

# Secured by Design



## The Carbon Cost of Crime and your Home



# New and previously unpublished research released by Secured by Design has highlighted for the first time that Crime is a green issue:



- Reported crime and the loss and damage associated with crime in England & Wales equates to a staggering 5.5 million tonnes of CO<sup>2</sup> per year - with un-recorded crime taking this to over 6.5m tonnes!

With 5.6m tonnes attributable to the consequence of crime (e.g. car journeys taken for fear of travelling on public transport, house moves because of crime suffered or perceived) the overall total carbon cost of crime equals more than 12.5m tonnes of CO<sup>2</sup>.

That total roughly equates to 2% of the UK's total CO<sub>2</sub> output.

- The CO<sup>2</sup> produced by UK crime is greater than the entire output of many emerging world economies, including Ecuador, Zambia and Armenia.
- To put things into context- 1 tree growing for 100 years absorbs only one tonne of CO<sup>2</sup> over its lifetime.

## What part does Secured by Design play in cutting CO<sup>2</sup> emissions?

- Secured by Design is the UK police flagship initiative supporting the principles of designing out crime and crime prevention.
- Secured by Design Developers Awards are given to those building developments that incorporate the principles and physical security features identified in the SBD design guides.
- Previous research conducted by SBD has proven that SBD developments are half as likely to be burgled, have 2 times less vehicle crime and show a reduction of 25% in criminal damage.

## A Small Price for a Big Gain

- The Association of British Insurers (ABI) has evaluated the evidence of reduction in crime and the fear of crime through the adoption of the Secured by Design initiative. The conclusions were very positive and called for the scheme to be adopted more widely.
- An independent assessment conducted in 2010 shows that the additional cost of SBD in the average home is only £170 -

proof that security does not come at too high a price!

In fact, at this low additional cost, it should be expected that all new homes meet the SBD security standard.

## Secured by Design – aligning sustainability and security

Achieving SBD status and using Secured by Design accredited products, which have been certified to security standards identified by ACPO, also help increase the lifespan of a building. It allows residents feel safer and improves the security of premises while reducing unnecessary maintenance work which is often required to repair the damage caused by criminal attacks.

With the eco-agenda becoming ever more firmly cemented as one of the key issues driving the building and construction industry, building to SBD standards and utilising SBD accredited products has never been more important.



To receive a copy of the full research report, please contact ACPO Secured by Design: Ronya Galka, ronya.galka@acpo-sbd.co.uk, 0207 084 8961



## Don't be a victim of crime

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Most domestic burglaries are committed by opportunist thieves who pick a home that looks unoccupied, has little or no obvious security and where they think they will not be seen.

A burglar only needs to spot an open window or an unlocked door or gate to make their move.

You should start by looking at your home through the burglar's eyes:

- Are there places where they could break in without being seen?
- Would they have to make a lot of noise by breaking glass?
- How would you get in if you forgot your key?

If you can get in, so will a burglar!

The good news is that it doesn't take much to improve security and put off thieves. Money spent on realistic security is a good investment- it will last a long time, can add value to your property and could even benefit your insurance cover but most of all it gives you peace of mind that being a crime victim is not inevitable.

## Effective Security

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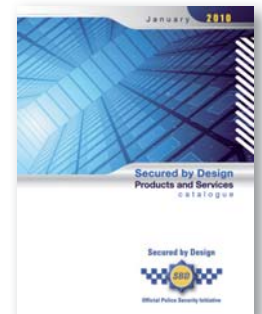
Faced with a wide range of products it is often difficult to know how effective they are. Good crime prevention denies the use of normally available tools, increases the risk for the thief perhaps by increasing the noise, effort and time to steal, or reduces the value to the thief.

To assist you make choices, Secured by Design has identified a range of test standards that indicate products which are more likely to resist common forms of attack and therefore give better protection.

Our website [www.securedbydesign.com](http://www.securedbydesign.com) gives you plenty of information on the standards and details of those companies whose products have passed the tests specified by ACPO Secured by Design.

The 'Police Preferred Specification' logo quickly and easily identifies the quality and resilience of security products to you without the need to understand complex technical papers. Whenever you see a product carrying the Secured by Design mark, you can therefore be sure that it has been independently tested and that it will perform at the required level.

Secured by Design status is currently granted to more than 350 member companies. The 'Secured by Design Products and Services Catalogue' which lists all accredited products and services, can be found on the Secured by Design website.



## Crime Prevention at Home

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The SBD website gives you extensive home and property crime prevention advice on a wide range of areas, these include:

**Doors** – Discover why if your front and back doors are not secure, neither is your home -Two thirds of burglars gain entry through a door

**Windows** – How to make sure that all your windows are secure – a third of burglars get in through a window

**Gardens & Fences** – Learn how you can deter access to your property and garden

**Garages & Sheds** – Find out why securing your shed is vital – don't let burglars use your tools to break in

**Protecting your possessions** - Use tested technology to mark property as yours

**Lighting** – Learn how good lighting can put off or draw attention to a thief

Go to [www.securedbydesign.com](http://www.securedbydesign.com) to find out how you can keep your home and property secure.

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