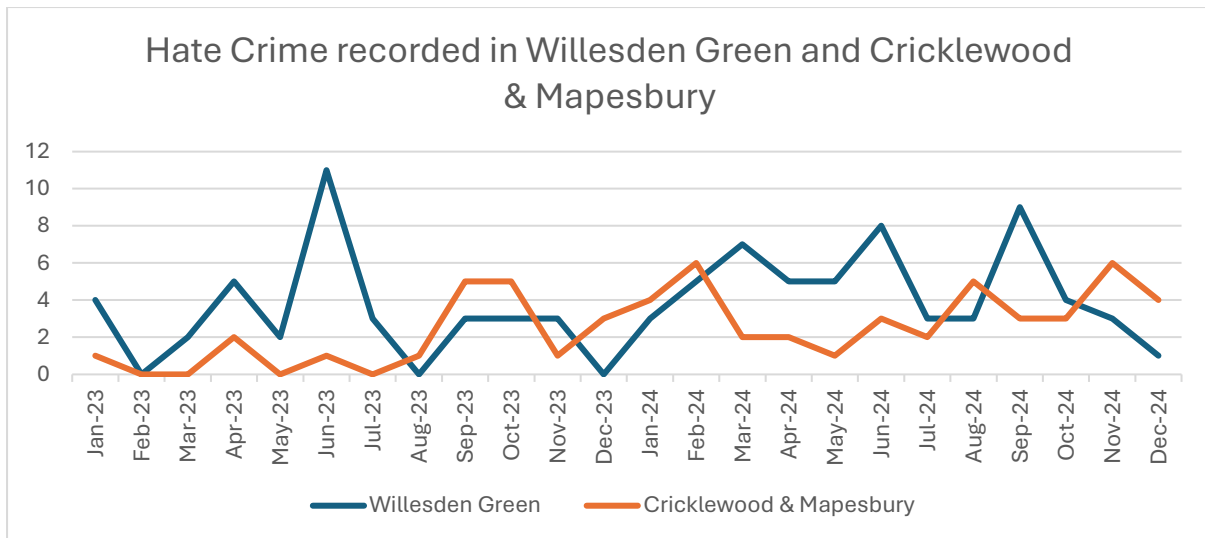
## Headlines

The greatest increase in Hate Crime in Cricklewood & Mapesbury and Willesden Green wards was seen in “Racist and Religious Crime”, with increases in these hate crime categories of 56% for Willesden Green, and 116% in Cricklewood & Mapesbury. Despite the small numbers, significant increases were seen in Cricklewood & Mapesbury relating to Faith and Anti Semitic Hate Crimes, with Faith Hate Crime more than quadrupling.

CRICKLEWOOD & MAPESBURY			
Hate Crime Category	2023	2024	% Change
Racist & Religious	19	41	116%
Racist	19	34	79%
Faith	2	9	350%
Antisemitic	2	5	150%
Islamophobic	0	3	
Homophobic	4	2	-50%
Transphobic	1	2	100%
Disability	2	0	-100%

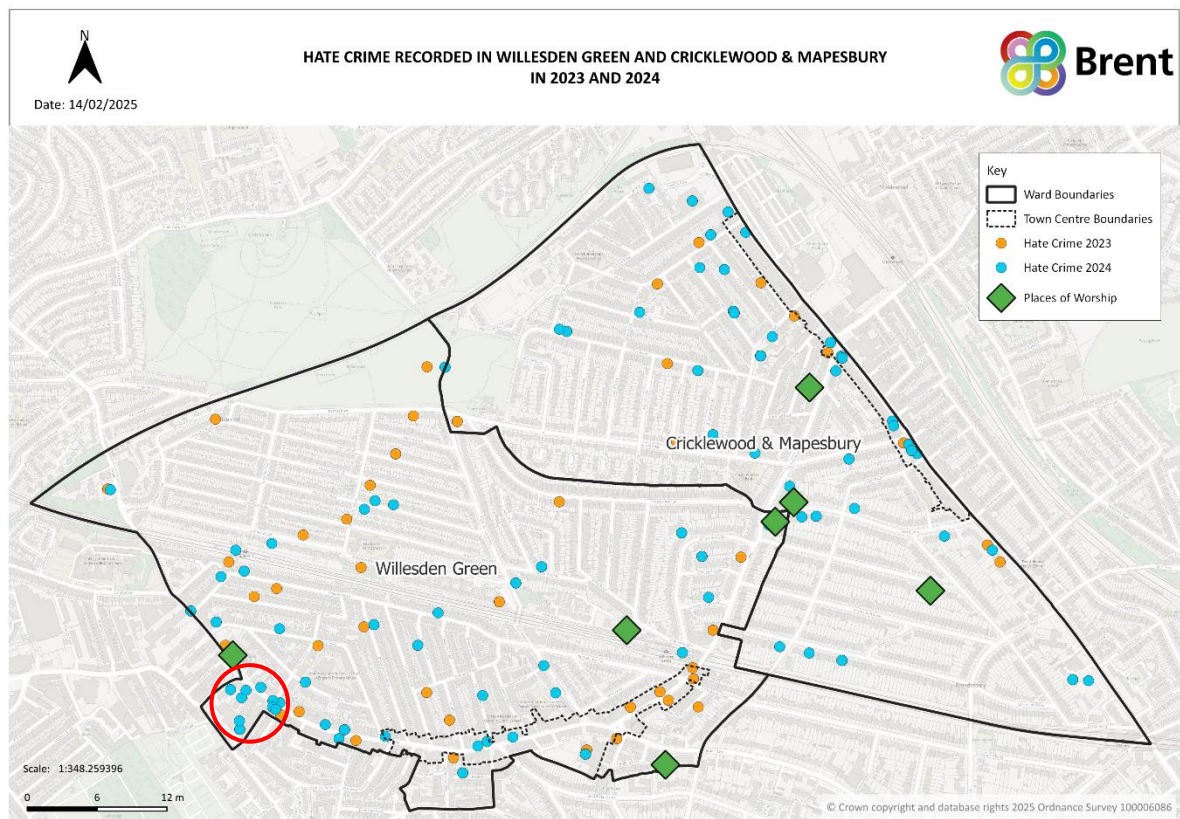
WILLESDEN GREEN			
Hate Crime Category	2023	2024	% Change
Racist & Religious	36	56	56%
Racist	35	52	49%
Faith	4	4	0%
Antisemitic	1	1	0%
Islamophobic	3	0	-100%
Homophobic	1	3	200%
Transphobic	1	0	-100%
Disability	1	2	100%

The below data relates specifically to offences recorded as Racist or Religious recorded in 2023 and 2024. From month to month, the most notable trend within the data is the beginning of 2024, following the major conflict in the Middle-East from October 23. This rise in Hate Crime into 2024 was more notable in Willesden Green, with numbers remaining higher for much of the rest of the year, whilst in Cricklewood & Mapesbury numbers fell in February to levels similar to those seen in 2023 before steadily rising again throughout 2024.



There were a couple of significant spikes in Racist & Religious Hate Crime recorded in Willesden Green in 2024, in June and September. Much of the UK saw anti-immigration demonstrations and riots between July and August, and whilst there were no notable incidents in Brent, there may have been a knock-on effect which caused the increase in September. The June spike doesn't seem to line up with a specific event, however, could still be considered as part of the increase seen since December 2023 in relation to increased tensions due to the Middle-East conflict.

## Location



Mapping Hate Crime in 2023 and 2024 across the two boroughs doesn't show any significant hotspots, though there are a couple of clusters of offences seen in 2024 that weren't in 2023. In the south west of Willesden Green (highlighted with the red circle) there was a cluster of Racist & Religious offences recorded. This area covers the end of the High Road however is outside the boundary of Willesden Town Centre. There is also a bus garage in the area which has seen high numbers of ASB over the last couple of years.

The green diamonds on the map represent religious buildings or places of worship; the highlighted cluster of Hate Crime in Willesden is close to a Portuguese/Spanish language Catholic Church. Unfortunately, victim-level data available at this time is not detailed enough to understand the precise demography of victims of Hate Crime in these areas, however the vicinity of this cluster to foreign-language church may be significant. There have been a few offences reported in the vicinity of other places of worship in the wards, however no large clusters. Of possible note, however, is that when looking at offences in 2023 (orange dots), the number of offences reported in the area of places of worship is even lower.

## **Offences**

The table below shows a breakdown of the top offence types that were flagged with Racist or Religious Hate Crime (only the top 10 are shown below, full tables have been pasted at the end of the report). Due to the classification and naming of certain offences in the past couple of years, direct comparisons between offences year-on-year aren't reliable; in 2024, for example, there were 32 separate offences recorded by the MPS (Metropolitan Police Service) which included the words 'Racially or Religiously Aggravated' compared to just 10 in 2023 (full tables at the end of the report)

<b>Racist &amp; Religious Hate Crime 2023 (Top 10)</b>	
<b>Offence</b>	<b>Total</b>
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Public Fear Alarm or Distress	18
Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety	8
Public Fear Alarm or Distress	5
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Assault without Injury	3
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Criminal Damage to a Vehicle	2
Attempted Residential Burglary of a Home	1
Threats to Kill	1
Assault without Injury	1
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Actual Bodily Harm and other Injury	1
Harassment	1

<b>Racist &amp; Religious Hate Crime 2024 (Top 10)</b>	
<b>Offence</b>	<b>Total</b>
Racially or religiously aggravated harassment alarm or distress	24
Racially or religiously aggravated intentional harassment alarm or distress	16
Send indecent or grossly offensive communication to cause distress or anxiety	5
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Public Fear Alarm or Distress	4
Harassment	4
Assault without Injury - Common assault and battery	3
Racially or religiously aggravated common assault or beating	3
Threats to kill	3
Hate Offence - Racial Incident	2
Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety	2

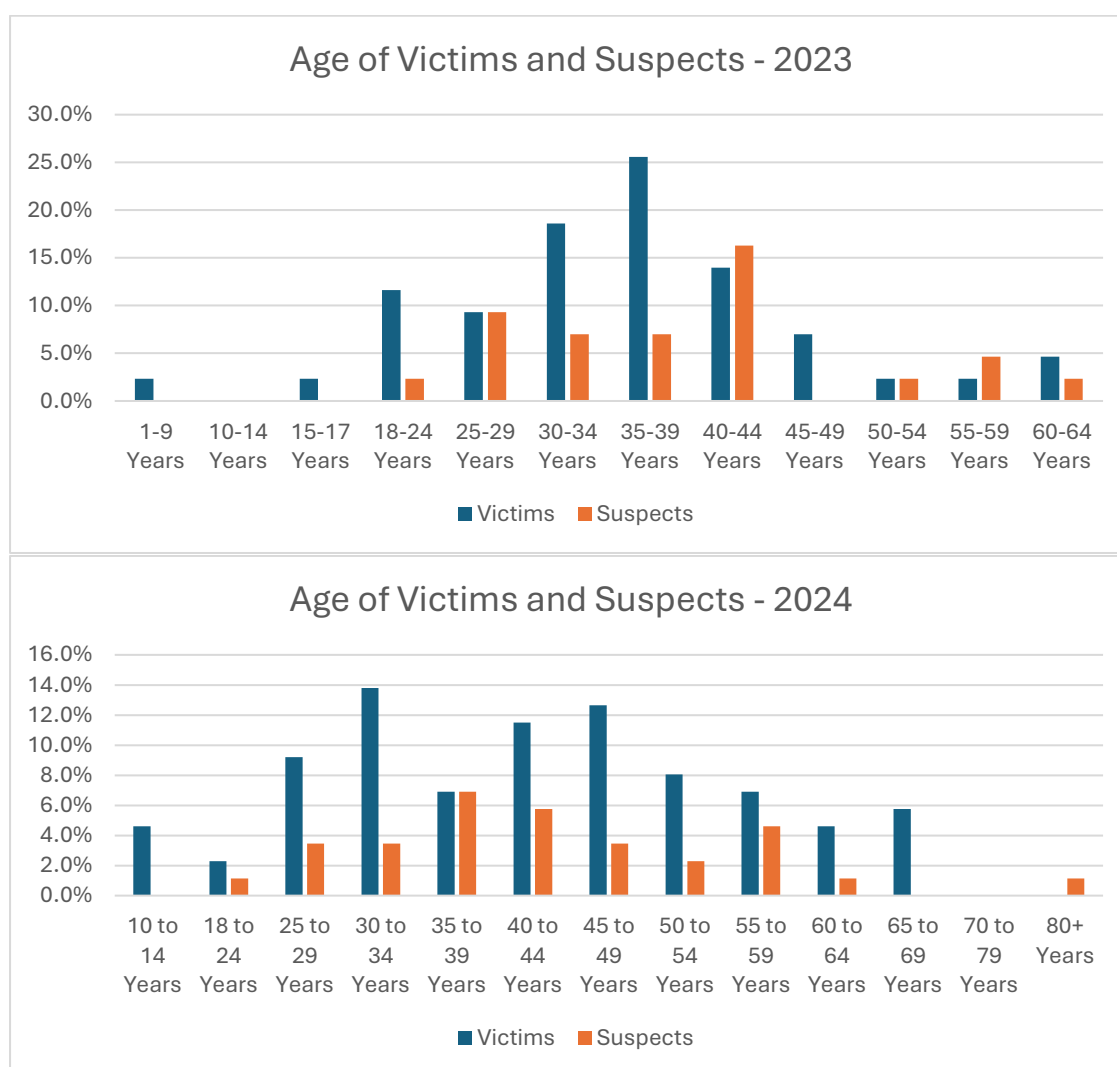
In 2023, only one offence recorded with a Racist or Religious Hate Crime flag in Mapesbury & Cricklewood or Willesden Green wards was related to physical violence, however in 2024 there were 8 total offences of physical violence. Whether this is due to differences in the recording of hate offences, or a more concerning rise in violence within the two boroughs is

unknown. Of the 8 violent offences, 3 occurred in Willesden Green, and 5 in Cricklewood & Mapesbury.

The majority of Hate Crime offences were classified as causing alarm, distress or fear, and there was a fairly even spread between the two boroughs.

### **Victims/Offenders**

Data relating to the demography, specifically of offenders of Hate Crime, is limited; 49% of suspect/offenders' details in 2023 are unknown, and 67% of suspect/offender details for 2024, making it difficult to form reliable insights from the available data. There is also difficulty specifically in relation to ethnicity – the available data only records the top-level ethnicity categories of White, Black, Asian, or Other, making nuanced analysis into race and ethnicity impossible. The data that is available has been broken down below and relates to all Racist and Religious Hate Crime offences recorded in Willesden Green and Cricklewood & Mapesbury wards.



The frequency of different age groups for both victims and suspect/offenders has changed significantly across 2023 and 2024. In 2023 the majority of Hate Crime victims were aged 35-39 but in 2024 there was no significant majority; 30-40 was the most frequent age group, but 40-44 and 45-49 were within only a couple of percent. Suspect/offender age groups were also much more spread out in 2024, with 30-35, 40-44, and 55-59 again only being within a few

percent of the most frequent age group, whilst in 2023 there were almost double the number of 40-44 year old suspect/offenders than the next most frequent age group.

The most notable difference in the sex of victims and suspect/offenders from 2023 to 2024 was that the proportion of female suspect/offenders in 2024 more than doubled since last year, from just 11.5% in 2023 to 25.6% in 2024. Female victims also increased by 10% whilst male victims remained consistent. Due to the rise in female suspect/offenders, males suspect/offenders also reduced.

	2023		2024	
	Victims	Suspects	Victims	Suspects
<b>Female</b>	39.5%	25.6%	28.7%	11.5%
<b>Male</b>	58.1%	27.9%	56.3%	37.9%
<b>Unknown</b>	2.3%	46.5%	14.9%	50.6%

As mentioned, data relating to the ethnicity of both victims and suspect/offenders is difficult to gain valuable insight from due to the amount of data missing and the absence of more detailed categories. The data for Hate Crime in Willesden Green and Cricklewood & Mapesbury for 2024 is missing 43% of victim ethnicity, and 65.5% of suspect/offender ethnicity.

Of the data that is available, the most notable change is the increase of White suspects and decrease of White victims, despite more victim ethnicity data being available as a whole.

	2023		2024	
	Victims	Suspects	Victims	Suspects
<b>Asian</b>	16.3%	4.7%	14.9%	3.4%
<b>Black</b>	18.6%	11.6%	21.8%	12.6%
<b>Other</b>	0.0%	0.0%	2.3%	2.3%
<b>White</b>	30.2%	9.3%	17.2%	16.1%
<b>Unknown</b>	34.9%	74.4%	43.7%	65.5%

## **Additional Data**

### **Full Offence list 2024 – Racist & Religious Hate Crime**

Offences	Total
Racially or religiously aggravated harassment alarm or distress	24
Racially or religiously aggravated intentional harassment alarm or distress	16
Send indecent or grossly offensive communication to cause distress or anxiety	5
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Public Fear Alarm or Distress	4
Harassment	4
Assault without Injury - Common assault and battery	3
Racially or religiously aggravated common assault or beating	3
Threats to kill	3
Hate Offence - Racial Incident	2
Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety	2
Attempted - Robbery (of Personal Property)	2
Public Fear Alarm or Distress	2
Theft from shops and stalls where the values of goods stolen is less than £200	2
Racially or religiously aggravated fear or provocation of violence	2
Harassment alarm or distress (S5 POA)	1
Theft from the person of another	1
Sharing intimate photograph or film to cause alarm distress or humiliation or for sexual gratification.	1
Racially and/or religiously aggravated criminal damage to a vehicle where value of that damage is under £500	1
Harassment - Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to stalking	1

Racially or Religiously Aggravated Actual Bodily Harm and other Injury	1
Assault without Injury	1
Criminal Damage to a Vehicle	1
Causing intentional harassment alarm or distress	1
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Inflicting Grievous Bodily Harm without intent	1
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Harassment	1
Racially or religiously aggravated assault or assault occasioning actual bodily harm	1
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Assault without Injury	1

### Full offence list 2023 – Racist & Religious Hate Crime

Row Labels	Count of URN
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Public Fear Alarm or Distress	18
Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety	8
Public Fear Alarm or Distress	5
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Assault without Injury	3
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Criminal Damage to a Vehicle	2
Attempted Residential Burglary of a Home	1
Threats to Kill	1
Assault without Injury	1
Harassment	1
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Actual Bodily Harm and other Injury	1
Other Theft	1
Other Offences Against The State & Public Order	1

### All offences Religiously or Racially Aggravated offences 2023

Offence Title
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Public Fear Alarm or Distress
Hate Offence - Racial Incident
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Assault without Injury
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Harassment
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Actual Bodily Harm and other Injury
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Criminal Damage to a Vehicle
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Criminal Damage to a Building Other than a Dwelling
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Other Criminal Damage
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Criminal Damage to a Dwelling
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Inflicting Grievous Bodily Harm without intent

### All offences Religiously or Racially Aggravated offences 2024

Offence Title
Racially or religiously aggravated intentional harassment alarm or distress
Racially or religiously aggravated harassment alarm or distress
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Public Fear Alarm or Distress
Racially or religiously aggravated common assault or beating
Racially or religiously aggravated fear or provocation of violence
Racially or religiously aggravated Harassment or stalking without violence
Racially or religiously aggravated assault or assault occasioning actual bodily harm
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Assault without Injury
Hate Offence - Racial Incident
Racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage
Racially or religiously aggravated wounding or grievous bodily harm

Racially and/or religiously aggravated criminal damage to a vehicle
Racially and/or religiously aggravated criminal damage to a dwelling where value of that damage is under £500
Racially or religiously aggravated Harassment or stalking with fear of violence
Attempted - Racially or religiously aggravated intentional harassment alarm or distress
Racially and/or religiously aggravated criminal damage to a vehicle where value of that damage is under £500
Possession of racially inflammatory material (Acts intended to stir up racial hatred)
Attempted - Racially or religiously aggravated fear or provocation of violence
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Other Criminal Damage
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Harassment
Racially and/or religiously aggravated criminal damage other
Attempted - Racially or religiously aggravated Harassment or stalking without violence
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Actual Bodily Harm and other Injury
Use of words or behaviour or display or written material (Acts intended to stir up racial hatred)
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Inflicting Grievous Bodily Harm without intent
Racially and/or religiously aggravated criminal damage to a dwelling
Racially and/or religiously aggravated criminal damage to other property where value of that damage is £500 or over and under £5000
Attempted - Racially or religiously aggravated common assault or beating
Attempted - Racially and/or religiously aggravated criminal damage to a vehicle where value of that damage is under £500
Attempted - Racially or religiously aggravated harassment alarm or distress
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Criminal Damage to a Dwelling
Racially or Religiously Aggravated Criminal Damage to a Building Other than a Dwelling

# Hate Crime Response in Brent

Brent Council has secured one-off funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) to commission hate crime preventative services. These projects listed below are due to be delivered imminently for 6 months.

## **Stop Hate UK's Schools' training and 24/7 Third-party reporting line.**

The project aims to tackle hate crime and discrimination among young people through a series of four interactive workshops. These workshops focus on key topics such as hate crime awareness, online hate and misinformation, the role of upstanders, and empowering educators to address hate and discrimination effectively.

Additionally, the project will establish a 24-hour hate crime reporting hotline that will provide Brent residents with a safe, accessible means to report incidents and seek support without police involvement, fostering trust in the community. The data collected will be shared with Brent Council, helping to inform future strategies against hate crime. These initiatives are important as they empower young people and staff to create safer, more inclusive environments, address the root causes of hate, and promote tolerance and understanding within the community.

The hotline serves as a vital resource for communities hesitant to report incidents to authorities and ensure that all voices can be heard. This project's introduction in Brent in February 2025 brings us in compliance with the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry 1999, Recommendation 16:

*"That all possible steps should be taken by police services at the local level in consultation with local Government and other agencies and local communities to encourage the reporting of racist incidents and crimes. This should include the ability to report at locations other than police stations; and the ability to report 24 hours a day".*

## **Protection Approaches' Community Capacity Building Project**

This six-month project will simultaneously strengthen the capacity of at least 30 community and faith-based organisations in the London Borough of Brent to understand, identify, and respond to hate crime, while integrating consultation directly into each training session to capture local needs and experiences. Alongside these reciprocal training-consultation sessions, additional surveys, interviews, and wider community consultations will develop a robust evidence base illustrating the scale and impact of hate crime in the borough. The findings will culminate in practical, evidence-based recommendations for Brent Local Authority, outlining how to address current gaps in provision, improve prevention efforts, and enhance support for victims.

Through a series of training and consultation sessions, the project will not only equip participants with the knowledge to support victims and raise awareness but will also capture local insights on the prevalence and impact of hate crimes in the area. This will involve additional research through surveys and interviews, leading to the development of actionable recommendations for Brent Local Authority.

## **MOPAC Funded Pan-London Hate Crime Victim Service**

CATCH give specialist advice and help to people targeted with violence, abuse or harassment because of their race, religion, disability, sexuality or gender identity. CATCH is an advocacy



service for people facing hate crime in London. It focuses on working with people in the highest levels of risk, impact and need. CATCH is a service for people over 18 years old in London, including those who live in Brent.

CATCH is a collaborative initiative among various charities (listed below) focused on combating different types of hate crimes, such as those based on sexual orientation, race, and religion.

Galop- Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender hate crime

The Monitoring Group (TMG)- Race hate crime

East European Resource Centre (EERC)- Eastern European hate crime

The Community Security Trust (CST)- Antisemitic hate crime

Tell MAMA- Anti-Muslim (Islamophobic) hate crime

Choice in Hackney - Anti-Disability hate crime

Stay Safe East - Anti-Disability hate crime

Real- Anti-Disability hate crime