



NBCC NEWS

November 2022 - Issue 3

The NBCC Newsletter

Welcome to the monthly e-newsletter from the NBCC to keep you up to date with the latest news, campaigns, crime prevention guidance and support for businesses in the joint fight against business crime. Please share with your networks.

BCRP new board meets for first time

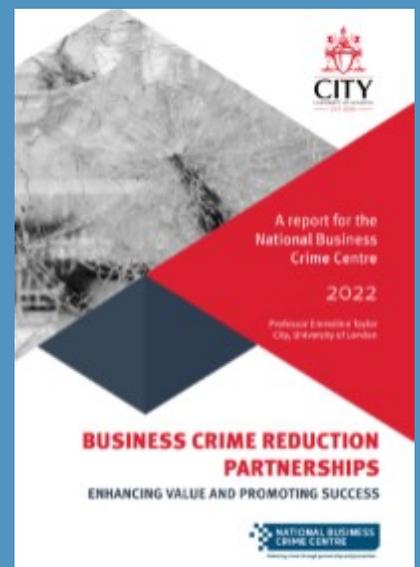
Business Crime Reduction Partnerships (BCRPs) play an important role of our high streets, earlier this year the NBCC commissioned the City, University of London, to carry out a review of the accreditation process for BCRPs, which was published in September.

The National Accreditation Standards is supported by a governance board, which has just been refreshed and is now chaired by Prof. Emmeline Taylor, the author of the BCRP report. The board also includes representatives from across business, place management, police, BCRPs and business memberships groups.

The new board met last week to look at ways that it can implement the recommendations of the report so as to strengthen the accreditation process and better support BCRPs. A particular focus for the board is how we can increase the involvement of Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) in the accreditation process. With an estimated 270 BIDs having a retail presence, it is important that the services they offer to their levy paying members reflect the risks they face, and whilst there are some excellent examples of business crime reduction initiatives the NBCC feels that more can be done.

Conscious that the standards are now four years old there is now a quick review process to ensure that the right areas are being reviewed. This work is expected to take no longer than three months so that new accreditations and re-accreditations can start in early 2023.

Prof. Emmeline Taylor said: "I'm delighted to have taken up the role of chair of the BCRP Standards Board. With the support of the NBCC, I am looking forward to working with the board to identify and promote best practice and ensure that partnership work between the police, retailers and BCRPs is strong and effective. Together, these partnerships can deliver safe and vibrant places to work, shop and play."



[Click image to download a copy](#)

Updated employer framework launched to help safeguard retail employees



The NBCC has been working with the retail businesses from across the country to develop a new employer framework aimed at preventing violence and abuse within retail settings.

The new 'Framework for Employers' brings together existing good practice within the sector and presents it as a comprehensive, simple step by step process that can be implemented by retailers to demonstrate how they will support their employees to prevent violence and abuse in retail settings.

The framework aims to drive best practice among retail employers, and signposts sources of guidance and advice for how employers can help to protect the wellbeing of their employees if they become a victim.

It includes a post-incident support process which highlights the practical steps employers should be taking to support retail workers after an incident of violence and abuse occurs, for example, their responsibility to ensure incidents are reported, risks are analysed and appropriate support systems are put in place. The content and style of the framework can be adapted to suit the employer's existing processes, or existing corporate pledge on protecting employees at work.

Paul Fagg from the NBCC said: "I did some research into a recently implemented process in policing called Op Hampshire which focusses on support of police officers when they have been victims of an assault. I then spoke to retailers to understand how the process works in a business context and it was clear that the process and response varied significantly from one retailer to the next. It also demonstrated the gap between large high street retailers and smaller independent retailers who don't have access to the resources, training and policies of bigger businesses.

"I wanted to develop a step by step process which employers in retail can easily access and adapt to ensure their employees are properly supported and protected when facing abuse and violence. It's a free resource they can use so they know what to do and what support is available to them and their teams."

The Employee Framework is part of a package of new resources from the NBCC aimed at the retail sector and comes just weeks after they launched a suite of training videos to empower employees in the areas of personal safety and de-escalation, saying no - refusing service, deterring and interacting with thieves and handling disruptive behaviour.

Jenny Alleyne, Head of Operational Risk & Compliance at Co-op, who worked with NBCC on the guidance added: "As part of our continued commitment to Colleague Safety we welcomed the opportunity to collaborate across the retail sector in partnership with NBCC and the Home Office. We are proud of the work that continues to be done in the space and welcome continued collaboration in the interests of colleague safety."



Click here to download the [Framework for Employers: Preventing violence and abuse within retail settings](#) or click the image above.

NBCC teams up with NaVCIS on Cargo Crime Prevention

The NBCC, in partnership with the National Vehicle Crime Intelligence Service (NaVCIS), has developed a comprehensive crime prevention guide to help tackle high value thefts targeted at the freight industry.



Cargo crime is big business and criminals are lured by potentially high rewards, plentiful opportunities and the fact it is perceived as a relatively low risk crime.

The estimated cost of cargo crime in the UK is hundreds of millions of pounds each year, but the true extent and impact of cargo crime is distorted by a lack of reliable and consistent data. The most recent data from the NaVCIS reported that in 2020 they received 4468 notifications of HGV, Freight and Cargo crimes.

They also found that the combined cost price value of all cargo crimes during 2020 was £95,704,265.39, but retail values would be at least four times greater.

Cargo at rest is cargo at risk

Freight vehicles are at most risk of being targeted at night, whilst parked up. The moment a vehicle stops the risks increase significantly, with 63% of cargo crime occurring when a vehicle is parked (away from a depot or known facility). Nine in every 10 of these incidents are reported to take place in unsecured locations. That means the choice of parking location can significantly reduce or increase the chances of being targeted.

Unfortunately, there are a lack of available truck parking spaces both in the UK and into Europe making it extremely challenging to identify suitable, secure rest

areas. It is therefore vital that drivers plan ahead; identifying their route, scheduling rest breaks and deciding in advance where they will stop.

When deciding where to stop, locations that may offer security fencing or CCTV are preferable. Where CCTV is present it's important to park in sight of the cameras and avoid dark, secluded parking spots.

Drivers can also minimise the risks to their vehicles by parking defensively. Tactics like parking closely to another vehicle or obstacle to prevent the doors from being opened or parking in such a way that protects and blocks access to fuel tanks can act as effective deterrents.

Even taking all possible precautions cargo crime can still happen. If it does then it is essential crimes and credible suspicious incidents are reported to the police. This allows police to capture the evidence of a crime or understand the full scale of the incident which maybe a pre requisite to a crime.

Cargo thefts can also be reported to NaVCIS, who are a national police unit that bridges the gap between policing and industry. They have a dedicated Freight team who work closely with the haulage industry.



Cargo Crime
CRIME PREVENTION SERIES

NATIONAL BUSINESS CRIME CENTRE
Reducing crime through partnership and prevention

TOP TIPS

- Always secure your vehicle
- Have a security and delivery policy in place
- Keep delivery details private
- Do not make unnecessary stops
- Always report crimes to the police

Cargo crime is big business and criminals are lured by potentially high rewards, plentiful opportunities and the fact it is perceived as a relatively low risk crime.

The true extent and impact of cargo crime is distorted by a lack of reliable and consistent data, it is important that all crimes are reported to the police so that an accurate picture of offending trends and locations can be formed.

This guide has been produced in conjunction with the National Vehicle Crime Intelligence Service.

NaVCIS NATIONAL VEHICLE CRIME INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

National Business Crime Centre | nbcc.police.uk | 1

The NBCC and NaVCIS have worked in partnership to produce a comprehensive crime prevention guide for the industry – please click here or the image above: [Cargo Crime guidance](#)

Businesses urged to join a new fight back against van crime

Van drivers and fleets who fall victim to crime are being urged to contribute to a new national online database being launched by van security specialists TVL Security and backed by police.

The 'Tell TVL' initiative asks those who have had their vans stolen or items stolen from their vans to report full details including images at www.tellTVL.co.uk, in addition to reporting the crime to police.

By securely recording detailed data, as agreed with the National Business Crime Centre, Tell TVL will create the UK's first real-time national database capturing the scale and nature of van crime.

All data will be collated and shared with police in support of central efforts to crackdown on van crime. In addition, registered users will be able to get free anonymised data reports highlighting crime hotspots and receive targeted crime prevention advice based on trends in entry methods so drivers can be alert to all potential risks.

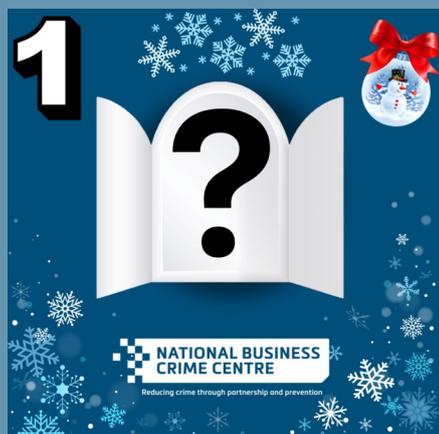
Sgt Paul Fagg from the NBCC said: "The NBCC is excited to be part of the Tell TVL initiative to help build a more comprehensive national picture of van crime across the country. Through our national coordination role, we can use the data collected by Tell TVL, to help inform police of national trends and patterns. This in turn will help police forces deploy the right resources and crime prevention advice in their communities. By working together at a national level, we can help police at a local level target and prevent van crime more effectively."

TVL Security's Managing Director, Laura Moran, says: "But because police databases are organised regionally, there isn't a true national picture of the scale of the problem.

If you're unlucky enough to suffer a van theft or break in, once you have reported it to your local police force please also [Tell TVL](#)



Look out for the NBCC Crime Prevention Advent Calendar



Throughout December the NBCC will be featuring a crime prevention advent calendar on social media.

From the 1st—24th December we will be opening a door to reveal a daily gift of top tips, crime prevention guides and other resources available to businesses to help them combat business crime.

Check back on the 1st December to see what's behind door number 1!

NBCC lead attends Coalition of Law Enforcement and Retail Conference



Patrick Holdaway:

Last month I was privileged to attend the Coalition of Law Enforcement and Retail (CLEAR) conference in Florida. This annual

conference brings together senior retail leaders and law enforcement from across the US to share information in relation to organised retail crime (ORC).

In comparison to the UK, the US has a complicated policing structure with around 16,000 different police forces, these range from the county level, through to the state police then to the federal level e.g. the FBI. However, in terms of ORC, Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) play a key role due to the connection that immigration plays in ORC with many offenders seeking to pay off debts incurred when illegally entering the country.

What was clear is that US police forces have the same challenges as UK forces when it comes to resourcing due to competing demands; furthermore, Covid has had an impact with

backlogs in the courts with some cases taking 3 to 5 years to reach a conclusion, thankfully we're not seeing those length of delays here.

Whilst the US don't yet have a NBCC equivalent to coordinate a national response a number of states have set up ORC Associations (www.orcinfo.com/orc-associations) bringing together police and retailers to share information about offenders. In the main, the role of crime prevention is the domain of retailers and groups such as the Loss Prevention Retail Council; however, this is due to change with plans to introduce a national coordination centre.

Often shop theft can be seen as a simple, victimless crime against multi-national companies committed by low level offenders, however we know that there are well organised gangs who travel the country making huge gains from shop theft. Organised retail crime is a new concept here in the UK but with the knowledge and new connections gained from the conference we at the NBCC will be looking to identify the signs and raise the profile of this organised crime so as to get the police response it deserves.

Crime Prevention Series

The NBCC team works with policing and industry to understand the most common crime types impacting businesses and then develops crime prevention guidance to help businesses better protect themselves. Three new guides have been added for November:

[Infrastructure Theft](#)

[Cash Withdrawal Theft](#)

[Cargo Crime](#)

Combating Wholesaler Car Park Thefts

The NBCC has been working with the Federation of Wholesale Distributors (FWD) following a spate of thefts in car parks of wholesalers. The offenders would wait until people left the wholesalers with their trolley of goods and when the victims were loading it into their vehicle the offenders would snatch the items from trolleys, car seats or boots.

The team worked with the NBCC and the Metropolitan Police Design out Crime officers to make as number of recommendations to improve security. One of the recommendations was to create an awareness poster to display in car parks.

