

Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead News Release

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Royal Borough's community radio digital network expands to include Ascot

The council's community radio system that helps businesses, police and their partners to fight crime in Maidenhead and Windsor town centres has been expanded to include Ascot High Street.

The Royal Borough has operated a very successful scheme since 1998 and upgraded to digital in 2011. With Ascot High Street now included, from Monday 11 March, the total number of local companies on the scheme is 93 (this figure does not include partner agencies also supporting the scheme).

Installation, management and training are provided in partnership with PMR Products Ltd which runs the SafetyNet scheme.

Cllr Carwyn Cox, cabinet member for environmental services, said: "Going digital has brought many additional opportunities to the borough, making the new scheme more efficient and user friendly. The police and community wardens are already using the system and have had very positive feedback.

"The addition of Ascot pubs and businesses will further enhance the CCTV control room's capability to detect and record problems faster through early intelligence opportunities.

"The community radio users who link into the control room are a key part of the fight against crime and making public spaces safer for all.

"I would encourage shops, pubs, clubs and other businesses which haven't yet signed up to consider taking up the scheme so we can continue offering a proactive service and build on our successful past."

Sgt Colin Pike, of the Ascot Neighbourhood Team, said: "The community radios provide a great opportunity to work with our partners in the retail business to tackle crime and keep Ascot safe.

"We have had some great response from the local businesses on the High Street which are going to take part in this scheme.

"The aim is for business to be able to provide real time intelligence for the CCTV control room, which can then be picked up by Thames Valley Police and acted upon.

"I would like to thank the council in helping to provide the system."

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Contacts: