




East Devon: Rural Policing Newsletter

September
2023 



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date with us
on social
media:*



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Rural East Devon Police



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@EastDevonPolice
@DCPoliceRural_D



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DC Police

Devon & Cornwall Alert



Is a two-way community messaging system covering Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly that helps us to connect with our communities. It tells you what is happening in your area.

You can choose what information you receive, from whom, and when.

D&C Alert plays a significant role in our rural crime prevention activity. We utilise the platform to circulate key prevention messages and crime appeals. Messages will be tailored to your specific location and interests, so you can ensure the information you receive is always relevant.

To find out more, you can register for free at
alerts.dc.police.uk

RESPECT EVERYONE

PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT

ENJOY THE OUTDOORS

FOLLOW ADVICE AND LOCAL SIGNS



For further information, please visit:
gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code#full-publication-update-history

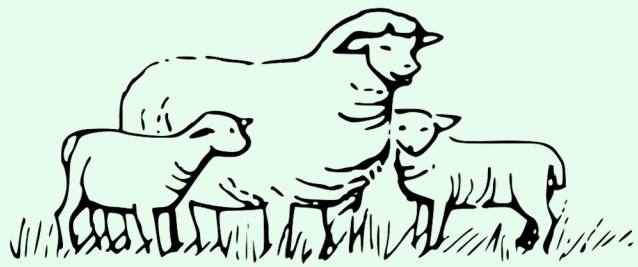
2023	THEMES
JANUARY	Rural road safety
FEBRUARY	Illegal off-roading
MARCH	Livestock worrying
APRIL	Agricultural plant, vehicle & machinery theft
MAY	Equine crime
JUNE	Heritage crime
JULY	Agricultural plant vehicle & machinery theft
AUGUST	Trespass & rights of way
SEPTEMBER	Livestock theft
OCTOBER	Fly tipping
NOVEMBER	Poaching
DECEMBER	Fuel and battery theft



03000 111 999
7am - 11pm



The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution
0800 188 4444



MONTHLY FOCUS:

LIVESTOCK THEFT

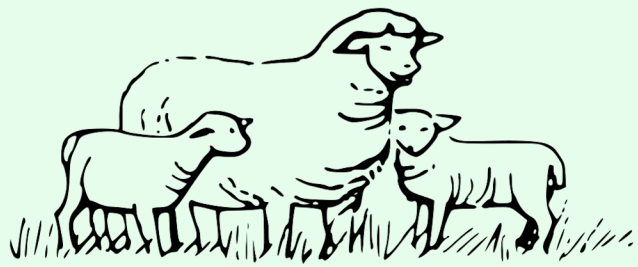
What is livestock theft?

Livestock theft affects every part of the UK. Unfortunately across the nation, sheep theft/rustling is on the rise with farm animals worth £3 million stolen in the UK during 2019 (NFU Mutual). It is one of the costliest crimes affecting Britain's farmers, after vehicle and machinery theft. It carries a heavy emotional impact on farmers as animals are often the product of many years of careful breeding and care. Single animals can be worth many thousands of pounds, depending on type and breed.

For the purpose of livestock theft, livestock is regarded as any creature kept for the production of food, wool, skins or fur for the purpose of its use in the farming of land or the carrying on of any agricultural activity.

What are some ways that I can help to reduce livestock theft?

- Ensure your farm is easy to locate by attending officers - you can use the app 'what3words' or a grid reference and road name
- Regularly check all gates and fences to prevent accidentals straying - check your stock regularly and at varying times
- Consider the use of signage to deter offenders, such as 'CCTV in operation due to sheep theft'
- Take photographs of valuable individual animals or where there is something unusual about their appearance - such as being a rare breed or having a particular marking. These photographs can then be used to raise awareness of any subsequent theft
- Ensure all animals are tagged and individually marked with paint, ear notches etc. Ensure lost tags are replaced promptly
- Always maintain accurate records of all stock and movements
- Maintain regular contact with neighbouring landowners and ask them to familiarise themselves with your stock marks and ask them to alert you if stock are out of place and to report any suspicious vehicles or people in the area



MONTHLY FOCUS:

LIVESTOCK THEFT

- Where possible, utilise locks to secure all gates, and invert hinges to prevent removal
- Consider reporting your theft to the National Sheep Association, who can raise the profile and awareness of the theft nationally
- Join Farm Watch and other local social media/community groups to keep in touch with what is going on
- Join the Farm No Cold Caller Scheme
- Explore potential for technical solutions to prevent and detect livestock theft, including gate monitors linked to a mobile phone, cameras - both covert and overt - that cover access/egress points, and GPS tagging opportunities or property marking microdot markers into the fleeces of animals
- Where possible, block/obstruct vehicular access to location
- Keep pedigree stock/valuable animals closer to home and graze away from roads where practical to do so
- Consider alternative arrangements for any stock roaming too far away from their grazing area on common land

Who can help?

THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

www.fcn.org.uk

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION

contact can be made through the FCN

RECRUITMENT OPPORTUNITY: APPLICATIONS OPEN 16TH SEPTEMBER - 1ST OCTOBER

**Make a difference within
your community**

Recruiting now for Special Constables



**To find out more about volunteering
as a Special Constable, visit:
dc.police.uk/specials**

Gain new skills | Be part of a team | Challenge yourself



**Be part of something
BIGGER**

**Thanks for reading! Stay tuned
for the October issue...**