

Summer 2017

# Crime Tsunami Swamps SE3

**.... and the rest of England and Wales!** *The growth of cyber-crime over the past few years has grown relentlessly. And it's getting worse!*

**It's official!** Online fraud is now the most common crime in the country with almost one in ten people falling victim every year.

The figures were revealed for the first time in the annual **Crime Survey of England and Wales** which assesses the total number of offences by interviewing people about their personal experience of crime. This is thought to give a more realistic overall picture of the incidence of crime much of which goes unreported to the police or other authorities.

While traditional crimes such as burglary and car theft continue to fall, almost ten per cent of the adult population reports having been a victim of some form of cyber crime.

**More than five and a half million cyber offences are now thought to take place each year accounting for almost half of all crime.**

According to the survey the total number of all offences in the 12 months to September 2016 topped 11.8 million, of which 3.6 million were fraud and further 2 million were related to computer misuse.

To put these figures in perspective - the next most common offences were theft (3.5 million cases), violence against the person (1.3 million) and criminal damage (1.2 million).

Nearly half of all cyber-crimes are bank account frauds, a quarter involve "Ponzi" type schemes, "pension liberation" offers and investments in dodgy commodities, and another quarter are computer virus attacks damaging the computer or leading to "ransomware" demands.

There are countless other criminal stratagems out there - far too many to outline here.

I am fairly sure that nearly everyone with a PC or smart phone who reads this will have had recent experience of some variant or other of cyber-crime.

Here's a list of useful sites which you might like to explore. The logos are "live" in the on-line edition of this newsletter (see overleaf) and provide a direct link to the relevant pages.

### Awareness and prevention:

Get Safe Online [www.getsafeonline.org](http://www.getsafeonline.org)

Age UK [www.ageuk.org.uk](http://www.ageuk.org.uk)

### Advice for children and young people:

You & Co [www.youandco.org.uk](http://www.youandco.org.uk)

### Reporting Crime:

Action Fraud [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk)

### Victim Support:

Victim Support [www.victimsupport.org.uk](http://www.victimsupport.org.uk)

CIFAS \* [www.cifas.org.uk](http://www.cifas.org.uk)

(\*an additional level of security for recent victims of identity theft)



# CRIMEWATCH

Crimes Reported on the Cator Estate

DECEMBER 2016 TO JUNE 2017



## Burglaries

Blackheath Park x 3  
Brooklands Park  
Foxes Dale  
Morden Road  
Parkgate  
Spangate

## Attempted Burglaries

Morden Road  
Spangate x 2

## Robbery

Foxes Dale  
The Keep

## Criminal Damage

Blackheath Park x 2  
Morden Road Mews

## Thefts from Vehicles

Blackheath Park  
Corner Green  
Morden Road

## Attempted Theft from Vehicle

Foxes Dale

## Vehicle damage

Corner Green  
Manor Way

After a spike in the number of recorded crimes last Autumn the number in the 30 weeks from December to the end of June (22 of them) is back down to the Cator Estate's more "normal" levels for recent years. Burglary, actual and attempted, remains a persistent menace with several instances of doors and windows being violently forced.

Keep doing all the sensible things – lock up securely, use your burglar alarms, keep some lights on (inside and out), don't keep items you value in your vehicle, hide your keys. Stay vigilant.



Sadly, rough sleepers are encountered on the Cator Estate from time to time.

Anyone can become homeless. The longer someone sleeps rough the greater the risk that they will become trapped on the streets – vulnerable to criminals and to developing or exacerbating drug, alcohol or other health problems. Not all rough sleepers are aware that advice and support is available to them.

The Government, in partnership with homeless charities, has set up **Street Link** to provide us with a means to act when we see someone sleeping rough. It is the first step to ensuring that rough sleepers are connected to local services and the support available to them.

If you are concerned about a rough sleeper contact **Street Link** by telephone or through their web site. The details you provide will be sent to the local authority so they can help connect the person to the appropriate services and support available to them.

**Street Link** will follow up with the local authority within ten days and, if you so request, will provide you with a progress report.



0300 500 0914

[www.streetlink.org.uk](http://www.streetlink.org.uk)

## You don't know your local Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator??

There are currently 30 of us!  
Ask David Marler to put you in touch

## YOUR SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS TEAMS

If you have any safety or security concerns they will be delighted to talk to you. They pride themselves on responding to any message within 24 hours. Try them!

Blackheath Westcombe 020 8721 2635

Middle Park and Sutcliffe 020 8649 3538

Emergency? Dial 999

Not so urgent? Dial 101

## BLACKHEATH CATOR ESTATE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Funded by Blackheath Cator Estate Residents Ltd

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