

## **Secured by Design**

Secured by Design (SBD) is a police initiative that encourages the building industry to adopt a number of crime prevention methods which assist in reducing the opportunity for crime and the fear of crime thus resulting in a safer and more secure environment.

The aim of SBD is to achieve a better quality of life by focusing on crime prevention at the design, layout and construction stages of homes and commercial premises. In doing so Secured by Design supports one of the Government's key planning objectives: the creation of secure, quality places where people wish to live and work.

Secured by Design is owned by the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) and has the backing of the Home Office. The scheme is also endorsed by the [Suzy Lamplugh Trust](#), the Association of British Insurers (ABI) and a host of regulatory bodies.

The Secured by Design scheme functions on two levels:

- A licensing scheme for products which meet police preferred specifications.
- An award given to developers who build developments to Secured by Design standards.

### **Licensing Scheme**

To achieve Secured by Design accreditation, manufacturers of doors, windows, locks and certain other products must insure that their products meet the minimum security standards specified by SBD.

Once a product has been tested and certified to the relevant standard, the company may apply for SBD membership (a licence fee applies). Once Approved, all member companies benefit from the use of the 'Police Preferred Specification' Secured by Design logo on their approved products.

### **The Developers Award**

The Secured by Design award is a certificate given to developments which, following consultations with local police Architectural Liaison Officers (sometimes called Crime Prevention Design Advisors), are built in a way which conforms to the ACPO guidelines and therefore reduce the opportunity for crime. This encompasses a good use of natural surveillance and defensible spaces (e.g. boundary divisions and demarcations such as fencing, walls, rails etc. and external security lighting to front and rear of properties) as well as windows and doors meeting SBD's minimum quality and security standards.

Research carried out by Huddersfield University shows that residents living on Secured by Design Developments are half as likely to be burgled and two and a half times less likely to suffer vehicle crime. Secured by Design developments also benefit from 25% less criminal damage.