**Subject:** Thefts From Vans Left Open And Unattended 23/05/2017 15:43:13 [180380]

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| **Thefts from Vans Left Open and Unattended** |

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| **Message sent by** |
| Chris Shaw (Police, PSV - Online Communities, Huntingdonshire - St Ives) |

St Ives and Ramsey District Subscribers -**Thefts from Vans Left Open and Unattended**Across the county in recent weeks, there has been a spate of thefts from vans that have been left open and unattended whilst their owners are carrying out work at customers addresses. Power tools are the main target of the thefts, but sat-navs, mobile phones, cash and specialist equipment have also been stolen.In our district in the last week alone, we have received reports of van-thefts in St Ives, Hemingford Grey, Bluntisham and Needingworth. These have occurred during the working day, whilst the vans have been left open and unattended, often just for a short time.**Van drivers** - police urge you to lock your vehicle whenever you are away from it, even if it is just for a few moments. It is a small inconvenience compared with all the hassle of having your tools or personal possessions stolen**Customers** - if you are having work done for you by a contractor, please ask them if they have locked their vehicles whilst they are working on your premises, at your house or in your garden.**It only takes an opportunistic thief a few moments to open the door of an unlocked van and steal items that may be worth hundreds of pounds from inside.**There is more advice and specific guidance on the Cambridgeshire Constabulary web-site at: <https://www.cambs.police.uk/GetCloser/TradeVehicleCrime.asp>Chris Shaw, PSVSt Ives Police Station

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