



22nd September 2008

MANCHESTER ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING CONFERENCE

Businesses in the Manchester area are invited to a free one day conference to learn how to safeguard themselves against serious organised crime and money laundering.

The event, run by 'Payback' and hosted by the UK Financial Intelligence Unit (UKFIU), will be on November 4 at the Radisson SAS Hotel (Manchester Airport) and is aimed at small and medium sized businesses in the Manchester and North West area that are covered by the Money Laundering Regulations (MLRs).

Such businesses - by their very nature - are vulnerable to abuse by those attempting to launder the proceeds of crime, and the aim of the conference is to make businesses more aware of their role in identifying any suspicious activity taking place during your day-to-day work, thereby making a difference in reducing the harm caused to communities by serious organised crime and also in protecting their business.

Throughout the conference there will be speeches and breakout sessions offering a range of practical hints and tips for delegates to take away and incorporate into their business processes. Representatives from the regulators who supervise firms in respect of their responsibilities within the MLRs 2007 will also be on hand to offer practical advice and guidance to businesses from their respective sectors.

The breakout sessions will include several case studies of operations and investigations which highlight the value of the information provided to law enforcement from the Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) Regime and emphasis the importance of knowing your customer, customer due diligence and understanding your client's business.

The programme of events is specifically designed to reflect the needs of those within an organisation that have a working interest in combating money laundering, to ensure their business is compliant, to share ideas and help mitigate against the possibility of someone using businesses to launder the proceeds of crime.

The conference will be the second such cross-sector event which the UKFIU - which sits within the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) - has held under the 'Payback' banner, a multi-agency approach to taking the cash out of crime.

The day will run from 9.30am to 4.30pm. Anyone interested in attending should contact fiudialogue@soca.x.gsi.gov.uk for an application form. It is a first come, first served basis.

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