



## Community Notice

### **Non-Emergency contact number 101 - Emergency 999**

#### **Chichester District**

##### Recent spate of Burglary OTD (Other than Dwellings)

Chichester District has seen a rise in Burglary OTD offences during January and the first week in February 2013 and the local teams are working hard to try and catch these criminals and protect our communities but, how can you help?

Please follow these simple crime prevention steps to help protect yourself, your family and your property from being targeted by thieves.

##### Securing your garden

- Ensure that entry points to your garden are secure i.e. lock rear and side gates
- Consider prickly planting to provide nature's own barrier to stop intruders, but keep it pruned to prevent concealment.
- Remove any items that may act as an aid into, or out of your garden, when not in use i.e. insecure ladders, garden furniture.
- Consider a movement operated light at the front and back of your property.

##### Securing your sheds, garages or outbuildings

- Invest in a suitable lock to prevent access being gained
- Potentially remove any high valued items that are stored
- Make any windows opaque so property is not on display
- Mark all valuables with your postcode and house number
- Secure valuable items to each other or to the fabric of the shed, garage etc. This will make removal a lot more difficult.
- Consider fitting an alarm.

Going away? Have you considered letting someone you trust know when & where you are going? If you have a trusted neighbour/family member or close friend that you know can be relied upon, why not let them know the dates you will be away and ask them if they could keep an eye on your home while you are gone.

If you are going away for a week or so, you could consider coming into your local police station or call 101 to ask for a 'log' to be created, which lets us know when you are not around. Just tell us the dates you will be gone and whether you have left a key with a trusted neighbour or friend. We will then inform your local PCSO who can keep an eye on your property while on patrol in your area.

### **Break down of the areas:**

Chichester: The City Centre remains to be a target area for thieves with a variety of premises being targeted. The east of the City has been targeted for garages and shed breaks with bicycles being stolen.

Selsey: Business premises were mainly targeted where cash was believed to have been sought. Sheds and garages have also been targeted.

Midhurst/Petworth: Within the Haslemere and Camelsdale area sheds, farm buildings and tack rooms have been targeted with power tools and garden equipment being stolen. Within the Midhurst area, garages have been entered and bicycles stolen.

If you have any information about who may be responsible for some of these offences or have any other relevant information that can help with our investigations please contact us via 101.

**Lisa Shadbolt**

Public Engagement Officer

**Chichester Police Station**

**Neighbourhood Policing Team**

**Telephone: 101**

[www.facebook.com/chipolice](http://www.facebook.com/chipolice)

[www.twitter.com/#!/chi\\_police](https://twitter.com/#!/chi_police)

**If you see anything suspicious please report it immediately.**

It might be the vital piece of information we need! Sussex Police gratefully receive information on all suspicious activity, suspicious persons and Anti-Social Behaviour, occurring in your area. We thank you for your vigilance and together, in partnership, we will effectively reduce and detect crime.