

Issue

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POLICE AND MCIA
TAKING UP THE
CHALLENGE AGAINST
POWER TWO WHEEL
CRIME



BIKE WORLD

This Issue:

Powered Two-wheel Theft

Gangs Running Loose on UK Streets Might Not Have It All Their Way



The MET Police have taken up the challenge of scooter enabled crime and will pursue and take action safely and efficiently where needed

The United Kingdom again has been seen as a soft target by criminal gangs.

But the Police, MCIA and its sub groups are pushing back with police to stop crimes being committed from assailants on power two wheels.

Criminals thought they were safe from pursuit if they had no helmets on and believed wrongly that police would take no action.

Crimes committed by gangs range from:

- Theft of mobile phones
- Wallets and handbags
- Threats of violence
- Attacks with acid

The Metropolitan Police have launched a new public awareness campaign in their fight against the motorbike and scooter theft epidemic currently afflicting the capital.

The 'Be Safe' campaign urges riders to lock, chain and cover their bikes in order to make them less visible to thieves, as well as making them more difficult to steal.

Protect your motorcycle, moped or scooter from theft

Over 14,000 motorcycle, moped and scooters were stolen in London in the last year - half of all vehicles stolen in London.

It takes a matter of seconds for a thief to steal a moped, scooter or motorcycle, especially if they are left either unsecured or with inadequate security.

Lock, chain, cover

Reduce your risk of becoming a victim by taking steps to layer your security.



For more information visit:

<https://www.met.police.uk/scootersecurity>

Other information may be found at:

<http://www.righttoride.co.uk/supporting/motorcycle-crime-reduction-group/>

Fitting an alarm can be a deterrent to thieves

- Consider fitting a Thatcham-category 1 or 2 alarm/immobiliser system with tracking, it can help protect and trace your vehicle.
- A Thatcham listed professionally fitted alarm system will not only put off thieves, but could also reduce your insurance premiums

Advice is:

- Lock: use a disc lock to help secure the front brake disc, or a grip lock to secure the brake and throttle controls.
- Chain: use a chain lock through the back wheel (the front wheel can be removed). Secure your bike, with the lock taut to an immovable object such as a ground anchor or street furniture.
- Cover the bike as it makes it less attractive and harder for thieves to steal.

Motorcycle Crime Reduction Group



The MCRG is a partnership made up of representatives from rider interest groups, the insurance and security industries, motorcycle manufacturers and retailers, and the Police with links to, and contributions from, the Home Office.

The group as the title suggests is looking at issues surrounding motorcycles and also scooter theft and has identified the specific problems regarding theft which has wider-reaching implications for society at a number of levels:

- The individual owner suffers financial loss, reduced mobility, which can in turn affect their ability to work and enjoy recreation time.
- It affects society, contributing to the overall levels of crime and specifically reducing the quality of life for those communities affected directly by motorcycle crime.
- Motorcycle and scooter theft operate from the level of the opportunist thief through to organised crime gangs where the thefts form part of a wider criminal network.
- Motorcycles and scooters are more vulnerable to theft than cars simply because they can be more easily removed, secreted, broken up and disposed of.
- The recovery rate of stolen motorcycles and scooters is very low in comparison to cars and larger vehicles.

Despite the officers' fears, there is currently no ban on police pursuing motorcyclists who are not wearing helmets. The College of Policing's guidance says: "There may be a public interest in engaging motorcycles... in pursuits. Where such vehicles are used to facilitate serious crime or used repeatedly as the mode of transport for organised crime groups then, to minimise risk to the public from criminality and to secure public confidence in policing, a pursuit may be justified."

Currently all emergency services, including the police, are exempt from speed limit, traffic light and sign violations when undertaking an emergency service response, but they do remain subject to the general road traffic law in the same way as members of the public - including the law on careless and dangerous driving.

"Tackling this emerging crime will take a combined effort from Government, law enforcement, industry partners and civil society. However, police have made us aware of the concern among some officers over the legal position when pursuing suspected offenders, including those on mopeds and scooters.

For more information visit: <http://www.mcia.co.uk/page/initiatives>