

The Claygate Neighbourhood Watch Group

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

Newsletter



SPRING/SUMMER 2026

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* crime types from Jan '22 to Dec '25, with a comparison between years and identifying trends.

We lost our Elmbridge NHW website a over a year ago (it had been hosted by OurWatch but they could no longer support it when they changed their underlying web platform). However, we do now have a new website at elmbridgenhw.org

But first, an update on policing in Elmbridge.

John Haberfield

Borough Commander Update

I have now been in post for around six months and am proud to represent Surrey Police within the borough of Elmbridge. As part of our ongoing commitment to improve Neighbourhood Policing within the borough, we have recently introduced dedicated named officers for each ward. Locally, your offices are as follows:-

PC Matt Cramp / PC Jasmine Reed – Dittons & Hinchley Wood

PC Jess Waddington / PCSO Matt Whitting – Molesey (East & West)

PC Frank Straw / PCSO Dan Arscott – Walton Central

PC Mark Hodgkins / PCSO Vacancy (Recruitment in Progress) – Walton North/South

PC Stacey Josling / PCSO Clare Harris – Weybridge & Hersham

PC Sanjar Najibi / PCSO Josh Segal – Cobham & Oxshott

PC Emma McConnell / PC Steve Waters – Esher & Claygate

I am also pleased to announce the creation of a new Neighbourhood Enforcement Team (NET) consisting of 1 Sergeant and 6 Police Constables. This team will be operating across North Surrey over the coming months and will be focused on tackling issues that matter most to residents.

Burglary

My key message for this update is around burglary offences. I am acutely aware of the consequences of being burgled which can have a significant and lasting emotional and financial impact on victims. In fact, being burgled is probably one of the worst types of crime you can experience.

Across Elmbridge burglary offences were down 20% last year (2025 vs 2024) which reflects all the hard work undertaken by your local policing teams to identify and bring offenders to justice. The number of burglaries being solved is also increasing – almost doubling from 2024. That said, there is always room for improvement and that is why burglary will remain a focus throughout 2026 for the Elmbridge Safer Neighbourhood Team.

In preparation for the darker nights, when nationally we typically see a spike in burglary offences, we put in place a plan of action which focused on intelligence led patrols and closer working relations with some of our local private security companies. Since the start of November last year, we have seen 11 arrests for burglary offences in Elmbridge. In East Molesey, for example, we recently charged Jamie Bryne, 42, from Feltham with one burglary and two attempted burglaries.

Our focus around burglaries will continue throughout 2026 with the launch of a working group dedicated to improving our response to burglaries. As well as police and local private security companies, I have also invited representatives from Network Rail who are responsible for the management of the local railway

lines. After meeting with residents in Speer Road I am aware that this is a particular concern following 2 homes being burgled where we believe access was gained via the adjoining railway line.

In nearly all cases burglars are gaining access to properties via rear gardens so rear perimeter security is my key advice to residents. The use of a solid fence (1.8 meters in height, Non-Slip) combined with a suitable fence topper is the best deterrent as evidenced recently when we arrested a burglar in Weybridge who was struggling to climb a fence whilst being observed on CCTV. You can locate all the required crime prevention advice on the Secured by Design website:- www.securedbydesign.com

It doesn't end when we arrest and charge a burglar as I am aware that delays within the criminal justice system are also causing concern for residents. I recently raised the issue with MP Monica Harding who challenged MP Sarah Jones, Policing Minister, in parliament and pushed for faster justice. I meet regularly with Monica and will continue to highlight issues around crime that impacts directly upon local residents.

If you want to locate more information of the Elmbridge Safer Neighbourhood Team, please enter your Post Code on the Surrey Police website:- www.surrey.police.uk

Insp 4779 Chris Thoday

Elmbridge Borough Commander

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 2022 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 2025 PER 1,000 HOUSEHOLDS	Violence and sexual offences	Anti-social behaviour	Public order	Criminal damage and arson	Shoplifting	Other theft	Vehicle crime	Burglary	Drugs	Other crime	Possession of weapons	Bicycle theft	Robbery	Theft from the person	TOTAL
Spelthorne	81	38	23	19	17	16	12	8	9	7	2	2	2	2	238
Guildford	88	35	23	19	20	15	9	6	7	5	2	3	2	2	235
Epsom and Ewell	75	38	19	17	18	15	18	10	8	5	2	3	2	2	232
Woking	84	36	23	18	18	16	8	7	6	5	2	3	2	1	230
Runnymede	76	33	21	17	17	16	10	7	12	5	2	1	2	1	221
Reigate and Banstead	76	29	18	16	13	12	10	7	7	6	2	1	1	1	198
Tandridge	58	32	18	16	10	14	12	7	8	4	1	0	1	1	182
Mole Valley	57	30	15	14	13	11	7	9	6	4	1	1	1	1	170
Surrey Heath	59	26	15	13	11	12	7	5	4	7	1	1	1	1	162
Elmbridge	55	23	15	12	9	11	10	6	7	4	2	2	1	1	156
Waverley	43	18	11	10	8	9	5	6	2	3	1	0	1	1	117
SURREY	68	30	18	15	14	13	10	7	7	5	2	1	1	1	192

An analysis of the national crime data for Surrey for the full year Jan-Dec 2025 reveals that Elmbridge (*highlighted yellow*) continues to have the 2nd lowest overall crime rate out of the 11 boroughs in Surrey!

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, in 2025 increasing and accounting for 68.5% of the total crime.

These are also closely related, as often 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 2025 PER 1,000 HOUSEHOLDS	Violence and sexual offences	Anti-social behaviour	Public order	Criminal damage and arson	Other theft	Vehicle crime	Shoplifting	Drugs	Burglary	Other crime	Bicycle theft	Possession of weapons	Robbery	Theft from the person	TOTAL
Walton Central	74.4	40.5	22.1	19.2	14.6	11.5	44.4	11.0	6.4	3.6	4.1	1.8	3.8	1.0	258.5
Cobham and Downside	71.4	53.2	24.9	26.5	16.0	16.6	24.0	5.5	8.0	4.3	0.0	0.9	1.2	1.5	254.2
Weybridge Riverside	78.2	30.8	22.5	13.5	15.4	11.7	13.8	7.4	9.5	4.9	2.5	1.8	1.8	1.5	215.4
Walton North	79.1	26.5	23.4	12.9	14.8	8.9	3.1	13.8	5.2	8.6	3.1	4.9	1.2	3.4	208.9
Weybridge St George's Hill	58.5	23.8	13.6	16.9	17.7	10.3	14.1	5.4	10.0	5.1	1.3	2.1	1.0	1.3	181.0
Esher	64.6	27.7	17.9	9.7	11.0	7.7	8.2	7.4	7.4	5.9	1.5	1.3	1.0	1.8	173.3
Molesey East	52.3	27.1	17.5	14.5	11.1	12.0	9.5	5.2	6.8	3.1	2.2	2.5	1.5	0.0	165.2
Molesey West	76.9	18.7	14.1	7.4	13.8	6.7	2.6	6.7	4.9	4.6	1.3	2.8	0.5	0.8	161.8
Hersham Village	62.3	23.8	15.4	10.0	10.0	5.4	10.8	7.3	5.0	4.6	2.3	1.9	0.8	1.5	161.2
Walton South	53.3	15.4	12.6	13.3	9.2	16.7	2.3	11.3	5.4	5.1	2.1	1.5	0.0	1.0	149.2
Long Ditton	53.2	13.8	11.1	8.3	4.3	9.8	1.5	3.4	5.2	3.7	1.8	0.6	0.6	0.3	117.8
Claygate	33.5	16.5	10.8	6.5	4.6	6.9	3.5	3.1	6.5	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	92.3
Oxshott / Stoke D'Abernon	27.7	16.2	7.2	3.3	5.1	5.6	0.3	2.6	9.2	3.3	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.0	82.1
Hinchley Wd & Weston Grn	26.5	11.2	6.2	6.5	5.4	8.8	4.6	5.0	2.7	2.3	0.0	0.8	1.2	0.8	81.9
Thames Ditton	28.6	9.2	5.5	7.4	7.4	10.8	0.0	1.8	4.0	1.5	2.8	0.6	0.6	0.0	80.3
Oatlands & Burwood Park	26.5	10.8	5.2	6.2	4.9	4.6	0.0	5.2	3.7	2.2	1.8	1.2	0.6	0.0	72.9
ELMBRIDGE	55.0	23.1	14.5	11.5	10.6	9.7	9.2	6.5	6.4	4.1	1.8	1.6	1.0	0.9	156.0

Elmbridge has a very low crime rate within Surrey, and Claygate ward within Elmbridge is in the lower half of the table of total crimes. **However, overall crime decreased in Claygate by 24.8%, whilst crime across Elmbridge has increased by 3.2%,** However, Hinchley Wood & Weston Green made better improvements and so **Claygate has now moved from 4th to 5th lowest.**

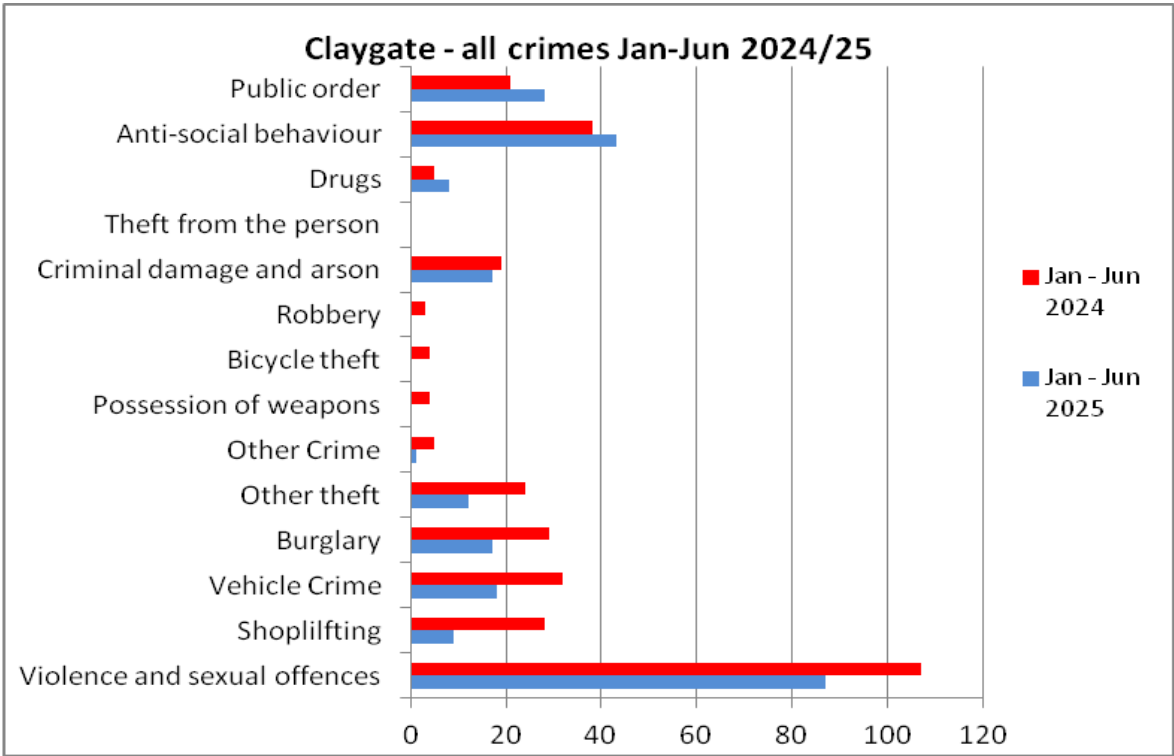
Now, we can compare crime data for Jan-Dec 2025 with the same period in 2024. The following table shows the variation in numbers of crimes with crime types sorted by highest to lowest number of crimes in Jan-Dec 2025. The same figures are given for Elmbridge as a whole.

	CLAYGATE			ELMBRIDGE		
	Jan-Dec 2024	Jan-Dec 2025	Variance	Jan-Dec 2024	Jan-Dec 2025	Variance
Violence and sexual offences	107	87	-19%	2704	2969	10%
Anti-social behaviour	38	43	13%	1263	1246	-1%
Public order	21	28	33%	758	783	3%
Vehicle Crime	32	18	-44%	630	525	-17%
Criminal damage and arson	19	17	-11%	620	623	0%
Burglary	29	17	-41%	444	344	-23%
Other theft	24	12	-50%	650	571	-12%
Shoplifting	28	9	-68%	429	498	16%
Drugs	5	8	60%	232	351	51%
Other Crime	5	1	-80%	174	219	26%
Possession of weapons	4	0	-100%	61	87	43%
Bicycle theft	4	0	-100%	95	95	0%
Robbery	3	0	-100%	52	56	8%
Theft from the person	0	0	0%	46	51	11%
TOTAL	319	240	-25%	8158	8418	3%

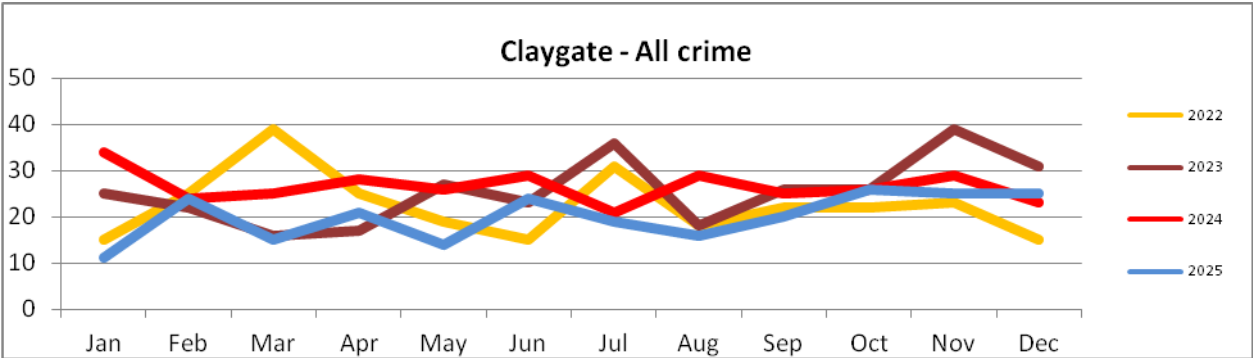
Overall the decrease of 25% amounts to 79 fewer crimes. There are only small increases, in Anti-social Behaviour (+5), Public Order (+7), and Drugs (+3).

Burglaries and Vehicle Crimes have decreased across Elmbridge in 2025, and Claygate has even better decreases in both.

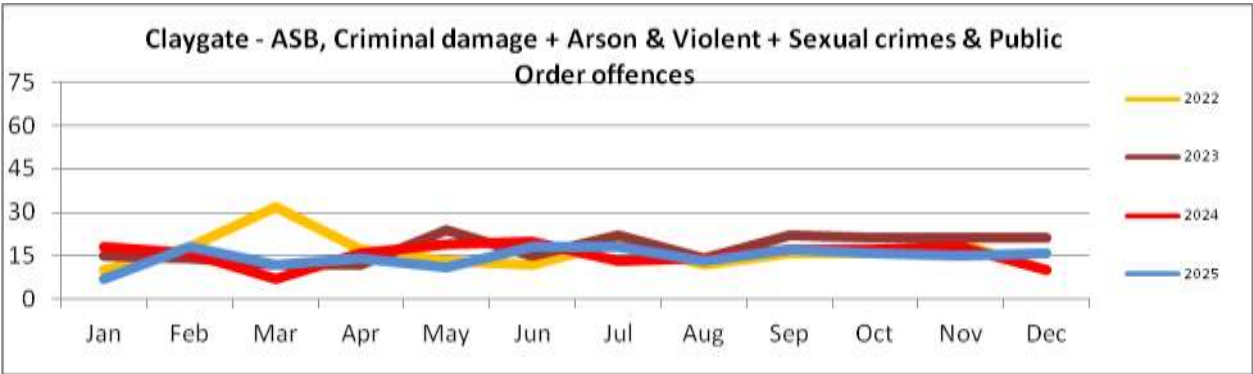
The following table gives a better picture of how the various crime types have changed between Jan-Dec 2024 and 2025. They are shown in order of largest increase to largest decrease.



Of course, this only reflects the overall total for Jan-Dec 2025. 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 confirms the trend bellow 2024 levels throughout the year, although closer after September.

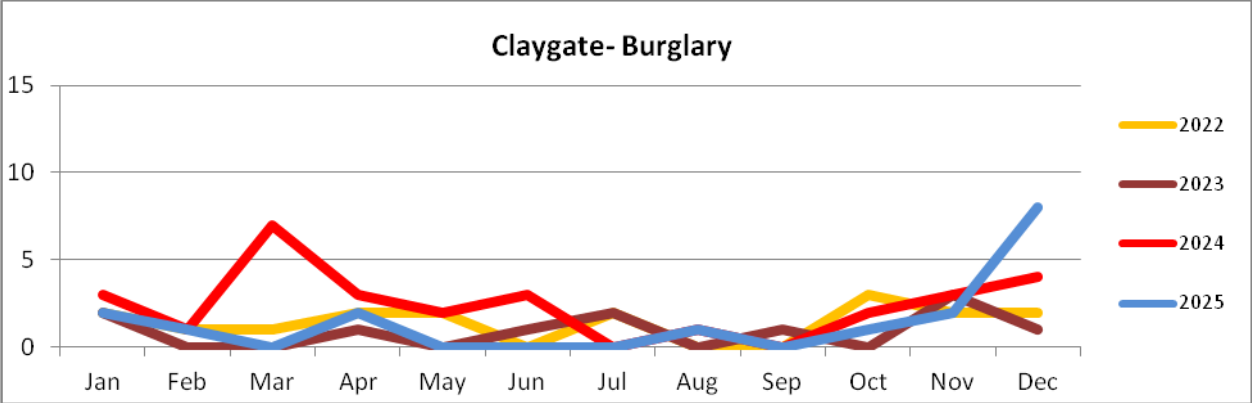


For Elmbridge, in Jan-Dec 2025, Violence and Sexual Offences, Anti-social Behaviour (ASB), Public Order, and Criminal Damage and Arson, collectively accounted for 66.8% of the total crime. For Claygate that figure was 57.8% in 2024 and in 2025 it is now 72.9%, however that apparent increase is entirely due to the reduction of most of the other crime types; the '25 trend is very close to that of '24, but the total is down by 10 (5%).

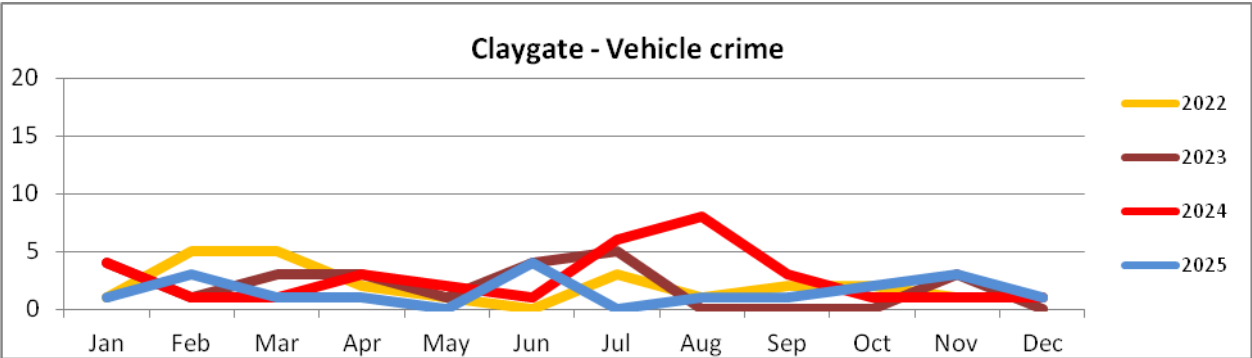


The crimes that have the most impact on victims are Burglary and Vehicle Crime, accounting for 7.1% and 7.5% respectively of total crime in 2025 in Claygate.

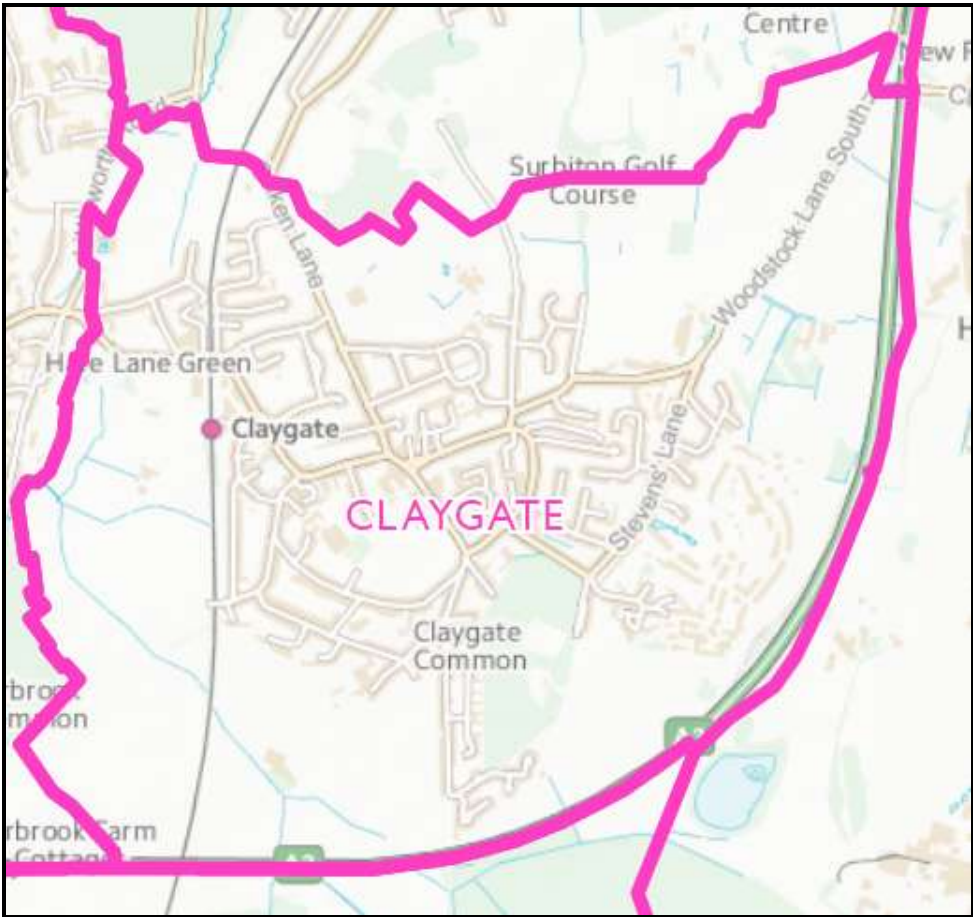
Burglary in Claygate dropped by 41% (-12) in 2025 compared to 2024. The chart reveals that the trend has been tracking similar to but a little above '23 levels, but with a significant peak (8) in Dec '25. However, it is highly likely that 5 of these have been wrongly attributed as burglaries in the national data, because they do not appear in the crime updates from Elmbridge Police.



The Vehicle Crime rate has decreased, by 44% (-14 crimes) compared to 2024. The chart shows the trend is similar to 2022 and 2023,



From Ordnance Survey Election Maps



Election wards

To see this map on-line, go to:
<https://www.ordnance-survey.co.uk/election-maps/gb/>
zoom in to your area, click on the 'BOUNDARY' button, scroll down and 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)
JOHN FRANCIS **01483 631632**
 John.Francis@surrey.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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www.surreypa.gov.uk
www.thisismoney.co.uk
www.immobilise.com

Residents Associations:

www.esher-residents.com
www.moleseyresidentsassociation.org.uk
www.hinchleywood.org.uk
www.residents-association.com (Thames Ditton & Weston Green)
www.longditton.org



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999 For deaf, hard of hearing, or speech-impaired people in the UK alert police, ambulance, fire, or coastguard services by either calling via a relay assistant or texting a message to 999 using an emergency SMS service. Go to www.emergencysms.org.uk for information about how to register.

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