



empowering-communities

www.empowering-communities.org



Our state-of-the-art cloud-based neighbourhood-management system has now entered its fifth county.

E-CINS has given ASB departments, Community Safety Partnerships and Integrated Offender Management teams the ability to manage ASB, Domestic Abuse, Integrated Offender Management, Hate Crime, Vulnerable Persons, Family Intervention Programmes, Youth Offending Projects and Youth Registers all from one place. Having all these sections accessible on one system coupled with its unlimited practitioner numbers will make dealing with the complexities of neighbourhood management, individuals and human relationships easier and more effective.



June saw the launch of the Rural-SIRCS scheme in Norfolk. This is a national crime reduction initiative with the aim of reducing local and organised cross border crime.

SIRCS itself underwent a major upgrade that will provide a host of new and exciting features for the 1000's of users across the UK. We are delighted with the results and have received some great feedback already from users who have commented on the new look and easy navigation of the system. SIRCS will undergo continuous development so that we can continue to improve the system and grow the SIRCS family of users across the public sector, business community and neighbourhoods. We are especially keen to see how it will be used as an electronic licensed premises incident log that will replace the old style hard copy books and how it will help with neighbourhood policing to increase access to and awareness of community intelligence.



Left: Gary Pettengell and Graham Mansbridge of Empowering Communities at the Rural SIRCS launch in Norfolk last month



LATEST NEWS

- **One scheme added 150 profiles to E-CINS within the first 2 days of going live and added 534 reports in the first 7 working days.**
- A multi-agency ASB Team in one county are now jointly 'supporting' an offender they uploaded to E-CINS with a PPO Team in another county. This came about as the person is being released from prison and will be moving to the county covered by the PPO Team.
- **We have saved Probation what they described as 'a substantial amount of money' by optimising E-CINS so they didn't have to make an approach to their IT and internet provider.**
- We are collating feedback from users who are reporting the system is easy to use, they would recommend it to others, It has had a positive impact on their work and all would like to see more agencies using the system and it rolled out countywide. We will produce a full report in relation to this initial evaluation.
- **A Police force have told us that it takes a user just 10 minutes to learn how to use E-CINS. We are now starting work on some video tutorials and presentation material for our schemes to use.**
- We are in the process of arranging the first E-CINS Users meeting. The exact date and location haven't been set yet but it will take place in September this year.

“ ECINS User feedback

'E-CINS presents us with a cost effective option to increase our service standards whilst freeing up time for front line staff in a victim focused environment. There is still some work to do to realise the full potential of this system, but the staff at Empowering-Communities could not be more accommodating in helping to make things happen'

PC 585 Kevin Miller, Suffolk Coastal District ASB Unit.

'The staff at Empowering Communities are extremely helpful with no query being too much trouble, they respond positively, effectively and promptly'

DS Zoe Hardman, Norfolk 180 (IOM)

'E-CINS is a useful tool, time saving also. But is only as good as the information placed on to the system'

Alicia Day, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

'A good way to access information quickly providing it is kept up to date and relevant'

Police Officer, Norfolk 180 (IOM)

- **Representatives from a County Council and the Police have reported that using E-CINS has meant they are now more compliant with the Data protection Act.**
- We have put forward a proposal to develop an API so that organisations can automatically transfer data from their existing databases into E-CINS. This API will also enable raw data to be extracted from E-CINS for analytical purposes.

'The Empowering-Communities staff have answered every query and have been able to resolve any issues on the day of us reporting it to them. Very pleased with the user support'

**Rachel Tucker (Anti-Social Behaviour Officer)
Waveney District Council, Suffolk**

'It can be a useful tool in information sharing. It helps to bring on board other agencies'

Prison Officer, Wiltshire

'The Empowering Communities team were friendly, approachable, quick to make changes and very patient with us'

Becky Cumpson, Wiltshire IOM

'More than anything else E-CINS has been a conduit to focus partnership working'

Geoff Quince, Cambs Fire & Rescue

'ECINS assists in ensuring that the loop is always closed and that everyone knows who is doing what, this saves duplication and many phone calls'

**Sherradin Lee, Roddons Housing association,
Fenland, Cambridgeshire**



Another Community Safety Partnership is going live with E-CINS

Aaron Devereaux, Community Safety Manager-ASB for Brighton & Hove is working closely with Empowering-Communities to develop the scheme in line with his key objectives of providing a functional and multi-agency safeguarding system which aims to protect their most vulnerable victims of crime, hate crime and anti-social behaviour and reduce their high risk down.

Aaron said 'Having seen ECINS in action it is one of the most functional, easy-to-use, innovative and cost effective internet based casework management modules I have come across whilst on secondment to ASBU at the Home Office. E-CINS will not replace existing partner agency databases that are in place, but it would create a virtual tasking desk for signed up partners. Importantly, it would leave a clear footprint of agency interventions and provide insight into how effective these have been.'

E-CINS provides practitioners with an opportunity to quickly and effectively 'wrap' support around the person they are dealing with and that applies to victims, vulnerable persons or offenders.

If you would like more information on this ground breaking system or would like to book a live demonstration all you need to do is email your details to info@empowering-communities.org and we will do the rest and contact you. E-CINS costs just £15 per day for an entire Local Council District area and you can have as many users, departments, RSL's and organisations accessing E-CINS as you need.

E-CINS has already been described as the grass roots practitioners holy grail and as former Home Office ASB advisor Paul Cullen said; 'It will make a significant difference to the way partnerships and communities do business locally'.

For more information click here: <http://www.empowering-communities.org/ecins/>

To download the E-CINS data sheet click here: http://www.empowering-communities.org/ecins/ECINS_Data_Sheets.pdf



New-look SIRCS goes Live!

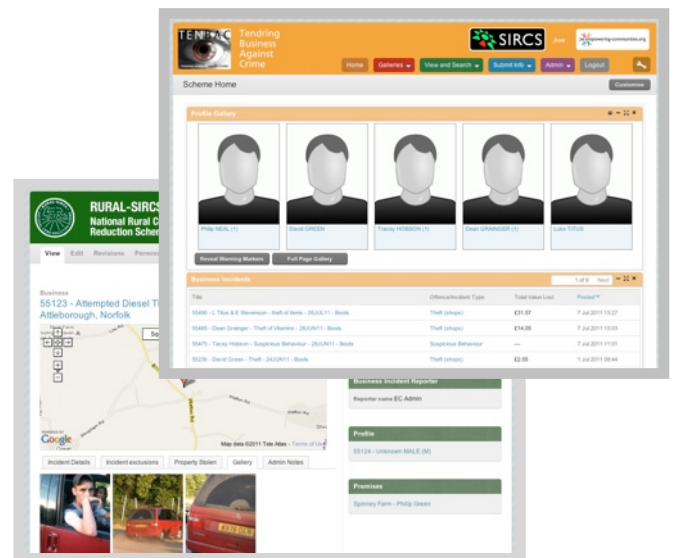
The new version of SIRCS was launched last month following a year of development and a £50,000 investment making SIRCS the UK's leading crime and environmental management system.

A key focus for Empowering-Communities was to develop the system in line with the needs of police officers and PCSOs as users so that we could increase the number of Police Officers with access to our individual scheme's information. This was an integral part of our development process and the work has progressed well culminating with the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA) highlighting the use of SIRCS as national good practice, There are now over 2,000 police officers with access to information on SIRCS.

The new upgraded version of SIRCS offers a host of new benefits to members including:

- New mapping functionality to plot actual location of where crimes occur
- Stolen Property Gallery – upload your own and view others stolen items

- ASB/Injunction Image Gallery – images and profiles of people issued with ASBOs
- Missing Persons section
- Enhanced graffiti and environmental recording functionality
- Enhanced reporting and recording features



For more information on SIRCS go to www.empowering-communities.org/sircs or email info@empowering-communities.org

Tackling Rural Crime

The rural community in Norfolk were given a boost when the Norfolk Constabulary presented the new Rural-SIRCS scheme to an audience of local businesses including farms, rural organisations and residents.

People who are living and working in the countryside are able to access the secure internet-based system from their computer or mobile phone and share images and information on crime, suspicious activity and thefts.

Rural-SIRCS compliments 'open source' reporting systems such as the Farmers Weekly scheme and partnerships who use email because as a secure, encrypted system it allows sensitive, personal information to be shared legally.

Rural-SIRCS aims to:

- disrupt and reduce organised, cross border rural crime
- facilitate proportionate, secure and effective information sharing between the rural business community and the police nationally
- act as a social action network that will motivate and empower rural communities, businesses, individuals, partnerships and organisations
- allows people and businesses to actively participate in reducing crime and disorder, tackling environmental issues and in making communities safer



- Increase and improve crime intelligence and feed local issues into the national SIRCS crime-reduction database
- complement and join up existing local schemes and dramatically improve information sharing

Norfolk Police Sgt Jon Papworth said 'We have been working closely with farmers and agricultural workers in the area to set up the Rural-SIRCS scheme, so they can work in unity to protect themselves from thieves.'

Graham Mansbridge of Empowering-Communities said: 'Rural-SIRCS isn't just about sharing information on crime. It's about creating a safer and more secure environment for people to live and work in by enabling them to get more involved in what's happening in their community. Through SIRCS they are able to unite with their neighbours to address problems and issues that they are facing, effectively changing their feelings and perceptions of crime and the fear of crime in their community.'



Minimal Contribution Model to Enable Maximum Participation

Access to the Rural-SIRCS National Crime Reduction Scheme will be available on a minimum contribution basis of £25 per annum per farm/business.

All Police officers and PCSO's accessing the Rural-SIRCS Database will have the advantage of having free access to the SIRCS National Business Crime Reduction Database and the

Environmental SIRCS National Database. Some designated police officers and PCSO's will be able to apply for enhanced moderator access permissions allowing them to administer reports and upload them to the system.

Empowering-Communities is a self sustaining not for profit Social Enterprise. Rural businesses and farms using the system will be charged a one off registration fee of £19. This is to cover registering their business on the system, signing up users, logging the coordinates of their farms/businesses for geo mapping and issuing usernames and passwords.

There is also a free public restricted access option. This can be accessed at the following url: <https://rural.sircs.org/user/public/signup>

If you would like more information or wish to register for Rural-SIRCS please email info@empowering-communities.org or call us on 01502 537719/576888

Empowering Communities, Unit 28 Riverside Business Centre, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR33 0TQ

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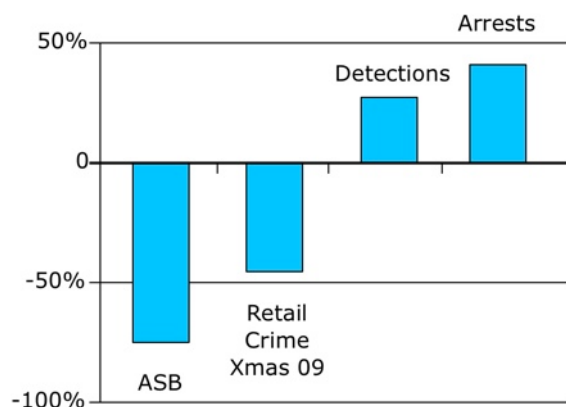
Linked to the SIRCS National Business Crime Reduction Database

SIRCS is the fast, easy and secure way to access your partnerships information and images via the internet, intranet or mobile phone, 24/7 and with no user licences to maximise participation.

- **Access** incident reports, images of suspects and offenders, ASB info
- **Increase** members participation, community confidence and accessibility
- **Create** an environment where everyone knows what is going on
- **Reduce** ASB, crime, disorder and the need for meetings

'We have been using SIRCS since August 2008. Benefits include our members receiving information and images faster, increased membership engagement, 24/7 access to information and email notifications including intelligence bulletins. Since using SIRCS we have seen anti-social behaviour fall by 75%, Christmas shop theft being down 48%; and a 40% increase in arrests. This is because of the increased awareness SIRCS provides our partnership.'

Jonathan Newman, Town Centre Manager, Great Yarmouth speaking at the British Retail Consortium Conference 2010



'Businesses are now able to access and input crime information on a daily basis which was previously only available quarterly in hard copy.' **Vicky Hornsby, CAMBAC**

'Using SIRCS and working with Empowering-Communities has saved us approximately £15,000 over the period of 1 year.'
Stefan Gurney, Norwich City Centre Manager

For more information or to arrange a demonstration

call 01502 537719/576888 or email info@empowering-communities.org



Innovation Through Technology
Award 2008



Community Impact Award 2009



Social Enterprise Mark
Award 2010