

BE VIGILANT

As residents you know whom your neighbours are, who lives in your community and what vehicles are normally parked in your road. This could be called regular patterns of behaviour.

You will often know what the life patterns are of your neighbours. For example:

"I know what the man looks like who parks his van opposite my house and I know he is a builder. He usually goes out at about 8am, often taking his child to school, so I would notice when someone different is by the back doors of his van unloading tools."

You are being vigilant if you are aware of these types of behaviour and then spot something out of routine or pattern.

What can you do?

- If you see such an incident then call the police. This may be a crime in progress. Write down a description of the person/s and any vehicle involved. You are being vigilant if you keep a look out for a suspicious vehicle circulated by the police.
- If you see the vehicle, write down a description of the occupants and the vehicle and then call the police. Before every crime there is a suspicious incident. What does this mean? Criminals like to feel secure when they commit crime so they are likely to come to an area to carry out a reconnaissance. A vigilant person will often spot this person or his vehicle.
- Write down a description of the occupants and the vehicle and make a note of the registration number. This can then be passed to your Safer Neighbourhood Team. If there is then a crime make sure the victim has the information as well, so they can tell the police.

Will the police take notice?

Yes - they are looking to increase the confidence of the public and being receptive to such contact is important to improve confidence in policing. If you do contact the police, ask for an incident number so you can solicit feedback at a later date.

Feedback

There is a monthly newsletter available from you local Safer Neighbourhood Team – go to **www.safer-neighbourhoods.co.uk** to find out more.

The Watch Office will circulate good news stories on our messaging system. Email **watch@warwickshire.police.uk** for more information.