

CRIME FIGHTING

businesses called to action

In a recent move law abiding businesses in Bracknell are getting together to create a crime-fighting partnership in order to make the town a safer place to shop.

The B:BAC (Bracknell Businesses Against Crime) is a scheme created to make the town safe.

Newly appointed co-ordinator Katie Simmons has been working with the town centre neighbourhood policing team based at the police station in Town Square.

The B:BAC's goal is to help members to help themselves by giving them crime reduction tips which will enable retail staff to join the fight against crime. For example if staff notice that shoppers valuables are visible in an open bag, they can advise the customer to put them away safely, thereby preventing a potential criminal act.

B:BAC creates a great way for members to exchange information on the activities and location of known criminals, thus ensuring that everyone is aware of any potential threat.

All members must sign a strict data protection protocol and they are then issued with ID's of possible suspects in the vicinity. Members are also issued with town link radios so they can pass on any information that might prove useful to the town centre CCTV and police.

Bi-monthly meetings are also held, where the latest CCTV incident figures for the town centre can be reviewed, and concerns about crime and disorder can be aired.

There are currently 35 members in the B:BAC which is chaired by Millet's manager Clare Rebbeck. Membership also covers the Bracknell Regeneration Partnership and Bracknell Forest Borough Council.



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