

## Hate Crime Champions (HCC's)

Thames Valley Police are working together with the Hate Crime Network (HCN) to recruit Hate Crime Champions (HCC's) within the South and Vale area.

A hate crime is any criminal offence which is perceived, by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by a hostility or prejudice held by the offender. These prejudices surround an individual's disability, gender identity, race, ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation.

The HCN, who are funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner, are actively looking for people to volunteer to be a 'Hate Crime Champion' in their community, this will help build bridges, encourage people to report crimes and offer support to vulnerable people.

The description of the role is below.

### The role of the champions

- Working to **support victims** in your area and taking reports of hate crime from people in your community
- Identifying communities who are at **risk** of hate crime, discrimination and victimisation
- Actively **engaging** with vulnerable communities – developing and maintaining relationships
- Providing reassurance and **promoting** community cohesion
- Acting as a pivotal **link** between the HCN/police and community.
- Support **speaking** at community meetings and religious events
- Answering the **24hour phone** line once a month
- Feeding information into the HCN/police about possible **tensions or concerns** in your area

Lisa Butler, the South and Vale Community Relations Officer is working alongside the HCN to raise awareness of Hate Crime. If you feel you can help us make a difference and would like to apply to become a champion, or require further details please contact Lisa, details below by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July.

A training session for the role will be held at South Oxon and Vale District Council offices, Milton Park near Abingdon on **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> August, 11am – 1.30pm**. Invites will be sent out to successful applicants prior to training.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Lisa Butler – Thames Valley Police, Community Relations Officer

[lisa.butler@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:lisa.butler@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk)

Tel: 01235 556611 (Monday –Friday between 8.30am and 12.30pm)