

WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORTING

Reporting a Wildlife Crime or incident is much the same as reporting any other incident to the police.

Things that you should do: -

First and foremost protect yourself.

People who commit wildlife crimes are criminals, they may be violent. Do not approach them yourself particularly if you are alone in an isolated location.

If you witness a crime call the police.

When you call: -

Try and give the **location** as accurately as possible: -

- If you can give a map grid reference do so.
- Where are you near: -

If you are near a road describe the road as “the road from _to_”; try not to use local names alone, the police officer sent may not be familiar with. *(It might not be a local officer who attends.)*

If you are in the countryside is there a landmark you can describe that can be seen from the road.

- What is the best direction of approach?

Be clear what it is you are reporting.

What have you seen?

Does the incident involve the use of a firearm i.e. unlawful shooting?

How many people are involved?

Can you describe them, their clothing, equipment they are carrying?

Egg thieves may have climbing equipment

Badger baiters may have spades and are likely to be accompanied by dogs. How many dogs do they have? Can you describe the breed, size etc?

Vehicles are extremely important because getting the registration number of any vehicle used is one of the best ways to identify the offender(s).

Remember even if you just think that the vehicle is being used by the offenders make note of the number, it may be a witness.

If you have a camera take some pictures **BUT** do not do so if it compromises your safety and is likely to antagonise the offender(s)

REMEMBER your safety is paramount get as much information as you can but do not put yourself in danger.