



Merton  
Neighbourhood  
Watch

Summer 2021

## Have your say on community safety in Merton!

### Community safety consultation

Safer Merton is a partnership of agencies that work together to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and drug and alcohol misuse in the London Borough of Merton. Each year we review what is important to those who both live and work in Merton to help inform and direct our work.

**Please tell us what is important to you in keeping Merton safe by completing the following survey.**

<http://www.merton.gov.uk/safer-merton-consultation>

The survey will be open from the 5<sup>th</sup> of July through to the 15<sup>th</sup> of October 2021.



## Protect your property this summer

- Ensure that windows and doors are closed and locked when you are out. Don't leave small windows open believing them to be safe.
- If you want to leave windows open while you sleep, fit window restrictors so they cannot be fully opened, or make sure they are not large enough to allow access to a burglar.
- When out in your garden ensure that windows and doors to the front of the house are secure. It only takes a second for someone to get into your home and take things without you noticing.
- Do not leave valuables on display in front of windows or in reach of open windows or doors.
- Ensure that all barbecue and garden equipment and tools are securely locked up in a shed and out of sight. Tools can be used by the potential offender to break in to your home.
- Consider fitting outside security lighting or a visible alarm to help deter burglars. Even using pea shingle or gravel on a driveway and spiky plants in garden beds can help.
- Don't leave any keys near entry points where they can be 'fished' or 'hooked' out through the window, letter box or cat flap. Ensure any internal handle operated locks on UPVC doors are fully secured with a key.



## Going on holiday?

- ✓ *Make your home look occupied.*
- ✓ *If you're out or going away, ask a trusted neighbour to open and close your curtains for you.*
- ✓ *Ask a neighbour if they don't mind parking their car on your driveway and trimming your garden to make your home look occupied.*
- ✓ *Cut the front and back lawns before you go away and trim any plants that burglars could hide behind.*
- ✓ *Cancel milk and newspaper deliveries.*
- ✓ *Before your holiday, don't advertise that you are going away on Facebook, Twitter etc.*

## IDAHOBIT 2021

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021 marked IDAHOBIT – the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia.

In Merton the rainbow flag was raised above the Civic Centre to show our support for the LGBTQ+ community. Our LGBTQ+ residents are a valued part of our vibrant and diverse community, and we stand with them against the prejudice and hate that they still unfortunately face. No one should be ashamed of who they are or who they love, and we want to ensure that through cohesion and integration our community continues to thrive.

Any victims of a hate crime should be encouraged to report to police or via one of the support services available in the borough.

To find out more information about where you can get support please see:

<https://www.merton.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/crime-prevention-and-community-safety/hate-crime>



Fearless is the youth branch of independent charity, Crimestoppers, where young people can access non-judgemental information and advice about crime and criminality. They provide a safe place to give information about crime 100% anonymously. When giving information through their online form on Fearless.org, no personal details are taken and their anonymity promise has never been broken.

Fearless are keen to make a positive impact on young peoples' lives by working collaboratively with the local authority and partners to educate young people in Merton by raising their awareness of knife crime and, the consequences of crime and criminal activity. They aim to empower the young people of Merton to have a voice in their community by speaking out against crimes that tear communities apart. Furthermore, they will be encouraging young people to develop positive and lawful behaviours, and thus encouraging safe, community cohesion.

The campaign will serve, through targeted communications, to raise the profile of the anonymous reporting service that Fearless provides and build trust and confidence in the local community around speaking up and reporting crime.

The campaign is due to start on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2021.

For more information please contact:

[Safer.Merton@merton.gov.uk](mailto:Safer.Merton@merton.gov.uk)

# Domestic Abuse

## We are here to support you...

If you are experiencing domestic abuse, then confidential advice and support is available at:

Victim Support  
Merton Domestic Violence  
Workers  
020 7801 1777

24-hour National Domestic  
Violence Freephone Helpline  
(access to refuge)  
0808 2000 247

Men's Advice Line  
(for male victims)  
0808 801 0327

Galop  
(service for LGBTQ victims)  
020 7704 2040

Respect (for people who are  
abusive towards their partners)  
0808 802 4040

Rape and Sexual Abuse  
Support Centre South London  
0808 802 9999

NSPCC Helpline  
0808 800 5000



## Been a victim of crime? Report it!

Call **999** when in an emergency or when a crime is in progress

Call **101** for non-urgent assistance or report online at [met.police.uk](https://www.met.police.uk):

<https://www.met.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>

Contact your local police team:

[https://www.mertonnhw.co.uk/assets/documents/Merton\\_Ward\\_Contacts.pdf](https://www.mertonnhw.co.uk/assets/documents/Merton_Ward_Contacts.pdf)

To report a crime anonymously call **CrimeStoppers** on **0800 555 111**

If you have been a victim of crime and want support contact **Victim Support** on **0808 168 9111** or visit [victimsupport.org.uk](https://www.victimsupport.org.uk)

## National Neighbourhood Watch Week 5<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> June 2021

In support of Neighbourhood Watch Week 2021 and NHS Every Mind Matters, the National Neighbourhood Watch Association have created postcards to help you support and stay connected with your neighbours. Simply print, cut, complete your details, and pop these postcards through your neighbours' doors.



*Hello neighbour,*

Everyone knows that feeling when life gets on top of us.  
We feel stressed, low, anxious or have trouble sleeping.

But now there's a new way to help turn things around.  
Neighbourhood Watch is supporting **Every Mind Matters**,  
which will get you started with a free Mind Plan showing  
you the simple things you can do to look after your  
mental health.

We know that being connected to your community can  
improve your wellbeing. Search **every mind matters** for  
practical actions you can take as well as expert advice to  
help you take better care of your mental health.



Your local Neighbourhood Watch contact:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Details: \_\_\_\_\_

[www.ourwatch.org.uk](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk)



LET'S STAY CONNECTED

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LET'S STAY CONNECTED