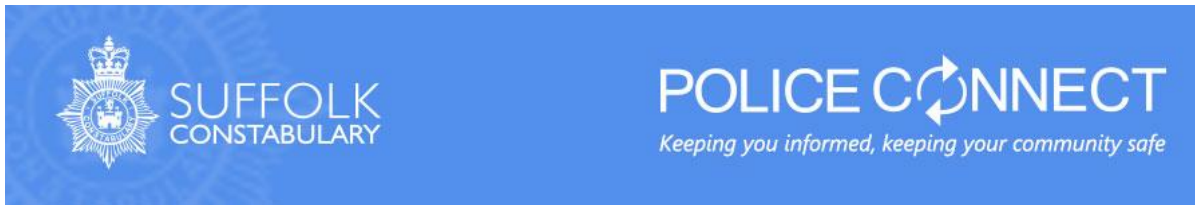


The following is a Police Connect message.



Officers are appealing for witnesses and urging vigilance after an increase in the number of motor vehicle crimes reported to police.

Between 1st and 25th March, more than 50 incidents of vehicle crime across the Lowestoft, Halesworth, Beccles, Bungay and Southwold areas were reported, including 31 thefts from vehicles, 23 incident of interference with vehicles and 7 thefts of vehicles. Entry was forced in some incidents and items such as cash, wallets and bank cards were stolen, although in 21 incidents nothing was stolen.

There were five thefts of motorbikes in the East of the county in the same period.

Police are urging motorists to remember to lock their vehicle and remove all valuables, no matter whether you park on, or off road. Thieves will enter private properties, public car parks and garages to look for insecure vehicles.

- Most thefts from vehicles are opportunist
- Do not leave valuables on display
- Park in well lit places
- Always lock all doors & shut windows, physically checking vehicle doors are locked.
- Keep your keys safe and away from doors and windows
- Consider upgrading locks/fitting additional protection.
- Information on Police approved products can be found at www.securedbydesign.com

Owners of motorcycles should consider -

- Use of a motorcycle chain/cable and secure your machine to an immovable object. Choose a Police Approved 'Sold Secure' gold standard product
- Install/use a quality alarm/immobiliser system fitted by a trained technician
- Leave your vehicle in locations which benefit from high footfall and good lighting

Motorists are also advised to register their property for free at www.immobilise.com by taking note of the serial numbers and models, and to use ultraviolet pen to (invisibly) mark their property, which increases the chances of having them returned to you in the event of being lost or stolen.

For further home security and general crime reduction information please go to 1st Principle crime prevention advice pages on the Suffolk Police website - <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/advice/crime-prevention-z>

Suffolk Constabulary has recently joined forces with a home security company to help make properties in the county more secure. Residents may want to consider installing a Ring Video Doorbell device which can, via a motion sensor, capture footage of activity outside their property. At present a discount of £40 applies if the discount code **NBSNHW40** is used. Please visit www.ring.com for more details.

To report any suspicious behaviour -

https://www.suffolk.police.uk/sites/suffolk/files/suspiciousbehaviour_0.pdf

Help us keep our communities safe.

Police advice on a variety of subjects can be accessed via <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/advice>

To report something, or to otherwise contact Police, use the link <http://www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us>

To report something anonymously call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or visit www.crimestoppers-uk.org

Alternatively call **101** for non-urgent matters.

Always call 999 in emergencies, or if an immediate police response is required.

Police Connect Team