**Operation Portum - Safe Spaces for Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), Business Crime Reduction Partnerships (BCRPs)**

**& Shopping Centres**

**Introduction**

Operation Portum is an overarching scheme that businesses can sign up to and support with the objective to collectively increase safe spaces in retail premises. A large number of national retailers have already signed up, but the NBCC recognise the important role that you as BIDs, BCRPs and shopping centres already play in supporting your members through the delivery of your safe and secure strategy. Therefore, we would like to encourage you to become champions of the scheme encouraging retailers and their security to support the scheme and adopt the principles.

**The aim**

* Create a safer environment within our cities, town centres, retail parks and retail community so customers feel safe and confident
* Empower staff and security officers who work within these public space environments to support those who feel vulnerable

**The ask**

* Raise awareness amongst your retailers of Operation Portum and its principles
* Provide guidance on how your members can use the principles to support and assist those who feel vulnerable
* Where private security is utilised as part of your safe and secure strategy, they support Operation Portum and its principles

**How**

By adopting the Operation Portum principles and embedding them into local plans and communications. This can be created and designed by yourself or taken from our website where we have created a short video which includes ‘do’s and do not’s’, and a framework setting out a systematic process to help in the planning and implementation of a safe spaces scheme.

It is worth taking into account that some of your retailer members may already be supporting this scheme, if so any security officer is working within their store they should follow the process and meet the expectation adopted by that retailer.

For more information please see [Safe Spaces (nbcc.police.uk)](https://nbcc.police.uk/partnerships/safe-spaces)

**Sign up**

In order to sign up and support the scheme officially we will confirm with you that ‘The ask’ above has been completed. We can then add your logo to our website amongst other brands as a supporter of Operation Portum.

To sign up please contact us at contact@nbcc.police.uk