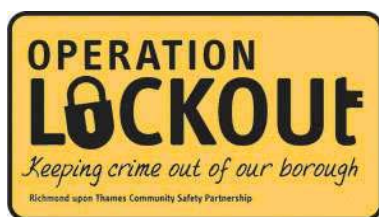


The London Borough of Richmond upon Thames and the Police are working in partnership to tackle acquisitive crime through 'Operation Lockout'. Richmond is one of London's safest boroughs but this type of crime is still a problem for all of us. Approximately 70% of burglaries are committed by offenders who do not live on our borough.



**Why do they come here?** Good transport links, an affluent area with rich pickings, and unfortunately people who are complacent about security, perhaps because of the safe nature of our borough.

### **What is the Community Safety Partnership doing via Operation Lockout?**

- Providing victims of burglary around the borough with DNA property marking kits that can link a criminal to a burglary – making the property 'too hot to handle'
- Running a vulnerable premises initiative where the local Safer Neighbourhood Teams will, during their routine patrols, identify premises where the occupiers have left themselves vulnerable to burglary. This may be a case of leaving windows or doors insecure whilst the premises are unoccupied or leaving items of value, or car keys, close to windows or doors. Ladders may have been left insecure providing access to upper floors or neighbouring properties
- Utilising all our powers to keep criminals out of the borough using bail conditions, ASBOs and sharing information between partner organisations, both here and across borough borders
- Producing posters, street signs and leaflets to raise the public's awareness of how they can help us to tackle crime
- Using marking kits from [www.bikeregister.com](http://www.bikeregister.com) to provide a tracking system for pedal cycles.

If you park a car in the borough, make sure all valuables are *removed from the car* with nothing of value on view; take particular care of satellite navigation systems – if you leave the holder on the windscreen (or even a sticker mark) thieves may break into the car to see if the unit is in the glove compartment or boot.

Pass the above information on to clients, family, friends, neighbours etc.

For further help, advice etc. please contact the Community Safety Partnership Team on 020 8891 7777 or police ward based Safer Neighbourhood Teams at [www.met.police.uk/saferneighbourhoods](http://www.met.police.uk/saferneighbourhoods)

### **SelectaDNA property marking as part of Operation Lockout**

The Community Safety Partnership, Police, Council and other community partners have initiated a DNA property-marking scheme on the borough distributing forensic marking kits to victims of domestic residential burglaries.

The use of this type of product has significant benefits over the previously popular scheme of postcode marking. This new type of marking is semi-permanent (lasting up to 20 years once applied) and all marked property can be taken to a new address simply by re-registering the owner's change of details on the database. Safer Neighbourhood Teams will visit sites of burglaries to offer the kits and reassure the victim after the initial report has been taken.

It should be emphasised that this project is primarily being funded through the Home Office Central Partnership and not through local council tax.

**What can our residents do to help?** Lock all doors and windows when away from your house and don't leave keys under flowerpots (yes that still happens) or other vulnerable places.