



Home Office

Kit Malthouse MP
Minister of State for Crime and Policing.

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To all members of the National Retail Crime Steering Group

By email only

30 March 2021

Dear National Retail Crime Steering Group member,

I would like to invite you to an online event launching the resources produced in response to the Call for Evidence on Violence and Abuse towards Shop Staff. The event will take place on 22 April at 11am on the British Retail Consortium (BRC) website. To view the event, you will need to register using the following link:

<https://brc.org.uk/events/reducing-abuse-and-violence-against-shop-workers/>

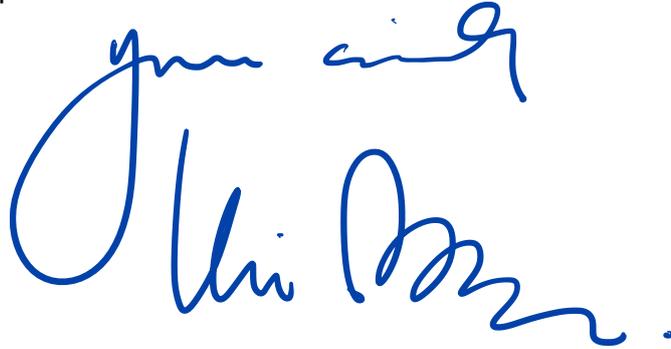
I share your concerns about the levels of violence and abuse experienced by shop staff. Figures published by the BRC, Association of Convenience Stores and Usdaw, obtained through surveys within the sector, indicate an increase in this crime over the past year. These crimes are unacceptable, and I am determined to act, in conjunction with the retail sector, to reduce this crime.

The Government's response to the Call for Evidence was published in July 2020 and the National Retail Crime Steering Group (NRCSG) subsequently established four Task and Finish groups to take forward outlined actions. The aim of the groups has been to produce practical resources to assist retailers, including:

- Information to support staff in reporting crimes;
- resources to support shop staff and their employers who are victims of violence and abuse;
- Case studies and good practice examples of how retailers can work with police to share data; and
- The #Shopkind communications campaign. Free to use, downloadable communications assets including in store signage and messaging suitable for use online and on social media.

I would like to thank all those who have been involved in the work; the knowledge and experience of Task and Finish group members has been invaluable.

Please share the details of the launch event with your colleagues and stakeholders. I am keen to encourage attendance at the event from as many retailers, police forces, Police and Crime Commissioners' offices and other interested parties as possible.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kit Malthouse', with a large initial 'K' and a stylized 'M'. The signature is written in a cursive, fluid style.

Kit Malthouse MP
Minister of State for Crime and Policing