Equipment Theft (Prevention) Bill Call for Evidence

13 July 2023

Logistics UK Response

Logistics UK supports the aims of the Equipment Theft (Prevention) Bill to prevent the theft of machinery and equipment used by the agricultural sector, in particular quad bikes and all-terrain vehicles (ATVs).

However, we also call for the scope of the bill to be widened to include vans involved in all commercial activities.

Our Van Security Report 2020[1] showed that on average, organisations said they had items stolen from their vans four times in the previous 12 months, costing around £4,250 in total. The report also found that two-thirds of the van content thefts reported, included tools, and more than half involved equipment, revealing that businesses are typically expected to resource and replace tools and equipment due to theft once every three months. Additionally, almost 70% of survey respondents incurred financial costs and 58% productivity loss. The impacts of the crimes were seen to have a significant effect on drivers as well, with more than 60% of respondents saying that vehicle content theft negatively impacted the driver.

We want to see more robust vehicle security features developed for new vans to address the types of crime experienced by commercial vehicle operators.

We are also calling for social media platforms to remove all instructional content for committing vehicle-related crime, especially in respect of commercial vans.

About Logistics UK

Logistics UK is one of the country's largest business groups, supporting, shaping and standing up for safe and efficient logistics. We are the only organisation representing the entire logistics sector.

We represent a sector delivering an increasingly innovative, productive and sustainable system of essential national infrastructure. This system ensures the availability of the products that households, businesses and public services rely on every day, and is supporting the UK's transformation for the future. Our membership of over 20,000 includes global, national and regional businesses and SMEs spanning the road, rail, sea and air industries as well as the buyers of freight services, such as retailers and manufacturers.

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[1] https://logistics.org.uk/van-security-report-download-form