



UK CAR CRIME AND ACCIDENT HOTSPOTS NAMED IN NEW ENDSLEIGH REPORT

17th December 2007: Hull has been named the UK's riskiest city for motor theft while Swindon is the safest, according to a new report published today by Endsleigh Insurance Services Limited.

The findings come from Endsleigh's '**Motor Cities 2007**' Report, which identifies the ten safest and riskiest UK cities for both theft and accidents. The results were collected by analysing motor claims over the last three years from the hundreds of thousands of Endsleigh policyholders in the UK. The report ranks towns and cities by comparing the **frequency** of theft and accident claims between towns and cities in order to determine the **risk**, rather than simply looking at the total number of incidents.

The top three towns and cities for car theft are (see attached report for full tables and maps of UK hotspots):

Riskiest for car theft: **1. Hull, 2. Nottingham, 3. Leeds**
Safest for car theft: **1. Swindon, 2. Norwich, 3. Dundee**

Launching the report, Endsleigh has also highlighted the fact that overall it has seen a fall of 13% in motor theft claims across the UK over the past three years.

Stuart Wartalski, Endsleigh spokesperson said:

"Of course it's welcome news that we're seeing a general drop in motor theft over the last three years. This is no doubt directly related to the scores of excellent police and community-run initiatives across the country, as well as greater awareness amongst individual motorists when it comes to taking responsibility for their vehicles safety.

"The fact remains however, that some towns and cities represent a greater risk for motorists than others. Equally, no motorist can afford to be complacent – wherever they might live. This means not just taking care of the obvious security measures, such as locking doors and closing windows, installing a car alarm and using a steering-wheel lock, but also employing simple steps such as hiding or removing valuables, such as a sat nav tool, mobile phone or laptop. At this time of year, when out Christmas shopping, drivers should be careful not to leave shopping bags on display in their cars."

The report also names the UK's top ten towns and cities for motor accidents. The top three for risk of accidents are:

- Riskiest for accidents: **1. Slough, 2. Ilford, 3. Birmingham**
- Lowest risk for accidents: **1. Belfast, 2. Swansea, 3. Aberdeen**

Stuart Wartalski added:

"In terms of accidents, drivers need to be even more vigilant during the Christmas period. We welcome and support the roll-out of the Government's 'Think!' Christmas Drink Driving Campaign, which reminds motorists that one drink is one too many."

The maps and table of results are available from Endsleigh's media centre at www.endsleigh.co.uk/motorcities2007

Endsleigh's policies are available online via www.endsleigh.co.uk, by telephone and through over 120 branches across the country.

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Notes to editors

The report was put together using policy and claims data over a three year period up until the start of 2007.

Endsleigh is an independent intermediary specialising in the provision of insurance and financial products for career people.

The majority of Endsleigh's motor policyholders are adults between the ages of 25 and 55. Students make up less than a quarter of Endsleigh's motor policy base.

Originally founded in 1965 to serve the student market, Endsleigh is now the preferred insurance supplier for a variety of professional organisations, offering a wide range of services including motor, home, student and travel insurance.

Endsleigh also offers business insurance through Endsleigh Business Insurance Services and financial advice through Endsleigh Financial Independent Tailoring.

Further information

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