

Minority Liaison Officers

The Police Service of Northern Ireland has appointed a Minority Liaison Officer in every police district. These officers have been specifically trained to support victims of racial incidents.

Minority Liaison Officers have an additional responsibility to engage with individuals and groups who work to support and assist victims of racial incidents.

If you report a racial incident the Minority Liaison Officer will contact you, (unless you indicate that you do not want them to), and provide information about the incident and any developments in the investigation. They will also provide information on crime prevention, police powers and procedures and appropriate support groups (some are listed in this leaflet).

Minority Liaison Officers can be spoken to in confidence, they offer a sympathetic service and respond appropriately to the individual needs of the victim.

Further information, including contact details for all Minority Liaison Officers is available at www.psni.police.uk



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Protecting Your Rights

If you have been the victim of a racial incident contact the police, and some of the organisations listed who will help you.

Police

T: 028 9065 0222 (ask for local police)
W: www.psni.police.uk
E: info@psni.police.uk

Victim Support

T: 028 9024 4039
W: www.victimsupport.org
E: info@victimsupportni.org.uk

Northern Ireland Council for Ethnic Minorities

T: 028 9023 8645
W: www.nicem.org.uk
E: info@nicem.org.uk

Multi Cultural Resource Centre

T: 028 9024 4639
W: www.mcrc-ni.org
E: info@mcrc-ni.org

Chinese Welfare Association

T: 028 9028 8277
W: www.cwa-ni.org
E: contact@cwa-ni.org

Traveller Movement (NI)

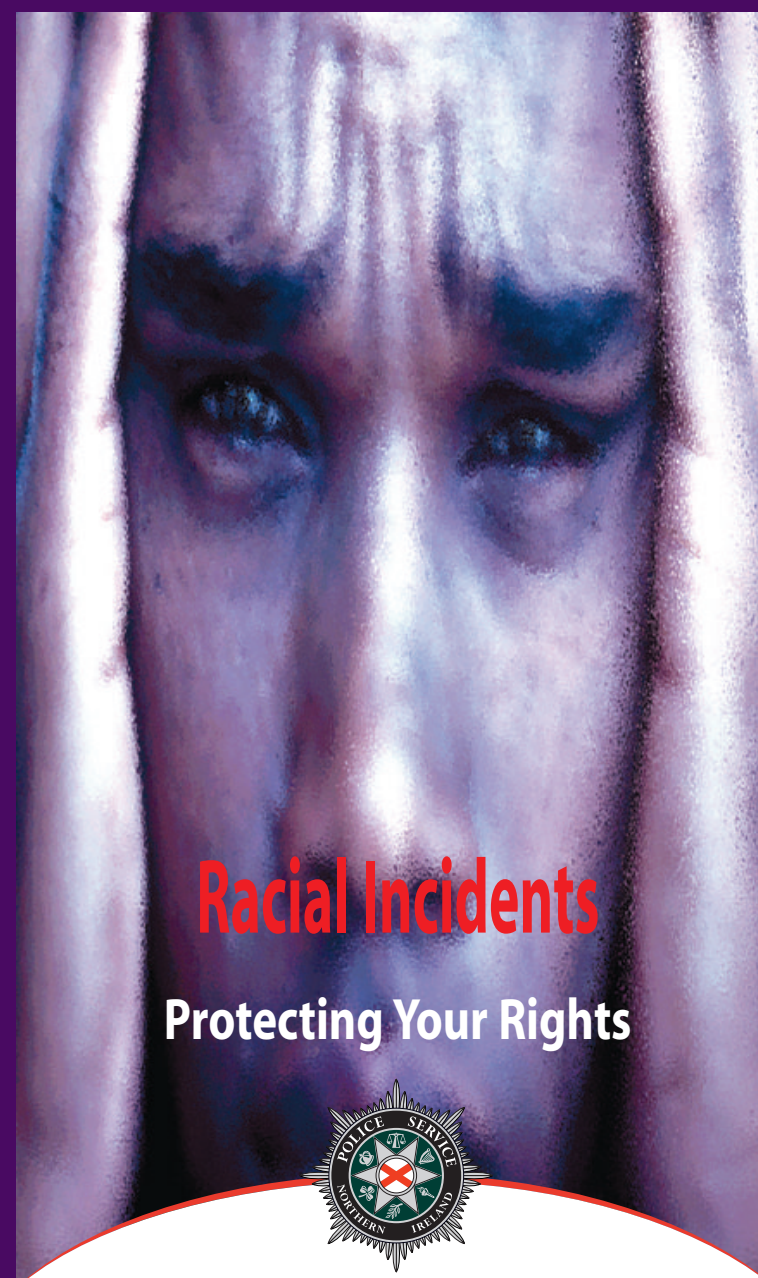
T: 028 9020 2727
W: www.tmni.org
E: info@tmni.org



Police Service of Northern Ireland

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Hate Crime



Racial Incidents

Protecting Your Rights



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What is a racial incident?

The Police Service of Northern Ireland define a racial incident as:

'any incident which is perceived to be racist by the victim or any other person'

Examples:

Racial incidents may take many different forms, for example:

Assaults, damage to your home or other property, verbal abuse or hate mail.

The police recognise the impact that even minor racial incidents have on the victim and wider community. We will, therefore, respond to all incidents reported to us, whether or not they amount to a crime.

If you are the victim of a racial incident the police will investigate it in a professional and sensitive manner.

This leaflet will tell you what to do, and who can help.

Protecting Your Rights

What should you do if you have been the victim of a racial incident?

If you feel under immediate threat, call 999

If you do not require an immediate police response you should contact the police and ask for the police station of the area where the incident occurred. An officer from that area will be appointed to investigate the incident.

The police recognise that some people, for whatever reason, may be reluctant to report this type of incident to them.

If the police are to prevent racial incidents and make those responsible accountable to the law, incidents must be reported. Even if you do not wish the police to investigate the incident, it is important to report it for information.

If you do not wish to contact the police directly, you may do so through a third party, or one of the organisations listed on this leaflet.

What will the Police do?

The Police Service of Northern Ireland has a clear policy in respect of the investigation of these incidents.

If you report at a police station a room will be made available where you can discuss the matter in private.

A police officer will be appointed to carry out an investigation and you will be kept informed of any developments. You should note the police officer's name and station, date and incident number for future reference.

The local Minority Liaison Officer will be informed and unless you indicate otherwise, this officer will contact you to offer advice and support.

The police will deal with your complaint in a professional, confidential and sensitive manner.

The Minority Liaison Officer can be contacted at:

Respecting Diversity