



*Immediate release  
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To: Retail, Political, Home Affairs, Trades, Wires

## **BRC MEETS WITH HOME OFFICE OVER TICKETS FOR SHOP THEFT**

The BRC is meeting officials from the Home Office's Sentencing Policy Team this afternoon to raise their concerns over the extension of Fixed Penalty Notices to cover retail theft and criminal damage.

The British Retail Consortium (BRC) are worried that these new measures are ill conceived, rushed through without proper consultation and will undermine retailers' efforts to tackle crime in their stores.

Kevin Hawkins, BRC Director General, said: "Retailers feel that these new measures mean the Government is failing to honour its past promises to take retail crime seriously.

"The losers under this system will not be criminals rather the staff of every retail store, from the biggest warehouse to the smallest corner shop, who have to face the blight of persistent thieves and the violence and abuse that they inflict.

"For the safety and vitality of our sector, its customers and staff I hope that Home Office officials will today will listen to our suggestions on the guidance provided to police on implementing the Fixed Penalty Notices. This would at least serve to minimise some of the threat they pose."

**Ends**

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