

OUR NEWS

Westminster Neighbourhood Watch
Summer 2014

What is Neighbourhood Watch?

Neighbourhood Watch brings neighbours together to tackle crime and promote a sense of cooperation in their local community.

Each Watch is led by a coordinator whose role it is to arrange meetings and act as a point of contact for the council and police.

If you don't know who your coordinator is or have general enquiries about Neighbourhood Watch please contact us on neighbourhoodwatch@westminster.gov.uk or 020 7641 2117.

Neighbourhood Watch Association

The Westminster Neighbourhood Watch Association has set out its aims and objectives as follows:

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- To support and assist Westminster Neighbourhood Watches, in their role of reducing crime and improving the quality of life for those who live and work within the borough.
 - To act as a forum for sharing information, experiences and ideas, and spreading best practice among the local Neighbourhood Watches.
 - To raise awareness of Neighbourhood Watch.
 - To act as a collective mouthpiece, for Neighbourhood Watch groups and a channel of communication with Westminster City Council and the Metropolitan Police.

The association will meet bi-monthly, to discuss topics linked to its aims and objectives. The Council will continue to facilitate the meetings.

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 18th September 2014.

Report anti-social behaviour in confidence

Call 101 to report non-urgent crime to the Police.

Call 0207 641 2000 to report environmental problems to the council.

Residents in Queens Park can now report issues in your area such as graffiti, excessive noise or violence, privately and in confidence to your Community Protection Officer and Metropolitan Police team at a drop-in anti-social behaviour surgery.

When: Every other Monday

Venue: Beethoven Centre, 174 Third Avenue, London, W10 4JL

Time: 2pm – 4pm

Call: 020 8825 1067

Email: kgreen1@westminster.gov.uk

Tips for staying safe this summer

The Westminster Get Home Safe website has been updated with useful summer safety tips for residents and visitors. Follow the tips below, to enjoy Westminster safely this summer.

Keep your valuables safe

1. Be alert and aware of what's around you, especially when you are in new locations or situations.
2. Keep your possessions hidden. Be discreet with your belongings; displaying expensive jewellery or electronic devices, like mobile

phones and cameras, could attract unwanted attention.

3. Spread your valuables about. If you keep your keys, wallets and ID in the same bag or pocket it will increase the risk of your identity being stolen, or home being burgled.
4. Never leave your bags or other valuables unattended in public places.
5. If someone does try to take your belongings or money, let them go. Do not fight as this increases your chances of being hurt. Call 999 and ask for the Police.
6. If you discover that your things have been stolen after the fact, do not call 999 as it's not an emergency in progress. Call the Police non-emergency number on 101.
7. If you have any information on any crime, or have been a victim of crime but do not want to talk to the Police, call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

For more information visit:

<http://gethomesafe.westminster.gov.uk>



Crime prevention news

The updates below are from the council's Community Protection team who are responsible for coordinating responses to crime, anti-social behaviour and environmental problems on a neighbourhood basis.

To find out who your local officers are, call the council on 020 7641 1085.

Immobilise for Mobile Phones

"Immobilise is the world's largest free register for possession ownership details."

<https://www.immobilise.com/index.php>

Register your mobile phone, by creating a personal account on the Immobilise website. You will need the IMEI number, make and model of your phone. The IMEI is usually found printed inside the battery compartment of the handset, except on iPhones where it is located on a pullout tray. Your network provider can also provide you with your IMEI. Once your phone is registered, it increases the chance of it being found if lost or stolen.

FEARLESS

FEARLESS is a bespoke youth initiative, which works on the CrimeStoppers principles, utilises social media and encourages young people age (11-17) to report crime in safe and anonymous ways. Training sessions held for staff and schools highlighted the fact that there are many misconceptions about CrimeStoppers, which may go some way in understanding the reluctance of young people to get involved with giving information on crimes to either CrimeStoppers or the Police. Hence FEARLESS has been launched in

Westminster, to breakdown the barriers young people may have regarding being involved in crime fighting. For more information on FEARLESS visit:

<http://www.fearless.org>.



Motorcycle Theft

The council and Metropolitan Police are working together to reduce the thefts of motorcycles in Westminster, by engaging with key partner in the security industry.

Key tips to help prevent motorcycle thefts:

- Use a security chain to attach your motorcycle to something solid. If not, wrap the chain around the rear wheel and loop over the seat.
- Use a security device on both wheels if possible. Consider a chain for the rear wheel and a disc lock with an audible alarm for the front.
- Make sure any security products you purchase are marked Thatcham or Sold Secure approved, as these meet the highest security standards. Check your chain is bolt cutter resistant and the padlock drill resistant.
- Have your motorcycle forensically marked to improve detection if stolen and increase the chance of it being found and returned.

For more information, as well as the location of ground anchors and bars in Westminster visit:

www.westminster.gov.uk/secure-your-motorcycle



Neighbourhood Watch online

Find out more about Neighbourhood Watch and crime prevention through the following websites:

London Neighbourhood Watch Association:

www.lnwa.net

Neighbourhood Watch and Home Watch Network:

www.ourwatch.org.uk

Police crime prevention advice:

www.met.police.uk/crimeprevention

For news, information and crime prevention tips you can follow the police and the council on Twitter:

@MPSWestminster

@CityWestminster

Contact us

For general enquiries about Neighbourhood Watch (please note this is a voicemail facility which is responded to once a week):

020 7641 2117

To report a non-urgent crime:

101

To report an emergency (where there is immediate threat to people or property):

999

To report a crime anonymously call Crimestoppers:

0800 555 111

To report an environmental problem to the council (such as noise nuisance, abandoned vehicles, litter, graffiti or damaged street furniture):

020 7641 2000

To request more copies of this newsletter or a large print version call 020 7641 2117



City of Westminster

