

**Vehicle Crime:
Who can help and local solutions**

Partners	What can they contribute?	What's in it for them?	Possible constraints	Examples
Car park operators and managers	Details of crime, including unreported crime; Feedback on customer perspective; Better design and management (Secure Car Parks).	Competitive edge; Car crime, fear of crime and crime-related damage leads to loss of revenue.	Concern not to fuel fear of crime/ draw attention to the problem; Cost of security improvements.	<p>Carlisle extended the duties of staff to include reporting of suspicious incidents.</p> <p>In Stevenage, a private company runs a car valeting scheme in car parks in conjunction with the borough council.</p> <p>Police in Blackpool provide car park security managers with photos of local offenders, so that they, and ticket checkers, can be on the alert.</p>
Crimestoppers	Stop Motor crime And Ring Today (SMART) campaign; Targeted publicity to encourage crime reporting; Community Intelligence.	Increased coverage/ promotion of campaign.		
DVLA	Action to immobilise, remove & dispose of unlicensed vehicles, some of which may be stolen or used in commission of other crimes.	Help in locating/ targeting unlicensed vehicles; Increased revenues from vehicle excise licenses.	Potential scale of task	<p>Several areas operate vehicle clamping and removal schemes in association with DVLA. E.g., in Skelmersdale police, council workers and DVLA enforcement officers worked together to locate then clamp and remove unlicensed vehicles.</p> <p>With help from DVLA, Northumbria police traced the addresses to which fraudulent V5 Vehicle Registration Documents had been issued for ringed vehicles later recovered.</p>

Health Authorities and Trusts	Secure car parks. Information on numbers of vehicle-related incidents reported as part of risk management system.	Fulfilling requirements of NHS Executive Controls Assurance Standard. Security Management; Crime a contributory factor in stress-related illness; A & E cases arising from stolen vehicles and joyriding in particular when involved in accidents; Thefts in hospital car parks; Impact on staff	Other priorities Levels of theft may not be felt to justify Secured Car Park status.	The James Paget NHS Trust, Great Yarmouth enhanced car park security as part of a wider strategy to ease parking congestion and improve access to the hospital. The introduction of a flat rate parking fee, (coupled with a limited amount of free parking) helped to make the new scheme self-financing.
HMRC/ JobCentre Plus	Intelligence/ joint enforcement	More effective enforcement	Competing priorities; Constraints on information sharing	West Midlands Police worked with the Fire Service, Benefits Agency, HMRC, and Trading Standards to investigate a multi-occupied factory premises.
Insurers and finance houses	Encouragement/ incentives to owners to improve vehicle security. Support for responsible road use programmes Crackdown on salvage yards found to be in breach of code of practice	Fewer claims	Action by one insurer may benefit all: no competitive advantage	A 10 week special operation (Operation Phoenix) to examine a high proportion of vehicles written off by insurers then re-registered, led to Merseyside Police recovering 18 stolen vehicles worth at least £100,000.
Local Authority business/ contracts services	Local Authority vehicle fleet management	Value for money.		Sandwell MBC have introduced a Safedrive programme for MBC vehicles. The scheme aims to improve security of all Local Authority vehicles by installation of additional security devices,

				advice on safe parking, risk assessment of problem sites, additional training for drivers involved in several claims, requirement that departments bear the cost of accidents/incidents involving fleet vehicles.
Local Education Authority/ schools	Safe driving programmes in schools; Alternative education/ vocational qualifications; Targeted work with persistent truants and excluded pupils.	Support from others to cater for/ engage disaffected young people; Help in meeting literacy/ numeracy etc targets; Links with citizenship programmes etc.; Value for money.	Pressure on staff and on the curriculum; Pressure to raise academic standards.	Several forces have made use of the Impact Roadshow, an interactive programme developed by Avon & Somerset Constabulary in response to high levels of involvement in vehicle related offending and risk taking amongst young people. The programme was designed for use with year 10 pupils (ages 14-15) but has been used successfully with a range of audiences aged 11-25.
Local Authority Environmental Services	Rapid removal of abandoned vehicles, using powers in Refuse Disposal (Amenity) Act 1978; Noise/ pollution control; Information on/ regulation of scrapping salvage;	Prevention of repeat incidents; Noise/ pollution control; Value for money; Vehicle crime damages quality of life.	Separation of functions at local level; Services may involve several different service providers.	A scrapyard in Staining, Lancs, had posed many problems for years. A partnership approach involving local residents, environmental health, the Environment Agency, HSE and the MP led to the site being condemned and forced to close. West Midlands Police and Birmingham Council have drawn up a protocol to support rapid removal of abandoned vehicles.
Local Authority Finance	Quantify internal losses from vehicle crime; Use insurance/ risk management regimes to minimise losses.	Potential savings; Value for money.	Time/ effort involved in collecting data.	
Local Authority Fire & Rescue	Initiatives to reduce & respond to vehicle arson; Powers to require rapid removal of vehicles deemed to pose a fire risk.	Reduction in calls arising from vehicle arson; Value for money.		Kent Fire Brigade pass details of vehicle fire incidents to the police. Where possible, they record the VRM, chassis number or VIN number; the make, model, colour; whether the engine and/or interior are intact and any other interesting

				<p>information. This information is used to establish whether a vehicle is stolen and warrants further investigation. This is one of a series of tactical interventions which, when taken together, are designed to increase detections through recovery and forensic examination of stolen vehicles.</p> <p>In Northumbria, joint police/ fire service initiative to tackle arson black spots whereby abandoned vehicles are dealt with quickly before they are subject to an arson attack or vandalism. The aim of this pilot initiative is to remove and impound abandoned vehicles before they are attacked or set alight. The owner of the vehicle is then traced. The pilot scheme led to a 10% reduction in vehicle fires in 12 months.</p>
Local Authority Housing/ Housing Association	Effective neighbourhood design and management; Role for area managers & neighbourhood wardens in providing information/ identifying and dealing with nuisance/ abandoned vehicles.	Housing in areas with less crime is easier to let, with more rent income; Residents often press for action; Value for money.	Pressure for quick wins at the cost of long term benefits.	Solihull are examining a scheme to exclude people convicted of vehicle crime from Local Authority garages.
Local Authority Leisure/ Cultural services	Raising awareness; Action to cut crime in hot spots e.g. tourist sites, leisure centres; Role for Ranger services in giving advice/ encouraging reporting/ gathering information; Targeted outreach activities.	Vehicle crime can deter visitors/ cut use of leisure facilities; Value for money.	Concern not to fuel fear crime/ draw attention to the problem.	
Local Authority Planning	Can require a crime impact analysis in any planning	Better planned neighbourhoods have	Scope is greatest in new developments	The Bromsgrove crime reduction strategy includes a commitment to developing supplementary

	application; Crime prevention guidelines for developers; Design improvements when neighbourhoods are redeveloped.	less crime; Value for money; Commitment in recent comprehensive spending review to require local authorities to screen planning applications for their crime implications with help from the police.	or major re-developments	planning guidance aimed at reducing vehicle crime.
Local Authority Regeneration	Vehicle crime reduction measures as part of wider strategies for regeneration/ neighbourhood renewal.	Less crime will help to foster neighbourhood renewal; Value for money.		
Local Authority Roads and highways	Traffic/ parking regulation and management in vehicle crime spots (e.g. double yellow lines to control parking); Car park security; Motor cycle security provision; Road safety programmes; Driver retraining; Lighting improvements.	Areas which are vulnerable to crime may also have problems with unregulated parking; Action to e.g. improve motorcycle security can help increase use of public transport; Fewer accidents involving stolen vehicles Support in achieving casualty reduction targets; Value for money.	Focus has tended to be on meeting targets for cutting road accidents; Few links in the past with community safety; Pressure on budgets.	Vehicle crime and accidents fell in a 'hotspot' road in Exeter when the LA made changes to reduce the amount of unregulated parking.
Local Authority Social Services	Targeted work with young people at risk of offending, including young people in the 'looked after' sector.	Compliance with DH/ Audit Commission advice to develop more emphasis on prevention	Pressure of child protection work consumes resources;	

		and family support; Multi-agency support for vulnerable families; Value for money; Proposed new target to improve life chances of young people in the 'looked after' sector.	Concerns about stigmatising vulnerable groups.	
Local Authority Trading standards/ Consumer protection	Regulation of the market e.g. In second hand goods; Information/ inspection/ enforcement against rogue traders/ defective vehicles; Advice to potential purchasers.	Vehicle-related issues are a major source of complaint; Value for money.	No powers of arrest; Enforcement may work best in joint operations with the police.	Rhondda Cynon Taff Trading Standards Service has developed a Fair Trading Charter for traders involved in retail motor sales, repairs and servicing or retailing motor parts and accessories The Central (Bristol) district of Avon and Somerset Police has developed a Code of Trading for Second Hand Dealers in conjunction with Bristol Trading Standards A Memorandum of Understanding outlines arrangements for joint working between Kent Constabulary and Kent County Council Trading Standards.
Local Authority Transport	More secure car parks at interchanges; Scope to detect suspicious vehicles when conducting safety checks on vehicles seeking operating licenses.	Safer car parks at interchanges may encourage use of public transport; Information from other partners may help identify unsafe operators; Value for money.	Checks that vehicle is legitimate are outside the department's remit.	
Local Authority	Youth diversion projects/ projects	Taps into young	Concern that crime-	Several forces have made use of the Impact

Youth Service and voluntary youth services.	to encourage responsible road use.	people's interests; Focus on youth crime may help to get resources.	focused, targeted youth work may stigmatise young people.	Roadshow, an interactive programme developed by Avon & Somerset Constabulary in response to high levels of involvement in vehicle related offending and risk taking amongst young people. The programme is designed for use with year 10 pupils (ages 14-15) but has been used successfully with a range of audiences aged 11-25.
Local businesses, including - Large retailers; - Hoteliers; - Motor accessory stores/ accredited vehicle security installation companies; - Fleet operators (cars & vans).	Sponsorship or help 'in kind'; Action targeted on hot spots e.g. hotel & supermarket car parks; Discounts/ promotion of approved security products; Better vehicle fleet security involving; Acquisitions policy; Driver training/ incentives; Vehicle security enhancements; Secure parking; Local syndicates;	Reduced crime improves profitability/ keeps businesses viable; Benefits arising from community involvement.	Other pressures on resources	Avon & Somerset's "Don't Bother" campaign secured support from Hyundai, Tesco, Asda, Trade It, Rolls Royce, Ikea, Bristol Hotels and Bristol City Council. The South Warwickshire Hoteliers Association sit on the Warwick Vehicle Crime Tasking Group. A specific sub-group covers hotels & conferencing facilities. Thames Valley Partnership and Lex Vehicle Leasing have published a guide to vehicle security for fleet managers.
Local media and auto-trading magazines	Awareness raising; Deterrence; Naming and shaming; Data to identify suspicious cases.	Public interest		Wirral have employed a 'name and shame' policy for less secure car parks. A weekly news article in the local press draws attention to the less secure car parks, and other vehicle crime hotspots. There are plans to replicate this policy in Liverpool.
Local motor traders	Promotion of secure vehicles/ security products/ covert and overt vehicle marking; Help in rooting out rogue traders.	Competitive edge; Rogue traders can damage local trade.	Traders may think that security doesn't sell cars.	
Motoring organisations	Encouraging reporting; Natural surveillance.	Support for motorists.		Blackpool have reached agreement with AA, RAC and Autoglass for drivers to park vehicles in

(AA, Autoglass etc)				hotspot locations between calls, providing natural surveillance.
Neighbourhood watch/ crime prevention panels	Awareness raising; Property marking; Help in identifying vulnerable vehicles and crime hotspots.	Vehicle crime affects the community and its reputation; Responds to public concern.	Impact depends on the time and commitment put in by volunteers; Neighbourhood Watch coverage is incomplete.	
Police	Data/ intelligence; Law enforcement; Public reassurance; Advice on designing out crime; Problem-oriented policing; Intelligence-led road policing; Schools liaison; Vehicle crime reduction objectives in local policing plan; Police-community liaison.	Help from other agencies to reduce crime; Value for money; Potential impact on overall recorded crime; Responding to public concern.	Traditional focus on enforcement rather than prevention – though this is changing; Capacity to manage/ process data.	Police in Blackpool have: - set up road safety checkpoints in and around hotspot areas for limited periods before moving on to next location; - targeted disqualified drivers with vehicle crime convictions - trained enquiry desk staff in fingerprinting techniques so they can do on-the-spot testing when vehicle crimes are reported. Several forces target vulnerable vehicles, e.g. by contacting owners of vehicles left insecure or known to be at high risk of theft.
Probation Service	Experience of motor projects; Work to challenge offending behaviour; Community service.	Mobilising other agencies for effective interventions to reduce rates of reconviction; Opportunities to enhance offenders' basic skills/ employability.	Only work with a relatively small number of persistent offenders.	Blackpool use suitable offenders on community service orders to patrol hotspot car parks wearing high visibility jackets.
Rail operators / Railtrack/ British	Data/ intelligence; Law enforcement;	Reduced crime, e.g. in rail car parks;		

Transport Police	Public reassurance; Advice on designing out crime; Problem-oriented policing; Participation in Secure Stations scheme.	Increased passenger security/ satisfaction.		
Residents' Associations	Direct experience of the problems & practicalities; Knowing what would secure other residents' support.	Less crime, better quality of life.	Divisions within the community; Lack of confidence that things can improve.	
Town centre managers	Better car park security/ promotion of secure car parks; Effective/ co-ordinated use of CCTV.	Car crime and fear of crime deter visitors, and damage town centre vitality.	Concern not to fuel fear of crime/ draw attention to the problem; Cost of security improvements.	In Eastleigh the town centre manager acts as a liaison point with business, feeding information on emerging issues from groups such as the Retailers Group into the town centre community safety partnership group.
Traffic Wardens/ Civil Enforcement Officers	Help in identifying vulnerable vehicles; Help in identifying cars in an illegal condition/ minor parking offenders guilty of other offences; Help in fingerprinting stolen vehicles.	Extension of role.	Extension of role; Local authority traffic wardens lack direct access to the PNC.	Traffic wardens in Liverpool have been trained in fingerprinting techniques, allowing them to act as scenes of crime officers in the case of vehicle crimes. Traffic wardens also play a part in recovering stolen vehicles, providing information on hotspot locations and times.
Victim Support	Support for victims; Help in preventing revictimisation; Information on criminal's methods.	Keep victim perspective on local partnership agenda.	Only know of victims identified by the police; Vehicle crime victims not a high priority.	Luton Victim/ Mediation Scheme: Although not specific to vehicle crime it does involve work with offenders/ victims of vehicle crime. The Youth Offending Team work through Victim Support to contact the victim of the crime to see if they are interested in victim/ offender reparation/ mediation.
Volunteers	Presence/ advice in vehicle crime hotspots.	Help in creating a safer community.	Need to put time into recruitment/	Blackpool police have recruited volunteers to hand out leaflets and identify vulnerable vehicles. They

			oversight/ support.	are supported by a liaison officer and have backing from mobile police support.
Youth Offending Teams	Intensive work with young offenders/ young people at risk of offending, e.g. Youth Inclusion Projects/ interventions linked to the range of new orders introduced in the Crime & Disorder Act.	Mobilising other agencies for criminality prevention/ early intervention; Opportunities to enhance young peoples' skills/ employability.	Many teams relatively new/ may need time to build relationships and develop programmes; Competing priorities.	Wessex Youth Offending Team has developed a modular programme for use with car crime offenders on Final Warnings.