

Dear resident....

This is a busy time of year for everyone, including criminals. A large proportion of crime is opportunistic, so this season, we are seeking your help to stop thieves in their tracks.

There are many things that you can do to protect yourself, your home and your property and make it more difficult for criminals to operate in Croydon.

Planning your journey home from nights out to locking up all your doors and windows, to registering your mobile and electrical items on www.immobilise.com are just some of the simple things you can do to help prevent crime or increase your chances of getting your property back if you are unfortunate enough to lose or have items stolen.

For further crime prevention advice, visit our website at: www.met.police.uk/crimeprevention

We would like to wish you seasons greetings and hope you have a safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year period.

How to contact your local police...

There are several ways in which you can get in touch with your local police here in Croydon...

In an emergency, always dial 999 - this means if a crime is happening, somebody is injured or somebody is being threatened or in danger.

For all other occasions, you can call police by dialling **DIAL 101** TO CONTACT THE POLICE

Your local **Safer Neighbourhoods Team** will have a dedicated phone number and email contact, details of which can be found at:

www.met.police.uk/croydon

You can follow us on Twitter - **@MPSCroydon** - where we send regular updates on what we're doing as well as crime prevention hints and tips.



If you have information about crime, but wish to remain anonymous, then you can also call Crimestoppers - an independent charity - on 0800 555 111.



Call anonymously with information about crime

Croydon's Festive Crime Menu



Some tasty tips on how to stop criminals in their tracks this season.

Starters

Your car - and all its trimmings!

Car Thief Classic - car left unlocked, *with windows open.*

Always lock doors and windows and consider fitting a steering lock as well.

Starters Orders - keys left in the *ignition*

Never leave your keys in the ignition and your car unattended - even to de-ice the windows in the morning!

Sat-Nav Surprise - Sat-Nav left on *display or holder left on view*

Always remove your sat-nav from your vehicle as well as all other valuables. Take the holder off the windscreen and wipe the sucker-marks off as well.



Shadow supreme - parked vehicle in *dark alleyway*

Think about where you're parking your car. Stick to well-lit and car parks or locations or you could make a thief's day!

Mains

Your house - on a plate!

House hotpot - unlocked doors and *windows.*

Make sure all your doors and windows are locked and keep valuables and keys away from letterboxes.

Parcels-in-Blankets - presents on full *view under the tree.*

Try and keep your presents out of sight where possible and be careful disposing of boxes and packaging so as not to alert thieves of what presents you've recently opened!



Seasoned Shed - a variety of tools.

Don't help thieves break into your home. Secure your tools in your shed or garage by keeping it locked and secure.

Holiday Special - served in the hours of *darkness, in an obviously empty house.*

If you're going away, leave lights and a radio on a timer switch and ask a relative or trusted neighbour to collect your mail.

Desserts

Your property - to take away!

On Your Bike - bike not secure and *unmarked.*

Always lock your bike, record your frame number and register it at www.immobilise.com

Mobile Mischief - using your mobile in *the street.*

Avoid using your mobile or listening to music when out - it distracts you and also encourages thieves.



Beverages

It's time to party... safely!

Devil's Cocktail - an unattended festive *drink.*

Don't leave your drink unattended when out in pubs and clubs.

The Taxi Trick - complete with lift home *from a stranger.*

Always plan your journey home in advance. Know when the last bus or train leaves. Only ever get into a minicab if you've booked in advance. Book a 'Cabwise' licensed cab by texting 60835
