

There are many organisations that work independently of the police, but support what policing is seeking to achieve in reducing crime, supporting victims of crime and helping offenders to redirect their lives away from addiction and crime.

Street Pastoring Schemes:

Street Pastors, www.streetpastors.org.uk have over 250 SP schemes around the UK, with 9000 trained volunteers. Christian Night Life Initiatives Network (CNIN) operate as an umbrella group in over 100 places and include Street Angels and Town Pastors schemes www.sa-cni.org.uk (see Appendix C Case Study for further info) They are an interdenominational church response to neighbourhood/city centre problems, where trained volunteers patrol in teams and engage with people on the streets and in night-time venues to care, listen, dialogue and offer practical help to those who may be vulnerable. Their presence, distinguished by uniform, helps to reduce crime and fear of crime.



Organisations with a similar vision to link churches with police / public agencies:

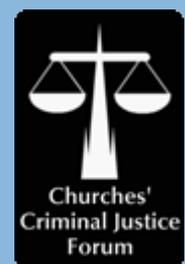
Redeeming Our Communities (ROC) www.roc.uk.com The charity's main aim is to bring about community transformation by creating strategic partnerships which open up opportunities for crime and disorder reduction and improved community cohesion. This partnership approach has seen crime and anti-social behaviour fall and fresh hope brought to some of the most deprived and challenging areas of the UK, urban and rural alike. ROC brings together community groups, churches, the police, the fire service, local authorities and voluntary agencies to encourage them to work together in positive partnerships for practical 'on the ground' change. As a result, statutory agencies have improved access to the support of community/church groups, and thousands of volunteers are enabled to better serve the needs of their community. This idea is proving to be even more valuable in the light of the current economic climate and the Big Society.



Hope Together www.hopetogether.org.uk seeks to encourage the whole church to do more together in word and action. HOPE seeks to resource and equip the church for doing mission locally



Churches Criminal Justice Forum www.ccjf.org which seeks to promote Christian Values throughout the Criminal Justice system and provides more ideas of how to get involved.



Supporting the police directly:

Family Resource/Display Boards. Teaming up with the charity Care for the Family and local churches to provide free resources to colleagues to support family life. It is widely recognised that working within the Police Service can create unique stresses on individuals and their families, sadly reflected in a high number of marriage breakdowns. The aim of this initiative is to encourage and support individuals through those stresses and help reverse that trend. The boards provide police staff with free books, videos, Magazines, and cds produced by Care for the Family on a range of issues covering parenting (including single parenting), marriage, maintaining a healthy work life/home life balance, dealing with stress, bereavement and debt management.
www.careforthefamily.org.uk

Crime 2 Christ scheme. www.crimetochrist.com Initiated by CPA Northants Branch this is a crime reduction strategy, providing pastoral and practical help to people who wish to turn away from crime. A magazine is placed in the Police custody cells, which gives true stories about people whose lives have been changed by their faith in Jesus. It gives advice to readers who may decide to make that same choice themselves, and contact details so they can talk to a Crime to Christ volunteer for more help or advice. Support is available to anyone who requests it. Recent developments include a Prison Mentoring Scheme to offenders in prison and Police Cell Pastors where volunteers act as Appropriate Adults and sit with youths in custody when family members are not available.

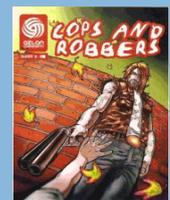
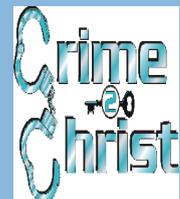
Cops and Robbers www.copsandrobbers.org.uk began in 2004 and is a comic magazine format covering stories of how Jesus Christ has changed lives of both police and offenders. Some are ex-prisoners who are now living transformed lives.

Response to Major Emergencies.

The Billy Graham 'Rapid Response Team' (RRT). Man-made and natural disasters can happen at any time, but colleagues, neighbours, and friends don't have to go through a hurricane or earthquake to experience a personal storm or a shattered life. Serving as a Chaplain or ministry volunteer will help you share God's hope and comfort in times of crisis every day, and during major disasters. Consider setting up in your area a churches' community Crisis Ministry Team. For more information contact Mike Freeman, MBE, UK Manager RRT www.billygraham.org Avon and Somerset area, has a very well organised structure linked to www.ccisr.org.uk. ISR is a diverse organisation committed to 'Putting faith to work' in the community and in the workplace. We aim to express Christian values at work and in economic life and by working for social justice with church communities in the South West.

Tools With A Mission www.twam.co.uk TWAM work in developing countries to help train and support people out of a life of poverty. Dyfed Powys and Humberside CPA collect tools used in crime, or otherwise being sent to auction by the police, and arrange for them to be donated to the project. Anyone wishing to contribute tools that they no longer need, make a financial contribution towards the transportation costs, or start such a scheme if their area can do so by contacting TWAM.

Fear of Crime – Can you help to reduce the fear of crime? Issues such as graffiti, rubbish or other environmental problems bring many of the causes of fear and insecurity. Helping to resolve these neighbourhood priorities is a more visible way of restoring confidence.



Crime reduction:

Word 4 Weapons www.word4weapons.co.uk is an initiative set up under the Ascension Trust, working in partnership with Street Pastors, with the objective of reducing knife and gun crime. Bibles, comics and other materials are offered in exchange for weapons. It is currently being piloted in London and is the UK's first weapons' exchange programme.

Supporting the wider criminal justice system:

Magistrates – Magistrates are volunteers who deal with 95 per cent of criminal cases in England and Wales.

www.direct.gov.uk/en/CrimeJusticeAndTheLaw/Becomingamagistrate/index.htm

Youth Offending Team Community Panel – Join a panel and help make a difference in the lives of young offenders. www.justice.gov.uk/guidance/referral-orders.htm

Victim Support – Witness care (Court Service)

Assist on crime reduction schemes. Find out if there is anything you are able to do and do it, e.g. volunteer for Victim Support www.victimsupport.org.uk or Witness Care Teams www.cjsonline.gov.uk/the_cjs/whats_new/news-3102.html

Drug or Alcohol Rehabilitation – Can you offer a service or otherwise to help those involved in drug and alcohol addiction? According to the Home Office, 70 per cent of all crime is fuelled by drug and alcohol abuse.

Eg1. (See Betel of Britain www.betelofbritain.wordpress.com)

Eg2. House of Heroes project www.houseofheroes.co.uk seek to provide differing levels of supported accommodation for men and women who come from a homeless or broken background, who may have been addicted to drugs and/or alcohol

Eg3. Gilead Foundations www.gilead.org.uk is a Therapeutic Community, offering a residential rehabilitation program, called KEY, for people with life-controlling addictions, such as drug or alcohol abuse, homelessness, gambling, eating disorders, self harm, and other addictive behaviours.

Practical Work – Can you support the Police and local Councils clean up graffiti and pick up litter to improve the quality of life for your community?

