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and

**Invite you to**

# **A GALA FILM PREMIERE**

**The screening of**

## **Paul's Story**

**At**

**THE SCREEN cinema  
Southgate Street Winchester**

**Saturday June 1st at 11am**

**a film which is truly owned and created by the police and local community**

To be followed by a post show question and answer session

Starring: James Elsworthy, Gareth McGaw, Andy Marsh, Rachel Osborne, Catherine Gillard, Ellie Askew and so many enthusiastic members of Hampshire Constabulary, with young actors from Henry Beaufort School

Film maker: William Jessop

**This brilliant film is about a very important subject which is a priority for the Chief Constable of Hampshire Constabulary, Andy Marsh, and is relevant for police officers and police staff alike**

Around 100 people in Hampshire have been involved in the making of *Paul's Story*, from members of the police, people with learning disability, to volunteers from schools, universities and the local community who came together in a fun, worthwhile, glamorous, creative enterprise with which to address the very difficult issue of learning disability hate crime. They have participated in all stages of the project, from the creative development of the script, to starring in the film themselves, to taking part on set behind the camera, to helping shape the edit and to sharing the finished film with their peers.

People with learning disability can feel too scared to report crime to the police. They may not be able to tell their story clearly so that when they do try to report a crime, the police may not know how to communicate with them or how to recognise and then record a disability hate crime. Furthermore disability hate crime happens in the first place because people are lonely and isolated within a community that does not understand them. The making of *Paul's Story* has encouraged collaboration and has built bridges between people with learning disability, the police and the local community.

People with learning disability have told us that making the film has made them feel safer as they understand more about what is a crime and when they can get help, and working with police officers has shown them that the police are on their side. They feel that they are valued members of the local community.

The sheer positivity and enthusiasm of all who came to be involved in the making of the film - was amazing and wonderful. We set out essentially to make a training film for the police, with the focus being on the end product. But what we learned was that in fact the process of making the film could itself do real good. Every police officer we talked to was so motivated to engage with the issue that we realised the pretext of contributing to a film was actually an excellent way to get people to think objectively and talk openly.

Commissioned by the Home Office for use by the police for training, and filmed on location, *Paul's Story* tackles issues which do happen, even in our own towns, and can have a devastating effect on so many lives, yet often go unrecognised.

This important film challenges us all to think about the lives of people with learning disabilities today, examine our own attitudes and be more alert to disability hate crime, mate crime and harassment.

*Paul's Story* responds to '**Hidden in Plain Sight**'; **The Equality and Human Rights Commission inquiry into disability-related harassment**, and the Royal Mencap national '**Stand by Me**' campaign