



Dear Business Owner

Leicestershire Police understands that many businesses now have their own policies in place to deal with items of lost and found property.

Under normal circumstances businesses tend to make their own arrangements to keep an auditable record of lost property, considering the time periods an item will be kept without being claimed, and how it will dispose of the item responsibly, for instance, giving unclaimed money to charity or recycling clothes.

This is why Leicestershire Police is recommending that businesses only report items of lost or found property where the circumstances are unusual, such as finding obviously high value or potentially dangerous items. The force is also suggesting that businesses make their own arrangements to retain, store and eventually reunite or dispose of property found on their premises.

This recommendation follows a review of lost and found property. By working closely with a number of businesses, Leicestershire Police has found that in some circumstances being involved a process that is operated by a private business adds little value and often only creates confusion and frustration for members of the public, as they did not know who to contact.

This review also allowed the creation of a table that suggests what action to take if these items are lost or found. This has been enclosed with this letter as it may be of assistance to you.

If you wish to report items of lost or found property to Leicestershire Police please contact 101 or report online - <https://leics.police.uk/reportonline> . Alternatively, a member of your local neighbourhood policing team would be happy to discuss this further with you - <https://leics.police.uk/local-policing>

Thank you for your help and support.

