

## **RURAL CRIME INFORMATION SHEET: SEE IT, RECOGNISE IT, REPORT IT!**

It is not always easy to distinguish between legal and illegal activity but we hope the information below will be a useful quick reference guide to rural crime, how to identify it and what information to collect when reporting.

### **RURAL BURGLARY AND THEFT:**

**What is it?** Unlawful entry of a building and stealing and the theft of machinery, farm vehicles, oil and fuel.

**Indicators:** There are no definite indicators of this crime but if you notice any suspicious behaviour then report it



### **POACHING AND HARE COURSING:** AKA Operation Galileo



**What is it?** Poaching is a term generally used where people trespass on private land or waterways with the intention of taking a particular animal such as hares, deer, fish or pheasant. Coursing is the pursuit of hares (see indicators)

**Indicators:** There may be a group of people entering farmland on foot or in 4x4s with lurchers or greyhounds. This happens during the day usually at weekends (particularly Sundays) from early morning to early afternoon.

### **LAMPING:** AKA Operation Zodiac

**What is it?** Similar to Coursing but at night (usually after midnight). Typically looking for rabbits, hares, deer, foxes and badgers. They illuminate the field and when they have spotted an animal, they release the dogs.



**Indicators:** Shining high-powered lights out of moving or stationary vehicles or look out for lines of people on open farmland with high-powered lights. Usually driving old/end of life vehicles 4x 4s or Estates.

### **RURAL ARSON**



**What is it?** Arson including farm crops, animals, buildings and vehicles.

**Indicators:** Trespassers in the area. Signs of fire including burns, smoke and flames.

**Prevention:** Secure site using CCTV where possible, securing vehicles and equipment in a locked store. Hay and straw should be kept in reasonable sizes, spaced apart to prevent the rapid spread of flames.

## HOW TO REPORT:

**REMEMBER:** - If there is a crime in action or a danger to safety or life call 999

For information related to suspected rural crime, call 101 with the following information:

- The location
- Description of people, vehicle registrations, while remaining out of sight of any possible offenders to ensure your safety
- A description of what has happened
- Any equipment you have seen
- Details of dogs or if firearms present
- Only if safe to do so – take photographs



What Happens to the information I have called in?

Call Takers will create an incident log if appropriate and record the circumstances. They will assess your call and determine an appropriate grading.

### SPEEDING:

Residents should raise concerns about speeding with their local town and parish councils, who can arrange a speed survey. Local authorities, as the responsible highway authority, will investigate any road safety issues, collect speed data to establish the scale of the speeding problem and assess the location as part of its local Speed Management Procedure. This assessment will determine what, if any, road safety intervention is necessary. Options available to local authorities to deal with proven speeding issues can include improvement of signage and road markings, flashing signs, traffic calming, enforcement support from Safer Roads Humber or a referral to the Community Speedwatch Scheme.



<https://www.humberside-pcc.gov.uk/Community/Community-Speed-Watch.aspx>

**CrimeStoppers.**  
**0800 555 111**  
100% anonymous. Always.

Do you have information about crime happening in your area? Scared of reprisals or not sure if it's something for the police? You can call CrimeStoppers to report anonymously and they will pass it onto the police. CrimeStoppers are not the police they are an independent charity call 0800 555 111 or you can use their online reporting form

<https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information/forms/give-information-anonymously>

Sign up to the new free messaging system operated by Humberside Police and keep updated with what is happening in your local area. For more information and to register go to: [www.mycommunityalert.co.uk](http://www.mycommunityalert.co.uk)



**WHAT3WORDS**

If you are unsure exactly where you are or where a rural crime is happening what3words is a really simple way to identify a location. What3words have assigned each 3m square in the world a unique 3 word address that will never change. People use what3words to

**direct emergency services to the right place. For more information, go to [www.what3words.com/about](http://www.what3words.com/about) us**