**Stay vigilant after two catalytic converter thefts.**

**Report from our Police Community Support Officer - January 2021**

Overnight we have received two reports of catalytic converter thefts, one overnight 11 January in Whatlington and a further one in Iden reported today, 12 January.  
  
Honda and Volvo vehicles have been targeted.  
  
We are urging you to take extra precautions around their vehicles following these thefts.  
  
There are a number of measures people can take to deter thieves, including parking in a secure or well-lit area and considering locks or guards.  
  
We also encourage you to continue reporting any thefts to us, so we can build a picture of the crimes and respond effectively.

Having spoken to the victims, these thefts don’t just impact the financial loss but weigh heavy on the need of transport and inconvenience at such a difficult time.  
  
Steps to protect your vehicle include parking in a garage overnight or in a secure compound. If this is not possible, people are urged to park in an area that’s well-lit and overlooked.  
  
We encourage you to park so that the convertor can’t be easily reached by potential thieves. Vehicles that sit high above the road are particularly vulnerable.  
  
More information can be found on the Secured by Design website. Further measures on how to protect your car from thieves can also be found on the Sussex Police website.  
  
Anyone who has been a victim of a catalytic converter theft, or who may have any other information including relevant CCTV, doorbell or dash cam footage, is asked to contact police. This can be done either online or by calling 101. Always dial 999 in an emergency.

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