

# THE POLICE MARQUE SECURED HOUSING

The Police Marque Secured Housing (*Politiekeurmerk Veilig Wonen, PKVW*) is a security instrument that significantly contributes to public safety - quality of life - in and around homes, housing complexes, neighbourhoods and districts. In addition to combating home burglary, the PKVW also combats other forms of crime and nuisance and contributes to quality of life in neighbourhoods. The PKVW is managed by the Netherlands Centre for Crime Prevention and Community Safety (*Centrum voor Criminaliteitspreventie en Veiligheid, CCV*).

## PUBLIC SAFETY IN PRACTICE

The PKVW is designed to deter home burglary, vandalism and nuisance via the implementation of effective public surveillance and burglary prevention measures in and around homes. The requirements for the PKVW are rooted in the most common forms of home burglary and are based on research and the experience of the police and security experts. The CCV ensures that the requirements are geared to actual practice.

## IMPLEMENTING THE PKVW

Implementing the PKVW is the responsibility of municipal authorities, market parties (housing construction and management firms, security firms) and private parties. Collaboration leads to an integrated approach to security in the living environment.

The PKVW distinguishes between existing and new-build housing. Measures are costly for existing housing, because the layout of districts and neighbourhoods is fixed and the houses have already been built. Furthermore, collaboration between all stakeholders is essential. In light of this, three modular certificates have been established for existing housing, namely Secure Home (*Veilige Woning*), Secure Complex (*Veilig Complex*) and Secure Environment (*Veilige Omgeving*).

There are a lot more options for new-build areas, as these districts only exist on paper and measures in the home and the environment are easy to implement. For new-build, a Safe Home (*Veilige Woning*) certificate has been established, as well as a declaration stating that the new-build project as a whole is PKVW-approved.

## BENEFITS

Implementing the PKVW has various quantitative and qualitative benefits:

- Fewer instances of nuisance, violence and vandalism in PKVW-approved neighbourhoods, as the requirements and measures regarding the design and layout of public spaces make them conducive to public surveillance.
- Lower management costs in PKVW-approved districts due to reduced nuisance, vandalism and victim support.
- Increased market value of PKVW-approved homes and residential buildings.
- Increased perceived level of safety and security of the living environment, which benefits the reputation of the district and municipality.
- The list of requirements forms a solid basis for relations between various stakeholders.

## RESULTS

While the chance of burglary for PKVW-approved homes is 90% lower than for others types of homes, the PKVW is no guarantee that a burglary will never occur.

## MORE INFORMATION

The CCV targets primarily on professionals: certification authorities, municipal authorities and market parties. Information about the PKVW and organisations that facilitate PKVW implementation is available on [www.politiekeurmerk.nl](http://www.politiekeurmerk.nl). For private individuals, a list of local PKVW-approved firms is available on this site. For more information visit [www.hetccv.nl](http://www.hetccv.nl).