



## Avoid a catalytic catastrophe



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Thieves who target catalytic converters for the precious metals may find life more difficult in future.

Two Potters Bar garages have teamed up with our Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to offer free security marking of catalytic converters to Hertsmere van owners to help to reduce theft.

The free security marking can be carried out at JTT Autotech, High Street and C and C Motors, Cranbourne Industrial Estate, Cranborne Road.

Valerie Kane, Community Safety Manager at Hertsmere Borough Council, said: "These converters can cost a considerable amount to replace so anything van owners can do to protect their vehicle is worthwhile. That's why the Community Safety Partnership has funded these kits and taken steps to work with two garages to help organise this initiative.

"I would like to thank both JTT Autotech and C and C Motors for helping the Community Safety Partnership to deliver this service and would urge motorists to take advantage of this opportunity to keep their vehicles safe."

PCSO Cheryl Lavell, said: "Having your catalytic converter security marked makes it much less attractive to thieves. We are very grateful to the garages for carrying out this work to help prevent crime. Crime prevention is something that everyone can get involved in.

"To further reduce the chances of your catalytic converter being stolen, don't park your car half on the pavement as it makes it easy for a thief to get underneath it. It's also worth putting a sign in your window to say your catalytic converter has been marked. You can also buy clamps to secure your catalytic converter to your vehicle and get marking kits, which are an effective deterrent against catalytic converter theft.

"If you have any information about catalytic converter theft please contact Hertfordshire Constabulary online or on the non-emergency 101. Alternatively you can contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111."

Once the security marking has been carried out it is down to the van owner to register their details with the International Security Register (ISR). There are also stickers to display in the vehicle windows to let potential thieves know the catalytic converter has been marked and can be traced to the owner.

The Community Safety Partnership, which is co-ordinated by the council, also includes representatives from Hertfordshire Constabulary, Hertfordshire Fire & Rescue, Trading Standards and a number of other agencies who all work together to keep the borough safe.

To take up the offer please make an appointment with the garage first.

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