



Dear Resident,

You have a vehicle that has been identified as a target for car thieves!

Protect Your Vehicle from High-Tech Car Thieves

What is a CAN Bus Attack?

Modern vehicles (especially Lexus, Toyota-C-HR, Rav4) use a system called the CAN bus to let different parts of the car "talk" to each other. Thieves are now exploiting this system to:

- Unlock your car
- Start the engine without the key
- Drive off silently - often in under three minutes

How It's Done

Thieves target wiring behind the headlights or wheel arches, sending fake signals to your vehicle's computer. This tricks your car into thinking the real key is present.

Faraday pouches (used to block key signals) won't stop this method - because the thieves don't need your key at all.

Protect Your Vehicle

We recommend the following steps:

1. Use Physical Security:
 - Steering locks, wheel clamps, and bollards are excellent visible deterrents.
 - Consider a gear stick lock or pedal lock.
2. Install Extra Protection:
 - Ask your dealer about a CAN bus shield or ECU guard.
 - Use an approved tracker that alerts you if your car is moved.
3. Park Smart:
 - Where possible, use a garage or secure driveway.
 - Install CCTV or a doorbell camera near your vehicle.
 - Face the car towards a wall to block access to the front wiring.
4. Update Software:
 - Contact your dealership to see if firmware updates are available to improve security.
 - Some Lexus and Toyota models have optional upgrades for extra protection.

Be Vigilant

Report any suspicious behaviour near vehicles, especially people crouching by headlights or using tools near parked cars.

If your vehicle is targeted, call 999 immediately and report online at: www.met.police.uk

Need Advice?

Contact your local Safer Neighbourhoods Team at: www.met.police.uk/area/your-area/