

Harborough Newsletter

Issue 16: June 2020

News Update

Officers from the Harborough and Wigston Neighbourhood Policing Area (NPA) are investigating damage to a number of allotment sheds in Kibworth Harcourt.

The sheds are on a site in West Langton Road – near the junction with the A6 Harborough Road – and are believed to have been damaged sometime between 5pm Tuesday 19 May and 6.30am Wednesday 20 May.

If anyone who lives in the area and has seen or been offered items such as garden tools for sale call 101, or send Leicestershire Police a message on Facebook or Twitter, quoting reference 20*255244. Please are also asked to contact us if they saw or heard anything suspicious around these times.

Policing Rural Communities

We continue to carry out patrols across the rural areas, helping to prevent and detect rural crime.

If you own livestock, we ask that you please remain vigilant and check on your livestock and boundary security regularly. More information and advice on steps you can take to protect your livestock can be found at leics.police.uk/rural-crime

To find out what else our rural policing teams are up to please follow @LeicsRuralCrime on Twitter or search 'Leicestershire & Rutland Rural Crime' on Facebook.

Please report any suspicious activity to us by reporting online at leics.police.uk/report-online or by calling 101. Always call 999 in an emergency.





Beat Surgeries

In line with government guidance around Covid-19, we have postponed our community consultations and beat meetings. Our officers will continue to be active in your community. We will re-arrange events as soon as we can. Remember you can always report crime by:

- Reporting online via <u>leics.police.uk/report-online</u>
- Calling 101
- Sending a message to Leicestershire Police on Facebook or Twitter

PLEASE CONTINUE TO ADHERE TO THE GOVERNMENT ADVICE, OBSERVE THE RULES AND CONTINUE TO STAY SAFE.

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CATALYTIC CONVERTER THEFTS

Leicestershire Police have seen a rise in the theft of catalytic converters across Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland, there have also been a number of reported thefts of catalytic converters from cars in Lutterworth and Dunton Bassett. These thefts and attempted thefts have been from a variety of different cars, but in particular the Toyota Prius and the Honda Jazz.

It's worth knowing that Toyota have created a unique catalytic converter lock which can be fitted retrospectively. This specially designed lock will prevent thefts from occurring. To prevent thefts, you can also:

- Purchase catalytic converter alarms or metal cages, these can be fitted around the catalytic converter to act as a deterrent
- Use marking kits, these can help police identify them at scrap yards for instance, or on any suspect vehicles
- Keep 4x4s in a garage wherever possible or parked in a well lit place
- Park your car in a position that would make it difficult for opportunists to access the underside of the car

Catalytic converters are stolen because they contain recyclable precious metals, particularly palladium which has recently increased in price. We ask that all car owners remain vigilant and contact the police if they see any suspicious vehicles or activity in their area to help us find those responsible. If you notice anything untoward or have any information, please get in touch with Leicestershire Police by calling 101.





Businesses should stay alert to mandate fraud

Businesses across the force area are being urged to remain vigilant after incidents of fraud resulting in the loss of large sums of money up to £1m. Commonly known as mandate fraud, it occurs when businesses are contacted by someone pretending to be one of their suppliers and informed they have changed their bank, requesting they amend the direct debit to reflect this.

It's not always businesses who fall victim to this type of fraud. Individual's online bank accounts can also be hacked into and monthly payment details altered so that the money is transferred to the fraudster's account.

If you have been the victim of a similar offence and haven't reported it we would advise that you do so. In the first instance contact Action Fraud who will log the report and allocate it to the relevant police force.

Further information and advice can be found on the Action Fraud website.



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