



IS THERE A NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME IN YOUR AREA?

If not why not consider speaking with your neighbours and become involved in Neighbourhood Watch and help reduce crime. There is very little effort required in setting up and running a scheme and it can have significant positive effects on your street. If you are interested in starting a Neighbourhood Watch please contact:

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ABOUT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Watches encourage people to share crime prevention advice and keep an eye on each others' property and improve home security.



Building two way communication with the police helps achieve this. The schemes also identify problems affecting the community and, using a simple problem solving process, address these issues with the relevant agencies.

Neighbourhood Watch is about more than reducing local crime; it's about bringing people together and improving quality of life. It helps to build communities that are empowered to deal with local issues and tackle problems as they arise.

Residents often feel more secure in their own homes and their fear of crime is reduced by the knowledge that neighbours and friends are keeping an eye on their home while they are out.

The police are able to provide crime prevention literature to all members of Watch schemes so simple, cost effective steps can be taken to improve home security.

Watch schemes can vary in size from just half a dozen houses to most households on an estate. The most important thing is that residents are willing to participate and that there is a willing co-ordinator to run the Watch.

Gloucestershire is one of the safest places in the country to live, but crime does still happen. The public plays a vital role in helping the police to reduce crime and Neighbourhood Watch is a popular way for people of all ages and backgrounds to get involved. It is a proven fact that neighbours covered by a Watch scheme are less likely to become victims of burglary. This is backed by insurance companies who often give a discount on household insurance policies for members of active Neighbourhood Watch schemes that are registered with the police.

Neighbourhood Watch schemes can:

- Cut crime and the opportunities for crime;
- Help and reassure those in fear of crime;
- Encourage neighbourly communities.

Neighbourhood Watch schemes are community initiatives supported by the police, but not run by them. A scheme is run by its members through a voluntary co-ordinator – resident in the area – who acts as a voice for the community and has a link with the police and other organisations.