



RAMSGATE COMMUNITY POLICING FORUM

CRIME REVIEW – APRIL 2019



APRIL 2019 CRIME REPORT

Dear Ramsgate Community

Incidents of residential burglary dropped by 45% in April over March and major residential crimes (House Breaking, House robbery and theft) similarly dropped by 53% in April.

We continued to operate night time foot patrols in pursuit of the gang of criminals that have been active in the neighborhood for the past few months.

2 Class A arrests and 26 Class B arrests were made during the period.

A detailed analysis has been made of all of the incidents of housebreaking over the period January to April 2019 in order to try and identify any obvious indicators, conditions or omissions that may be contributing to the number of burglaries.

The following indicators are provided in an attempt to heighten the awareness of residents to their surroundings and to encourage a more proactive approach to residential security.

87% of house breakings took place on free standing properties while 7% took place within complexes and 7% within a lodge/hotel environment. Of these 57% were permanent residences, 42% were holiday homes and 1% were business premises.

72% of all burglaries happened while the occupants were present on the property.

19% of all incidents take place on weekends and 14% on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

The most revealing of all was the generally poor condition of protection at the targeted homes. 74% of all premises had no security whatsoever. 58% had nothing more than weak and inadequate burglary bars on all or some windows or where doors and/or windows were left open making illegal entry easy.

While 77% of all targeted homes are on contract with an armed response company, in many cases, the lack of physical security made it possible for the criminals to escape within less than a five-minute reaction time.

It is very evident from the results of this survey that properties that are not adequately protected by effective physical barriers and early warning, intruder detection systems, remain the preferred target of criminals. Similarly, residents that remain careless about securing their doors and windows increase their chances of being attacked.

The Ramsgate CPF has aggressively pursued a recruitment drive in order to increase our compliment of patrollers over the course of the past eight months. This has been a slow and difficult process, but we are pleased to advise that we have received a commitment from an additional six trained and registered SAPS reservists who are scheduled to join our ranks during the course of April and July 2019.

This will bring our strength up to 13 reservists. The increase in reservists ensures that we have a much more effective resource with which to execute covert foot patrols and surveillance exercises across the neighbourhood.

These patrols are being aided by new technology called 'Trail Cameras' that we continue to deploy as and when funds become available. The trail cameras are able to film at night and are not only triggered by motion but also immediately transmit what is captured on film to our control room where we monitor and alert our in-field operations.

In addition, Ramsgate precinct is now being monitored by two SNIPR, vehicle and number plate recognition cameras that are linked to a national database. One of these cameras was donated by Wolf Security and the other was purchased by the RCPF.

Trail cameras, together with their housing, cost just over R11, 000 each and as such we are only able to accelerate the increase of the estate out of voluntary donations that we periodically receive from generous members of the community. It is our strategic objective to eventually deploy at least one camera in every street.

We wish therefore, to appeal to all of the residents, business owners and ratepayers of Ramsgate that are not already regularly donating in support of our efforts, to commit to a monthly donation of at least R100 or more but any amount you can afford is welcome.

Donations can be paid to the Ramsgate CPF
First National Bank
Acc: 62681378347
Branch code: 2204128
Ref: Your cell phone number

The difference you will make will simply be invaluable.

Be safe and all the best

Richard Phillips
Chairman
Ramsgate Community Police Forum