



# RURAL AFFAIRS: EAST DEVON POLICING NEWSLETTER



## Devon and Cornwall Alert

Is a **free** two-way community messaging system that helps us to connect with our communities. It tells you what is happening in your area and allows you to respond directly with any information. Messages can be sent either through recorded voice message, email or text message. You can register at **alerts.dc.police.uk**

You can choose what information you receive, e.g. crime, anti-social behaviour, witness appeals, missing person appeals, community events, local good news.

You can also choose when, how and who from:

- Specify what time of day messages will arrive
- By email, text or telephone
- Police, Action Fraud, Crimestoppers, Neighbourhood Watch
- It is **free**: there is no cost, contract or obligation
- Covers Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly

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 business location and interests, so you can ensure the information you receive is always relevant.



## **PRIORITIES AND AIMS:**

The team's primary aim is to increase our rural communities' confidence in policing, public engagement and crime prevention advice.

Priorities include focussing on:

- **Farm Machinery, Plant and Vehicle Theft (FMPV):** including quad bikes and all-terrain vehicles, modern and vintage tractors, and tools and equipment from outbuildings
- **Livestock offences:** including livestock thefts, worrying and attacks
- **Fuel theft:** including heating oil theft, and diesel
- **Equine crime:** including horse trailer and horse box theft, horse theft and tack theft
- **Fly tipping:** note that this is for collaboration with stakeholders to tackle a public priority as members of the National Action Group.
- **Poaching:** specifically looking at the OCG aspect.



Facebook: Rural East Devon Police



Twitter: @EastDevonPolice



YouTube: DCPolice

## Devon & Cornwall Police Rural Affairs



Working in partnership to protect rural communities

## **FLY TIPPING:**

### **Why is this important?**

Fly-tipping is the illegal dumping of waste onto any land and is a criminal offence. Fly-tipped waste can have a significant financial implication for landowners and local authorities. It poses a safety risk to landowners and members of the public and can be harmful to domestic animals, wildlife and livestock.

### **What do you need to do?**

Report fly-tipped waste promptly to the relevant local authority. Be aware of the potential for hazardous waste and do not touch.

Remain vigilant, notify the police using 999 if you suspect an offence of fly tipping is being committed noting vehicle details, descriptions and an accurate location.

### **How can you prevent this?**

- Understand your obligations to dispose of waste legally using a designated centre or licensed waste carrier.
- Landowners where possible should restrict access using gates or physical barriers and block unused entrances.
- Improve visibility and lighting and consider the use of signage and CCTV.
- Keep areas tidy and clear waste to discourage waste being added.
- Remember if you see fly tipped waste report it promptly to your local district council. If you have any information concerning the identity of individuals responsible for fly tipping call **Crimestoppers** anonymously on **0800 555 111**.
- Join **Devon & Cornwall Alert**, watch schemes and local social media groups so that you can find out what is happening in your area.

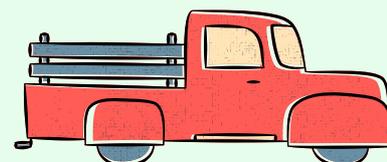
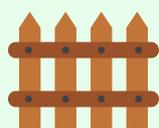
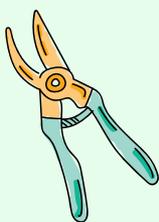
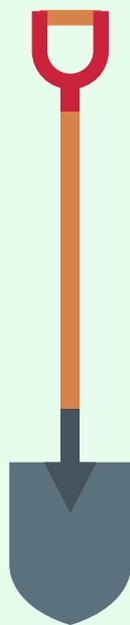
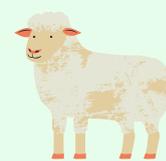
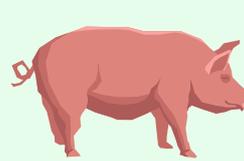
**The Devon and Cornwall police rural affairs team have produced a calendar which highlights rural issues throughout the year to focus problem solving activity for police, partners and public with key messages and prevention activity.**



RESPECT EVERYONE  
PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT  
ENJOY THE OUTDOORS  
FOLLOW ADVICE AND LOCAL SIGNS

for further information please visit  
**[gov.uk/countrysidecode](http://gov.uk/countrysidecode)**

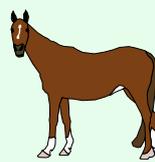
If you would like a visit, advice or leaflet regarding farm security or to discuss other rural crime issues. please contact PCSO 30017 Darren ENGLAND via email:  
[30017@dc.police.uk](mailto:30017@dc.police.uk)

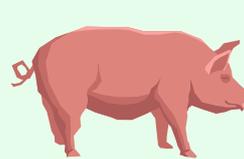


## **FUEL AND BATTERY THEFT:**

Theft of fuel is a concern for the police and rural communities. Fuel can be stolen from vehicles and storage tanks using siphoning equipment that can vary from basic tubes to more sophisticated arrangements involving pumps and the cutting of fuel lines. Batteries can also be stolen from farm machinery and electric fences.

- Wherever possible, keep vehicles and machinery in a secure area
- Consider the use of locking fuel caps
- Re-fuel vehicles just before the planned journey rather than leaving a vehicle fully fuelled overnight
- Park vehicles in areas that are well-lit so they can be observed easily
- Improve lighting and focus on vulnerable areas
- Fit anti-siphoning devices
- Install or confirm that existing CCTV is fit for purpose, and that it covers tanks and vulnerable vehicles
- Consider using fuel dyes, or 'PAINT IT PINK' for batteries
- Install cages and/or improve security that surrounds fuel storage tanks
- Consider using 'bunded' fuel tanks if your existing storage facility is not of that type
- Consider installing fuel cap alarms. More advanced systems can be linked to security lighting or can send a text message to the owners or security provider. An isolation switch allows authorised access to the tank for refuelling
- Make sure gates and compounds are locked and secure; consider fitting an anti-attack cover for the lock
- Arrange to check vehicles and premises outside of normal working hours
- Agricultural sites should consider portable refuelling systems that can be locked in secure storage areas and not left in fields or stock yards
- Use appropriate signage at the entrance where security devices are being used. This will act as a deterrent
- Consider signing up to your local Farm Watch scheme
- Follow your Rural Affairs Team on Twitter **@DCPoliceRural\_D**
- Sign up for free alerts from Devon and Cornwall Police at **alerts.dc.police.uk**





## **FARM MACHINERY, PLANT AND VEHICLE THEFT:**

Theft of agricultural machinery and vehicles is a concern for the police and rural communities. Plant and vehicle theft cost businesses in the UK in excess of £12m in 2019 (based on NFU Mutual Claims data) and in some cases the stolen vehicles were used to commit further offences.

- Consider keeping a record of serial number and model details
- Paint your name on vulnerable tarpaulins in letters at least 1 foot high
- Use metal engravers to mark tools, vehicles and equipment with your postcode followed by the first two letters of your farm's name
- Always keep tools and small pieces of machinery locked away. Do not leave them lying around
- Take part in the CESAR scheme for tractors and quads
- Fit a tracker to tractors, 4x4s and quads
- Keep keys away from house and outbuilding windows and doors
- If possible, keep vehicles/machinery in a lockable garage or building

It is reported that with CESAR (Construction and Agricultural Security and Registration) marked machinery is four times less likely to be stolen and six times more likely to be recovered. All UK police forces have access to portable scanners that enable us to scan vehicles to get confirmed ID.

Ask us about the 'STOP THIS TRAILER/TRACTOR' scheme!

