

# GENERAL TIPS ON HOME SECURITY

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**Blackpool Coastal  
Housing**

Securing your property will make you safer in your home and your belongings safer whilst you are out. You can outsmart most criminals by following the simple advice on this leaflet.

- Fit mortice locks or bolts to all outside doors and locks to all downstairs or easily accessible windows.
- Fit a door chain on your front door. This allows you to open your door a little way to talk to visitors if you do not know who they are.
- Fit a spy hole that allows you to see who is at your front door without opening it.
- Have an approved alarm system installed. This should be NACOSS gold standard. For further details speak with a qualified alarm engineer.
- Don't leave spare keys outside or in a garage or shed.
- Make sure that car keys and garage keys are out of sight in the house.
- Try not to leave valuable items like your TV, DVD player or laptop where thieves can see them.
- Make sure that you have up to date contents insurance.
- Ensure all back and side gates are kept locked.
- Add trellis to the top of walls to make it difficult for burglars to climb over.
- Fit security lights to your property that come on at night to cover the sides and/or back of your house.
- Keep doors and windows locked even if you are working in your garden. Offenders will sneak in if they are given the opportunity and believe that you are distracted.
- Put away all tools so they cannot be used to break into your house.
- Lock and secure garages and sheds with proper security locks.
- Use timers for lights and radios if you are going to be away from your property overnight. This will create the impression that somebody is at home.
- **ALWAYS** ask visitors for identification - (ID). Verify this with the company if you are in any doubt.

## USEFUL CONTACTS

**POLICE – EMERGENCY: 999**

**POLICE NON- EMERGENCY: 101**

**CRIMESTOPPERS – TO PASS INFORMATION ABOUT CRIME ANONOMOUSLY: 0800 555**

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