

Building Site Security



Reducing crime through partnership and prevention



What's in this guide

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The construction and building industry is easy prey for opportunistic thieves and vandals.

It is estimated that theft and vandalism affects one in five construction sites and costs the sector £800 million per year.

Expensive, heavy machinery and plant can be sold for healthy profit. Furthermore, the recovery rate for stolen machinery in the UK is just 9%.

TOP TIPS

- Secure the Perimeter
- Consider good quality CCTV and Alarms
- Install dusk to dawn Lighting
- Secure Plant and Machinery
- Erect Signage
- Consider Security Patrols

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Secure the Perimeter



Fence the perimeter of the site.



Regularly inspect for damage or signs of entry using CCTV.



Perimeter sensors or security patrols.



Lock and secure vehicle entrances and exits.



Monitored CCTV and Alarms

Consider monitored CCTV and alarm systems for vacant sites. Mobile systems which operate independently of the site power are available and a good solution for sites that do not have power at all. Intruder alarms and CCTV should be installed by a Private Security Authority (PSA) licensed security installer.



Lighting

Ensure dark areas are limited by installing security lighting. We recommend dusk to dawn lights around all aspects of the property. These provide low levels of ambient light.

When considering CCTV make sure the lighting is designed to give good images in low light conditions.



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Securing Plant and Machinery



Secure all plant and machinery. Wherever possible attach high quality chains to plant and machinery and use it to secure other assets, such as parking dumpers in front of storage containers, fuel bowsers and other high value materials.



Store keys safely away from vehicles. Consider tracking devices for larger vehicles.



Consider mustering your plant together and place excavator arms inside dumper load areas to deter theft.



Photograph, clearly mark and record serial numbers of equipment, VIN numbers of vehicles and other distinguishing features. Consider using after-market tool marking systems, etching postcodes onto plant and machinery with traceable liquids.



Wherever possible position machinery so that fuel caps are not easily accessible. Use hitch locks, wheel clamps or ground anchors.



Signage

Signage is a low cost and extremely effective way of keeping a site secure and deterring potential trespassers.

One study that surveyed over 400 incarcerated burglars found that security signage was one of the top 10 deterrents when selecting a property to break into.



Security Patrols

Engaging security guarding services can be extremely effective in ensuring the site is kept secure. This solution provides the site owners with a visible human security presence and is often the best deterrent.



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Always Report Crimes to the Police

Always report crime to police. This allows police to capture the data and understand the full scale of the crime, which in turn informs their resource and tactics to tackle it.



When a crime is taking place, dial 999 in an emergency.



You can also report to the Police on 101 or alternatively, you can report online at www.police.uk



Helpful resources

Police recommended security products can be found at www.securedbydesign.com

