

## Useful Contacts

Safer Merton	(020) 8545 4146
Merton Neighbourhood Watch	(020) 8649 3212
Police Non-Emergency	101
London Fire Brigade	0800 028 4428
(For FREE smoke alarm fitting and fire safety checks)	
Merton Council	(020) 8274 4901
Abandoned Vehicles	(020) 8274 4902
Anti-social Behaviour Team	(020) 8274 4901
Fly tipping	(020) 8274 4902
Graffiti Helpline	(020) 8274 4902
Trading Standards	0808 223 1133
Victim Support	0808 168 9111
CRIMESTOPPERS	0800 555 111

**REMEMBER – ALWAYS CALL 999 IN AN EMERGENCY**

For further information or to receive this booklet in a different format please contact Neighbourhood Watch

Email: [nhw@merton.gov.uk](mailto:nhw@merton.gov.uk)

Web: [www.mertonnhw.co.uk](http://www.mertonnhw.co.uk)

Twitter: [@WatchMerton](https://twitter.com/WatchMerton)

# Neighbourhood Watch

an introduction  
for all residents



# Neighbourhood Watch

Neighbourhood Watch has been in operation since 1982 and is a recognised and successful crime fighting initiative.

**The main idea behind Neighbourhood Watch is a simple one – community spirit cuts crime.**

Neighbourhood Watch is not about being nose-y or gossiping, it is about developing local knowledge, building community spirit and developing links with your local policing team.

## What are the benefits of being in a Neighbourhood Watch?

There are many benefits to being involved in Neighbourhood Watch. Research by insurance companies shows that residents in neighbourhood Watch areas are less likely to be victims of burglary - that's why they often offer discounts on policies if you are covered by Neighbourhood Watch.

Watches are also in regular contact with the local police so minor problems can be dealt with before they develop further. By being part of an active community you will help deter the criminals. Your Watch can also get street signs installed which helps send out the message that the community is working together to prevent crime.

## What would be expected of me as a member?

We would not expect too much from you as a member of a Watch but would expect you to review your home security, property mark all your possessions and keep an eye out, and report any suspicious activity in your area, but you can be more involved if you wish.

## What is expected of me if I were a Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator?

As a co-ordinator you are the 'link' between your community, the local police teams and the Neighbourhood Watch manager.

Being a co-ordinator will not take up a lot of your time, the role is what you make it. We will send you information on local crime issues as well as crime prevention tips.

You will have the support of your local policing team, the Neighbourhood Watch manager and Merton Neighbourhood Watch Association.

## I would like to be involved what is the next step?

When an individual or group wishes to start a Neighbourhood Watch we will provide you with the materials to carry out a canvass of your neighbourhood. This can be done with the help and support of your local police team. All new members receive a members pack and upon request street signs will be erected.

If you would like to be involved in Neighbourhood Watch or would like to know more please contact us:

**Telephone: (020) 8545 3622**

**Email: [nhw@merton.gov.uk](mailto:nhw@merton.gov.uk)**

**Twitter: [@WatchMerton](https://twitter.com/WatchMerton)**

