

Equipment Theft (Prevention) Act 2023 Summary

The Equipment Theft (Prevention) Act 2023 is a law that aims to prevent the theft and resale of equipment and tools used by businesses and tradespeople in England and Wales. The law includes the following provisions:

■ **Immobilisers and forensic marking**

The Equipment Theft (Prevention) Act 2023 is a law that aims to prevent the theft and resale of equipment and tools used by businesses and tradespeople in England and Wales. The law includes the following provisions:

■ **Sale record keeping**

Sellers of certain equipment must record details such as the buyer's name and address, the equipment's make and model, the date of sale, and the unique identifier.

■ **Extension to other equipment**

The Secretary of State can extend the legislation to other equipment used in agricultural or commercial settings.

The law is intended to make it harder for thieves to sell stolen tools and easier for police to trace them. It also helps to protect the livelihood of tradespeople.

■ **Restrictions on sales**

The government can establish rules that limit the sale of certain equipment, such as off-road vehicles and tools used in agriculture or business.

NATIONAL **RURAL** CRIME NETWORK CONFERENCE



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The Secretary of State can make regulations requiring new ATVs and other equipment to be fitted with immobilisers and forensic marking.

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■ **About National Rural Crime Network-**

The National Rural Crime Network (NRCN) Annual Conference 2023 brings together a diverse array of experts, including scholars, policymakers, law enforcement professionals, and technology developers, to address the pressing challenges associated with combating rural crime. By fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange, the conference seeks to enhance collective efforts in preventing, detecting, and responding to rural crime, ultimately fostering safer rural communities.

■ **Agenda**

■ **Keynote Speakers**

■ **QR Code for a feedback survey**

■ **Sponsor Showcase**

■ **Notes Space**





Tim Passmore

I am delighted to welcome you to the first National Rural Crime Network Conference. Rural crime is an issue that has never had the attention it deserved on the national agenda. Since the NRCN was formed in 2014, we have made progress but let's not underestimate the task that remains.

As a farmer and a businessman, I have seen all too often at first-hand the impact of crime on rural communities. For some it still can seem trivial. Too many within government, within the police and within the country as a whole, question whether crime like the theft of machinery from a farm is a big deal.

Those of us who live and work in rural areas know the impact it has – it can mean crops are ruined because they cannot be harvested, jobs and livelihoods of those employed are under threat and farmers' families end up living in fear of criminals targeting their property.

Since 2014, the NRCN has become a voice to be listened to when we have put the spotlight on some of the big issues we face – whether it's the impact of domestic abuse, the growing menace of fly tipping or attacks on our rural heritage sites we are determined to stand up for the often-forgotten members of our rural communities.

No one person or organisation can tackle the challenges of rural crime alone and the NRCN will continue work with our existing partners, and reach out to new partners, to strengthen our work. Our job is to highlight the true picture of crime in rural communities, understand the impact it has, and use that to ensure the police, government and others find solutions to the challenges that have existed for too long and blighted the lives of too many.

I would like to thank all our members, partners and sponsors today who have come together to make this conference possible and I look forward to working together over the coming months and years to achieve our goals.



■ Rick Mounfield

■ Optimal Risk Group:

Optimal Risk Group is proud to have Enfortis in its portfolio of businesses. Our ORG Tech team facilitates the technical security expertise required to capture the video evidence for legal actions that Enfortis builds for clients. With decades of Police and Military covert technical experience, The Tech team at ORG instal the hides and covert video surveillance mounts that record the fly-tipping. The system has been refined over the years and now boasts the ability to remain active for 30 days without a battery change due to Hydrogen fuel cell technology. The latest innovation can capture littering from a moving vehicle with sufficient precision to produce evidential packages that can be used to prosecute offenders. If you wish to discuss deploying such a capability in your region, we are in the exhibition room. We would love to meet you.

■ Enfortis:

Conceived from a personal desire to catch and deter fly-tipping in areas of outstanding natural beauty, Enfortis owners decided to develop a covert and overt technical solution that can be offered as a free service to Local Authorities. This reciprocal arrangement between council and our business has seen impressive reductions in fly-tipping, saving a considerable amount of time and financial resources. We do the work to catch the evidence of the activity and then build the case and issue the fixed penalty notice for the Authority. The service is self funding using penalty receipts. Come and see us on the stand to see how we can help you reduce fly-tipping in your area.

Agenda

09:30 Registration

10:00 Welcome and Introduction

- Tim Passmore, Chair of the NRCN

10:10 Video Address

- Rt Hon Therese Coffey, Secretary of State for DEFRA

10:20 NRCN & Partners Strategic Campaigns

- Tim Passmore, Chair of the NRCN and PCC for Suffolk
- Stuart Hand, Policy and Campaigns, NRCN

10:45 Case Study: Tackling rural crime in Wales

- Rob Taylor, Rural and Wildlife Crime Police Liaison Unit, Welsh Government.

11:30 Break

11:45 Exclusive briefing of new research into Organised Criminal Gangs operating in Rural Areas

- Dr Kate Tudor, Durham University

12:10 Rural Policing in Action: The new National Rural Crime Unit

- Superintendent Andy Huddleston, Head of the National Rural Crime Unit

12:30 Panel discussion and audience questions: OCGs and Rural Crime

- Superintendent Andy Huddleston, National Rural Crime Unit.
- Sam Durham, NFU.
- Dr Kate Tudor, Durham University
- Mark Harrison FSA. Head of Heritage Crime Strategy, Historic England.

13:00 Networking Lunch

14:00 Fly Tipping – ASB of the Countryside

- Stuart Crighton, Enfortis

14:30 Panel discussion and audience questions: Tackling Fly Tipping in our rural communities

- Stuart Crighton, Enfortis
- Cllr Heather Kidd, Local Government Association.
- Philip Wilkinson PCC, Wiltshire

Agenda

14:30 Break

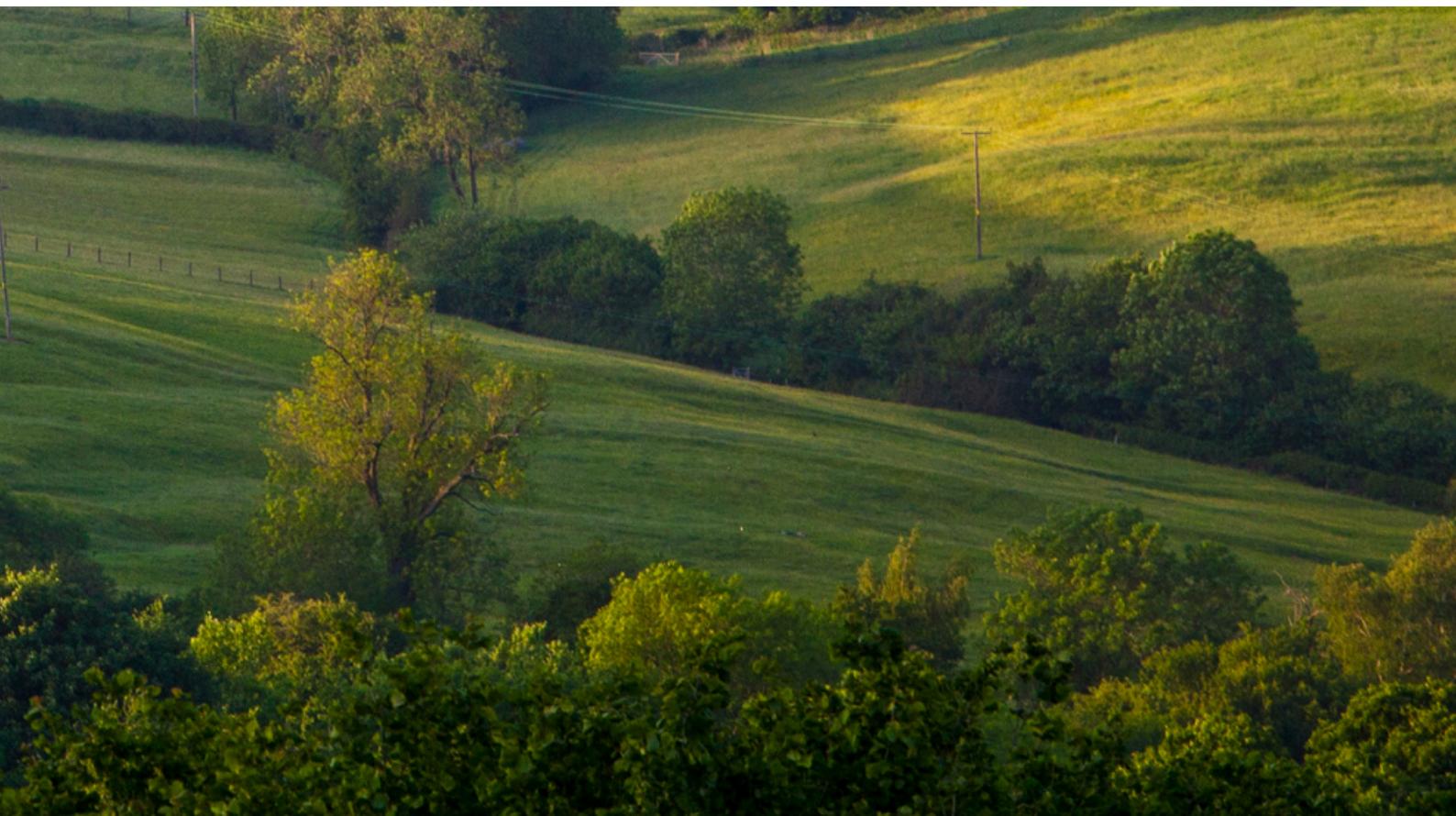
14:45 Building Partnerships to Tackle Rural, Heritage and Wildlife Crime

- Sarah Lee, Countryside Alliance
- Judith Skilbeck, Partnership Against Rural Crime Coordinator
- Ruth McNee, Crimestoppers
- Trevor Kennett, Sevenoaks District Council

15.15 Closing address and summary of the day

- Tim Passmore

15:30 Networking reception hosted by Optimal Risk / Enfortis



Keynote Speakers

Rob Taylor

Rob has served the police in Wales now for over 37 years, thirty of those as a police officer and 7 as a civilian manager. He has previously worked on the police helicopter and as a hostage negotiator, amongst other roles, before being involved with wildlife & rural crime since 2007. In 2013 he was tasked with forming the first UK dedicated Rural Crime Team in North Wales. In 2021 he was appointed as the first 'Welsh Wildlife & Rural Crime Coordinator' working within the Welsh Government. In 2016 he was awarded the Queens Police Medal (QPM) in the Queens 90th Birthdays honours list, for a distinguished police career and he has been awarded 4 times by the World Wide Fund (WWF) for his work with wildlife crime across the UK, including the prestigious Life Time Achievement Award.



Dr Kate Tudor

Kate is an Associate Professor in Criminology at Durham University. She has worked as a criminologist for around 10 years. During this time she has carried out numerous research projects relating to rural crime, organised crime and investment fraud.

Superintendent Andy Huddleston

Before joining Durham Constabulary in 1995, Andy rode off-road motorbikes for Yamaha, winning three British Championship titles. Andy has worked in a cross section of policing from firearms and neighbourhood policing to corporate development and counter terrorist firearms command. In 2010, Andy was made responsible for establishing and heading the Cleveland and Durham Specialist Operations Unit. In 2017, Andy joined Northumbria Police and has worked in area command as well as in the staff office, and now in harm reduction. Since 2018, he has been the NPCC lead for Theft of Agricultural Machinery and recently became the National Rural Crime Co-ordinator.



Stuart Crighton

Stuart served over 25 years within the British Army, initially as a bearskin wearing Guardsman, but transferred to the Royal Military Police, and then the Special Investigation Branch. The bulk of Stuart's military career involved investigating operational deaths and other internationally sensitive matters. 2014 – 2018 Stuart embarked on the Senior Investigation Officer programme and moved into professional standards and cold case reviews. Legislation, policy and doctrinally orientated; Stuart now heads up Enfortis, ensuring operations comply with regulatory and compliance requirements whilst achieving the best evidence demanded of the courts.



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