



**METROPOLITAN  
POLICE**

**TOTAL POLICING**

## **PURLEY OAKS & RIDDLEDOWN SNT**

**SAFER  
NEIGHBOURHOODS**  
LOCAL POLICE, LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

### **SPECIAL BRIEFING - THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE**

#### **THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE**

As a SNT we want to promote Crime Prevention Advice awareness around theft from motor vehicles and are sending out some useful tips and advice to assist the members of our Community in keeping our vehicles safe. And secure.

#### **Ways To Protect Your Vehicle:**

- Always lock it. – Get into the habit of locking your vehicle even if you're only going to be away from it for a few minutes.
- Close windows and sun roofs to prevent 'fishing' – This invites for fishing for items through the small gaps of your windows or sun roofs using a hand or a bent coat hanger for example. This could also be used to help unlock a door to get in.
- Secure your number plates with tamper-resistant screws. – These are security screws to attach your vehicle number plates which makes it harder for thieves to get.
- Fit locking, anti-tamper wheel nuts to secure alloy wheels. – Using locking wheel nuts reduces the risk of your vehicles wheels being stolen.
- Secure anything that's on the outside of your vehicle. – This includes roof-racks, tailgate racks, holiday top boxes or in tool chests.
- Take it with you or hide it. – Things like mobile phones, cash, sunglasses, packs of medication are all examples of items that can ear quick cash to the opportunist thief.
- Hide electrical items and leave no clues. Even though they cannot see the electrical items, don't leave any clues to make someone think that item may still be left in the car.
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- Park in well-lit busier areas. – Increases the chances of a thief being seen.
- Take all of your documents with you. – Documents of vehicle registration and insurance could let the thief pretend to be the owner.
- Choose your car park wisely. – if possible try park in well-lit and staffed carparks.

**Catalytic converter theft.** – The precious metal in catalytic converters has led to an increase in their theft.

- If the crime is happening now call 999 – if you're unsure about it, we'd rather hear about it and decide if its theft.
- If it is safe to do so, take photos of suspects or the number plate of their car (do not approach suspect, as they have been known to use violence).
- If the crime has already happened then you can report it to us online or at your local police station.



#### **THE TEAM**

PC Aaron Hutchinson

PC Lauren Eddy

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#### **Other Contact Methods**

**Facebook**

Facebook.com/MetpoliceUK

**Twitter**

@metpoliceUK



The new number to call to contact your local police

**DIAL  
101**

**CRIMESTOPPERS**  
0800 555 111

Your call is free • You do not have to give your name • You may receive a reward

In an emergency, always dial 999

**999**