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Rugby BID helps Charity Shops fight crime

Rugby BID will be launching a new scheme aimed at helping the town centre's charity shops tackle crime. 'Charity Watch' will see charity shops in Rugby's Town Centre become part of the already successful ShopNet system.

Rugby BID, in conjunction with Warwickshire Retail Crime Initiative and Warwickshire Police, will be providing participating charity shops with radio equipment linking them to the CCTV Control Room and the Police to help combat the latest trend in shoplifting. This will enable Charity Shops in Rugby Town Centre to become part of the very successful ShopNet scheme and allow them to benefit from the services this system has to offer.

"It was brought to our attention that charity shops in the town centre were being targeted quite heavily in recent months by local and travelling criminal elements," said Aftab Gaffar, Operations Director for Rugby BID. "We want to help these shops tackle the problem head on. So in response, Rugby BID will be providing each shop with their own radio equipment and training so that they can use the communication system to help stamp out this crime."

The 'Charity Watch' scheme will work in the same manner as the current Shopnet system and provide a much-needed link for charity shop workers – most of whom are volunteers – to the Police and Rugby's CCTV Control Room. Rugby Rangers will be training Charity Shop Workers during the coming weeks and keeping a close eye on their progress.