

REQUEST**1. Do you ask those accessing your services about their religious identity? If yes, please can you identify how many people using your services identify as Hindus?**

There are multiple channels of access.

This is dependent on the service you want to access, if you report a crime then ethnicity may be a recording category within our systems. However, if you access a service such as submitting an FOI request then ethnicity is not something we ask you to provide.

2. Do you have any specific provisions/support systems dedicated for Hindus?

Yes

Internally - there are Hindu chaplains and also Hindu Staff associations available.

Externally – we have access to language lines and can have material produced in different languages.

3. Do you have any specific guidance on identifying and addressing discrimination/hatred on the grounds of one's faith or ethnicity?

Our external website covers this from a hate crime perspective in general terms.

[Hate crime | Your Options | West Midlands Police \(west-midlands.police.uk\)](#)

Also, our external hate crime App has a section on hate crime related to religion 'Religious Hate Crime'

4. Do you have any specific guidance regarding Hindu hate or discrimination?

From a hate crime perspective, no.

5. If no, why is this the case?

It is covered under the generic hate crime legislation.

This link to True Vision may help. https://www.report-it.org.uk/religious_hate_crime

6. Do you have any specific guidance regarding hatred or discrimination against members of other faiths (e.g. Islamophobia, anti-Semitism etc.)?

Our hate crime policy is available here

[Hate-Crime-v1.1.pdf \(west-midlands.police.uk\)](#)

[Policy Template \(west-midlands.police.uk\)](#)

7. Do you maintain data on the instances of Hindu hatred or discrimination?

Where someone reports hate crime that is related to their or another's Hindu faith, yes.

In line with the Home Office hate crime counting rules.

8. If yes, how many instances of Hindu hatred or discrimination were reported in 2022?

26 crimes for calendar year of 2022 the data is only in relation to the context stated above.

However, should you wish to submit a request for recorded information, then please be specific as to what recorded information you require for example the offence, calls received or crimes reported.

9. If no such data is recorded, do you think that Hindu hatred or discrimination exists in area you serve?

This question is not valid under Section 8(1)(c) as it appears to asking for opinion, the Freedom of Information Act applies to recorded information therefore the Freedom of Information unit are unable to offer opinion, conjecture or speculation

10. Do you have specific data on instances of hatred or discrimination directed against members of other faiths (e.g. Islamophobia or anti-Semitism)?

Please be advised that this is not a valid Freedom of information Act request as it does not fulfil Section 8 of the Act. It is not a request for specific recorded information and the authority does not have to answer your question if this would mean creating new information or giving an opinion or judgement that is not already recorded.

Should you wish to submit a request for recorded information, then please be specific as to what recorded information you require for example the offence, the time period you require.

Yes, in line with the Home Office hate crime counting rules.

11. Do you have a reporting mechanism for instances of faith-based hatred or discrimination?

Yes. All reporting mechanisms are available to be used in relation to this category.

12. Is there an escalation process that a complainant can follow if they are not satisfied with the action taken following a report being filed?

Yes. As with all other matters.

13. Do you consult with Hindu bodies or organisations in respect of Hindu engagement or Hindu issues in the area you serve?

Yes

14. If consultation or engagement does take place, which Hindu bodies or organisations do you consult/engage with?

Our point of contact advises that they can't answer for the whole of the organisation, however to assist they can advise, we do engage with the Hindu Council of Central England.

15. If no such consultation or engagement takes place, why is this the case?

N/A

16. Do you consult with organisations or bodies connected to other faiths?

Yes