

# COMBAT VEHICLE THEFT IN YOUR AREA



STAFFORDSHIRE  
**POLICE**

We've recently had reports of vehicle theft in your area. To tackle this we have patrols and share intelligence regionally, but we also need you to check your vehicle security.

## DID YOU KNOW THAT VEHICLES WITH KEYLESS ENTRY ARE AT RISK OF RELAY THEFT?

This is when thieves (usually working in pairs) stand near your home using an electronic device to intercept the signal from your keys inside to your vehicle to unlock and drive it away usually in less than 2 minutes.

## HOW CAN YOU PREVENT THIS?

- Use a Faraday bag (a signal blocking pouch) to store your key and spare key when not in use. Check it's working by putting the keys in the pouch and holding it near to your vehicle to see if the door unlocks.
- Check your vehicle manual to see if the wireless signal can be disabled on your keyless fob when not in use.
- Reprogram the keys if you buy a second hand keyless vehicle.
- If you see any suspicious activity, or a crime in progress please contact us.

 999  101

 [staffordshire.police.uk](https://staffordshire.police.uk)



**IF YOU SEE ANY SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOUR PLEASE LET US KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BY CALLING 101, OR REPORTING THROUGH THE STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE WEBSITE. IN AN EMERGENCY ALWAYS CALL 999.**

# THIEVES ALSO TARGET TRADITIONAL KEY START VEHICLES.



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## Tips to keep your vehicle secure:

- Always lock your vehicle and fully close the windows when left unattended.
- Keep your keys out of sight and away from windows, doors and the letterbox to deter 'fishing' as thieves may attempt to access them through security weak spots.
- Consider having an approved alarm and/or immobiliser fitted if there isn't one fitted by the manufacturer.
- Install a tracker to increase the chances of recovering your vehicle if it is stolen. Ensure you maintain the tracker subscription.
- Use a Sold Secure approved visible deterrent such as a steering wheel lock.
- If you have a garage, store your vehicle in it when not in use - install a Garage Door Defender Lock and garage alarm for extra security.
- Install 'dusk til dawn' security lighting on your driveway and consider external CCTV.
- Deter access with a securely locked gate, a perimeter alarm or retractable bollards.
- Secure your number plate with theft resistant fittings to make it more difficult for criminals to change the identity of your vehicle and easier for police to find.
- Always secure your car when you leave it unattended and never leave the engine running even whilst emptying your groceries or de-icing it in winter. Be as vigilant on your travels as you are at home when using petrol service stations and car parks.
- Visit [www.securedbydesign.com](http://www.securedbydesign.com) and [www.soldsecure.com](http://www.soldsecure.com) for security products with police preferred specification.
- For more crime prevention and security advice please scan the QR code to visit our website.

