

Local Area Command

Press Release 23 September 2010

Hi All,

Please find following a local release re home security. This follows from an increased number of break and enters in past weeks where entry has been gained through unlocked doors and windows.

Regards

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POLICE ENCOURAGE SECURITY PRECAUTIONS AS SPRING ARRIVES

North Shore police are urging local residents to be vigilant in securing their homes as the warmer weather approaches. While local Break and Enter rates have been significantly down over the winter months, Police have noticed an upward trend in recent weeks. Analysis of these crimes has revealed that in a large percentage, offenders have targeted homes with an open or unlocked door or window, in some cases where the occupants have been home at the time. S/Constable Matt Jewell, Crime Prevention Officer, North Shore police, said people tend to leave their main doors open during warmer weather, making them a target for thieves. "Often people leave their doors or windows open to take advantage of the fresh spring air." "This makes it easier for opportunists and professional thieves to enter and steal handbags, wallets and other easily accessible items," he said. Not having to force or break a lock means that the risk of these offenders being heard and caught is greatly reduced. It follows that many offenders target homes where they can see an open or unsecured entry point, as it presents a soft target for them. With the warmer weather approaching and residents keen to open up their homes to the spring air, Police would like to remind all residents to ensure that it is only the warm air you are letting in. Security screen doors and window locks are simple measures to allow you to maintain you level of security whilst opening the house up to the warmer weather. "Home security is something that needs to addressed 24 hours a day 7 days a week, whether you are at home or away from it," S/Constable Jewell said.