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Rugby's ShopNet Scheme extends support to the Hospital of St Cross

Rugby BID has recently welcomed The Hospital of St Cross to the successful ShopNet scheme. ShopNet sees Rugby BID, in conjunction with Warwickshire Retail Crime Initiative and Warwickshire Police, provide participating businesses with radio equipment linking them directly to the CCTV Control Room and the Police to help prevent and control incidents of anti-social behaviour.

This supports the Hospital of St Cross' existing policy which states that any form of harassment and violence towards staff will not be tolerated. It is already working hard in conjunction with the HNS Security Management Service to provide - through their local security management specialist (LSMS) Karen Moore - a secure culture to ensure a safe environment for all staff and visitors.

However the Trust really appreciates the extra support to further enhance the safety of staff, patients or visitors, which is why it signed up to the ShopNet scheme. There are now in excess of 130 members of the ShopNet and PubWatch schemes in Rugby working together to combat crime, making it one of the largest of its kind in the UK. Through the ShopNet radio systems the hospital can listen to reports from other users and be given warnings if any trouble is moving towards the hospital. The Hospital of St Cross has also joined the Warwickshire Retail Crime Initiative allowing their security teams' access to information and images of over 100 known targets in the area.



Carl Holland, Hospital Manager, said, "The ShopNet scheme has had tremendous success in the town centre and we felt it would be able to help us tackle any anti-social problems that we may experience. With the fast response times that have been shown in the past, through the use of ShopNet, it could become a vital additional asset in keeping our staff and patients safe."

“Through the radios, members of the scheme are able to communicate immediately with the BID Control room where CCTV can be used and the Police can be called in to respond to the situation,” said Aftab Gaffar, Operations Director for Rugby BID. “It is a testament to the success of ShopNet that the Hospital of St Cross has made the decision to become part of the scheme and we hope that they soon see the benefits of belonging to the scheme.”