

## Vehicle Crime Prevention Advice



As a team we have created this leaflet to inform residents on our ward of the importance of securing your vehicle/s. There has been a recent increase of this type of offence. This is a simple guide to help prevent crime involving vehicles. We hope you find this useful and informative.

Fit theft resistant number plate fittings – stolen number plates are commonly used to hide the identity of stolen vehicles. If you get in contact with us we will provide you with a set of these. Thieves are using sophisticated methods to steal vehicles with electronic keys - a scanner is used to locate the signal from the key. To prevent this, always keep the electronic key in a security pouch when not in use. Keep keys well hidden inside your property as thieves will attempt to get a signal through doors or windows within your dwelling. Fitting locking wheel nuts will reduce the likelihood of wheels and tyres being stolen.



### General Tips:

Leaving items on show is an invitation – Wipe windscreen around marks left by SAT NAV to remove this obvious sign that a navigation system is used. Keys and ignition fobs should be kept safe and out of sight and reach. The most common ways to steal a car or van is to take the keys or ignition fob, either when left in the vehicle or from your home through burglary. Always lock and close the windows of your vehicle when unattended, on the drive, the petrol station forecourt or when parking. An unlocked vehicle is the easiest to steal or steal from. Consider fitting an alarm or immobiliser if your vehicle does not have one.



Set the steering wheel lock if your vehicle is fitted with one. If not, use a bar type steering lock each time you leave your vehicle.

Crook locks and similar devices are a great deterrent. Also consider using a gear stick lock.



### Motorcycles and Mopeds

Keep your motorcycle or moped in a garage, shed or designated bike store at home – storing it out of view is one of the best ways to prevent opportunist theft.

Consider fitting a garage or shed alarm.

Fit an alarm, immobiliser, preferably with tracking capability and property mark any panels – alarms act as a deterrent. Tracking devices and property marking assist in recovery should your motorcycle or moped be stolen.

Lock the rear wheel to an immovable object or ground anchor and use a disk lock on the front wheel – making the vehicle less of any easy option will reduce the chances of it being targeted. Combine the use of a disk lock on the front wheel and a chain lock to a ground anchor. Don't rely on the steering lock and use a cover when your bike is out in the open.



You can also contact us as your local policing team for more information. We will be happy to assist you in any way we can:

Email:

[Sanderstead.SNT@met.police.uk](mailto:Sanderstead.SNT@met.police.uk)

Phone: 0208 721 2470