



Warwickshire Police have seen an increase in the number of thefts of metal in line with national trends as the cost of metals on the world markets remains high.

Safer Neighbourhood Teams and other police colleagues are working hard to identify the individuals responsible for committing these types of offences and are visiting scrap metal dealers in the area to check that accurate records are being kept of transactions and looking for intelligence.

This document is to raise awareness of metal theft security issues with the business community and ask that they review the security of their premises. It is an underlying principal of good practice that the level of security should match the value of the product. Crime prevention advice is listed below.

Warwickshire Police can offer FREE, expert advice. Please contact one of our Business Crime Advisors.

Peter Davies	Leamington/Warwick and Stratford	07960 955810
Mike Whitehead	Nuneaton/Bedworth/ North Warwickshire	07960 955811
David Owen	Rugby	07960 952178

Please join our FREE Business watch Scheme to receive alerts relating to metal thefts. E-mail watch@warwickshire.police.uk for a sign up form. Please report all suspicious incidents to the police.

Basic Advice

These are a number of key points followed by a more detailed version.

- Review the security of perimeter fencing and gates on a regular basis, checking for holes or weak spots that might assist access to your site.
- Consider your existing security measures. Do Intruder Alarms, CCTV and adequate lighting cover the site?
- Review the position of skips and storage units. Where possible have secure skips and increase the security around them using cages or compounds.
- Try and park company vehicles or business vehicles inside premises or in secure compounds overnight. If that is not possible consider how the vehicles are parked.
 - a) are they in areas offering natural surveillance from the road
 - b) are they in areas covered by CCTV and in good lighting
 - c) park them close together to make access to the underside difficult
- Make your metal as difficult to steal as possible.
- Mark metal using products such as Smartwater, Red Web grease or Retaina Group for catalytic converters and use high visibility signage to deter thieves.
- Remove Catalytic converters from long-term storage vehicles. Use signage to state that they are removed from the vehicles.