WARRISTON AREA – CRIME PREVENTION ADVICE

Following a pre-arranged visit by PCs Milne and Walton to the Warriston area, please see below for some security advice.

* The surrounding Warriston area is very clean and well kept, and is free of graffiti/litter. This means that any anti-social behaviour will be easy to spot, and should be reported as soon as it is noticed.
* Garden sheds:
	+ Consider use of locks on shed doors: ideally, a padlock in the centre of the door, and padlocked deadbolts at the top and bottom of the door. This means that intruder will take longer to gain entry to the shed, and be more noticeable as a result of the noise.
	+ Consider installing a shed alarm on the door. These are widely available online and in hardware stores, and emit a loud noise when activated. Again, these create noise when activated and will make intruders more noticeable.
	+ Store small items – such as tools – out of line of sight of the window. This may discourage opportunist thieves from breaking into the shed.
* Lighting:
	+ Lighting is one of the most powerful tools to deter intruders – it means that intruders are easier to see, and allows officers responding to incidents to see suspects.
	+ Any lights at the front of residences should be LED bulbs, and on a disk to dawn setting. Any lights to the side or rear of the property should be motion activated, LED lights.
	+ LED lights are recommended as they provide good quality light, and are comparatively efficient to run.
* Building security:
	+ If fitted, care should be taken to set alarms when leaving your home. The noise created by the alarm will act as a deterrent to some intruders, and will let your neighbours know that the security of your home has been compromised.
	+ If you live in a common stair with a lockable stair door, take care not to prop or hook it open. This will go some way to preventing strangers accessing the stair, and will deny opportunistic thieves access to the items stored within (such as bicycles, prams or toys).
* General points:
	+ Tidy away any tools (such as power tools, shovels or saws) when they are not in use. Such tools can be attractive targets for opportunistic offenders; additionally, heavy items can be used to force entry to properties. Removing these items mitigates this risk. Encourage any visiting tradespeople carrying out work at your property to do the same.
	+ Gravel paths can be a useful tool for raising awareness of intruders within your garden – it’s virtually impossible to walk on it without making noise. Consider its use on the lead up to your door, and around the shed.