

## CCTV

- Install cameras
- Ensure signage is in place to warn or deter

## Maintenance (tenancy agreements)

- Is adequate information provided on what is expected of allotment holders regarding their responsibilities?
- Are tenancies regularly reviewed regarding maintaining shed security and upkeep etc?
- What enforcement actions are available to the Allotment Committee? Consider using them.

## Recycling Bins/Composters/ large containers

Try to site containers away from fence lines to reduce ability to use as a climbing aid over fences and hedges.

### For further details

Most garden centres and DIY stores will be able to provide you with advice on plants and products available to help secure your garden and outbuildings.



Safer  
Neighbourhoods

# Crime Prevention Guide

# Allotments



Although many people take steps to protect their homes and the property inside them, they leave valuable equipment in allotments and unsecured sheds, providing easy pickings for opportunist thieves.

Power tools, mowers and garden tools are just some examples of expensive equipment left in sheds that are not strong or secure enough to protect them from thieves. These stolen items are sometimes used to break into houses.

To report a crime or incident, or provide information, dial the non-emergency number



Press option 2 if you know the name of the person or department you wish to speak to and state collar number or full name to ensure your call is directed correctly.

Alternatively, **CRIMESTOPPERS** can be contacted anonymously on  
**0800 555 111**

**In an emergency always dial 999**

## Perimeter Protection

- Fencing should be in good condition, open railed/welded mesh 2m high with no gaps
- Consider planting thorny shrubs inside the fence at low level to deter climbing
- Gates should be securely locked out of hours and have anti-climb features
- Shrubs/trees adjacent to fencing/gates should not provide climbing aids
- Vehicle access should be controlled to prevent fly-tipping (collapsible bollards).



## Lighting

Well-positioned external lighting is a great way of keeping intruders at bay and can be purchased from most large DIY stores.

## Alarms

- If shed alarms are in use, consider nuisance value to adjacent properties and have recognised procedures in place in the event that the alarms are activated
- If secluded, consider GPS alarms or similar.

## Sheds

- Try to site sheds within view of passers by, vehicles or occupied properties
- Make sure doors, frames and walls are kept in good condition
- Protect hinges, pad bars (hasp and staple) should be secured with threaded coach bolts and back plates or large back washers
- Use close shackled or shrouded padlocks
- Secure windows with locks or consider boarding over
- Line floor and walls with plywood sheeting to make stronger and more resistant to attack
- Fix chains or anchor points to walls and floors to secure heavy, valuable items and tools. If no heavy items are available to chain tools to, fill a bucket with concrete and embed masonry chain
- Visibly paint or mark property with postcode or other identifying marks. Note serial numbers and record or register on [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)
- Consider setting up an 'asset register' for the whole allotment scheme with a designated 'recorder' responsible for maintaining the record and registering valuables
- Consider investing in one large secure metal alarmed container for the storage of valuable items for all allotments
- Consider holding regular property marking days involving the local Police and other agencies
- Try to avoid leaving expensive electrical items and tools in your shed
- Where possible use tamper-proof screws on locks and hinges or drill out heads of screws once fixed in place.



**IMMOBILISE**   
**PROPERTY CRIME**

