



# WRITTLE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

May 2011

## Reporting of incidents or any suspicious activity to the police.

Listed below are some helpful tips that may assist you when calling Essex Police.

What number should I call?

**0300 333 4444**

If it is an emergency such as a crime happening at the time call **999**

If you are victim of crime try to touch as little as possible until the police arrive.

If you want to give information anonymously you can call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111

### **What can you do to help reduce incidents of crime?**

Be extra observant. The only persons who really know the area in which you live are the people that live there. The police may not note a suspicious person within your road, but you probably would. Neighbourhood watch area the eyes and ears of the community.

Have you noticed persons hanging around the area? These persons may be on foot, on a bike or in a vehicle.

Have you noticed a tool or a piece of equipment that has been discarded? This may have been used to commit a crime. Have you noticed anything in an odd location and thought it strange? Then report it 0300 333 4444

### **Did you hear something?**

Perhaps you may have heard a noise during the evening or at night. Have a look out your window. If you note someone or a vehicle acting suspiciously then please call Essex Police straight away. Do not think that you are wasting Police time.

### **Did you over hear something?**

Perhaps you may have over heard someone talking about a burglary / crime and can share the information with us.

### **How as Neighbourhood Watch can we make the area more secure?**

Ensure this information is known to others within your watch group.

Some members may walk their dogs regularly during the evening and may notice something.

Look at security, Trisha Staerck the Essex Police Crime Reduction Officer can offer advice. Have a look at the Sold Secure or Secured by design websites. There are a whole host of products on sale to secure property

Mark any property with a UV or permanent marker pen – just write your house number and postcode.

Take photos of any valuable items

Think about having an alarm installed, the Crime reduction officer can assist you with this and give you advice on what you need.

### **What number do I use to call Essex Police?**

If someone is committing a crime at the time call 999

The Non Emergency number is 0300 333 4444.

If you are victim of crime try to touch as little as possible until the police arrive.

### **What information will help the Police?**

A description of the suspect(s)

Male/ Female, Ethnicity

Clothing (any patterns or logos)

Age, Height, Build, Hair colour/style

Was the suspect holding anything, goods / backpack?

Tattoos, Glasses, beard

Give any directions that the suspect is heading towards.

Do not worry if you do not have answers to all the above, just try to remember as much as you can.

Keep a pen and pad to hand if it helps you.

### **Vehicle information**

Try to make note of the following

Index number

Make

Model Number

Was the vehicle sign written?

Direction of travel.

***If you note something strange report it straight away.***

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