

Vehicle Crime

This week officers are working together to tackle Vehicle Crime. The National Vehicle Crime Working Group (NVCWG) works closely alongside Government agencies, manufacturers, and Thatcham, to approach and tackle vehicle crime from several different angles. Your local officers will too be working alongside these groups. Officers will be sharing information with people about the ways in which they can keep their vehicles safe, as well as reduce crime where possible. Officers develop intelligence and undertake investigations to produce and perform the best practice on vehicle crime.

- Are there any specific areas that you deem a hotspot around Oadby and Wigston for vehicle theft? Officers are tackling and have been patrolling a list of hotspot areas, but we would appreciate hearing from you what and where is important.
- What information that is not listed below would you as members of our community deem as important to know when it comes to vehicle crime?

Below is some advice that should be taken as it protects you from becoming a victim of vehicle crime:

- Always lock vehicles. Even if it is only being left unattended for a moment. This includes when your vehicle is on your driveway, a petrol station and even defrosting.
- Did you know? It is illegal to leave your vehicle running unattended while you de-ice it or warm it up in cold weather. If someone takes it while it's left like this, your insurer won't pay out because you won't be covered.
- Ensure that if you have a keyless vehicle, your keys are secured to protect against keyless car theft. Storing them in a signal blocker pouch is highly recommended. If you have not yet got one of those, keep the keys well away from the car (not in the front window/hallway of your home), or turn off your signal programme when the car is not being used.
- Do not leave any valuables on display. This includes loose change, sunglasses, and medication. Often the price of replacing your window far out ways the cost of the items stolen, so do not give them the opportunity. Furthermore, it should go without saying that wallets, handbags, and purses should never be left unattended. Electrical items such as sat navs should also be removed or hidden within the vehicle.
- Secure your vehicle with a wheel lock. This is a huge deterrent for criminals and car thieves as the time to remove one of these can cause them too much risk of being caught, furthermore, it shows that you have action in place to prevent your vehicle from being stolen.
- Take all your documents with you. By having the vehicles registration and insurance documents, a thief can pretend to Be the owner and sell the vehicle on quite easily.

- If you own a van, remove all work tools from this. Additionally, to prevent the damage to your van, leave a sticker on the van to signal to thieves not to bother.
- Park your vehicles in a well-lit area and aim to find somewhere covered by CCTV too where possible.
- Protect your catalytic converter. Find out more [Catalytic converter theft | Police.uk \(www.police.uk\)](https://www.police.uk)
- Dash cameras and trackers can be very useful as with a tracker it increases the chances of locating your vehicle once it is stolen. Additionally, if you have dash cameras then this can be a deterrent particularly if they record throughout.



RECOGNISE AND REPORT
THEFT FROM VANS

Tools are extremely valuable possessions and when stolen, can impact hugely on businesses.

If you're leaving your van for long periods of time or overnight, it is advisable to remove any tools.

For more advice visit:
www.leics.police.uk/TheftFromVans

Report anything suspicious at
www.leics.police.uk/ReportOnline

The infographic features a white van with a smartphone icon showing a lock symbol and a signal icon, indicating remote locking. A small police crest is visible in the bottom right corner.



RECOGNISE AND REPORT
VEHICLE CRIME

It can take seconds to break into a vehicle. Locking your vehicle, even when filling up with fuel or parked on your drive, greatly reduces the possibility of it being targeted by an opportunist thief.

- When at home, keep your keys safe and out of view.
- Keep your electronic car key in a security pouch to prevent it being scanned by thieves to open and steal your car.
- Fit a steering wheel, gear lever or clutch pedal security device to give your vehicle added protection.

For more advice visit:
www.leics.police.uk/VehicleSafety

Report anything suspicious at
www.leics.police.uk/reportonline

Leicestershire Police
Part of the Leicestershire and Rutland Police and Fire and Rescue Authority

The infographic features a red car with a steering wheel lock icon and a smartphone icon showing a lock symbol and a signal icon. A QR code is located next to the contact information. The Leicestershire Police crest is in the bottom right corner.