Alarms and CCTV

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Installation

Installing alarms and CCTV on your property will serve as added protection and a deterrent to possible thieves.

You can install a detection system that uses:

- sensors fitted to doors, windows or gates
- passive or active infrared to protect internal spaces and dual sensors incorporating PIR and microwave
- vibration and audio detectors

More sophisticated systems might use detection systems in the ground or on perimeter fencing and can combine CCTV with video motion-detection software.

The detection system should be reliable, fit for purpose and linked to an alarm system that will alert the site operators or the police (through an approved alarm-receiving centre).

Should a CCTV system need installing, read the advice in the ‘Protecting your assets’ guidance.

Alarm systems

Alarm systems fall under two types:

- monitored alarm
- audible-only

Monitored alarm

A monitored alarm will, in addition to sounding an audible alarm (if required), send a signal to an alarm-receiving company who will notify the police or key holders.

Systems should conform to:

- BS EN 50131;2006+1:2009 (refers to standard of system)
- BS 8243:2010 (standard of installation)
- BS EN 50518 (standards for the alarm-receiving centre)

If a police response is required, the alarm should also comply with the NPCC policy on security systems.

Audible-only alarm

An audible-only alarm will sound upon activation, serving to deter an intruder and attract attention.

Systems should conform to:

- BS 4737-3.0:1998 or
- BS EN 50131-1:1997 (which relates to wireless alarm systems)

The police will not attend an activation of an audible-only alarm, unless there are other factors that support it as a genuine alarm (such as the sound of breaking glass is reported).



Key holders

Any alarm system should have at least two key-holders.

They must be:

- familiar with the alarm controls
- able to grant access to the protected area
- contactable by phone
- available to attend within 20 minutes

The local crime prevention officer (CPO) can offer more advice about installing an alarm. You can find out more about security alarms and security on the Home Security Systems page on the National Protective Security Authority (NPSA) website.

KEYWORDS
FERTILISER