



## Police Advisory!

We are reminding residents to remain alert following reports of distraction theft incidents in the area.

Distraction thieves often work in pairs or groups, using a variety of tactics to gain entry to your home or divert your attention – such as posing as officials, asking for help, or creating a false emergency. Similar tactics are also used when you're out shopping or going to a cash point.

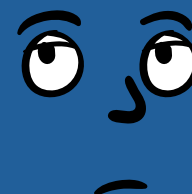
### Protect yourself and your home and your home – Crime Prevention Advice

- **STAY AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS:**  
Avoid becoming distracted by mobile phones or headphones in busy areas.
- **KEEP BELONGINGS SECURE:**  
Use zipped bags and keep them closed. Carry bags in front of you in crowded places.
- **BE CAUTIOUS OF STRANGERS APPROACHING YOU:**  
Especially if they invade your personal space or try to distract you.
- **AVOID DISPLAYING HIGH VALUE ITEMS:**  
Limit use of expensive jewellery or electronics in crowded areas.
- **USE CONTACTLESS PAYMENTS WISELY:**  
Shield your pin and be mindful when using cards in public.
- **PLAN AHEAD:**  
Know your route and avoid unnecessary stops where you may be more vulnerable.
- **TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS:**  
If something feels wrong, move away and seek help.

#### **IF YOU SEE SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY:**

REPORT IT IMMEDIATELY:

- 999 – EMERGENCY /CRIME IN PROGRESS
- 101 – NON-EMERGENCY
- REPORT ONLINE VIA YOUR LOCAL POLICE WEBSITE:  
[WWW.MET.POLICE.UK](http://WWW.MET.POLICE.UK)



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