

# ALLOTMENT SECURITY



FIRST PRINCIPLE

[norfolk.police.uk/firstprinciple](http://norfolk.police.uk/firstprinciple)  
[suffolk.police.uk/firstprinciple](http://suffolk.police.uk/firstprinciple)

## Top Tips

Avoid leaving anything valuable on your allotment

Secure your shed and the perimeter

Keep vigilant and report crimes and anti-social behaviour

Keep serial numbers, an inventory and photographs of anything valuable, safe at home

PREVENT CRIME

PROTECT COMMUNITIES



**NORFOLK**  
CONSTABULARY  
*Our Priority is You*



**SUFFOLK**  
CONSTABULARY



**Follow this advice to help  
keep your allotment secure**

## Perimeter

Perimeter fencing should be in good condition, without holes or gaps for a criminal to get through. Consider planting thorny shrubs inside the fence at low level to deter climbing. However, do not plant thick vegetation where it faces public areas as open surveillance into your allotment is a big deterrent as the criminal will not want to be seen.

Trim back and thin out vegetation or trees that are overgrown and adjacent to perimeter fencing or gates as they may be used to easily climb into and out of your allotment.

Ensure that the public facing side of the gates are screened to prevent being used to climb over.

Do not place waste heaps or recycling bins/composters or other large containers next to perimeter fencing otherwise the criminal may use the spoil as a climbing aid and it could help hide the criminal from view.

## Vehicle Access

Vehicle gates should be strong and be unable to be lifted off their support brackets.

Strong key operated locks should help prevent opportunists but if necessary could also be reinforced with a security chain. Choose police approved 'Sold Secure' gold

standard products and padlocks to no less a standard than CEN Security Grade 4.



## Sheds

Sheds will be less likely to be targeted if they are in view of passers-by or neighbouring properties.

Doors, frames and walls should be in good condition. Hinges should be secured with threaded coach bolts and back plates or large back washers.



Close shackled padlocks should be used on doors. Windows should be secured and preferably blocked up with internal metal mesh.

Floors and walls can be lined with plywood or metal sheeting to make them stronger and more resistant to attack.

Fix chains/anchor points to walls/floor to secure heavy/valuable items and tools. If no heavy items are available to chain tools to, fill a bucket with concrete and embed a chain.

Try to avoid leaving expensive 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.

## Secure Storage Container

Consider investing in one large secure metal alarmed container for the storage of valuable items for all allotments.



Doors should face toward public areas or properties. Key security must be controlled.

## Property Marking

Visibly paint/mark property with postcode or other identifying marks. Note serial numbers and record/register on [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com). Keep photos of valuable equipment.

Consider setting up an asset register for the whole allotment scheme with a designated person responsible for maintaining records and registering valuables.

Consider holding regular property marking days involving the local police and other agencies.

## Signage

Fix in place weatherproof signs, which are clearly visible to users and passers-by, these should display rules such as who is allowed in, opening hours, contact details of allotment provider and how to report crime or ASB.

## Allotment Associations & Members

Is adequate information provided on what is expected of allotment holders regarding their responsibilities?

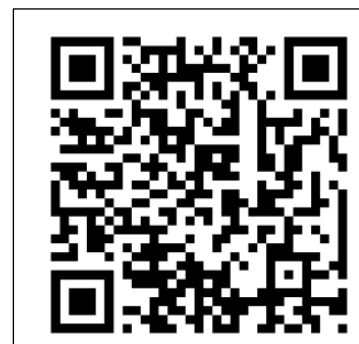
Are tenancies regularly reviewed regarding maintaining shed security and upkeep?

## First Principle: Related links

Check out all of our Crime Prevention information using the following links or by using the QR code to take you to the First Principle Pages Alternatively go to our website at <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/> and look in the 1<sup>st</sup> Principle A-Z of Crime Prevention.

Allotment Security  
Anti-Social Behaviour  
ATM Security  
Beach Hut Security  
Boat Security  
Building Site Security  
Business Security  
Caravan Security  
Caravan Storage  
Card Security  
Catalytic Converters  
Church Security  
Cold Callers  
Commercial CCTV  
Counterfeit Banknotes  
County Lines Advice  
for Landlords  
Cyber Crime  
Cycle Security  
Dangerous Dogs  
Dog Fouling  
Dog Theft  
Domestic CCTV  
Domestic Violence  
Farm Security  
Fraud Prevention  
Grooming  
Hate Crime

Heating Oil  
Home Improvements  
Home Security  
Home Security for  
Tenants  
Horses and Stables  
Keyless Vehicles  
Key Safe Security  
Lock Snapping  
Mopeds and Scooters  
Motorcycle Security  
Neighbour Disputes  
Occupiers Liability  
Personal Security  
Power Tool Security  
Products Brochure  
Rural Crime  
Security Alarms  
Sheds and Garages  
Social Media  
Social Media for  
Parents  
Suspicious Behaviour  
Shoplifting  
Taxi Driver Safety  
Vehicle Security  
Windows and Doors



### Other Links you might find helpful

Ask the Police  
Secured by Design  
Sold Secure

Crimestoppers  
0800 555 111

Victim Care  
0300 303 3705