

# Safer places of Worship

## External Security Measures

The perimeter of your property is an important area to consider when looking at your security. Factors to be specifically considered are as follows:-



- **The first impression afforded by hedges, gates, etc** - a well cared for appearance is not only daunting to the opportunist thief but also engenders a feeling of pride and well being within your community; these factors themselves contribute to crime prevention and encourage passers-by to be more vigilant;
- **Although it is not normally feasible to totally secure a perimeter** - people can be encouraged to use only designated entrances and footpaths by maintaining a substantial perimeter barrier; not only does this make for a more orderly surrounding area, but also attention is more likely to be drawn to people in other areas;
- **It is usually possible to prevent access by vehicles** – Vehicles are essential to criminals needing to carry away heavy objects such as safes, lead from roofs or items of furniture;
- **Natural surveillance by passers-by and local residents serves to prevent crime** and should be facilitated wherever possible by ensuring that hedges, walls, etc., are no more than four feet higher than the level of the adjoining roads and paths.

- Hedges
- Gates
- Walls
- Trees
- Roof & Fall Pipes
- Ladders
- Doors
- Windows
- Lighting
- Cellars
- Out Buildings
- Boiler House