



Sussex Police
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Neighbourhood Watch Community Notice

Non-Emergency contact number 101 – Emergency 999 Chichester District

We are starting to see an increase in the number of reports for vehicle crime across the District and as the evenings are gradually becoming longer and brighter, it is likely that we will receive more reports...

Next to your house, your car is often the most expensive single item you will buy. The following should be considered:

- Is it parked in a secure place?
- Have you left any property in or on display in the vehicle, i.e. mobile phone, camera, parcels, or is your CD or cassette player on view? Such items are a target for thieves.
- Have you locked your doors and engaged the steering lock or an immobiliser?
- If your car is not fitted with central locking, do you check the rear doors or do you assume they are locked? Check before you leave - it only takes a few seconds.
- Do not leave the engine running and then leave the vehicle to go into a shop or to post a letter etc.
- When you refuel your vehicle do not leave the keys in the ignition. Lock your vehicle when you refuel your vehicle, even if it is on a forecourt and it might be still in eyesight of the kiosk.
- When parking your vehicle at night do not leave the vehicle keys just inside your letterbox. A common method used by thieves involves using poles and fishing rods to hook keys out properties through letterboxes.
- If you must leave property in the car make sure it is out of sight. Put it in the boot, but ensure nobody is watching.
- If your vehicle is your work vehicle then ensure no tools are left in it over night. If you are working outside a property do not leave your vehicle open for easy access to tools. **ENSURE IT IS LOCKED AT ALL TIMES.**

Do not make your vehicle attractive to the thief. If there are items on show, whether valuable or not, they are likely to be stolen. The thief is not discerning. Everything should be removed.

We have had reports of fuel tanks on cars being drilled and the fuel being drained. Please ensure you check your car for any signs of damage, noticeable smells of petrol or lookout for indications of spillages on the road or driveway of such fluid.

Please report any suspicious people or groups on 101 or if a crime is being committed at the time on 999.

Please advise your friends, family and neighbours. Ensure that they protect themselves from becoming a victim of crime.

Lisa Shadbolt
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Chichester Police Station
Neighbourhood Policing Team
Telephone: 101
www.facebook.com/chipolice
www.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.

Sussex CRIMESTOPPERS: 0800 555 111