

SAFE INITIATIVE – TELECOM & VODAFONE NZ

Telecom & Vodafone customers concerned about their safety while out and about can now send a free TXT message to 7233 (SAFE) to have their movements recorded on a central database.

The SAFE service is available to Telecom & Vodafone customers holding NZ sim cards who are both in New Zealand and roaming on its global network, which spans more than 100 countries.

"You might be walking home alone, or getting into a car at night and realise that no-one knows where you are, or what time you're due at your intended destination. By TXTing some brief details about your movements to 7233, in the unlikely event you are reported missing the police may gain a valuable lead on what happened to you."

How does it work?

You send a free text message to 7233 (SAFE) using your Telecom or Vodafone mobile.

For each text you send to SAFE, details are recorded of the date and time the message was sent, as well as the mobile phone number and the message content.

Important Note:

This service is in no way a replacement for calling 111 if people are in danger or feeling threatened. The messages are not monitored and will only be accessed following a formal approach from the police.

How could I use SAFE?

Here are some examples of how the service could be used. Remember to record your movements and details precisely as in New Zealand towns and rural areas, you'll often find the same names used, eg High St occurs in many towns and suburbs.

"Hitching from Gore at 9.30 to Invercargill car reg ZX12343"

"Leaving Courtney Place, Wgtn at 10pm to walk home to Island Bay via Adelaide Rd"

Important to know

- SAFE stores text messages only - pxt or video messages will not be accepted.
- SAFE is available on the mobile network for text capable mobiles.
- Police only require the mobile number of the missing person to access the service.
- Text message to SAFE are held in the database for two months. Older messages can be retrieved, but will take longer to access.