

Romford Police Station
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Monday 27th November 2023

Dear Tara,

Thank you for providing us with the results of the 'Shout we are Listening' survey. These results are helpful to us in a number of ways within policing but I have focused my response to two police specific related matters, incidents of hate and fear of crime.

Incidents of Hate

Hate directed towards any person with regards to their Race, Sex, Faith, Sexual Orientation or disabilities will not be tolerated by the police. We would always encourage our young people to report hate incidents to a police officer, either a schools officer or any police officer. At East Area we have a dedicated engagement team that have extensive networks in to Faith, LGBTQ+ and Disability networks. We also have a thorough Violence Against Women and Girls, (often referred to as VAWG), policy which we work on with partners and charity groups. If you are suffering any form of hate incident, please reach out to us and we can discuss the matter with you, a parent or teacher or in confidence. Any perpetrators will be identified and prosecuted where evidence of a crime exists.

Fear of Crime

Havering remains a very safe Borough, but we understand that there are areas on the Borough that you may feel unsafe. Our officers are deployed according to crime statistics and intelligence so we need to know where you feel unsafe and why. We can use this information and intelligence to assist us deploying officers on the borough. I can see that on the street and at bus / train stations are of considerable concern. We have dedicated officers at our transport hubs and conduct regular operations with British Transport Police aimed at reducing crime and increasing safety. This can make it look like there is a problem in these areas and increase the fear of crime. To the contrary, it is to identify the very few individuals that come to Romford wanting to cause trouble. We have a dedicated Town Centre Team that have achieved some excellent successes over the past 12 months ensuring that those that come to Romford for a good time are able to without fear of being a victim of crime. We are running a New Met for London event on Tuesday 5th December 2023 aimed at Violence and Against Women and Girls. The invited group will be 16-18 year old girls. Part of this event will be a walk and talk to identify places that the girls feel unsafe. We will then work with the council and partners to make these places safer. If a walk and talk is something you would find useful at your school, we can arrange this.

Thank you once again for sharing these results with us. I look forward to further discussions and feedback regarding these matters.

Yours faithfully,



Simon Hutchison
Police Superintendent
Havering Borough