



EMBARGOED UNTIL 00:01hrs Thursday 17th August 2006

ENDSLEIGH SURVEY REVEALS AVERAGE STUDENT WORTH OVER £4,500

A survey of students' possessions by leading insurance provider Endsleigh has found that the average student's belongings total a cash value of **£4,512** – yet worryingly, almost 1/3 of those questioned had no insurance cover. The survey, which was carried out in stages over May and June, questioned over 3500 students in universities and colleges across the UK.

The findings also showed that many students are complacent when it comes to their belongings – underestimating the value of their possessions by more than **£1100** on average, and either not taking out insurance or relying on parental cover, which may not be adequate.

Nearly 1/3 assume they are covered by their parents' insurance, but further research by Endsleigh found that this is often not the case. Some parents' policies specifically exclude student cover, and some policies only provide 90 days of cover in a year, which means that they are inappropriate for the vast majority of students.

Walk-in burglaries – where no forced entry has been used - are increasingly common, accounting for over 30% of burglaries of student properties, yet 53% of students have no protection against walk in theft or don't know if they are covered, leaving them potentially exposed to opportunist crime. Given the nature of student accommodation, burglary through unlocked bedroom doors or windows left open is all too easy, yet something which many are not aware of.

Endsleigh are advising all students to think about taking out cover but also taking the necessary precautions such as remembering to lock rooms in halls – even if only popping out – and closing windows before leaving the house.

Endsleigh spokesman Tim Larden said:

“With a new university year almost upon us, now is the time for new and existing students to think about protecting their valuables. We know that the average student now takes thousands of pounds worth of valuables to university, including around £850 of computer equipment, according to the first stage of our survey, and the majority have items such as iPods. We are urging students to be more careful with their belongings and be alert to the risk of walk-in theft.



“Recent case studies researched by Endsleigh showed that valuables on display can attract opportunist thieves – so students should be careful not to leave laptops lying out on coffee tables or bikes in places which are clearly visible from outside. Even if you do have insurance cover, it is always worth checking just how much that includes.”

Notes to Editors

Full media pack and case studies available.

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

Originally founded in 1965 to serve the student market, Endsleigh has since broadened its products and services for graduates and professionals, as well as being the preferred insurance supplier for a variety of trade unions and professional organisations. The company offers a wide range of services including motor, home and travel insurance.

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

For further information, or for a copy of the media pack and/or case studies, please contact: Bridget Hargreave, Nick Faith, Rachael Hedley or Ben Frankel at Luther Pendragon on 020 7618 9100 or at endsleigh@luther.co.uk