

UV pen marking

UV pens are used to mark a postcode, house number or name on property. The pen markings are invisible to the naked eye.

Police have access to UV lights which reveal any markings which have been left. Officers are more likely to trace you if your property is marked. Pens are very cheap and can be obtained from stationery shops.

If you have any concerns about anyone acting suspiciously in your neighbourhood, or if you believe a caller to be a bogus official please contact police immediately.



You may have these outside your home.....



.....are they secure?

For more information about what officers are doing to keep you safe call **0345 113 5000** or visit www.west-midlands.police.uk

We can be found on:

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Serving our communities, protecting them from harm

NOTICE TO RESIDENTS

Metal theft has been reported in this area

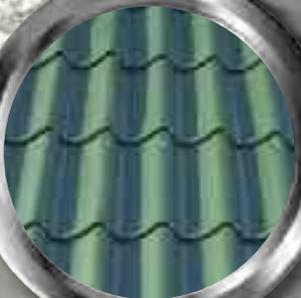


WEST MIDLANDS POLICE - KEEPING YOU INFORMED

Did you know the price of metal has increased around the world?

As a consequence, instances of metal theft have risen across the UK and in the West Midlands.

Unfortunately, metal thefts have been reported in this area. Please read this leaflet to find out how to safeguard your home against this type of crime.



Helpful tips

- Conduct a quick survey - especially the external areas and fabric of the building. What metal do you possess and how easy would it be for a thief to steal it? Can this be secured?
- Lead flashing and copper piping are especially at risk
- Lock garages, sheds, gates and doors
- Remove or padlock and chain any valuable metal items or equipment such as ladders or wheel barrows
- Remove or hide water butts, wheelie bins and anything thieves may use to climb and access your roof
- Prune back or remove overhanging trees and shrubs that could provide a screen to hide criminal activity
- Property mark and photograph metal items (including unusual and high value metal items such as statues, garden urns, seats and fountains), in order to aid identification if they are stolen
- Consider installing an intruder alarm
- Consider your security lighting. Does it work? Does it cover the right places?

Register your things

www.immobilise.com is the UK's largest free online property database. You can register on the site and upload details of any valuable items from electronic equipment to garden furniture. You are also able to store images of your valuables in order to assist officers with identification.

Police use this site to find the owners of property which has been retrieved.



Crime prevention

Mark your property to make it less attractive to thieves. If it is marked they know police can quickly establish it is stolen property.

In addition, officers can trace it back to you and criminals may have difficulty "cashing in" with another criminal or to a willing purchaser.

Although etching/punching your postcode and house number or name/company name on property can be very effective it is often not a practical option so we have other ways of effective property marking.

