



16 March 2009

## **Caught on Camera: CCTV leads to 800 arrests during 2008**

Figures revealed this week by the Rugby BID Company show that the CCTV system in the town centre continues to have a real impact on the levels of crime in the area. During 2008 CCTV played a central role in reducing anti-social behaviour and graffiti as well as catching professional shoplifters and stopping national laptop scams.

During last year almost 4000 incidents were logged and recorded by CCTV Operators leading to the arrest of 800 people, an average of 63 people per month, in the town centre. Police collected over 456 discs of CCTV footage containing evidence during last year to support these arrests.

“CCTV has played a vital role in the arrest of a significant number of people in the town centre area who otherwise would still be on our streets,” explained Aftab Gaffar, Operations Director at Rugby BID. “This success is a combination of efforts from our dedicated team of Operators and Rangers through to our radio networks ShopNet and PubWatch and finally our strong working relationship with Warwickshire Police.”

The talking speaker cameras have also played a role in the town centre with an average of 6 positive interventions each month. A positive intervention is when a potential situation has been diffused through the use of the speaker camera.

In coming weeks Rugby BID will announce details on the full implementation of ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) within the BID area and they will also be able to reveal the crucial role CCTV played for Police in the investigation of the murder of Kevin Wright.