

EATON BRAY PARISH COUNCIL

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING, NOVEMBER 2008

Issued by: Joanne Glen, Police Community Support Officer, Leighton Buzzard Police

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

Whilst Bedfordshire Police are working to tackle issues, we also need your help. Detailed below is some information which may be of help to you to protect your property. Whilst some of the advice may sound obvious, it could make all the difference in you follow it:

CAR CRIME	
1	Don't leave items on display – Never leave anything on display when you leave your vehicle. Even an old coat or a plastic bag can tempt a thief. It is also advisable to remove Sat Nav brackets along with any suction marks left on the window.
2	Use immobilisers – Electronic engine immobilisers prevent your vehicle from starting and are the best way to stop thieves.
3	Park safely – When parking at home, always use your garage if you have one, and lock both your vehicle and your garage. If you don't have a garage, try to park in a well-lit, open place.
4	Buy a steering wheel lock – use a steering wheel lock every time you leave your vehicle.

BURGLARIES	
Doors and Locks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Use a solid core or metal door for all entrance points ■ Buy a door bar or chain and door viewer and use them every time someone calls ■ Use a five-level mortise deadlock ■ Never keep your keys in your locks ■ Make sure your doors and frames are strong and in good condition
UPVC doors are becoming extremely popular, however simply lifting the handle does not securely lock the door – always use a key.	
Sliding-Glass Patio Doors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Install an anti-lift device to prevent them from being removed outside ■ Install locks to the top and bottom of the door ■ Keep the latch mechanism in good condition and properly adjusted ■ Use high visible alarm decals, beware of dog decals or block watch decal
Windows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Secure all accessible windows with secondary blocking devices ■ Block accessible windows, open no more than 6 inches for ventilation ■ Make sure someone cannot reach through an open window and unlock the door ■ Make sure someone cannot reach inside the window and remove the blocking device ■ Use anti-lift devices to prevent a window from being lifted out ■ Use crime prevention or alarm decals on ground accessible windows ■ Plant shrubs underneath your front windows/gravel your driveway
Lighting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Use interior light timers to establish a pattern of occupancy ■ Exterior lighting should allow 100 foot visibility ■ Use good lighting along the pathway and at your door ■ Use light timers or photo-cells to turn on/off lights automatically ■ Use infra-red motion sensor lights on the rear of single family homes
Good Neighbours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Get to know all of your adjacent neighbours ■ Invite them into your home and establish trust ■ Agree to watch out for each other's home ■ Do small tasks for each other to improve trust ■ Offer to park your car in their driveway when they go away ■ Return the favour and communicate often

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Whilst crime of this nature is rare in Leighton Buzzard Rural, it is important that we offer crime prevention advice now before it is too late. As you can see from the above, there are many different ways you can protect your property, and keep you family safe.

If you wish to discuss these issues further or received additional information about protecting your home, please contact either Joanne Glen, PCSO 4937 or PC Viv Dady on 01582 473418.