

Huntingdon Town Centre Partnership newsletter

Autumn 2005

Launched as an initiative of Huntingdon Town Centre Partnership, Huntingdon Business Against Crime (HBAC) has been upheld as a scheme of 'best practice' both regionally and nationally.

HBAC has proved so successful in its bid to reduce crime in Huntingdon, that the scheme has been re-named Huntingdonshire Business Against Crime. Funding of £13,000 has come Huntingdonshire Community Safety Partnership to facilitate the expansion to other towns in the district. HBAC was launched in March 2004 and has targeted persistent offenders involved in business crime and anti-social behaviour within Huntingdon. Now crime has been displaced to neighbouring towns. The aim of the new district-wide scheme is to share best practice and for all involved to gain the proven benefits. Huntingdon will now share its sophisticated database system with other towns in order for them to achieve similar success.

The first town to grasp the opportunity to share the best practice is St Ives where businesses joined HBAC in mid September. At the same time the two way radios were upgraded to mirror those used in Huntingdon. St Ives will now benefit from the new ShopSafe radio technology, which displays who is talking with the added benefit of allowing immediate information and real-time back up in an emergency situation. The system also links to the CCTV Control Room, run by Huntingdonshire District Council. This gives St Ives businesses increased confidence when dealing with all crime and anti-social behaviour.

Additional generous grant funding from Cambridgeshire Constabulary has allowed the appointment of a part time HBAC co-ordinator, who will assist the HBAC Scheme Manager in the implementation of the expansion throughout Huntingdonshire.

Quote from Katy Sismore, HBAC manager,

"I am so proud of the team effort that has made the original scheme so successful.

The businesses have embraced the concept of partnership working with the Police and

local authorities. Sharing “best practice” with other towns will guarantee rewards for all”

Please contact the HBAC office on Tel: 01480.457579 for more information