

## Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner

### Notice of Decision



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<b>Date Received*:</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> August 2014</b>
<b>Ref*:</b>	<b>2014.037</b>

\*to be inserted by Office of PCC

**TITLE: Nottinghamshire County Business Crime Partnership (BCP) - £10K Funding**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This funding will assist the establishment of a Nottinghamshire County Business Crime Partnership covering the seven districts (and the three Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) areas) to tackle business crime including shoplifting which increased significantly in 2013-14 and continues to pose a key risk to the Commissioner's priority to reduce crime.

The £10k will provide part funding for a manager (working with Mansfield BID) over a six month period to get the above project established and running.

The County Divisional Commander as agreed to support this project by seconding three PCSOs to this work known as 'Business Crime Ambassadors' – one for each CSP area.

The Terms of Reference:

1. Develop a Countywide Business Crime Partnership that integrates with the work of the Business Crime Partnership within Nottingham City
2. Achieve accreditation of the BCP against the National Common Minimum Standards
3. Make the BCP financially sustainable through the development of a business planning process
4. Create a network of support for the BCP using all aspects of the media to draw attention to its development and work in tackling crime across the County
5. Link and integrate with the work of Community Safer Partnerships across Nottinghamshire and the Safer Nottinghamshire Board
6. Significantly drive down the numbers of retail crimes recorded across the County through effective delivery and performance management
7. Establish an effective management and governance structure to develop steer and provide strategic oversight.

The Project would have the following phases:

#### **Phase One**

- Identify staff and funding, briefing of those staff, identifying what is already in place, briefing NPT and businesses. May – June 2014

#### **Phase Two June 2014 onwards**

- Active deployment in CSP areas of the Business Crime Ambassadors. Taking steps towards accreditation legal requirements and documentation. Analytical work to identify the main

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Victim/Offenders/Locations. Working with IOM/Dormice etc

**Phase Three October**

- Assess impact and prepare for the Christmas Campaign 2014.
- Assess impact of 6 months work and identify needs for next 6 months linking with CSP Strategic Assessment.
- Identify alternative funding streams for sustainability.

**INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF DECISION:** (e.g. report or business case)



Nottinghamshire  
County Retail ...

**Is any of the supporting information classified as non public or confidential information\*\*?**

No

X

Yes

**DECISION:**

To approve funding £10k toward the Nottinghamshire County Business Crime Partnership (BCP) in support of reducing retail crime

**OFFICER APPROVAL**

I have been consulted about the proposal and confirm that the appropriate advice has been taken into account in the preparation of this report. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Signature:  
Chief Executive



*CFO in absence of CEx*

Date: *6<sup>th</sup> August 2014*

**DECLARATION:**

I confirm that I do not have any disclosable pecuniary interests in this decision and I take the decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct for the Nottinghamshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Any interests are indicated below:

The above request has my approval.

Signature:  
Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner

Date: *11/8/14.*

\*\* See guidance on non public information and confidential information.

# **PARTNERSHIPS AGAINST BUSINESS CRIME IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

## **BRIEFING DOCUMENT**

**May 2014**

### **Nottinghamshire County Retail Crime - Background.**

The Association of Chief Police Officers /Business Crime Lead is working with the National Business Crime Forum creating a structure to reduce all business crime types: Road Haulage, Forecourt Crime, Rural Crime etc. The activity is in five key areas: Intelligence, Reassurance, Enforcement, Prevention and Cyber Crime. Retail Crime Reduction is a key strand to this work and The National Business Crime Solution will be used to establish a single platform for intelligence sharing driven by the National Business Crime Intelligence Bureau.

This work is purely at the Level 2 and it is widely recognised that there has to be local engagement and action to support retail crime reduction as the majority of retail crime offenders are local. There has to be problem solving at this level to prevent retail crime and channel offenders into pathways to prevent re-offending.

'The Staffordshire Model' is supported by the ACPO/Business Crime Group and it is expecting Police Forces to create Countywide Business Crime Partnerships with Specialist Points of Contact (SPOCs) in each Police Force area. The Staffordshire scheme PABCIS (Partnerships Against Business Crime in Staffordshire) is funded by the Safer Staffordshire Board and driven by Stoke on Trent Business Crime Partnership.

In Nottinghamshire Mansfield BID Business Crime Partnership (previously Mansfield Safer Business Partnership) has been working with a very similar methodology as Stoke on Trent. MBCP has won national accreditation and since being established in 2006 has reduced town centre crime from over 3000 crimes per year to under 1000 they are seen as best practice along with Stoke across the Country.

In 2012 and 2013 work was commissioned by Chief Superintendent Khan for Mansfield BID team to review what was in place across the County Division and introduce the processes used in Mansfield across the Division. This work was completed and some outstanding results were achieved by those NPT taking up the advice. In November 2012 Sutton in Ashfield reduced retail crime by 64% and in December 47%. With competing policing demands it is not been possible to sustain this activity and they are again suffering from high retail crime reporting.

One of the key objectives of this project is to raise standards of existing shop watch schemes providing a return on investment for businesses and to reduce retail crime

across the County Division. A reduction in excess of 10% would not be unrealistic in the first year.

ACPO are introducing a Common Minimum Standard for all Business Crime Partnerships intending to raise standards and ensure data compliance to support the national activity. They are recommending that police forces only engage with partnerships that reach that standard. In Nottinghamshire only the Mansfield BID Business Crime Partnership are accredited to this standard.

The reductions in Mansfield Town Centre have been achieved by adopting simple problem solving techniques. All crime is reviewed at a weekly Partnership Tasking Meeting chaired by the Mansfield BID Business Crime Partnership Manager and attended by the police NPT, MDC Town Centre Wardens, BTP, Framework, MDC Homelessness Prevention Team, six key retail businesses, CCTV, MDC ASB Officer, Bus Station CSM, Town Centre Manager etc.

Problem solving techniques are used with documented tasking and individuals held to account for delivery of their actions. This approach avoids duplication of effort, makes full use of the wider policing community and improves briefing of staff and businesses to prevent criminal activity. This covers practice cover 24hours, 7 days a week Town Centre Safety including the night time economy.

### **Terms of Reference / Ambition, to:**

1. develop a Countywide Business Crime Partnership that integrates with the work of the Business Crime Partnership within Nottingham City
2. achieve accreditation of the BCP against the National Common Minimum Standards
3. make the BCP financially sustainable through the development of a business planning process
4. create a network of support for the BCP using all aspects of the media to draw attention to its development and work in tackling crime across the County
5. link and integrate with the work of Community Safer Partnerships across Nottinghamshire and the Safer Nottinghamshire Board
6. significantly drive down the numbers of retail crimes recorded across the County through effective delivery and performance management
7. establish an effective management and governance structure to develop, steer and provide strategic oversight.

### **Aims and Objectives, to:**

- establish the legitimate (in accordance with the 8 principles of the Data Protection Act 1998) and lawful gathering, collation, processing, exchange and management of all relevant information relating to business crime and anti social behaviour between members of the partnership

- manage offender behaviour through the sharing of photographs and information in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998
- reduce and prevent criminality and anti-social behaviour by reducing the opportunity to commit crime
- assist in the apprehension and prosecution of offenders and suspected offenders
- reduce fear of crime and its effects
- reduce members' losses caused by crime and anti social behaviour
- create a "safe and secure" environment for customers, staff and visitors and to contribute to the economic viability and prosperity of the area
- expand the partnership to encompass as wide a range of business sectors as possible
- create an integrated and effective partnership working with the business community, police, local authority and other key agencies and organisations
- these will include Licensing Representatives, Youth Offending Teams, Drug Treatment Service Providers, Restorative Justice Providers, Rough Sleepers Unit, Housing Providers, Probation Services and specific Health Staff as appropriate.
- to establish the partnership as an integral part of the local community safety and crime reduction strategy and work in partnership with the police, local authority, and other agencies and organisations responsible for delivering the community safety action plan.

### **The County Retail Crime Manager role – Delivery of 7 Terms of reference / Ambitions above:**

- Half post dedicated to the introduction of the County Retail Crime Initiative.
- Reports directly to the Chair of the County Retail Crime Group and the Management Group
- Provide updates to the Retail Crime Gold Group and Safer Nottinghamshire Board as required.
- Target of reducing retail crime by 10% in year one.
- To use PRINCE methodology to manage the project.

Introduce an Incident management system to capture all reported and unreported retail incidents affecting businesses.

- Management of dedicated Retail Crime Project Staff
- Improve the existing radio schemes
- Provide all shop watches with a Constitution, Codes of practice etc.
- Negotiate Information Sharing Agreements to enable the sharing of data at local, County, Regional and national level.
- All watches to reach the national accreditation standard

To achieve the new national accreditation standard at a County level working with the Association of Business Crime Partnerships and the Midlands Regional Crime Initiative

- Work with Loss Prevention Managers to reduce stock losses through shop theft.
- Provide Photo Albums for the enforcement of Exclusion Notices
- Provide a system of cross border intelligence sharing on known offenders
- Circulate images of unknown offenders for identification

## **Business Crime Ambassadors (BCA)**

One for each CSP area.

Work 'on the ground' improving briefing to businesses including the circulation of excluded individuals images and intelligence bulletins.

Capture community intelligence to enable directed problem solving activity

Assist Beat Managers with retail crime issues.

Operate the Incident Management System.

Pro-active policing in hot-spots identified by the Hub.

Line Management remains ultimately with the NPI.

Responsibility for the day to tasking of the PCSOs will be with the Retail Crime Manager (although this is a part time post for the project, the Manager works full time with Mansfield BID and will be available to assist including out of hours).

Working a shift pattern to cover retail opening hours

Ability to drive as work will mainly be in Town Centres and Business Parks in each Community Safety Partnership Area.

Whilst being able to assist with arrests this is not their prime role. It is not a 'shoplifting squad' This role should be maximised to achieve the key objectives of intelligence, prevention, enforcement and reassurance.

Develop a rapport with local targets letting them know the boundaries and expectations but able to assist and refer to relevant agencies when in trouble. i.e. Homelessness, poverty or alcohol and drug dependency driving retail crime offences.

## **Retail Crime Analyst**



Use both police and business data to analyse and direct work streams to problem solve.

Together with the Retail Crime Project Manager, liaise with other agencies to manage offenders. Op Dormice, IOM etc.

Create Intelligence packages on local problems and OCG's.

### **Administrative Support**

Send Exclusion Notices, Warning letters etc on behalf of the chairs of each group

Day to day support to the team arranging meetings, action logs, minutes etc.

Input Incident Management data.

### **The Project would have the following phases**

#### Phase One

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#### Phase Three October

Assess impact and prepare for the Christmas Campaign 2014.

Assess impact of 6 months work and identify needs for next 6 months linking with CSP Strategic Assessment.

Identify alternative funding streams for sustainability.

**David Wakelin Director Gedling Borough Council  
Chair of the County Retail Crime Tactical Group**