



Security during House Refurbishments

Visit www.hampshire.police.uk or call **101**

Refurbishing properties can be an exciting experience, however there are times when premises are vulnerable to thieves because of the amount of building materials and plant (industrial machinery) on site. Below are a few tips to assist you in protecting your property and to help reduce the likelihood of you becoming a victim:

- Open style fencing (eg weld mesh) allows good natural surveillance into your property by neighbours or passersby who can report suspicious activity on site after working hours.
- Lighting can help in some circumstances. For lights to be useful there must be a good chance that an intruder in the yard or climbing up onto the roof will be seen from nearby buildings and streets. If there is no prospect of this then the lights could assist the intruder.
- Consider putting up warning notices stating that security precautions are in force, without providing specific details.
- Order white goods and boilers as late as possible so that they can be installed into a secured building. Many people temporarily alarm their new buildings at this time.
- CCTV cameras with alarm detection have proved to be an effective means of protecting vulnerable or void properties. There are systems available that can signal a monitoring station and/or alert you via your smartphone.
- Some alarm systems have been developed specifically to protect void properties and building sites. Like CCTV, these can signal a monitoring station and/or a smartphone as well as activate an audible alarm.
- Order the minimum amount of materials you need and, as with deliveries, make sure someone trustworthy is on site to accept them.
- Lock away valuable materials such as cable, copper pipe and construction equipment after use. Make sure they are protected by CCTV, intruder alarms and suitable security locks.

For on-site security the following advice is suggested:

- All property should be permanently marked to identify the company to which it belongs. The most common way of marking items is to use coloured paint or pens such as Cremark, but stamping, engraving and ultraviolet pens are also effective. Register all your tools and identifiable property on www.immobilise.com
- Encourage everyone on site to mark all their tools and keep a list of all Vehicle Identification Numbers (VINs) as well as serial numbers and engine numbers.
- Any tools left on site overnight should be stored in secure tool sheds, protected by CCTV or intruder alarm systems.
- Remove ignition keys from ALL unattended equipment.
- Immobilise equipment when it's not being used.
- Whenever possible, park vehicles off the road at night and weekends.

Call Hampshire Constabulary on **101**
In an emergency always call **999**

For more information visit www.hampshire.police.uk

