

## Briefing

# Tackling business and retail crime in Northamptonshire



**Retail crime has a significant impact on businesses, and on the wider community. Our high streets should be safe for everyone.**

In Northamptonshire, we are committed to tackling retail crime together - to finding new and innovative ways to deter and prevent crime, and to investigating thoroughly when it happens.

Northamptonshire Police, Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner and the Northamptonshire Business Crime Partnership collaborate closely to tackle retail crime.

This joint approach includes

**Technology and innovative prevention tactics**

**Sharing data to support investigation**

**Focussed enforcement**

We believe this approach is unique.

## Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner

**Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Danielle Stone has convened a Retail Round Table, involving the key stakeholders from the sector in finding solutions that prevent shop theft.**

Danielle directly supports the Northamptonshire Business Crime Partnership, funding two specialist Investigators to work with retailers and support the prevention and investigation of crime.

Danielle's in-house crime prevention team implements innovative technological solutions to make Northamptonshire a hostile environment for retail crime.

The team supports retailers with the best practice in crime prevention, offering information and resources.

Danielle has funded mobile CCTV pods (called rapid-deploy site and asset protection units) that can be quickly set up in retail premises that are experiencing high levels of crime. Police will manage and deploy the pods to give the crime-hit retailers security while wider issues are tackled.

Using her convening powers, Danielle has advocated for more work to tackle the underlying causes of shop theft, including consideration of offender rehabilitation and drug and alcohol misuse programmes.



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## Northamptonshire Police

**Northamptonshire Police takes retail crime seriously and has a dedicated Retail Crime Team which focuses on bringing prolific offenders to justice.**

The team began life in early 2023 as a pilot project between the Force, the Northamptonshire Business Crime Partnership and the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, and in March 2024 it was expanded county-wide.

As well as targeting prolific offenders, the team aims to support and engage with retail communities across the county, improving both the reporting and detection of offences.

Thanks to the team, the Force is seeing significantly increased justice outcomes and regularly shares court updates for retail crime to support public trust and confidence.

*Danielle Stone supports calls for assault on a retail worker to be made a standalone criminal offence. This would send a clear message that crime will not be tolerated.*



## Northamptonshire Business Crime Partnership

**Northamptonshire Business Crime Partnership works with businesses across the county to reduce shop theft and other retail crime.**

There is a close working relationship between NBCP and Northamptonshire Police, which enables the sharing of intelligence on arrests and the sharing of images of offenders.

To improve the response to retail crime in Northamptonshire, NBCP has employed two retail crime investigators, one working in each of the county's local policing areas.

The Investigators liaise with independent and national retailers, building relationships to improve evidence gathering and support prevention and intervention strategies.

Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Danielle Stone funds these specialist posts.

NBCP also operates the Disc system, an online database of prolific and violent retail crime offenders that allows information to be shared securely between its more than 500 members and Northamptonshire Police.

Contact the Commissioner at:

[commissioner@northantspfcc.gov.uk](mailto:commissioner@northantspfcc.gov.uk)

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