

The Walton Neighbourhood Watch Group

Chairman – John Haberfield Contact Tel 0208 398 5256 Email jhaberfi@yahoo.co.uk

Newsletter



SPRING/SUMMER 2025

In this edition:

We send regular email details of burglaries and vehicle crimes, courtesy of Elmbridge police. We also have access to the underlying data for all neighbourhood crime, and so below is an update of *all* Neighbourhood crime types from Jan '21 to Dec '24, with a comparison between years and identifying trends.

John Haberfield

Crime map review

As before, our crime data is grouped by electoral wards. (*For anyone uncertain of the boundaries of the wards, there's a map at the end of this article*). To provide a reasonable comparison, we have reviewed data in the new format dating back to Jan 2021 and up to the latest available data.

First, to set the scene for crime rates, let's view how Elmbridge compares with the rest of Surrey.

TOTAL No. CRIMES IN JAN-DEC 2024 PER 1,000 HOUSEHOLDS	Violence and sexual offences	Anti-social behaviour	Public order	Shoplifting	Criminal damage and arson	Other theft	Vehicle crime	Burglary	Drugs	Other crime	Possession of weapons	Robbery	Bicycle theft	Theft from the person	TOTAL
Spelthorne	79	42	24	19	21	17	19	11	7	6	2	2	2	2	252
Guildford	84	35	22	18	25	15	12	7	6	6	2	2	1	1	234
Woking	68	48	19	17	15	15	16	10	5	4	1	3	2	2	224
Runnymede	78	36	23	17	17	18	9	6	6	5	2	2	1	1	220
Waverley	70	34	21	15	12	17	11	9	12	5	2	2	1	1	211
ReigateandBanstead	73	29	20	14	15	12	10	7	6	6	2	1	1	1	197
Tandridge	58	31	16	16	9	13	12	8	6	4	2	0	1	1	176
SurreyHeath	57	28	14	12	13	11	9	8	3	4	1	1	1	1	163
MoleValley	55	28	16	11	13	11	8	7	3	3	1	1	1	1	157
Elmbridge	50	23	14	11	8	12	12	8	4	3	1	2	1	1	151
EpsomandEwell	41	21	11	11	7	10	7	7	2	3	1	1	0	0	123
SURREY	65	31	18	15	14	13	11	8	5	5	2	1	1	1	190

An analysis (above), from the national crime data for Surrey for the half year Jan-Jun 2024 reveals that, for the first time, Elmbridge (*highlighted yellow*) had the 2nd lowest overall crime rate out of the 11 boroughs in Surrey! Previously it had been 4th lowest, and the 3 boroughs with lower crime rates were more rural (Mole Valley, Surrey Heath and Waverley).

Of the 14 neighbourhood crime types, the 4 highest rates in previous years (*highlighted orange*) had been Violence & Sexual Offences, Anti-social Behaviour, Public Order, and Criminal Damage & Arson, accounting for 64% of the total crime (65% in 2023).

These are also closely related, as often what would otherwise be an ASB offence could easily become a violence offence (if the suspect pushes someone), or a public order offence (if the activities intimidate innocent bystanders), or a criminal damage offence (if the activities result in something being damaged).

Looking at these 4 crime types combined provides a much smoother crime trend. (*Within Elmbridge, Violence and Sexual Offences were rarely sexual and most violent crimes were common assault.*)

Next, let's compare the crime data for the 16 electoral wards within Elmbridge.

TOTAL No. CRIMES IN JAN-DEC 2024 PER 1,000 HOUSEHOLDS	Violence and sexual offences	Anti-social behaviour	Public order	Other theft	Vehicle crime	Criminal damage and arson	Burglary	Shoplifting	Drugs	Other crime	Bicycle theft	Possession of weapons	Robbery	Theft from the person	TOTAL
Cobham and Downside	69.5	42.2	22.8	18.5	16.3	16.6	7.4	19.4	4.0	4.6	1.5	1.5	1.2	2.8	228.3
Weybridge Riverside	76.0	32.3	21.8	16.6	8.0	12.0	11.1	12.0	4.6	4.6	1.5	0.6	0.6	1.2	203.1
Walton Central	53.6	35.6	23.6	15.9	12.3	15.6	5.1	20.3	5.1	3.1	1.5	1.5	2.1	1.8	197.2
Walton North	77.8	35.1	17.8	16.3	8.9	16.0	1.5	0.6	8.3	5.2	2.2	3.4	0.0	1.8	195.1
Esher	72.6	22.1	20.3	12.3	14.1	18.7	9.5	8.7	3.3	5.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.8	190.5
Hersham Village	64.6	26.9	20.8	13.8	11.9	12.7	7.3	9.2	5.0	4.6	1.5	1.2	1.2	0.0	180.8
Molesey East	56.3	32.3	14.8	11.4	12.9	11.7	5.8	17.8	3.7	3.4	2.5	0.6	0.9	0.9	175.1
Weybridge St George's Hill	41.5	19.2	12.1	15.9	13.8	12.1	7.9	16.9	5.9	2.6	2.3	1.8	1.3	2.1	155.4
Molesey West	59.2	20.5	15.4	10.8	10.5	12.3	4.9	2.6	9.0	4.6	1.5	1.0	0.5	0.5	153.3
Walton South	46.7	22.8	12.8	12.1	14.1	10.5	10.3	2.3	5.1	1.5	4.1	1.0	2.1	0.0	145.4
Claygate	41.2	14.6	8.1	9.2	12.3	7.3	11.2	10.8	1.9	1.9	1.5	1.5	1.2	0.0	122.7
Long Ditton	35.1	14.5	6.5	12.0	10.2	9.8	11.7	0.0	2.2	1.5	2.8	0.6	0.6	0.3	107.7
Hinchley Wd & Weston Grn	29.2	13.1	8.1	2.7	15.4	6.9	12.7	6.2	0.4	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.8	0.0	96.9
Oxshott / Stoke D'Abernon	25.1	18.2	5.9	9.0	10.0	2.6	11.8	0.3	1.8	4.4	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.8	91.8
Thames Ditton	29.2	10.5	6.5	9.8	10.2	11.4	7.1	0.0	2.2	0.3	2.2	0.9	0.3	0.0	90.5
Oatlands & Burwood Park	21.5	12.0	5.5	3.7	5.8	5.5	7.7	0.0	4.3	2.5	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.0	69.8
ELMBRIDGE	50.1	23.4	14.1	12.0	11.7	11.5	8.2	8.0	4.3	3.2	1.8	1.1	1.0	0.9	151.2

These tables use data from the Office for National Statistics. Each electoral ward is made up of a number of smaller areas containing, on average, a similar numbers of households (650), and that data is used here to provide the number of crimes per 1,000 households for a reasonable comparison. Walton Central has improved from 2023, from highest overall crime rate in Elmbridge to 3rd highest in 2024, Walton North has improved slightly from 3rd to 4th highest, but Walton South has worsened slightly from 6th lowest to 7th.

Looking at total crimes in 2024 we find a fairly similar breakdown of crime types across the 3 wards. The 'behavioural' crimes (referred to earlier) collectively account for about 2/3 to 3/4 of all crime, followed by other theft and vehicle crime.

Walton Central			Walton North			Walton South		
Violence and sexual offences	209	27%	Violence and sexual offences	253	40%	Violence and sexual offences	182	32%
Anti-social behaviour	139	18%	Anti-social behaviour	114	18%	Anti-social behaviour	89	16%
Public order	92	12%	Public order	58	9%	Vehicle Crime	55	10%
Shoplifting	79	10%	Other theft	53	8%	Public order	50	9%
Other theft	62	8%	Criminal damage and arson	52	8%	Other theft	47	8%
Criminal damage and arson	61	8%	Vehicle Crime	29	5%	Criminal damage and arson	41	7%
Vehicle Crime	48	6%	Drugs	27	4%	Burglary	40	7%
Burglary	20	3%	Other Crime	17	3%	Drugs	20	4%
Drugs	20	3%	Possession of weapons	11	2%	Bicycle theft	16	3%
Other Crime	12	2%	Bicycle theft	7	1%	Shoplifting	9	2%
Robbery	8	1%	Theft from the person	6	1%	Robbery	8	1%
Theft from the person	7	1%	Burglary	5	1%	Other Crime	6	1%
Bicycle theft	6	1%	Shoplifting	2	0%	Possession of weapons	4	1%
Possession of weapons	6	1%	Robbery	0	0%	Theft from the person	0	0%
TOTAL	769		TOTAL	634		TOTAL	567	
Behavioural crimes	501	65%		449	71%		352	62%

Now, we can compare annual crime data for this year with last year.

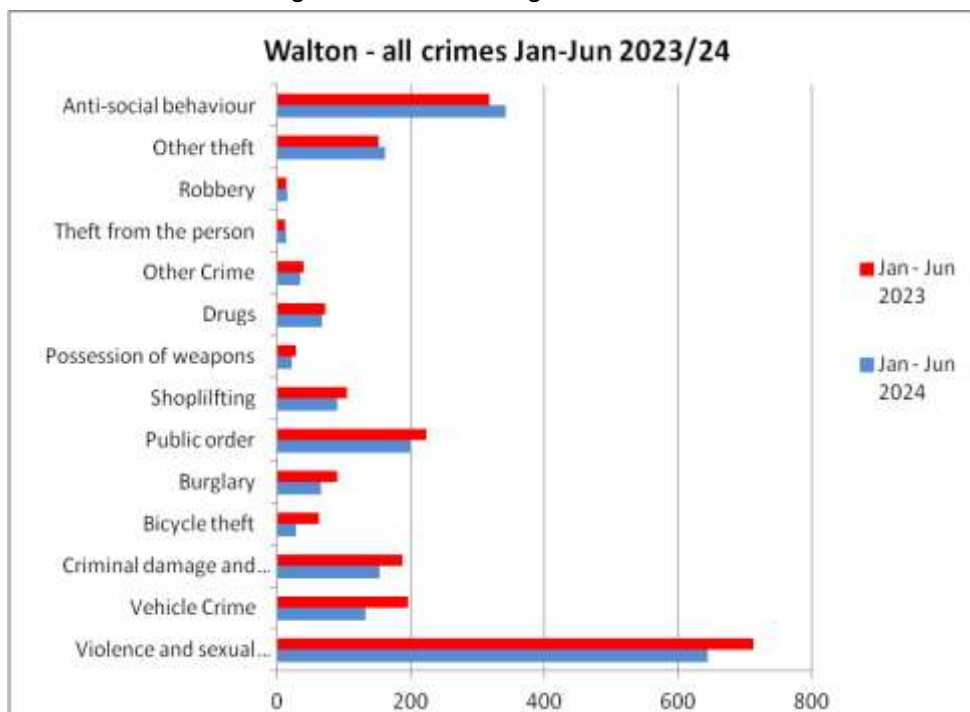
The table below shows, by ward, the variation in numbers of crimes between Jan-Jun 2023 and 2024, with crime types sorted from highest to lowest (top to bottom) numbers of crimes for the Walton region as a whole.

The next column shows, for comparison, the same figures for the whole of Elmbridge. The final 2 columns show the actual number of each crime type for Walton in 2024, and the % of each compared to the total. Walton had an 8.4% decrease in overall crime in 2024 compared to Elmbridge with an 8.9% decrease.

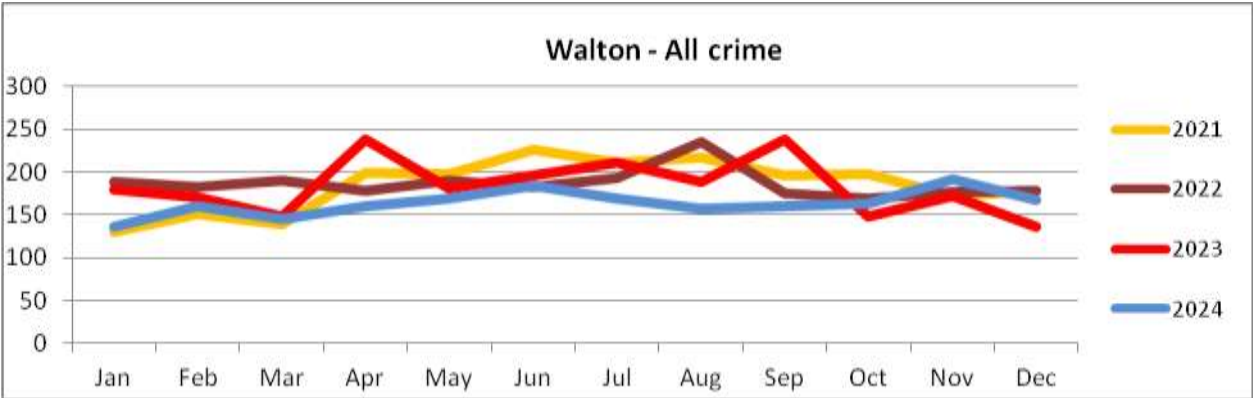
Walton NHW Variance in crimes Jan-Jun 2023/24	Walton Central	Walton North	Walton South	Walton Region	Elmbridge	Walton Total Crimes Jan-Jun 2024	Walton % of Total Crimes 2024
Violence and sexual offences	-7	-41	-21	-69	-100	305	31.8%
Anti-social behaviour	2	35	-5	32	3	183	19.1%
Public order	0	-12	-8	-20	-77	88	9.2%
Other theft	0	8	5	13	6	82	8.6%
Vehicle Crime	-29	6	-3	-26	-69	78	8.1%
Criminal damage and arson	-18	-16	-4	-38	-48	67	7.0%
Shoplifting	-2	-4	-4	-10	56	41	4.3%
Burglary	3	-12	8	-1	-19	37	3.9%
Drugs	-3	-3	-7	-13	-38	26	2.7%
Other crime	-4	6	-2	0	17	20	2.1%
Bicycle theft	-18	0	0	-18	-49	13	1.4%
Possession of weapons	-2	0	-1	-3	3	8	0.8%
Robbery	0	-1	1	0	-2	7	0.7%
Theft from the person	0	-1	-1	-2	-5	4	0.4%
TOTAL	-78	-35	-42	-155	-322	959	

All 3 wards have reduced overall crime numbers in 2024 compared to 2023. There have been increases in some crime types, specifically Vehicle crime in Walton North, Burglary in Walton South, and Other Theft in Walton North.

The following table gives a better picture of how the various crime types have changed between 2023 and 2024. They are shown in order of largest increase to largest decrease.

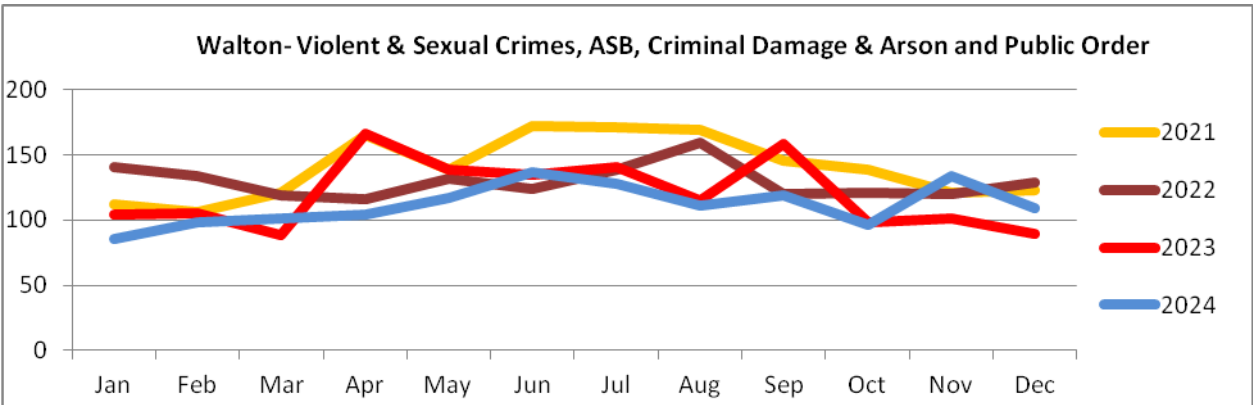


For a better idea of annual trends we need to look in comparison to previous years' crime rates. First, we see that the overall crime rate started below and has trended steadily, near or below 2023 levels.



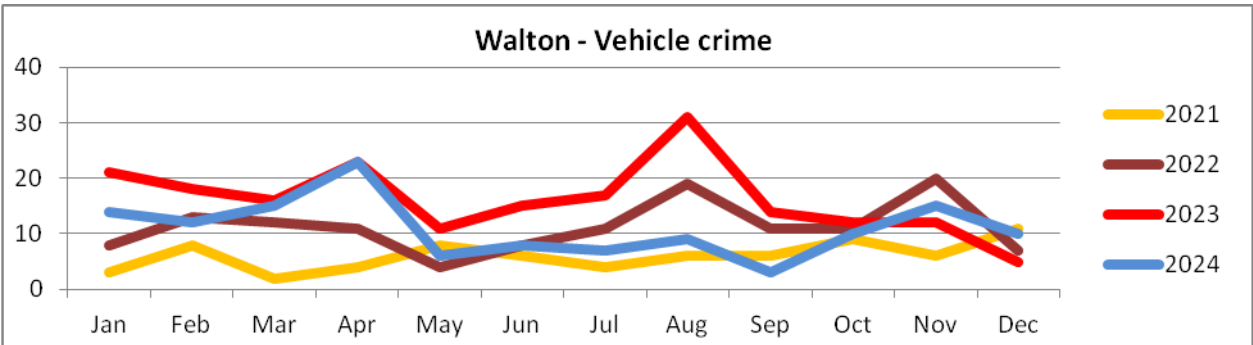
We saw (above) that In the whole of 2023 across Elmbridge, of the 14 neighbourhood crime types, the 4 highest rates (apart from Other Theft and Vehicle Crime) were Violence and Sexual Offences, Anti-social Behaviour (ASB), Public Order, and Criminal Damage and Arson, collectively accounting for 68.0% (two thirds) of the total crime.

You see here the same trend as with total crime, suggesting that this is the main factor in that trend. All 3 Walton wards have trended in a similar fashion and all 3 have reduced their totals compared with 2023; Walton Central -8%, Walton North -1% and Walton South -8%.

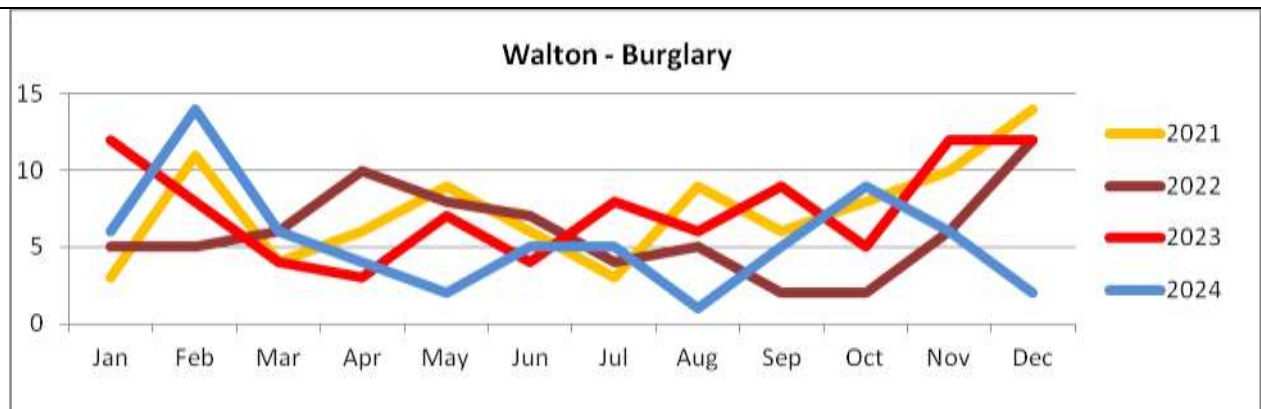


The crimes that most impact residents are Vehicle Crime and Burglary, accounting for 26.1% and 6.0% respectively of the total crime for the year. Vehicle crime decreased across Elmbridge (-26.7%), and Walton also decreased (-32.3%).

Walton Central has been trending the same as in 2023 but lower (-54%); Walton North has trended the same (-28%) although Walton South peaked above 2023 levels in Mar-Apr and Oct-Dec iin March and April , but only by +4 crimes (+8%).

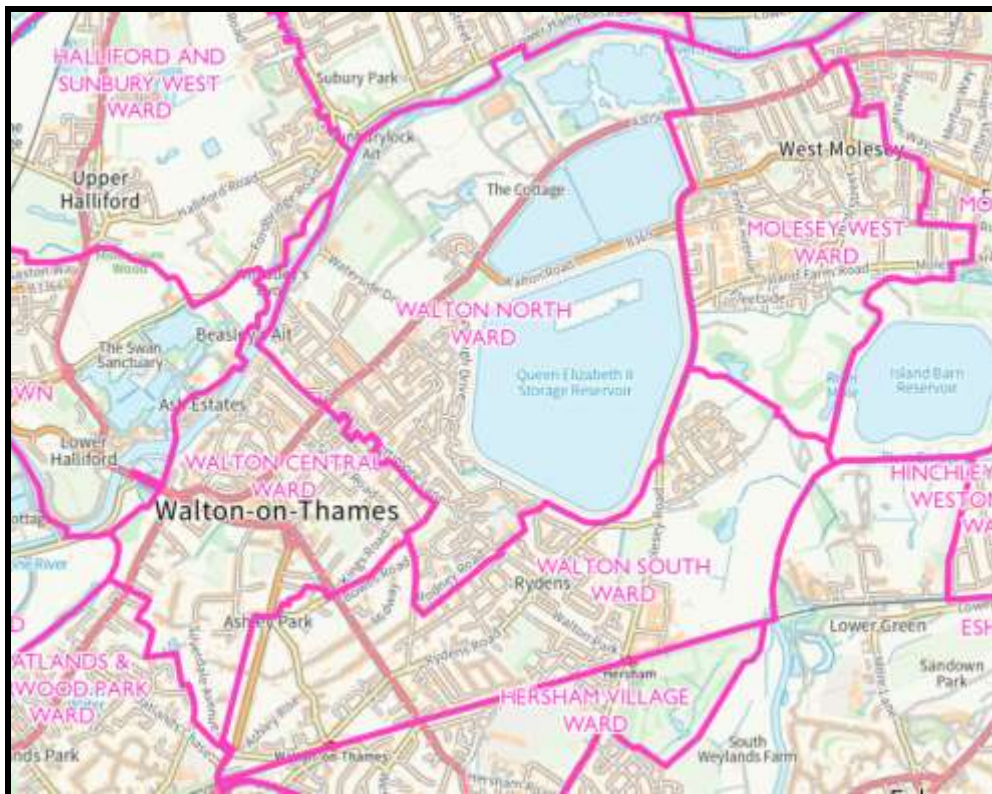


. Burglary has decreased by 25 (-28%) compared to 2023, but we are talking relatively small numbers, accounting for only 3.3% of total crime. Walton Central has -15, Walton Nprth has -25 whilst Walton South has +15 (the latter down to two peaks in February and October).



The remaining 8 crime types, across Walton as a whole, account for the remaining 22% of all crime this year. Of those only 3 show any increase over 2023; Other Theft (+11) Theft from the Person (+1) and Robbery (+3),

From Ordnance Survey Election Maps



Election wards

To see this map on-line, go to:

<https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/election-maps/gb/>

zoom in to your area, select 'Wards / District Wards' and click the 'Show names' button.

Numbers To Keep

IMMEDIATE POLICE RESPONSE 999
POLICE NON-EMERGENCY 101
Elmbridge Police Safer Neighbourhood Team
elmbridge@surrey.police.uk

To report a crime go to:
Surrey Police website www.surrey.police.uk

DESIGN OUT CRIME OFFICER (DOCO)
ANGELA CHRISTIE 01483 631632
Angela.Christie@surrey.pnn.police.uk

CRIMESTOPPERS (anonymous) 0800 555 111
www.crimestoppers-uk.org

ESHER POLICE STATION (Civic Centre) 101
Monday-Friday: 8:45am to 5:00pm

TRADING STANDARDS 08454 04 05 06
 via Citizens Advice consumer service

ELMBRIDGE COMMUNITY SAFETY 01372 474398
 Email: communitysafety@elmbridge.gov.uk
 Twitter: <http://twitter.com/ElmbridgeBC#>

NOISE COMPLAINTS 01372 474750

ABANDONED VEHICLES, GRAFFITI, LITTER
Clean Up Line 01372 474474

SURREY FIRE & RESCUE 01737 242444
Home Fire Risk Check 0800 085 0767
Contact Centre 03456 009 009

VOLUNTARY ACTION ELMBRIDGE 01372 463587
www.vae.org.uk

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- Anti-Terrorist Hotline – 0800 789 321

Or in an emergency call 999

Useful Websites

www.banksafeonline.org.uk
www.bba.org.uk
www.cardwatch.org.uk
www.communities.gov.uk
www.crimeconcernuk.net
www.getsafeonline.org
www.homeoffice.gov.uk
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Residents Associations:

www.esher-residents.com
www.moleseyresidentsassociation.org.uk
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Keep Them Out!

- **Remember** Lock your car at all times when parking, and don't leave valuables on view
- **Remember** leave lights on in your property if you're going to be out after dusk; as many properties targeted appeared unoccupied
- **Remember** Most burglars enter a premises from the rear, and many burglaries take place during the day



- **Remember** Burglars hate security deadlocks on doors because they can't open them from the inside, and have to leave through a window
- **Remember** Double check all windows and doors are securely locked before leaving home; on winter evenings keep lights on when out
- **Remember** Make sure sheds and gates are locked, and outside bins are not left where burglars could use them as a stepping stone.
- **Remember** If your vehicle is "keyless", keep the key in a "Faraday" pouch or metal tin and keep keys AWAY from front door or kitchen window