

Police advice on Burglary Crime Prevention, Protecting Your Personal Vehicle and Keeping Your Commercial Vehicle Safe

Burglary Crime Prevention Advice

We do not want residents to be worried about this type of crime as it is rare but we would also like to ask you to remain **vigilant**. Here are some guidelines below to keep your home safe and secure: If you would like us to contact you for some crime prevention advice on your own home, why not give Surrey Police a call?

- Consider a sensor light outside your home address.
- Consider parking the car in a garage and lock both the car & the garage & side gate.
- CCTV and fake CCTV cameras are available and may deter car crimers and burglars.
- If you go on holiday ask a neighbour to keep an eye out for the home and vehicle.
- Ask a neighbour to pop in and remove the post which may be showing through the door identifying that no-one is home.
- Do not leave keys and personal possessions on show at any window.
- Do not leave your recycle bins or rubbish bins out the front – they can be used to step on and over your side gate. Why make life easy for them?
- Put away all gardening tools which could be used to open windows and doors.
- Make sure the curtains are shut and some lights are on if you are going out in the evening or for a period in the day returning in the evening..
- Consider timer lights throughout the day and night if you're going away and leave the radio on suggesting that someone is at home.
- Consider the use of IMMOBILISE which can register your most valued items on the internet for us to check when we find them in a warrant.
- If you do not have a Neighbourhood watch please do consider this as it does have many benefits.

Vehicle Crime

Thankfully, most vehicle crime is opportunistic and therefore easy to prevent. Following the straightforward advice below will help to lessen your chances of becoming a victim of vehicle crime.

If you have any information to assist your local officers with the above investigation, please do contact them in confidence on 101. If you have been a victim of vehicle crime and have not reported it, please do so as soon as possible to help us gain a better picture of what is happening in the area.

Protecting your personal vehicle

- Consider a sensor light if your car is parked on your drive or on the road.
- If possible, park your car in a garage and lock both the car and the garage.
- When away from home, try to park in a well-lit, open location, or a police approved 'ParkMark' car park
- CCTV and fake CCTV cameras are available and may deter car crimers.
- If you go on holiday ask a neighbour to keep an eye out for the vehicle
- Always lock your vehicle and close the windows and sunroof.

- Remove all personal possessions - not just sat navs, laptops and mobile phones - but also loose change and clothing
- Look after your car keys and keep them out of sight and secure, even when you are at home
- Secure number plates with tamper proof or clutch head screws.
- If you have an older car, or one without an alarm, get one fitted, or use a steering lock
- Fit a tracking device to your vehicle (and ensure you know how to activate it)
- Have the vehicles registration number or vehicle identification number (VIN) etched on each window.
- If you do not have a Neighbourhood watch please do consider this as it does have many benefits.

Keeping your commercial vehicle safe

- If you find your vehicle has been broken into, please report this to the local police force at the time.
- Ensure your vehicle is always locked. Lock the back doors while driving.
- If your vehicle doesn't have an alarm, get one fitted. Insurance companies will often give a discount for properly installed and approved alarms.
- Never leave personal documents, tools or equipment in your vehicle overnight.
- Keep your van keys safe while you are working. Never leave them in your vehicle.
- 'High clearance' vehicles are common targets for catalytic converter theft. Mark yours to deter thieves.
- Security mark all your tools and equipment to make items uniquely identifiable, & use Immobilise.com
- Don't buy cheap, second hand tools from a market or unidentified owner as they may be stolen.
- Keep stops for fuel, food and other goods to a minimum. The fewer stops you need to make (leaving your vehicle unattended) the more secure it will be.
- Make sure you have fully comprehensive insurance for your vehicle. Thieves will often 'smash and grab' causing damage that is expensive to repair and may take you off the road for several days.

To report a crime or incident or to contact your Safer Neighbourhood Team call **101**

Only call **999** in a genuine emergency requiring urgent police attendance

Did you know that Surrey Police is on Twitter, Facebook and other social media channels? Find out more:

<http://www.surrey.police.uk/contact-us/social-media>

[WWW.SURREY.POLICE.UK](http://www.surrey.police.uk)