

## Essex Business Crime Strategic Board

### MINUTES Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022, 10.00am – 12.00pm Teams Meeting

#### **Attendees**

B-J Harrington – Chief Constable, Essex Police  
CI Terry Balding – Essex Police  
Denise Rossiter – CEO, Essex Chambers of Commerce  
Darren Hyde, Managing Director, VIP Security  
John Moran – Minerva Fire & Security  
Samantha Johnson – Head of Security Compliance, London Stansted Airport  
Darren Horsman – Strategic Head of Policy and Public Engagement, Essex PFCC  
Sonia Peirson – Estates Manager, DP World London Gateway

#### In attendance:

Lucy Childs – Events Coordinator, Essex Chambers of Commerce  
Terry Jacobs – Business Crime Sergeant, Essex Police  
Christian Kemp - Lecturer in Cybercrime, Criminology and Policing, Anglia Ruskin University  
Mike Russell – FSB Essex Area Lead  
Patrick Holdaway – Superintendent National Business Crime Centre

#### **1. Welcome & Apologies**

Roger Hirst - Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner for Essex  
Shaun Kane – Superintendent, Essex Police  
Iain Palmer – Head of Revenue Protection & Security, Trenitalia c2c  
Lee Hammond – Head of Security, East of England Co-op  
Jane Gardner – Dep. Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner for Essex  
Robin Punt – Head of Communications, Essex Police  
James Coomber – Regional Risk & Compliance Manager – McColl's Retail Group  
Stephen Cook – Head of Human Resources, Wilkin & Sons  
Jade Uko – Development Manager, FSB

- 2. Minutes of Last Meeting:** Minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2022 were circulated in advance, reviewed and approved. These will also be available to view on the Essex Chambers' website.

**Matters arising** – none

#### **3. Business Crime Team Update**

- TB & TJ updated the Board on the current working situation, objectives, achievements and next steps for the Business Crime Team.
- The current situation sees crime levels increasing however organisations are reporting more.
- Shoplifting and violence without injury account for a large proportion of business crime.
- BCT have been directly engaging with businesses in the county including town visits under the 'Street Week' campaign and acting as conduit for businesses at Lakeside shopping centre after a fatal incident.
- BCT asked to present at the National Business Crime Solution Conference on the work achieved in Essex to 500 attendees.
- BCT worked on Operation Hazel during the 'Just Stop Oil' protests.
- Exhibited at Essex Chambers Festival of Business reaching a wide range of businesses.

- BCT continuing to hold bi-monthly Business Advisory Group. Still in the early stages the group allows businesses to feedback their concerns on a local level to the team.
- BCT are offering Domestic Abuse Awareness Sessions to businesses.
- BCT newsletter subscribers and social media followers continue to grow, enhancing their communications reach.
- Implementing Business Crime Reduction Partnerships in Braintree & Tenterden.
- Using the data analysis, the BCT are carrying out Crime Prevention Assessments with repeat victims to identify areas of improvement.
- BCT are running the first Business Fraud and Cyber Crime online Q&A session.
- TB is working to get free e-learning crime prevention packages available to Members of Essex Chambers.
- DHy asked about the Police's response to shop lifting and the parameters around it being investigated/treated as a low-level crime. TB explained that shoplifting is reviewed through T.H.R.I.V.E assessment and not based on monetary value of the crime. The investigation will be proportionate with the crime.
- DHo requested for the FSB to share the newsletters to their networks.

#### **4. Presentation on National Business Crime Centre from Patrick Holdaway, Superintendent City of London Police**

- PH gave the Board an overview of the National Business Crime Centre.
- The NBCC is a small team made up of representatives from the City of London Police, Metropolitan Police and Security Industry Authority.
- The NBCC aims to improve partnership working with the business community, provide businesses with resources and prioritise prevention.
- Working with Crown Prosecution Service and Home Office to change guidelines around commercial robberies.
- Raising awareness on what retailers can do and working on more efficient ways to deal with offenders.
- Understanding the causation of repeat offenders. Often drug/alcohol addictions, more of a health issue than crime that still has an impact on businesses. Looking at rehabilitation as a way of prevention.
- Working to create specific statute for The Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 on Assaults on those providing a Public Service. Coming into force on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022 and should be supportive to businesses.
- NBCC launching new website at the end of June. Website is a resource for advice and guidance for business crime prevention and other areas affecting businesses.
- Developing a programme of Safer Business Action Days nationally. Local Police forces work with private security providers and retail community for one day in a specific area.
- UK GDPR will soften around sharing personal information if it prevents crime. This will allow for better intelligence exchange between businesses and crime prevention forces.
- Safe Space Sussex is an app where business can identify themselves as a safe space. NBCC are working to develop a national scheme with large retailers.
- NBCC are developing ways in which technology can be used to help record/report crime and share information.
- MR highlighted the property sector, particularly Estate Agents as an industry for the police to get involved with and provide safety training. PH agreed and will also look to work with them as a potential to identify vulnerabilities or abuse in private homes.

#### **5. Cyber Security Sub Group Update**

- Christian Kemp gave the Board an overview of the Essex Strategic Cybercrime Board after its relaunch and outlined its aims/objectives for 2022/2023.
- The Strategic Cybercrime Board had already held a successful large Cyber-Security Conference with speakers from national, regional and local levels.
- The ESC Board supported a Home Office funded evaluation of cyber-security practices in businesses. The findings of this study now steer the direction of the Board.

- The ESC Board aims to reduce the risk and impact of cybercrime on SMEs in Essex and will do this by improving cyber resilience, run awareness activities and events and communicating practical advice and guidance to businesses.
- CK will feedback to the Business Crime Strategic Board on ESC events.
- CK explained the composition of the ESC Board members. The Board will be made up of Members from Law Enforcement/Policing, Business Community including different industries, Academia and Policy Making/Governance.
- CK requested that the Essex Business Crime Strategic Board help to promote events/activities, build the ESC Board and offer guidance on plans. CK also invited Members of the Board to join the ESC Board.
- DR suggested a good webinar to run would be on Cyber Insurance. MK can suggest some contacts to CK on potential advisors from the insurance industry.

## 6. AOB

- DHo invited the Board to attend the Exploited into Essex – Modern-Day Slavery, Human Trafficking and Organised Immigration Crime Conference, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022 at London International Cruise Terminal, Tilbury. Businesses effected and survivors of Modern-Day Slavery will be talking about their experiences. SJ would like to attend the conference with a colleague from Stansted Airport.
- BH thanked the Board for their continued work and support. Now focussing beyond traditional crimes and looking at Domestic Abuse. SETAB are looking to run an event on perpetrator intervention and will be looking to the Board/Chambers to invite key individuals to attend.
- SJ asked for opinions on the proposed legislation on tackling protestors. BH highlighted the need for balance between an individual's right to protest and minimising disruption and criminal intent.
- DR attended the Employer Supported Policing Award Ceremony and was presented with an award for the support Essex Chambers offer to the scheme. DR to discuss further with the FSB on how to encourage more business to join the Specials programme.
- DR thanked Essex Police for their work on the Festival of Business and in particular the Police Cadets. The Cadets will also be helping with the Basildon Business Expo in September 2022. DR invited the Board to attend the exhibition.

## 7. Date and location of next meeting: Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022, Location TBC.

Signed



Date 08.09.2022