


East Devon: Rural Policing Newsletter

October 2023 



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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:

FLYTIPPING

Flytipping is the illegal dumping of waste. It can vary in scale significantly, from a bin bag of household rubbish, to large quantities of waste dumped from trucks.

Flytipping spoils our outstanding environment, and unnecessarily costs the tax payer to clean up.

Flytipping is serious, and is punishable by up to two years imprisonment and up to a £50,000 fine upon conviction.

There are a wide variety of wastes that are fly-tipped, such as household rubbish, large domestic items (such as fridges and mattresses), garden refuse, dead animals, tyres, and clinical waste.

Your local council is responsible for the removal of flytipping from their property, covering Devon County Council highways, roads, pavements, and lay-bys. They do not remove flytipping from private property as this is the responsibility of the landowner.

Large-scale flytippings can be investigated by the Environment Agency or Police.



MONTHLY FOCUS:

FLYTIPPING

When reporting flytipping, please ensure you have the following information to hand:

Where the incident took place: it is recommended that you use the 'what3words' app so that responses can be provided in both town environments and very rural areas.

The day, date, and time that you noticed the flytipping.

A description of what was flytipped and the quantity.

If you witnessed the flytipping, please provide details of how many people were involved, what they did, and if a vehicle was involved. Please also detail if anyone else witnessed the flytipping - and if so, who?

Flytipping, i.e., the dumping of waste, needs to be reported to your local council at: [WWW.GOV.UK/REPORT-FLYTIPPING](https://www.gov.uk/report-flytipping)

To report large-scale illegal dumping (such as lorries dumping rubbish) and hazardous waste, please contact [Crimestoppers](https://www.crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information/forms/pre-form) on either [0800 555 111](tel:0800555111) or [HTTPS://CRIMESTOPPERS-UK.ORG/GIVE-INFORMATION/FORMS/PRE-FORM](https://www.crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information/forms/pre-form)



SHED & OUTBUILDING CRIME PREVENTION

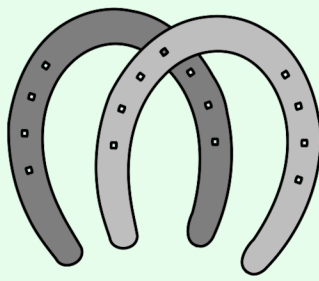


Sheds and outbuildings are often targeted by thieves as an easy option because they often hold valuable items that can then be easily sold on - including items such as bikes, mowers, power tools, garden tools, and sporting equipment. Research has shown that the average contents of a shed are valued between £1,500 - £5,000, making them easy pickings if left insecure.

Shed and outbuilding security can be improved using a few simple measures.

- Don't make a burglar's job easier by leaving gardening tools lying around - these are often used to force entry into your home, shed, or outbuilding
- Security mark your tools and equipment using a SecuredByDesign-recognised forensic asset markings or etching kits to deter thieves and reduce theft
- Use SecuredByDesign-approved hasps and staples fitted one-third up and one-third down the door, coach bolted through the shed structure or secured with either security or non-return screws (which can only be unscrewed using a special tool)
- If you have battery-operated garden tools, store the batteries and chargers in the house away from the tools to make them less attractive to steal and less valuable to sell on
- Shed windows can be fitted with weld mesh or grilles on the inside - if you don't use the window, consider screwing it shut. Also consider replacing glass panes with perspex or polycarbonate to as more secure alternatives.
- Keep items out of sight, such as by using netting or permanent spray-on glass frosting
- Consider getting a battery-operated shed alarm that responds to movement or door contact with an extremely loud siren (please keep this out of the reach of young children)
- Do not leave ladders outside - but, if you have no alternative, chain them up
- Check that you have adequate cover under your household insurance for theft from your garden and outbuildings

For further advice, please visit www.securedbydesign.com/guidance/crime-prevention-advice/garden-security/secure-sheds-outbuildings or www.dc.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/protect-home-crime/secure-shed-garage/



HORSEBOX & TRAILER CRIME PREVENTION



Thefts of lightweight livestock and flatbed trailers and horseboxes has been growing. They are particularly vulnerable as they can be easily towed away unless appropriate security measures are taken. Below are some precautions you can take. Please remember that a layered approach to security is best, aiming to make your property a less-attractive target to thieves.

- **PHYSICAL SECURITY** - try to make your trailer or horsebox unattractive to steal. If the thief must spend more time trying to break security products attached to the trailer, they may move onto an easier target. Consider fitting a combination of several products, such as a hitch lock anti-theft device, wheel clamps and locking wheel nuts. If your trailer is stored in a barn or on a hard concrete surface, SecuredByDesign-approved ground anchors with a heavy duty chain attached with a high attack rating is another option to consider.
- **RESTRICT ACCESS** - if your trailer or horsebox is parked on a driveway, consider closing any gates at night or when not in use. Vehicle bollards can provide an extra visible deterrent.
- **RECORD DETAILS** - keep a record of serial numbers, chassis and model numbers and take note of any custom marks on the horsebox or trailer. Take colour photographs from several angles, and take videos with a smartphone if possible to include any markings. If stolen, being able to track and identify your horsebox or trailer is vital to the police.
- **SECURITY MARKING** - security marking your trailer or horsebox using a SecuredByDesign-recognised forensic asset marker is a highly effective and visible deterrent to thieves.
- **THE CESAR SYSTEM** - is the National security marking system of the Construction Equipment Association and Agricultural Engineers Association, and has the aim of reducing plant and farm theft.
- **TRACKING SYSTEMS** - fit a SecuredByDesign-approved tracking device to the horsebox so that it can be traced if stolen.
- **TACK** - do not leave any tack in the horsebox overnight - store it away safely and be especially careful at events and shows.
- **INSURANCE** - check that you have adequate cover under your insurance for theft of your tack, including overnight shows away from home.

FAREWELL

LPSV 62154

In my role as a Local Policing Support Volunteer over the last 12 months, I have had the pleasure of curating 5 monthly resources across Rural East Devon, including Honiton, Seaton, Sidmouth, and Axminster. If there has been even one person across the communities that has found these newsletters useful and insightful in some way, to me that is worth every moment spent working on them! I moved to the East Devon area 5 years ago, and am incredibly grateful for the beautiful landscape and welcoming residents here. Protecting the land and our communities here is vital. I hope that over the past year I have been able to provide some helpful information, and in the process of doing so have also improved our engagement with local communities within the Rural East Devon area. It is with regret that I announce my farewell. This October issue marks the final newsletter from me, I am sad to say, as I return to university to complete my final year of studies. I would like to say a huge, heartfelt thank you to the East Devon Neighbourhood Teams, who have shown me nothing but the greatest of support throughout my time here. It has truly been a pleasure. Finally, I would like to say thank you to those in the community who have read these newsletters, and engaged with us along the way. You can keep up to date with the latest goings-on in your area either on our socials, the Devon & Cornwall Police website.

