Everything you wanted to know about Business Crime Reduction Partnerships…

But were afraid to ask Part 2 (2024)

As mentioned, some of the references in Part 1 are a little dated. These points are in relation to the functions, rules and protocols for the latest national model of a Business Crime Reduction Partnership (BCRP).

National Association of Business Crime Partnerships (NABCP)

As the assessing and accrediting organisation for the BCRP National Standards Accreditation, The National Association of Business Crime Partnerships have long been involved in setting the standard and advising on lawful operation of BCRPs across the UK.

The complexity of the work of BCRPs and their role in promoting safer and fairer societies in the towns and cities where we live, work and socialise, is demonstrated by the wide range of project work managed by BCRP Crime Managers, and the intricate partnership working that seeks to resolve even the most complex issues, through feeding into the multi-agency, partnership approach.

With the ever-changing face of the High Street, we are seeing a change in the membership structure of BCRPs, with less retail and more NTE, hospitality, leisure, public buildings, estate agents, etc, as the BCRPs work to create a range of community safety projects as Safe Havens, Youth Intervention, Restorative Justice, and more.

A BCRP is a complex model, managed “by businesses, for businesses” and must not cross the boundary of “public task”, so must remain independent and not for profit. BCRPs across the UK fall into several different categories of legal status, some are Limited Companies requiring a Director, some are Charities, some unincorporated not for profit organisations, or CICs for example.

To be recognised as a BCRP, an organisation must:

- Have a scheme manager.
- Manage a secure intel system/database with active intel coordination.
- Be registered with the ICO.
- Have appropriate insurance in place (Todd & Cue)
- Work with partners to prevent crime and disorder.
- Be involved in local project work with key partners to address national and local safety objectives.
- Be a not-for-profit organisation.
- Actively support the local business community who are members of the scheme.
- Be accredited to the BCRP National Standard or be working towards accreditation.

Shared intelligence is knowledge, knowledge is power and knowing your enemy is your key to success.

The role of a BCRP Crime Manager includes.

- Intel coordination
- Working with businesses to identify the most prolific offenders and ensure crimes (and aggravating factors) are reported to the Police.
- Lobby Police to ensure action is taken against repeat offenders, such as collating crime report numbers and ensuring these are not dealt with in isolation.
- Work with key partners to take a multi-agency approach to business crime prevention.
- Member visits to ensure engagement and active participation in the scheme.
- Manage the radio scheme – including troubleshooting and basic repairs (?)
- Manage the intel system.
- Offender Management including banning process and exclusion orders to target harden prolific offenders.
- Financial controls, including invoicing and chasing debtors (BOM can support this)
- Recruit and manage the Board of Management (BOM), ensuring participation to drive the scheme forward in the direction needed locally.
- Data Processor and full working knowledge of the Data Protection Act and upcoming amendments to UK GDPR.
- Recruit new member businesses.
- Actively promote the scheme locally and nationally
- Support local businesses and their staff.
- Plus, any other ad hoc duties!

The purpose of a BCRP is...

... A process to share offender details/incidents with other retailers as a partnership

The partnership must comply with GDPR and have privacy policy, data controller, processor in place to share info about the data subject, for legitimate interest purposes, compliant with GDPR rules.

- Members share more information and intelligence.
- Unknown offenders identified
- Offenders anonymity removed
- Build up offender profiles
- More deters, less call outs for the police.
- More resilient to crime
- Help secure heavier custodial sentences
- Improved customer experience
- **Saves members and partners thousands of pounds per year**

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