



Testimonials



"The AlertBox initiative is an example of how good partnerships deliver robust crime prevention schemes. This partnership has consisted of the businesses, Met Police and Haringey Council. The success of this scheme has encouraged us to build on the relationships established to find more ways to reduce crime and the fear of crime."

Despina Johnson
Tottenham High Road Strategic Manager
London Borough of Haringey

"The public is suffering from a loss of confidence, which is helping criminals. Giving people a sense of empowerment by harnessing the latest technologies is a great step forward to creating more secure neighbourhoods – both practically and psychologically. Our number one aim is to reduce the fear of crime, and we feel confident that AlertBox will be a useful tool to help us achieve that."

Paul Hammond
Director of Barnet Boroughwatch
Hendon Police Station

"We're all for the development of products such as AlertBox. Anything that helps neighbourhoods become more actively connected will help to engender closer, safer, more peaceful communities. Some Neighbourhood Watch groups are trialling AlertBox at the moment and the National Neighbourhood Watch Association looks forward to seeing how it is received by our members."

Nigel Davies
Marketing Director
National Neighbourhood Watch Association

"AlertBoxes are particularly useful for areas such as Rhondda Cynon Taf where residences are spread over wide and often rugged areas. Because AlertBox links neighbours together using reliable digital radio technology, help can be summoned from close by to assist or even stop the situation. Much of our task is about reassuring the community and AlertBox is a valuable piece of that picture."

Tony Key, OBE
Community Safety Officer
Rhondda Cynon Taf

"We looked at CCTV but the cost of installation and running equated to hundreds of thousands of pounds. Compared to that, AlertBoxes, which use the eyes and ears of residents and accurately record when an alarm was raised, are much more affordable. At the same time they give people the feeling they are able to do something positive themselves to fight crime without putting themselves at risk."

Malcolm Smith
Centre Manager
The Broadway - Plymouth

"In talking to the residents, it's clear they feel there is a place for the AlertBoxes in the community and have found them very useful. Importantly, they appear to be reducing the fear of crime. Now, because the whole community is working together and we've made it really public that this is happening, it's made a real difference. Residents are no longer afraid to report things as they can do so quite covertly. They're working quietly alongside the police, who are taking steps to identify the real offenders.
"The really big difference is that, before, people didn't know their next-door neighbours – but now they're talking to each other."

Sandra Calvert
Trustee
National Neighbourhood Watch Association

"Having disturbed burglars in the house, we realised that we needed to take security more seriously. We alarmed the house but also wanted to put something into the shop and teashop that would give our staff peace of mind when they're working – sometimes on their own. We have a lot of female staff and they in particular feel that there's safety in numbers. The AlertBoxes are great because if one of the staff is worried about someone who looks a bit shifty, they can discreetly press a button and know that a colleague will be with them almost immediately."

Colston Gay
New Manor Farm Tea Rooms and Shop
Somerset

"The boxes [AlertBox] are very good and make us feel that little bit safer. You don't feel so isolated knowing that other people are aware of any problems."

Kate Tryfonous
K & M Hardware Stores
North London

"We have a broad mix of business and cultures within Willesden and it is important to get everybody communicating with each other. One helpful warning message from a neighbour is all it takes to get a dialogue going."

Tony Antoniou
Chairman
Willesden Business and Residents' Association.
West London

"We are keen to ensure that our smaller traders were not left out. The new AlertBox system, which will target smaller shopping areas, once up and running, will further help our fight against crime in the borough".

Councillor Kathy Tracey
London Borough of Wandsworth

"I think for the elderly it will be very good, especially for those who can't get around".

Esther Pipe – pensioner
speaking on *BBC News*