



EASTBOURNE CRIME REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP

“Making Eastbourne Even Safer”



Tackling Cycle Theft Together

Eastbourne Crime Reduction Partnership is proud of the major reductions in most areas of crime across the town over recent years. Total crime has reduced by 9% when compared to the same period last year, that's 737 fewer victims. However, we are concerned about the number of cycles that are being stolen. Whilst reported cycle thefts have reduced by 25% compared to the same period last year, that's still 197 victims who have had the inconvenience and expense of having their cycle stolen.

Eastbourne Neighbourhood Sgt Ed Ripley has a few tips to reduce the risk, “Imagine leaving your expensive mobile phone or laptop secured to a lamp post by the side of the road for eight hours a day. People would think you had lost your mind. But this is exactly what cyclists do daily with their bikes in Eastbourne, and it can be irresistible to thieves. With these few measures we can reduce the number of thefts:

- Invest in a good-quality lock;
- Always lock a cycle when leaving it, even if it's only for a few minutes.
- Make sure you secure bikes to proper cycle stands or robust street furniture
- Make sure the bike and its lock cannot be lifted off that secure object
- Lock cycles through the frame, and secure or remove wheels. Also remove smaller parts and accessories that can't be secured, especially lights, pumps and quick release saddles
- Leave as little space as possible between lock and frame for thieves to insert bolt cutters.
- Never lock a bike through the front wheel only as the rest of the bike may disappear.
- Don't leave your bicycle locked up outside overnight.
- Do not leave cycles in isolated places

- Keep your bicycle serial number in a safe place so you can give it to police in the event your bicycle is stolen.
- Register your bicycle free of charge at www.immobilise.com. This increases the likelihood of getting your bicycle back if it is recovered after being stolen

More than half of all bike thefts in Eastbourne take place from the owner's property so ensure garages and sheds are well secured and never leave your bike unattended outside your home, even for just a short time."