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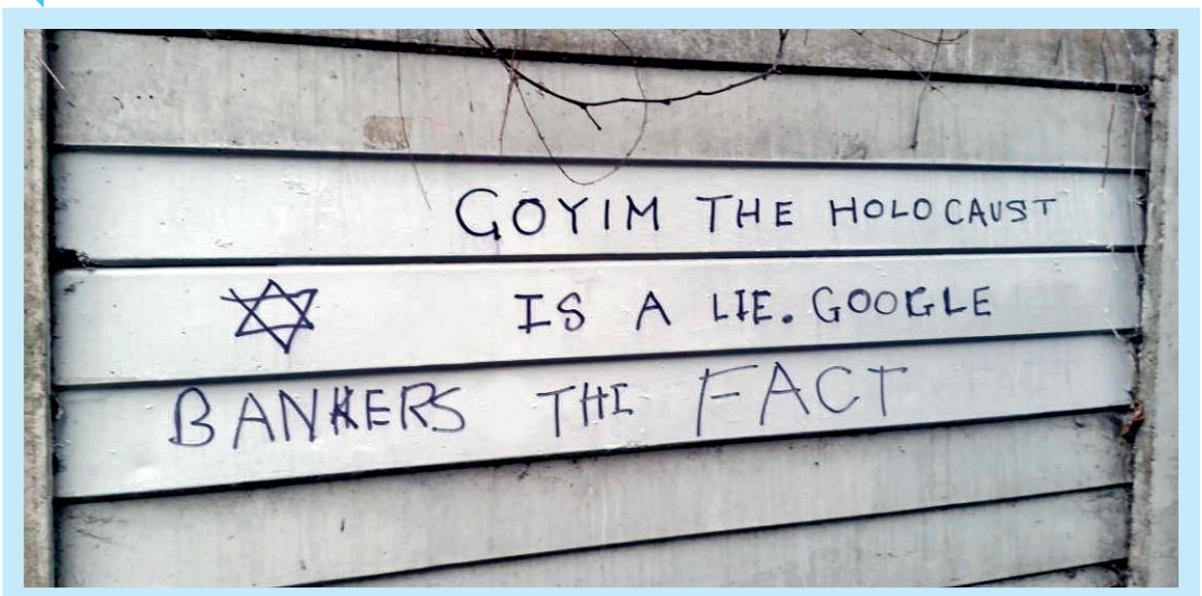
ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS

January–June 2016

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- CST recorded **557 antisemitic incidents** across the UK in the first six months of 2016, an **11 per cent increase** on the first six months of 2015. This is the second-highest total CST has ever recorded for the January–June period of any year. CST has been recording antisemitic incidents since 1984.
- This increase was **most pronounced during April, May and June**, which showed unusually high monthly totals during a period when antisemitism, racism and extremism were all prominent in public debate and regularly reported in the national media.
- The long term trend shows that the number of antisemitic incidents has been at a sustained higher level since the summer of 2014, when incidents in the UK increased sharply in response to conflict in Israel and Gaza, than it was in the two years beforehand. Average monthly **antisemitic incident totals** are now **almost double** what they were in 2011–2013.
- CST recorded **133 antisemitic incidents** that took place on **social media**, comprising 24 per cent of the total of 557 incidents recorded during the first half of 2016. Social media is now used as a tool for coordinated campaigns of antisemitic harassment, threats and abuse directed at Jewish public figures and other individuals.
- Seventy-nine per cent of the 557 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST in the first six months of 2016 were recorded in the main Jewish centres of Greater London and Greater Manchester. However, the two cities saw very different trends: CST recorded **379 antisemitic incidents in Greater London**, a rise of 62 per cent from the same period in 2015, but in Greater Manchester, CST recorded 62 antisemitic incidents, a fall of 54 per cent.
- In addition to the 557 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST during the first six months of 2016, a further **364 potential incidents were reported** to CST which, after investigation, did not show evidence of antisemitic targeting, content or motivation and are not included in the statistics in this report.

Antisemitic graffiti, London, January 2016



ANTISEMITIC INCIDENT NUMBERS

CST recorded 557 antisemitic incidents across the UK in the first six months of 2016.

This is an increase of 11 per cent from the 500 antisemitic incidents recorded in the first six months of 2015, which was itself an increase of 61 per cent from the 310 antisemitic incidents recorded during the first half of 2014. CST recorded 223 antisemitic incidents in the first six months of 2013, 312 in the first half of 2012 and 294 in the first half of 2011.¹ The total of 557 antisemitic incidents is the second-highest total CST has ever recorded in the January–June period of any year. The highest number of antisemitic incidents recorded by CST in the January–June period came in 2009, when 629 antisemitic incidents were recorded. This was largely due to antisemitic reactions to the conflict in Israel and Gaza in January of that year.

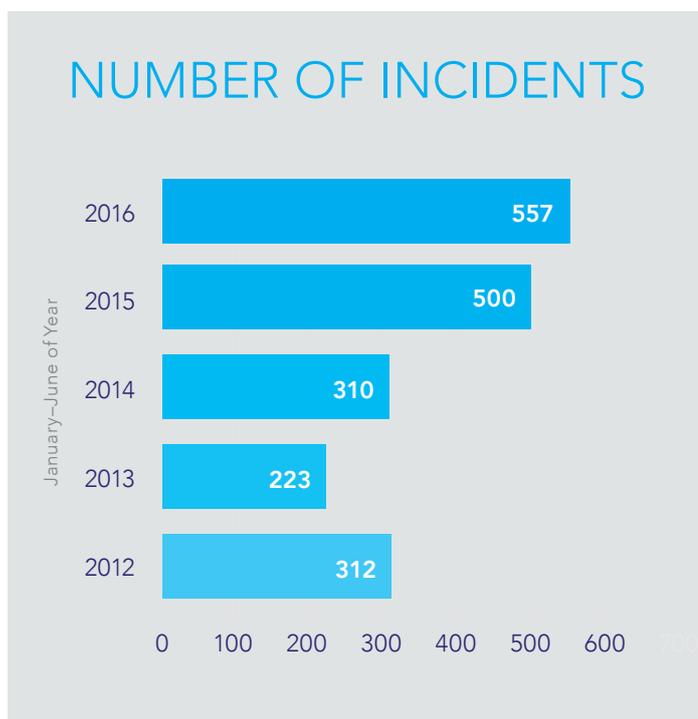
In addition to the 557 antisemitic incidents recorded in the first half of 2016 by CST, a further 364 potential incidents were reported to CST, but, on investigation, appeared not to show evidence of antisemitic motivation or

targeting. These potential incidents, therefore, were not classified as antisemitic and are not included in the statistics contained in this report. Most of these rejected incidents, comprising 40 per cent of the total number of 921 potential incidents reported to CST, involved possible hostile reconnaissance or suspicious behaviour near to Jewish locations; non-antisemitic crime affecting Jewish property or people; or anti-Israel activity that did not involve antisemitic language, imagery or targeting.

Many of these 921 potential incidents required investigation or a security-related response by CST staff or volunteers, irrespective of whether or not they subsequently appeared to be antisemitic.

Most of the recorded increase in antisemitic incidents during the first half of 2016 came in April, May and June, when CST recorded 99, 125 and 112 incidents respectively. The 125 antisemitic incidents recorded in May was the fourth-highest monthly total ever recorded by CST, and the 112 incidents recorded in June was the sixth-highest monthly total.

There is no obvious single cause for these high monthly totals, or for the overall increase in recorded antisemitic incidents compared to the first half of 2015. Often, increases in antisemitic incidents have been attributable to reactions to specific trigger events that cause identifiable, short-term spikes in incident levels. However, this was not the case in the first six months of 2016. For example, CST did not record a significant increase in antisemitic incidents immediately following the EU referendum vote on 23 June 2016 (as was seen with other forms of hate crime). Sometimes increases in antisemitic incident totals can be explained by



1. The incident totals for past years and months in this document may differ from those previously published by CST, due to the late reporting of some incidents to CST by incident victims, witnesses or other sources.



Antisemitic tweet, May 2016

new sources of incident reporting to CST, but this was also not the case in 2016.

April, May and June 2016 did see sustained public debate about antisemitism, particularly in relation to the Labour Party, and about racism and extremism more generally. It was also a period when some Jewish public figures, including politicians and student activists, were the targets of sustained campaigns of antisemitic threats, abuse and harassment on social media. It is possible that a combination of these factors, rather than a single trigger event, contributed to an overall increase in the number of antisemitic incidents.

The longer term trend shows that CST has recorded a sustained high level of antisemitic incidents since July and August 2014. During those two months, antisemitic reactions in the UK to that summer's conflict in Israel and Gaza led to record levels of antisemitic incidents. 2014 saw a record annual total of 1,180 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST, 544 of which occurred in July and August of that year. This pattern of overseas conflicts leading to sharp increases in antisemitic incidents in the UK has been seen before, notably in 2009 and in 2006, and in those years the number of recorded incidents fell significantly once those conflicts were over. However, the same decrease has

not been seen in the nearly two years following the 2014 conflict. CST has recorded monthly incident totals above 70 antisemitic incidents for all but three of the 22 months since that conflict ended. In contrast, in the 22 months before that conflict took place, CST recorded a monthly total of over 70 antisemitic incidents on only one occasion. Or to look at the figures another way, in 2011 the average monthly incident total recorded by CST was 51 incidents, in 2012 it was 54 incidents, in 2013 it was 45 incidents and in the first six months of 2014 (before the conflict in Israel and Gaza that year) it was 52 incidents. Since then, CST has recorded an average monthly antisemitic incident total of 145 incidents in the second half of 2014; an average of 80 incidents per month in 2015; and in the first six months of 2016, CST recorded an average of 93 incidents per month.

Social media has become an essential tool for those who wish to harass, abuse and threaten Jewish public figures. CST recorded 133 antisemitic incidents that involved social media in the first six months of 2016, comprising 24 per cent of the overall total of 557 incidents. This was an increase on the 89 incidents involving social media that CST recorded in the first six months of 2015 (18 per cent of the total for the first half of that year). These totals are only indicative, as the actual amount of antisemitic content that is generated and disseminated on social media is much larger. Targeted campaigns directed at individual victims can sometimes involve dozens of social media accounts sending hundreds or even thousands of tweets, images or posts, using material that is created centrally on neo-Nazi websites. In such cases, CST may record each specific targeted campaign as a single incident, even though it involves hundreds of tweets or posts, because to record each separate piece of antisemitic content as a separate incident would be administratively crippling and would cause such extreme variations in CST's overall incident totals as to obstruct clear analysis of other, offline antisemitic incidents.

INCIDENT CATEGORIES

CST recorded 41 violent antisemitic assaults² in the first six months of 2016, a 13 per cent fall from the 47 violent assaults recorded in the first half of 2015. None of the 41 violent assaults recorded in the first six months of 2016 were serious enough to be classified as Extreme Violence, which would involve an incident that constituted grievous bodily harm (GBH) or posed a threat to life. There were two Extreme Violence incidents recorded in the first half of 2015. There were 22 violent antisemitic assaults recorded by CST in the first six months of 2014, none of which were classified as Extreme Violence, and 29 in the first half of 2013, none of which were classified as Extreme Violence. The 41 violent incidents recorded during the first half of 2016 comprised seven per cent of the overall total, compared to nine per cent in the first half of 2015 and seven per cent in the first six months of 2014.

There were 32 incidents of Damage & Desecration of Jewish property recorded by CST in the first six months of 2016, a decrease of 11 per cent from the 36 incidents of this type recorded in the first half of 2015. There were 27 incidents recorded in this category in the first six months of 2014 and 20 in the first six months of 2013.

CST recorded 43 direct antisemitic threats (categorised as Threats) during the first half of 2016, an increase of ten per cent from the 39 incidents of this type recorded during the first six months of 2015. There were 19 incidents recorded in this category in the first half of 2014 and 18 in the first half of 2013. Thirty-one of the threats from the first six months of 2016 involved direct, face-to-face verbal abuse from offender to victim, and five were recorded on social media. The 43 antisemitic threats recorded by CST in the first six months of 2016 is the highest total for this period since 2004, when CST recorded 77 incidents in the category; and is higher than the number of incidents recorded

in this category for each of the entire calendar years 2013, 2012, 2011 and 2010.

There were 431 antisemitic incidents reported to CST in the category of Abusive Behaviour in the first half of 2016, an increase of 16 per cent from the 373 incidents of this type recorded during the first six months of 2015. This category includes a wide range of antisemitic incident types, including antisemitic graffiti on non-Jewish property, one-off hate mail, antisemitic verbal abuse and those social media incidents that do not involve direct threats. There were 238 incidents of Abusive Behaviour recorded in the first half of 2014 and 154 in the first half of 2013. The 431 antisemitic incidents of this type recorded in the first six months of 2016 is the highest total CST has ever recorded in this category for the January–June period. One hundred and twenty-seven of the 431 antisemitic incidents recorded in this category took place on social media; 196 involved verbal abuse; 53 involved antisemitic graffiti on non-Jewish property; six were cases of hate mail; and eleven involved email.

CST recorded ten incidents of mass-produced or mass-emailed antisemitic literature, categorised as Literature (as opposed to one-off cases of hate mail, which are classified as Abusive Behaviour), during the first six months of 2016, double the five incidents recorded in this category during the first half of 2015. There were four incidents of antisemitic literature reported to CST in the first six months of 2014 and two in the first half of 2013. Five of the incidents of mass-emailed antisemitic literature recorded in the first six months of 2016 involved email and five involved paper hate mail.

2. A full explanation of CST's antisemitic incident categories can be found in the leaflet "Definitions of Antisemitic Incidents", available on CST's website at www.cst.org.uk

INCIDENT VICTIMS

There were 195 antisemitic incidents reported to CST in the first six months of 2016 in which the victims were random Jewish individuals in public. In at least 87 of these incidents the victims were visibly Jewish, due to religious or traditional clothing, Jewish school uniforms or jewellery bearing religious symbols. Two hundred and fifty-three antisemitic incidents involved verbal abuse. In 64 incidents, antisemitic abuse was shouted or gestured from a passing vehicle. These three characteristics, often found in combination, reflect the most common single type of antisemitic incident: random, spontaneous, verbal antisemitic abuse, directed at people who look Jewish, while they go about their lives in public places.

There were ten antisemitic incidents recorded at Jewish schools in the first six months of 2016, compared to 21 recorded at Jewish schools in the same period in 2015. A further 14 incidents involved Jewish schoolchildren or staff on their way to or from school (the same as during the same period in 2015), while 12 incidents involved Jewish schoolchildren or staff at non-faith schools (10 in the first half of 2015) – making a total of 36 antisemitic incidents affecting people and buildings in the school sector, compared to 45 such incidents in the first half of 2015. Four of the incidents affecting people and buildings in the school sector came in the category of Assault, all of which involved Jewish schoolchildren or staff on their way to or from school; one involved Damage & Desecration of Jewish property; there were 26 in the category of Abusive Behaviour; four incidents that involved direct threats; and one of mass-mailed antisemitic literature.

Thirty-eight antisemitic incidents reported to CST in the first half of 2016 took place at people's homes and 20 occurred in a workplace environment. There were 27 antisemitic incidents affecting Jewish students, academics, student unions or

other student bodies in the first half of 2016, compared to 11 in the first half of 2015. Eight of these 27 antisemitic incidents took place on campus, while 15 involved the harassment and abuse of Jewish student activists on social media. None of the antisemitic incidents affecting Jewish students, academics or other student bodies that were recorded in the first six months of 2016 involved violent assaults.

There were 29 antisemitic incidents recorded during the first six months of 2016 that targeted synagogues, compared to 25 during the first half of 2015. A further 16 incidents targeted synagogue congregants or rabbis on their way to or from prayers (14 such incidents were recorded during the first half of 2015). There were 40 incidents that targeted Jewish organisations, Jewish events or Jewish-owned businesses (where there was clear evidence of antisemitism), similar to the 41 incidents of this type in the first half of 2015. There were 29 incidents in the first half of 2016 in which the victim was a prominent Jewish individual or public figure, compared to 17 such incidents in the first half of 2015. There was one antisemitic desecration of a Jewish cemetery in the first half of 2016, compared to two in the first half of 2015.

CST received a description of the gender of the victim or victims for 333 of the 557 antisemitic incidents recorded in the first half of 2016. Of these, 213, or 64 per cent, were male; 91, or 27 per cent, were female; and in 29 incidents (nine per cent) the victims were mixed groups of males and females.

CST received a description of the approximate age of the victim or victims in 192 of the antisemitic incidents reported during the first six months of 2016. Of these, 143, or 74 per cent, involved adult victims; 40, or 21 per cent, involved victims who were minors; and in nine incidents the victims were mixed groups of adults and minors (five per cent).

INCIDENT OFFENDERS AND MOTIVES

Identifying the ethnicity, gender and age of antisemitic incident offenders is a difficult and imprecise task. Many antisemitic incidents involve brief public encounters in which the offenders may not be fully visible, and the evidence of victims of, or witnesses to, antisemitic incidents may be vague and disjointed. In addition, many incidents do not involve face-to-face contact between incident offender and victim, so it is not always possible to obtain a physical description of the perpetrator. This section of the report should be read with these caveats in mind.

CST received a description of the ethnic appearance of the offender or offenders in 241 of the 557 antisemitic incidents reported during the first six months of 2016.³ Of these, 131, or 54 per cent, were described as white – north European; 13, or five per cent, were described as white – south European; 32 (13 per cent) were described as black; 48 (20 per cent) were described as south Asian; one (one per cent) as east or south-east Asian; and 16 (seven per cent) as Arab or north African. These proportions are broadly typical for a period when there is no trigger event from the Middle East.

CST received a description of the gender of the offender or offenders in 322 of the 557 antisemitic incidents reported to CST in the first half of 2016. Of these, 271 incidents, or 84 per cent, involved male offenders; 38 incidents, or 12 per cent, involved female offenders; and in 13 incidents the offenders were a mixed group of males and females (four per cent).

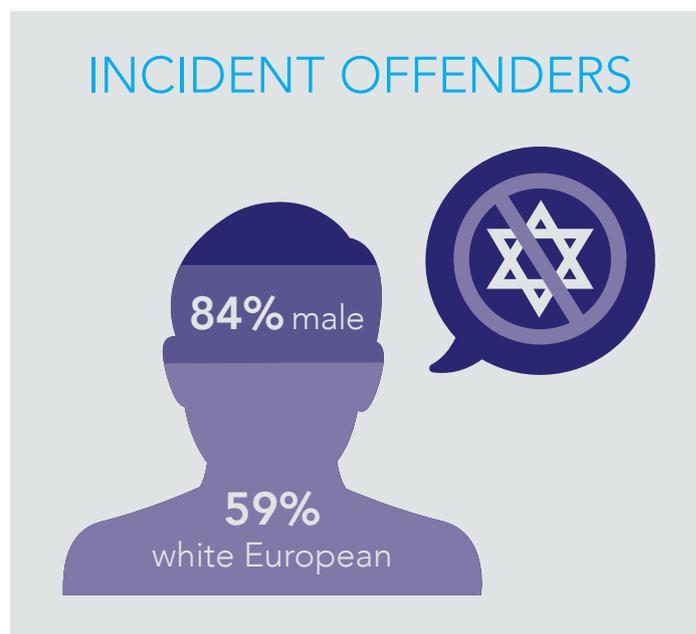
CST received a description of the approximate age of the offender or offenders in 169 incidents in the first half of 2016. Of these,



Far right motivated antisemitic tweet, January 2016

132 incidents (78 per cent) involved adult offenders; 37 incidents (22 per cent) involved offenders who were described as minors; and there were no incidents in which the offenders were a mixed group of adults and minors.

CST also tries to record the number of antisemitic incidents each year in which there is evidence of political motivation alongside the evidence of antisemitism, or where



3. CST uses the 'IC1–6' system, used by the UK Police services, for categorising the ethnic appearance of incident perpetrators. This uses the codes IC1, IC2, IC3, etc, for white – north European; white – south European; black; south Asian; east or south-east Asian; and Arab or north African. This is obviously not a foolproof system and can only be used as a rough guide.



Antisemitic tweet, May 2016

political discourse is employed by the incident offender. The use of political discourse and evidence of political motivation are not synonymous; for example, a black or south Asian offender giving a Nazi salute to a Jewish victim could be described as employing far right discourse, but is unlikely to be motivated by support for neo-Nazi politics.

Of the 557 antisemitic incidents reported to CST during the first six months of 2016, the offender or offenders used some form of political discourse in 227 incidents, or 41 per cent of the total. Of these, there were 159 incidents in which far right discourse was used; 54 in which reference was made to Israel, Zionism or the Middle East; and 14 in which Islamist discourse was used. In 22 incidents, more than one type of discourse was used.

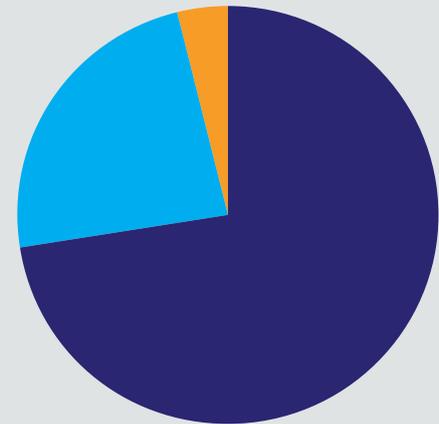
Of the 557 antisemitic incidents reported to CST during the first six months of 2016, 135 incidents, or 24 per cent, showed evidence of political motivation. Of these, 98 incidents showed evidence of far right motivation; 32 showed evidence of anti-Zionist motivation; and five showed evidence of Islamist motivation. All incidents needed to show evidence of antisemitism alongside any

political motivation in order to be recorded by CST as an antisemitic incident.

For comparison, in the first six months of 2015, 173 of the 500 antisemitic incidents reported to CST involved the use of political discourse alongside the antisemitism, of which 125 used far right discourse; 32 made references to Israel, Zionism or the Middle East; and 16 involved Islamist discourse. In 15 of these incidents, more than one type of discourse was used. During the same period in 2015, there were 109 antisemitic incidents that showed evidence of political motivation, of which 78 showed evidence of far right motivation; 15 showed evidence of anti-Zionist motivation; and 16 showed evidence of Islamist motivation, alongside evidence of antisemitism.

INCIDENT MOTIVES

24% OF INCIDENTS WERE POLITICALLY MOTIVATED



98 FAR RIGHT

32 ANTI-ZIONIST

5 ISLAMIST

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATIONS

Of the 557 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST in the first six months of 2016, 441, or 79 per cent, were recorded in the main Jewish centres of Greater London and Greater Manchester. While this proportionate breakdown is normal, the two cities have shown very different trends in the first half of 2016.

In Greater London, CST recorded 379 antisemitic incidents from January to June 2016, a rise of 62 per cent from the 234 antisemitic incidents recorded in the first half of 2015. CST recorded antisemitic incidents in 29 of the 32 Metropolitan Police boroughs in London, plus seven antisemitic incidents in London that fell under the jurisdiction of the British Transport Police and two in the City of London, which is covered by City of London Police. Of the 379 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST in Greater London, 117 were recorded in Barnet, the borough with the largest Jewish population in the country; 40 in Hackney; 35 in Camden; 31 in Haringey; 28 in Westminster; and 20 in Redbridge.

In Greater Manchester, CST recorded 62 antisemitic incidents in the first half of 2016, a fall of 54 per cent from the 135 antisemitic incidents recorded there in the first half of

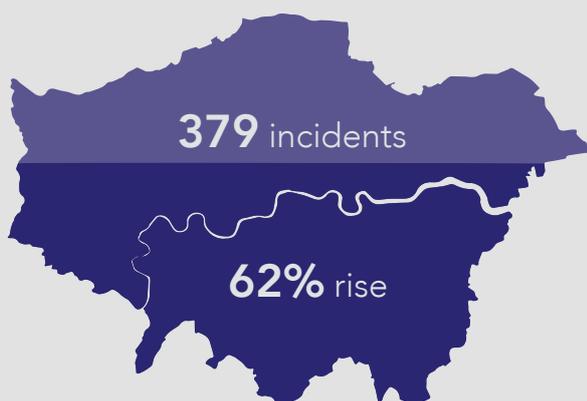
2015. The highest number of antisemitic incidents in Greater Manchester in the first half of 2016 was in the borough of Salford, with 25 antisemitic incidents. The next highest borough totals were 15 incidents in Bury and 13 in the city of Manchester.

There is no obvious explanation for these opposing trends in London and Manchester, which is unusual, and it remains to be seen whether they continue to diverge during the rest of 2016.

Outside Greater London and Greater Manchester, CST recorded 116 antisemitic incidents from 52 different towns and cities around the UK in the first six months of 2016, compared to 131 incidents from 52 different locations in the first half of 2015. The 116 antisemitic incidents recorded around the UK in the first half of 2016 included 18 in Hertfordshire (of which ten were in Borehamwood), 10 in Leeds, six in Liverpool and five in Brighton & Hove. In total, CST recorded antisemitic incidents in 31 of the 45 Police force areas, plus British Transport Police, in the United Kingdom, in the first six months of 2016.

LOCATION OF INCIDENTS

GREATER LONDON



GREATER MANCHESTER



REPORTING OF INCIDENTS

CST classifies as an antisemitic incident any malicious act aimed at Jewish people, organisations or property, where there is evidence that the victim or victims were targeted because they are (or are believed to be) Jewish. Incidents can take several forms, including physical attacks on people or property, verbal or written abuse, or antisemitic leaflets and posters. CST does not include the general activities of antisemitic organisations in its statistics; nor does it include activities such as offensive placards or massed antisemitic chanting on political demonstrations. CST does not record as incidents antisemitic material that is permanently hosted on websites, nor does CST proactively 'trawl' social media platforms to look for antisemitic comments in order to record them as incidents. However, CST will record antisemitic comments posted on internet forums or blog talkbacks, or transmitted by social media, if they have been reported to CST by a member of the public who fulfils the role of a victim or witness; if the comment shows evidence of antisemitic content, motivation or targeting; and if the offender is based in the United Kingdom or has directly targeted a UK-based victim. Examples of antisemitic expressions that fall outside this definition of an antisemitic incident can be found in CST's *Antisemitic Discourse Report*, available on the CST website.

The inclusion of the number of incidents from social media recorded by CST is not intended to reflect the real number of antisemitic comments on social media, which is likely to be so large as to be effectively immeasurable, but rather to reflect the reality that social media platforms have become increasingly prominent as arenas for public expressions of antisemitism that Jewish people are more likely to view and to report, even if they are not the intended audience. Social media is also increasingly used as a tool to facilitate

coordinated campaigns of antisemitic harassment and abuse directed at Jewish public figures and other individuals. Where social media is used for targeted campaigns of that nature directed at UK-based victims, CST may record each campaign as a single incident, although that campaign may involve hundreds or even thousands of antisemitic tweets, posts or images.

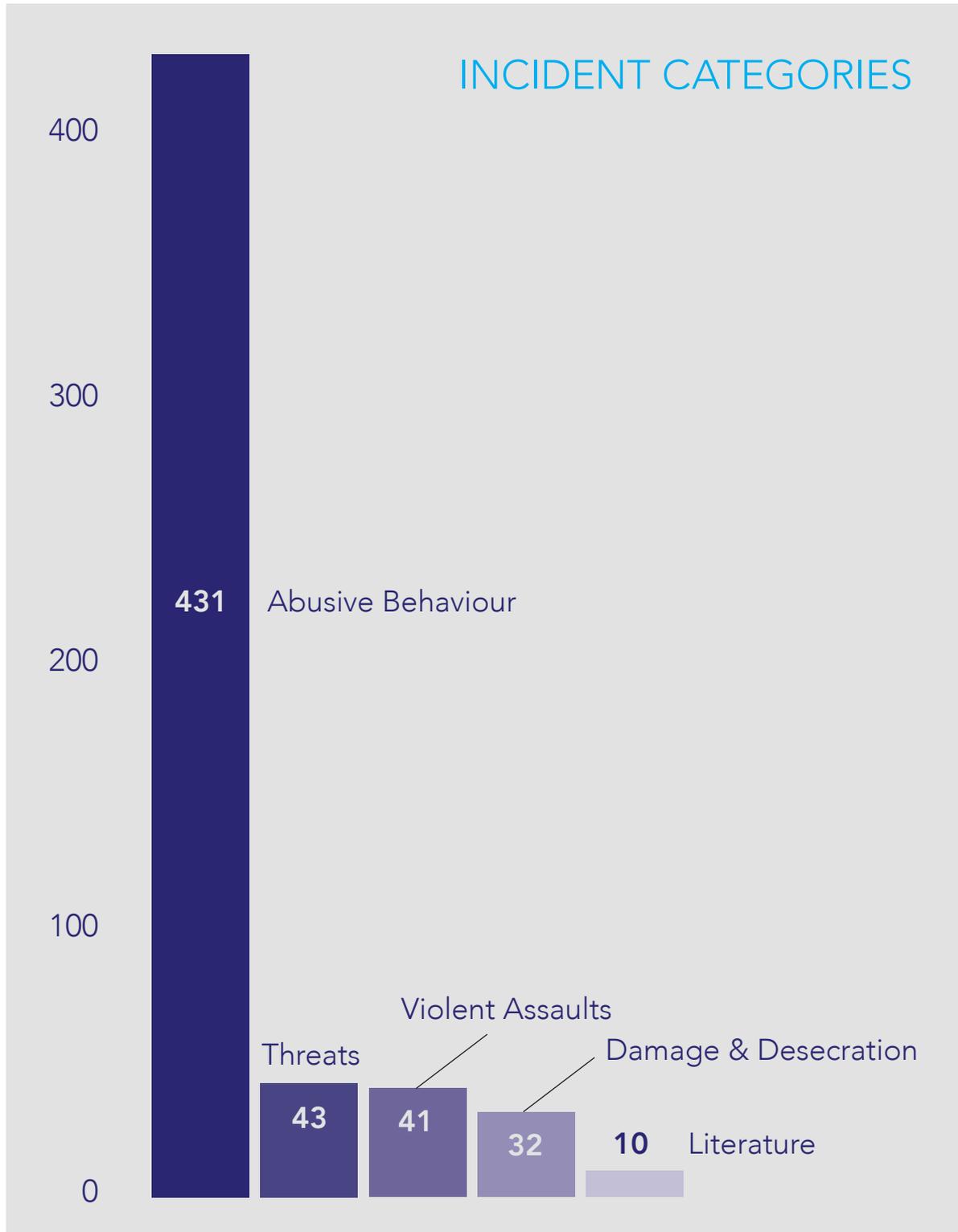
Antisemitic incidents are reported to CST in a number of ways, most commonly by telephone, email, via the CST website, via CST's social media profiles or in person to CST staff and volunteers. Incidents can be reported to CST by the victim, a witness, or by somebody acting on their behalf. In 2001, CST was accorded third-party reporting status by the Police.

CST has a national information sharing agreement with the National Police Chiefs' Council that allows CST to share antisemitic incident reports, fully anonymised to comply with data protection requirements, so that both CST and the Police have as full a picture as possible of the number and type of reported antisemitic incidents. CST began sharing antisemitic incident data with Greater Manchester Police in 2011, with the Metropolitan Police Service in 2012, and now using the national agreement CST shares anonymised antisemitic incident data with several forces around the UK.

In the first half of 2016, 174 of the 557 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST were reported directly to CST by the victims themselves, and 39 incidents were reported on their behalf by a relative or friend. In 108 cases, the incident was reported to CST by somebody who had witnessed the incident take place or, in the case of antisemitic graffiti or social media content, had witnessed the antisemitic message left by the offender.

Fifty-two antisemitic incidents were reported by CST staff or volunteers or by security guards at Jewish buildings. There were ten antisemitic incidents recorded on the basis of media reports. One hundred and sixty-three antisemitic incidents were reported to CST by the Police under CST’s national information sharing agreement. One hundred and

forty-one of these 174 incidents were reported to CST by the Metropolitan Police Service, 16 by Greater Manchester Police and 17 by other Police forces around the UK. Any incidents that had been reported to both CST and the Police are excluded from this process to ensure there is no ‘double-counting’ of incidents.



CST'S MISSION

- To work at all times for the physical protection and defence of British Jews.
- To represent British Jews on issues of racism, antisemitism, extremism, policing and security.
- To promote good relations between British Jews and the rest of British society by working towards the elimination of racism, and antisemitism in particular.
- To facilitate Jewish life by protecting Jews from the dangers of antisemitism, and antisemitic terrorism in particular.
- To help those who are victims of antisemitic hatred, harassment or bias.
- To promote research into racism, antisemitism and extremism; and to use this research for the benefit of both the Jewish community and society in general.
- To speak responsibly at all times, without exaggeration or political favour, on antisemitism and associated issues.

ACT NOW
DON'T IGNORE IT!

REPORT to the Police:
In an emergency **999**
In a non-emergency **101**

THEN CALL CST

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Emergency 24hr 0800 032 3263
Manchester 0161 792 6666
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