

**WARWICK**  
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

# Public Confidence and Crime Reduction: The Impact of Forensic Property Marking

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## What we did

- Warwick University evaluated police interventions intended to reduce burglary and improve public satisfaction with policing.
- We evaluated 3 areas treated with commercial property marking (A,B & C), 1 area with West Mercia Police property marking *We Don't Buy Crime* (D), and a control site (E) (although victims of burglary and their immediate neighbours received property marking kits in all 5 sites).
- We analysed burglary rates across 14 treated sites (including A-D).

## Findings: Crime rate for burglary across 14 treated sites



**29%**

fewer burglaries than expected.\*

*\*We are 95% sure the number lies between 15-41% less than the Shropshire average*

Using a 'difference in difference' analysis we contrasted the average rate of burglary across Shropshire with the actual rate in treated areas post-intervention during 2015-2017

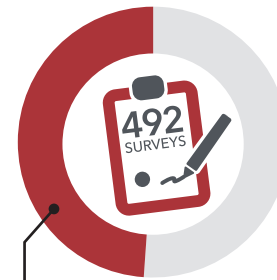
## Findings: Public confidence in policing



**Police interviews**



**Prolific offender interviews**



**49%** of 492 survey comments complained of a lack of police presence

**Less fear of crime** showed a correlation with the distribution of free commercial property marking packs and crime deterrent stickers to local residents:



**11%**

Less fear of being physically attacked by strangers



**11%**

Less fear of having their house broken into and something stolen



**9%**

Less fear of being mugged or robbed



### Confidence paradox

Confidence in policing was not associated with low levels of crime or low fear of crime

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