



Sikh Federation (UK)

Never flinch from performing righteous deeds

"You cannot tackle Anti-Sikh hate if you cannot see it" — Sikh Federation warns Government of hidden hate crime crisis

Labour conference fringe meeting hears how failures in policing, prosecution and data are letting Anti-Sikh hate disappear from official statistics

Liverpool - 28 September 2026

The UK Government is failing the Sikh community by allowing Anti-Sikh hate crimes to be hidden within generic racial or religious hate-crime statistics, **Sikh Federation (UK)** warned at a Labour Party Conference fringe meeting yesterday.

Speaking at a well-attended meeting organised by **Stand Up To Racism**, Kuldeep Singh, Chief Executive for Administration at the Sikh Federation (UK), said a series of serious cases had exposed failures in policing, prosecution and the justice system.

He said:

"You cannot tackle Anti-Sikh hate if you cannot see Anti-Sikh hate. The Government needs to stop hiding the problem in the data and start confronting its true scale."

Kuldeep Singh highlighted three cases in the West Midlands: the attack on two elderly Sikh taxi drivers in Wolverhampton, the racially aggravated rape of a young Sikh woman in Oldbury and the religiously aggravated rape of a young Sikh woman in Walsall.

The Wolverhampton attack, in August 2025, involved two elderly Sikh taxi drivers. Although three men were arrested at the scene and there were witnesses and video evidence the defendants were not charged until January 2026. Their trial is now scheduled for September 2029.

Kuldeep Singh said:

"Two elderly Sikh men were attacked, the suspects were arrested at the scene and there was video evidence — yet the elderly victims face waiting more than four years for a trial. That sends a deeply disturbing message about the priority given to Anti-Sikh hate."

In Oldbury, a young Sikh woman was attacked while travelling to work in September 2025. Police described the incident as racially aggravated and appealed for witnesses. A £20,000 Crimestoppers reward was subsequently offered, while the Sikh community also mounted its own campaign.

More than a year later, Kuldeep Singh said, those responsible had still not been identified.

The Walsall case demonstrated what can happen when perpetrators are identified quickly. A man who followed a Sikh woman home and subjected her to a brutal religiously aggravated rape was identified through CCTV and other evidence. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Kuldeep Singh said the three cases had been recorded as **racially or religiously aggravated offences rather than specifically identified as Anti-Sikh hate crimes**, raising fundamental questions about whether official statistics accurately capture the experience of Sikhs.

"The Sikh community should not have to campaign, organise rewards and lobby Parliament before institutions take Anti-Sikh hate seriously. We need equal protection, equal priority and accurate recording."

The latest Home Office statistics show that race hate crimes accounted for **71% of all police-recorded hate crimes**, with 82,490 offences in England and Wales in the year ending March 2025. Religious hate crimes accounted for only 7,164 offences.

Yet the same Home Office report reveals a major data problem: victim ethnicity was recorded by police forces in only **40% of racially or religiously aggravated offences** although it has been mandated by the Home Office for over five years.

The problem is exacerbated as police forces are not currently required by the Government Statistical Service (GSS) to record the Sikh and Jewish ethnicities of victims despite both groups being legally recognised as ethnicities in the Equality Act 2010. There is considerable pressure on the GSS to end the discriminatory approach by public bodies towards both communities and correct the glaring mistake when it publishes its harmonisation standard on ethnicity later this year.

Kuldeep Singh called on the Government to use **anonymised person-level Census data** to provide all communities a far more accurate breakdown of hate-crime victims. This was suggested almost 11 months ago to the Policing Minister, through a cross-party delegation of MPs.

He said the Sikh Federation (UK) believes the true scale of Anti-Sikh hate could be **many times higher than the official figures suggest**, potentially as much as 20 times higher. This is an estimate based on the size of the Sikh community, the visible identity of many Sikh victims and over 70% of racially aggravated crime victims being non-white, although they only make up 15% of the population.

"When the Home Office publishes its next annual hate-crime figures at the end of October, it has an opportunity to expose the problem rather than obscure it. Anonymised Census data should be used to show who is actually being targeted. This is about tackling institutional racism and ensuring every community counts."

Kuldeep Singh also recalled that Keir Starmer, when Labour Leader in opposition, had acknowledged that successive governments had failed the Sikh community and pledged that a Labour government would recognise and tackle Anti-Sikh hate crimes, particularly attacks on Sikhs because of their visible identity.

The Sikh Federation (UK) is calling on the Government to deliver on that commitment, improve police recording of Anti-Sikh hate, publish better victim data and ensure serious Anti-Sikh hate crimes receive the same priority as other forms of hate crime.

ENDS

Kuldeep Singh
Chief Executive (Administration)
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