Dear Member,

Thames Valley Police have frequently repeated that their success in fighting crime is very dependent on the efficient gathering of relevant information – 'criminal intelligence' – from the public. So, we all have a personal stake in helping this process.

The Neighbourhood Watch national website - <u>ourwatch.org.uk</u> – offers ideas of what to look out for under various crime headings. Even those living in peaceful, low-crime areas may occasionally overhear or see something that is suspicious or 'doesn't look right.' Putting together criminal intelligence has been described as a bit like a jigsaw, and even little bits of information can help – by confirming other pieces perhaps. **So, it is important that we all report things that we feel could help the police.** 

I am sure you know that you should immediately call **999** if you see a crime being committed or in an emergency. And you should call **101** to report anything else to the police – <u>or go online to do so</u>. This, of course, involves you in providing your own contact details, and even though these will be treated in complete confidence by the police, sometimes we can be reluctant to 'get involved' to that extent. That is understandable, but we do not want your 'piece of the jigsaw' to be missed. **It could be vital!** 

So, we are partnering with <u>CrimeStoppers</u> to remind everyone of 'The 3rd Number – 0800 555 111' that enables you to report your information totally anonymously if you prefer. Please <u>view this link</u>, and consider adding the number to your mobile phone speed-dial list so it is quickly ready when needed.

While contacting the police directly – especially if you could be an important witness – is what we hope most people will do most of the time, having the **CrimeStoppers** anonymous alternative plays a vital part in helping the police to 'complete the criminal-intelligence jigsaw'.

## Whichever way you do it – please report it!

Many thanks for your support!

David

•

## Message Sent By

David Alder (NWN, Multi Scheme Administrator, Thames Valley)