

SAFE AS HOUSES.



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

Keep up to date on what's happening in your local area by joining the free Staffordshire Smart Alert messaging service:
www.staffordshiresmartalert.co.uk



Take photos of any high value items so these can be shared with your insurance company.

Keep valuables out of sight, a floor bolted safe is best for securing any high value items.



Consider installing a security alarm or cameras.



Outdoor lighting can be off putting to thieves.



Remember to close and lock your windows and doors if you go out.



Always check and chain before you open the door to strangers.

IF YOU SEE ANY SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOUR PLEASE LET US KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BY CALLING 101, PRIVATE MESSAGING US ON FACEBOOK OR TWITTER, OR REPORTING THROUGH THE STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE WEBSITE. **IN AN EMERGENCY ALWAYS CALL 999.**



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BE ALERT TO DISTRACTION BURGLARY

Distraction burglars normally work in pairs or teams so one person can distract you whilst the other steals your valuable items. To reduce the risk:

- Remember to lock your back door, or any windows, before answering the door.
- Always ask for ID and check this using existing contact details. Ask the person to wait outside whilst you check this.
- Don't leave visitors alone in your house.
- Don't sign up to any work on the doorstep.

SECURING OUTBUILDINGS AND SHEDS

- Invest in a high security closed shackle padlock and hasp – ensure the hasp is bolted rather than screwed into shed.
- Consider using a battery powered shed alarm.
- Lock away smaller items and cover larger items to keep them out of view.
- Remember to lock any garden gates to prevent access.
- Lock your bike to a robust linkage point on the floor or wall of your shed or garage.
- Mark high value items with a UV pen – include your postcode and last name so items can be returned if they are recovered. As an alternative you could use a forensic marking liquid.

