

Fearless.org

Crimestoppers is an independent charity introduced to the UK by Lord Ashcroft in 1988 after the Broadwater Farm riots, in Tottenham North London.

During these riots PC Keith Blakelock was murdered. He was decapitated with a machete. For a month after his murder over 400 people were questioned about his death, however to this day no one has been convicted for this crime. It was Lord Ashcroft's view that someone within the Broadwater Farm estate knew who murdered Keith Blakelock but was too afraid to come forward. It is from this event that Lord Ashcroft believed an anonymous reporting line was required, to break through the fear and as a result Crimestoppers was brought in to the UK.

It is the only anonymous way of providing information about crimes and perpetrators and is 100% successful. Calls are not traced or recorded, the phone lines are encrypted and any online activity removes the IP address to ensure no trace is possible. Our trained bureau staff go to great lengths to ensure callers do not give information that reveals their identities and calls do not show up on itemised bills.

This is a service that is available to everyone. Crimestoppers is able to translate documents or phone calls in up to 149 languages and this continues to expand. Contact to Crimestoppers is also available to those in prison.

Rewards are available, although, they are rarely requested. The process of giving a reward to someone has been carefully developed in order to ensure that anonymity remains.

Since 1988:

149,625 people arrested and charged

2,186,708 actionable intelligence logs disseminated

£138,922,990 of stolen goods recovered

£351,356,160 'street value' of drugs seized

In real terms:

Every day around 370 pieces of useful information are passed to the police which results in 10 people being charged

One person every day is charged with murder

Up to 2019 4,401 fugitives arrested on "Most Wanted"

Fearless.org Youth service

The Crimestoppers' strategy looks to focus on those most at need and support people helping themselves to stop crime and reduce victimisation. Fearless.org - part of independent charity Crimestoppers - is guiding young people away from harm caused by crime with a dedicated outreach worker in different regions in the UK delivering workshops to young people in schools and youth centres.

Currently, less than one fifth of children and young people who experience theft or violent crime actually go on to report this to the police.

- Children and young people don't always know what constitutes crime and how to report
- Children and young people fear repercussions of reporting
- Children and young people may blame themselves for victimisation
- Negative perceptions of the police can deter reporting of crime.

Fearless aims to educate and empower 11-16 year old by increasing their awareness around crime like weapon crime, street crime and child sexual exploitation (CSE). With issues like County Lines increasing, where young people are recruited often with violence to sell drugs away from where they live, the need to debunk myths such as gang life being 'glamorous'

Fearless.org enables young people to make positive, informed decisions around crime and criminality. Uniquely, young people can also pass on information about crime to Fearless.org completely anonymously and safely.

This empowers young people to have a voice in their community to help stop crime when, for whatever reason, they will not or cannot engage with the police directly. Fearless.org is an educational tool, producing non-judgmental information about crime and criminality

Their workshops are designed to reduce the likelihood of becoming involved in crime. They help improve understanding of the risks of falling into crime and encourage young people to protect themselves and those they care about by reporting what they know about crime whilst staying 100% anonymous.

County Lines, knife, drug and hate crime are covered in sessions, which are free for all schools and youth organisations. These workshops are aimed at predominantly those aged between 11-18 and all the resources, posters and leaflets can be downloaded for free from the Fearless.org website.

Please do let your pupils and parents know about this service signposting them to Fearless.org.