

- Consider installing security lighting, particularly at roof level where metal coverings are present. There are two main options: systems which operate on a movement sensor, and those which operate on a dusk till dawn basis. Lighting needs to be directed downwards and set at a height of at least 2.5 metres. If your property has neighbours, lights need to be positioned so that light is not directed into their gardens.
- Consider starting or joining a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. Ask your local neighbourhood team for details
- Install CCTV with adequate monitoring and recording, with overt signage. Information regarding legal requirements for using CCTV can be found at:

www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

or by calling 01625 545745

- Consider using forensic security marking products to mark metal goods and link thieves to scenes. Display prominent notices advertising its use to act as a deterrent.

Intelligence is vital in targeting metal thieves. If you see any suspicious behaviour or vehicles around properties or building sites please contact North Yorkshire Police on:

0845 60 60 24 7

If there is immediate risk to persons or property phone

999

Targeting Metal and Lead Thefts in York and North Yorkshire



A rise in the worldwide price of copper, lead and other non-ferrous metals has led to a dramatic increase in the number of metal thefts across the UK.

The Safer York Partnership and North Yorkshire Police are working hard to target offenders and reduce this kind of crime. Advice in this leaflet ranges from simple and easy low-cost options to more commercially costly but effective ones. The advice will assist you make your property less desirable to metal thieves.

- Make theft more difficult. Remove any means of intruders gaining access to your roof, including wheelie bins, garden furniture, water butts and tall trees located near your building. (You may need to gain approval from your local authority for tree removal prior to starting work)
- Store ladders and scaffolding materials in a secure place.
- Don't help thieves carry your metal away. Remove all wheelbarrows and wheelie bins, placing them in a secure area



- Trim shrubs and hedges to a height of 1.2 metres with a tree canopy maintained above 2metres, maximising natural surveillance. If planting hedging as a barrier, choose a variety that has thorns and is difficult to penetrate.
- Inspect your roofs on a regular basis so that any theft of roofing materials can be discovered and repairs made prior to rain entering the building and causing further damage
- Apply anti-climb paint to drainpipes and guttering above a height of 2 metres. You must display prominent notices warning people of its use. Applications will need to be renewed periodically and the paint can be purchased from any security products company.
- If replacing worn, damaged or stolen lead on a roof, consider using an alternative less desirable covering. Planning consent may be required subject to a building's age and structure.
- If replacing internal plumbing, consider using plastic Use a metal case or sheath firmly secured to the fabric of the building to protect lower sections of lightning conductor ribbons

- Where possible restrict vehicle access to your site and keep any gates locked Be vigilant for workmen or vehicles arriving at your site unexpectedly and note any registration numbers
- If taking delivery of any valuable metals watch out for any persons taking interest in the delivery and note details of any vehicles acting suspiciously, including descriptions of persons in the vehicle.
- If work is being carried out on site, Avoid storing more metal on site than is needed for that day's work. If this is unavoidable ensure metals are stored securely and out of public view
- Display prominent notices stating your opening hours and requesting if persons are seen on your premises outside of these hours, anyone sighting them reports them to the police on 0845 60 60 24 7. They could be stealing your metal.
- Community spirit. Encourage members of your local community to keep an eye on your building and report any suspicious activity

