



OPERATION

Gallop

TRAILER ADVICE

Trailers are one of the most targeted items of equipment stolen from rural businesses and farms.

Trailers come in all shapes and sizes and have a multitude of uses making them a valuable item to steal.

Generally, they have poor identification as standard, which makes them hard to trace if stolen.

Below are some ideas to make your trailer unique and less desirable to a thief:

- Where possible park the trailer where it cannot be seen from the road, or from public rights of way etc. Ensure there is good lighting and the area is secured with gates and locks.
- When not in use, park or place something in front of the trailer so it cannot be moved.
- Secure the trailer with a chain or steel cable to a strong anchor point. Consider a cable alarm where an alarm will go off if the cable is cut.
- Use a wheel lock and / or hitch lock.
- Consider a beam alarm for the area where the trailer is stored and consider CCTV.
- Record all relevant numbers, e.g. chassis, body, hitch numbers etc. (a form is available to print off or download on this website).
- Make the trailer unique to you so it stands out. This can be done by putting the farm/stable name on the side or using a motif or logo. This will act as a deterrent and make it easily identifiable.
- Put your vehicle registration or postcode on the roof of your vehicle. You can use oil-based paint or there are kits you can buy with vinyl lettering.
- Consider marking the trailer with a forensic solution such as Smartwater or Selecta DNA, have the window glass etched and put stickers on the vehicle warning it is security marked.
- Take photographs of the vehicle from all angles, include close ups of any unique markings such as scratches, dents, scuffs and any security markings and keep them in a safe place to give to the police. This will help to identify the vehicle if it is stolen.
- Consider fitting a tracker that will notify you if the trailer is moved and allow you to track it and pass the information to the police.
- Ensure any property within the trailer is security marked, such as horse tack, tools etc. and put signage on the trailer stating that it is security marked.
- Ensure your details are recorded with the trailer manufacturer and advise them straight away if it is stolen. If someone is offered it for sale and does a check, they will be able to advise it is stolen and pass on the information to the police.
- If the trailer has Datatag markings, ensure your information is up to date with them.
- Consider registering your trailer with property registers, such as TER (The Equipment Register) and Immobilise.
- Join your local Horse Watch or Rural Watch Scheme to receive alerts and other information.
- Display signage showing you are in a police approved watch scheme.
- Some police forces have a trailer sticker scheme. Contact your local officers to see if there is an initiative in your area (see map on contacts page).