



Membership Information Pack

**Builds mature, robust, sustainable partnerships
that maximise active participation to
solve community problems**

Supporting Crime Reduction Initiatives

Over 250 city, town and shopping centres have established business crime reduction partnerships as part of their local community safety initiatives. Many are focused on the retail sector.

Effective management of these partnerships is essential. Indeed, many local Police forces insist that they be properly accredited. To that end the Association of Town Centre Management (ATCM) has established the **Business Crime Initiative (BCI)**, a partnership with Empowering Communities to allow:

- Independent accreditation to take place.
- An advisory service to be established.
- Effective networking to take place.
- Formal qualifications to be available.

The increased mobility of criminals means that partnerships must continue to develop strategies that allow them tackle both local and cross border crime committed by travelling criminals. Effective partnerships can reduce the opportunity for offending.

At the same time as there is growing evidence of increased business crime due to the recession, some retailers are curbing their support for local crime initiatives. We believe this is very short sighted and will use our existing networks and contacts to get this message over.

The ATCM is offering membership of this new organisation, set up to ensure the highest standards are maintained and enable initiatives to be as effective as possible and to enable to collective voice of the partnerships to be heard.

Membership Benefits

1. Business Crime Partnership Accreditation

A new Accreditation scheme has been developed for the ATCM by Empowering Communities, which is also a not-for-profit enterprise.

The new Accreditation uses the BASIS model, developed by Gary Pettengell, founder of Empowering Communities. To be accredited schemes must show:

Benefit for the local community and evidence of the perceived value to their members.

Accessibility and that they are affordable.

Structure covering all the necessary protocols such as data sharing and compliance with the Data Protection Act.

Informative.

Sustainable and system dependent, not relying on one individual.

An introduction to the Accreditation process will be via optional workshops to be held throughout the year. The first will be in London on 16 November. The training day is optional and the cost for this is £150.

2. Advisory Services

The Guidance & Governance issues are important. This will have two principle areas: Partnership working and Technical.

We will provide advice on the best methods to establish a targeted, intelligence-led, partnership approach to business and retail crime reduction; working with key stakeholders, including the Police. Advice of a technical nature e.g. relating to issues such as CCTV protocols, Data Protection Act, information sharing, and Police liaison will be handled by Empowering Communities, who have several years experience of administering local, regional and national crime reduction schemes.

3. Standards

Networking

The sharing of best practise is effective and best achieved through networks. The ATCM will organise these events with input and attendance by Empowering Communities. Initially, we propose to hold these twice a year, one in the north and one in the south. They will be for practitioners from Partnerships, including the Partnership Manager and other key stakeholders such as the Police and Community Safety Officers if invited by the member and may be linked to the ATCM's existing Street Operations Group. Dates will be published in advance.

Qualifications

We are currently applying for accreditation for two training programmes through the National Open College Network. These will be aimed at partnership managers and security staff. The first of these will be ready later this year.

Join the BCI - Membership

Membership for the BCI are set based on a banding system relating to size of place and includes FREE Accreditation in the year of joining. Current ATCM members have the added benefit of a 20% discount on BCI membership. Simply log into the ATCM members page of the website before joining online or indicate on the application form. The membership period is 1 September to 31 August each year.

Full BCI Membership (12 Months)

Band 1: ATCM Members: £336 + VAT All others: £420 plus VAT

- (a) Crime initiatives in urban centre(s) under 50,000 population.
- (b) Companies/organisations employing five or fewer people at time of application.

Band 2: ATCM Members: £ 424 + VAT All others: £530 plus VAT

- (a) Crime initiatives in urban centre(s)) between 50,001 and 200,000 population.
- (b) Companies/organisations employing 6 – 25 people at time of application.

Band 3: ATCM Members: £520 + VAT All others: £650 plus VAT

- (a) Crime initiatives in urban centre(s) over 200,001 population.
- (b) Companies/organisations employing 26 or more people at time of application.

BCI Affiliate Membership (12 months)

ATCM Members: £200 + VAT All others: £250 + VAT

Affiliate membership is only open to co-workers/directors in an existing BCI Full Membership organisation/company.

Joining couldn't be simpler. Visit the website at www.bciuk.org to join online or to download the application form. If you are an ATCM member, log in to the website before joining and receive a 20% discount.

About the BCI Team

Martin Blackwell, Development Director for the ATCM has previously set up a Retail Crime Initiative, which included writing funding proposals for capital installation of a CCTV system, which is still managed by a not for profit partnership outside the local authority and Police in Great Yarmouth. This included setting up all the management systems and procedures for CCTV as well as data sharing protocols, Exclusion Notices, Civil Recovery and local networking. Previously he worked and managed stores for W H Smith.

Toyubur Rahman has practiced Urban Regeneration and Town Centre Management in a number of metropolitan and district centres in London. Here, he implemented Crime & Disorder Partnerships & Pub Watch initiatives, helped to implement CCTV and security radio schemes and worked on Community Safety Strategies. He also has a retail background at management level working for JD Sports and Dixons Stores Group where in-store security and reducing shoplifting were big parts of the job.

Gary Pettengell has over 20 year's policing experience and crime reduction and community engagement experience. He started one of the UK's most successful national business crime reduction partnerships in 2001 and chairs the National Security Symposium for the UK's gaming and leisure industry. He is the founder of Empowering-Communities and he specialises in maximising citizen and community participation in solving community problems. He has also written and developed BASIS, which is the first model to help communities, statutory bodies and organisations build community engagement and business crime reduction partnerships. He has worked on several local, national and international crime reduction and community engagement projects for which he has won several awards. In April 2007, he was voted "Person of the Year" in Lithuania for his work helping migrant communities and is the only foreign national ever to be awarded the Angel Guard Medal of Honour for policing excellence in Lithuania.

About the organisations

The **ATCM** is Europe's largest membership organisation concerned with the creation, development and management of vital and viable town and city centres. The process of town and city centre management operates by creating partnerships of shared resources, ideas and commitment that unite and benefit all stakeholders. ATCM aims to build environments that are healthy, sustainable and socially inclusive. For more information about ATCM's primary activities and principal areas of work, visit: www.atcm.org.

Empowering Communities is a not for profit social enterprise set up to help and empower victims, local communities, vulnerable people and their families. The organisation is currently working to help tackle gambling and alcohol addiction through self exclusion and reducing crime and disorder through the development of SIRCS (Secure Incident Reporting and Community Engagement System). For more information visit: www.empowering-communities.org.

Contact

For more information on BCI membership and how to apply for Accreditation visit www.bciuk.org.

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