

Suffolk County Council community safety article 5

### **Play your part in reducing cycle crime**

Cycle crime is an ongoing problem. The number of cyclists is increasing as people look to improve their health, avoid congestion and reduce emissions. As more of us use cycles, it is vital we ensure they are kept secure at all times.

Many people got new bikes for Christmas so this can be the peak season for thefts. In the year 2006/2007 there were 1,759 cycles reported cycle thefts across Suffolk.

Tracker bikes fitted with GPS satellite tracking equipment are being used by Suffolk Police across the county to deter and catch cycle thieves, who may be frequent offenders.

Five simple steps to protect your bike:

**Lock it** – wherever you are even within a secure shed or garden

**Secure it** - with good quality security locks such as the hardened D-shaped lock

**Mark it** – using a UV pen to write your postcode and highlight this fact with stickers

**Record it** – registering your bike with [www.immobolise.com](http://www.immobolise.com)

**Park it** – using secure cycle parks or in a busy well lit area

If you have any information relating to cycle theft, contact your Safer Neighbourhood Team on 01473 613 500, or visit [www.suffolk.police.uk](http://www.suffolk.police.uk)

Suffolk County Council is encouraging cycling as a sustainable means of transport by installing cycle-friendly routes and facilities across the county, providing free cycle maps and supporting cycling events.

For further information, visit the Suffolk County Council website at [www.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk) or contact a member of the Cycling Team on 0845 606 6067