

## **Securing your garden**

Our gardens can help protect our possessions. Don't give burglars the tools to make their criminal activities easier.

### **Plants**

Hedges, prickly bushes and dense plants such as holly, Rose Rosa, Ilex, berberis, hawthorn and blackthorn could help stop intruders getting in to your garden, climbing drainpipes and in to your property. However remember not to let your plants grow too high. Any higher than three feet and an intruder can hide behind them undetected.

### **Pathways**

A gravel driveway or garden path can also be an effective way of alerting you to the presence of an intruder.

### **Out buildings**

Garages and sheds should be locked with a heavy duty padlock or mortise lock, and secure hinges. If you have anything stored in your garage and shed that can be used as a means to gain easy access to your home, think again about where to store it out of sight.

### **Garden fences**

Fences should be kept in good condition. If they are falling down or there are sizeable holes, a burglar could potentially get through.

### **Ladders**

Where is your ladder stored? Don't leave it unlocked where a burglar could use it to gain access to your home.

### **Rubbish bins**

Your wheelie bins can be used as a handy platform to help a burglar gain access to your home. Think where you store these bins and your garden furniture.