



**Victim Support** Bailiwick Of Guernsey

Helping people cope with crime

# Victim Support

# Burglary

Information from  
Victim Support



The Queen's Award  
for Voluntary Service

BURGLARY can happen in many different ways. You may have been away from home at the time. Perhaps you were at home and someone tricked their way in, or maybe you were busy or asleep.

Burglary isn't always a one-off event – some people may have been burgled before or may be suffering other crimes as well, such as harassment.

## **Victim Support can help**

We get in touch with hundreds of people affected by crime each year. However you are feeling, and whenever the burglary or other crime took place, you can talk to someone from Victim Support in confidence and free of charge. We can help, no matter when the crime occurred and regardless of whether you have told the police or not.

Everyone reacts differently and your feelings may change from day to day. The important thing is to be aware that you may be affected in many different ways, both mentally and physically.

It can be difficult to talk about what has happened. Most people do come to terms with their experience in time, especially if they get support and understanding. Friends and family can be very helpful but some people find it easier to speak to someone they don't

know and who is specially trained to listen and understand.

We can also offer useful information to help you deal with some of the problems a crime has caused. Burglary affects people in a wide range of different ways and people can be affected even if none of their property has been stolen.

Most people are upset at the thought that someone has been in their home against their wishes. Some people no longer feel secure in their home after a burglary. Children in particular can be frightened. Anyone affected in whatever way can contact Victim Support.

## **How we can Help**

Many victims of burglary feel much better after talking to someone independent of friends and family who is trained to listen. Some people may need extra help which we can help to arrange.

People who have been burgled often need specialist advice to help avoid it happening again. We can put you in touch with the right people.

If you are having problems as a result of crime, we can also help you to deal with people such as your landlord, the housing department, police, social security or insurance companies.

Other organisations, including the police and Crime Reduction Advisor, can offer you information and advice about preventing burglaries.

## **How to Contact Us**

People are normally referred to us by the police after reporting a crime but anyone can contact us directly if they wish. You will find our contact details on the back of this leaflet or in the phone book under Victim Support.

We can be contacted by phone on 01481 713000, by email at [victimsupportqsy@cwgsy.net](mailto:victimsupportqsy@cwgsy.net) or fax on 01481 710024.

Our website is [www.gov.gg/victim-support-witness-service](http://www.gov.gg/victim-support-witness-service)

We hope that you will get in touch with us, but if you decide not to do that now, you can call us at any time in the future.

If you have not reported the burglary to the police, you may want to talk to us about that.

If you have home insurance you will need a crime reference number from the police in order to make a claim.

## **Some Practical Ideas**

You will need to let organisations and other agencies know if certain things have been taken. Things to check for include bank cards, cheque books, passports, benefit books, mobile phones, birth certificates, driving licences and keys. It is particularly important to notify banks quickly so that they can prevent fraud and further theft.

Try to get your home secured as quickly as possible. If you are in rented accommodation, inform your landlord about any necessary repairs. If you own your own home you will need to make your own arrangements.

Look into ways of making your home more secure. Some security measures can be expensive. There are other things you can do that cost very little such as leaving lights or a radio on when you go out and checking that all doors and windows are properly closed.

**Contact your local Victim  
Support Scheme**

**Victim Support & Witness  
Service  
Royal Court  
St Peter Port  
GY1 2PB**

**Tel: 01481 713000**

**Fax: 01481 710024**

**[victimsupportgysy@cwgsy.net](mailto:victimsupportgysy@cwgsy.net)**

**[www.gov.gg/victim-support-witness-service](http://www.gov.gg/victim-support-witness-service)**