

Internal BIN Regulations for the WOKRA Police District

Scope

Article 1:

These regulations apply to all existing and future neighbourhood information networks (known as *buurtinformatienetwerken* or BINs) established in the territory of the WOKRA police district (Wezembeek-Oppem and Kraainem).

BIN

Article 2

The aim of the BIN is principally:

1. to make people feel safer,
2. to promote social cohesion,
3. to raise awareness of the importance of crime prevention,
4. to prevent crime and, as part of an overall approach to safety, to pass on information about fire prevention and the prevention of carbon monoxide poisoning,
5. to foster cooperation between the general public and police in relation to the exchange of information.

Article 3

The BIN is prohibited from organising any patrols, carrying out any interventions, or assuming any other policing duties. If it is established that a BIN is contravening this rule, the police will do their utmost to put an end to the network and stop the prohibited activities. BIN members are explicitly forbidden to perform policing duties. This specifically includes organising patrols, inspection rounds, checks on persons, vehicle checks, etc.

Article 4

A BIN may not have any party political objectives.

Article 5

The members of a BIN cannot invoke any special rights or powers. Membership of a BIN moreover does not give a member any preferential rights in contacts with the police services.

Article 6

A BIN can be established for and/or by a specific target group within society (e.g. self-employed persons, SMEs, etc.). Attention must also be paid to avoiding any conflicts with the Belgian Anti-Discrimination Act of 10 May 2007.

Article 7

No costs are attached to membership of a BIN. However, an annual contribution may be introduced, at the initiative of the BIN Coordinator, solely to cover actual or future operational costs. *These costs – which could be requested from the members – may relate to communication costs only.*

The amount of this contribution will be decided in consultation with the members at a General Meeting. The motivation for introducing an operating contribution and the amount will be set out in detail in the meeting report. This motivation must include the BNI's cash position and a statement of revenue and expenditure for the previous operating years.

Article 8

Members may voluntarily leave the BNI at any time. There are no costs involved in leaving the BNI. The member must address a written request, by letter or e-mail, to the BIN Coordinator for this purpose.

If a member moves outside the area of the BIN, he/she must likewise inform the BIN Coordinator.

In both cases, the BIN Coordinator will take the necessary steps to remove the member from all BIN communication lists.

Article 9

Members who do not pay the agreed operating contribution will be removed from the list of BIN members. Members who are removed from the list of members will no longer receive information from the BIN, but will remain on the telephone list so that they continue to receive urgent messages.

BIN Coordinator

Article 10

At the time of his/her appointment, the BIN Coordinator must hold a certificate of good conduct and be at least 18 years old. He/she is chosen or designated by the BIN members.

Article 11

If the BIN Coordinator commits any criminal offences after his/her appointment, the police may remove him/her from that position. The same applies if the General Meeting decides that the current coordinator is not a satisfactory coordinator or he/she does not follow procedures. The offences committed must be of such a nature that they seriously harm the credibility of and trust in the BIN Coordinator and/or the BIN.

Article 12

The BIN Coordinator is responsible for organising and managing the daily operations of the BIN. If necessary, he/she may be assisted by a co-coordinator and a secretary. They will jointly form the Steering Committee. Larger BINs may also have street wardens appointed on a voluntary basis to provide support to the Steering Committee.

Article 13

The BIN Coordinator manages the lists with the contact details of the BIN members.

Article 14

At appropriate times, the BIN Coordinator reminds members that the police are the sole point of contact for security problems, complaints and reporting crimes.

In this regard, the BIN Coordinator applies the principle of referral to what he/she considers to be the most suitable service(s).

Article 15

The BIN Coordinator organises an annual meeting to which all BIN members are invited at least once every calendar year.

Article 16

The BIN Coordinator provides the necessary information on the operation and objectives of the BIN to all members. When new members join the BIN, the BIN Coordinator will give them a BIN sticker and ask for this to be affixed visibly on their home.

Article 17

The BIN Coordinator is the point of contact of the BIN for the police.

Article 18

The BIN Coordinator or Steering Committee never sends messages to the BIN at their own initiative. Messages must always be assessed by the police, who will then decide whether or not to give permission for them to be sent.

BIN members**Article 19**

Anyone who has reached the age of majority and resides or works within the area of a BIN may become a member of this BIN. Membership of a BIN is on a voluntary basis only. A person becomes a member of the BIN by completing and signing the registration form that he/she then returns to the BIN Coordinator or designated police officer. Members remain responsible at all times for the accuracy of the details that they provides.

Article 20

By signing the registration form, BIN members declare that they have also read and agree to these BIN regulations.

Article 21

The information that BIN members supply on a registration form may only be used for BIN operations and is accessible only to the police and the BIN Coordinator and Steering Committee, if the latter exists.

Article 22

BIN members may be excluded from the BIN for a manifest failure to comply with the internal regulations. The member will then be removed from the telephone list and also receive no further BIN information.

Article 23

BIN members undertake to be vigilant and alert and to immediately report any suspected or actual criminal acts to the police, either using the normal telephone number 02/766.18.18 for non-urgent cases or the emergency number 101 for urgent cases.

Article 24

BIN members may use the information by and for the BIN exclusively for the purpose of the objectives set out in Article 2.

Police

Article 25

A designated police officer is appointed for the local police force that has jurisdiction over the territory in which the BIN is located. He/she is the point of contact for the BIN Coordinators located within the territory of that police district.

Article 26

The designated BIN police officer supports the BIN Coordinator/Steering Committee in establishing a new BIN. He/she makes the necessary contact with the relevant municipal executive to inform the local authorities about these initiatives. He/she also draws up the BIN protocol and arranges for approval from the municipal authority and FPS Home Affairs.

Article 27

Regular meetings will be held, as needed, between the designated BIN police officer and the BIN Coordinator.

Article 28

The designated BIN police officer provides information to the BIN Coordinator regarding security items within the BIN. He/she also gives feedback after any activation of a BIN. This information is always exchanged within the statutory limitations of the Belgian Privacy Act (8 December 1992), the Belgian Anti-Discrimination Act (10 May 2007) and the Belgian Policing Act (5 December 1992).

Article 29

The police undertake to treat all personal details relating to BIN members as confidential and to always use it solely for BIN operations and in accordance with the Belgian Privacy Act of 8 December 1992.

Article 30

Assessing and managing police information, including information obtained by and for the BIN, is the exclusive task of the police services.

The regulations must always be signed by:

- *the designated police officer*
- *the BIN Coordinator*
- *the BIN member*

The necessary space must therefore be provided for this purpose.