



# Hate crime legislation in Northern Ireland

Independent Review

Judge Desmond Marrinan

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Mr John Kelpie  
Chief Executive  
Derry City and Strabane District Council  
(By Email)

Your Ref: TJ/C303/20

20 November 2020

*Dear Mr Kelpie*

## **Independent Review of hate crime legislation in Northern Ireland**

Thank you for your letter of 9 October and the follow up letter of 16 November 2020 in which you advised that at the meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 24 September 2020 the Council passed a motion recognising the impact of misogyny on those affected by it, and that the Council supports the “Raise Your Voice Project” and the value of this campaign in raising awareness of and tackling sexual harassment and sexual violence across the North.

I apologise for the delay in replying, but I would advise that both of these letters only came into Knockview Buildings in the last few days and as both and I my staff have been periodically working from home we have only had sight of them today

The consultation period for responses to my initial report closed on 1 May 2020, although we did accept a few after that date. I note the comments made by the Council, but I regret it is now much too late to capture them formally in my final report as it is now written and with the printers. However, very similar points have been made by other Councils and I hope you will be reassured to know that these issues have been fully taken into account in the drafting of my report.

I am sorry this response cannot be more helpful.

*Yours sincerely,*

*Signed*

**Desmond Marrinan**