16 January 2019

**Anti-theft screws to deter would be thieves**

In an effort to prevent the trending theft of vehicle registration plates for criminal activities, the City of Cockburn will have its light vehicle fleet fitted with anti-theft screws this month.

The anti-theft screws will replace existing screws on the City’s 100 light fleet vehicles, including buses, as they may occasionally be left unattended or housed in unsecured environments such as driveways and car parks.

Cockburn Facilities and Plant Manager Ben Roser said screws on the registration plates of the City’s Heavy Plant fleet would not be replaced as there was minimal risk of theft due to the equipment either being operated continuously or parked securely when not in use.

He said the City had experienced the theft of registration plates from one fleet vehicle while parked at a private residence.

A staff member’s private car was also targeted in the public and employee car park at the City’s Spearwood Administration Centre.

Local residents can have their registration plate screws replaced with the anti-theft version by Cockburn Neighbourhood Watch volunteers on Australia Day.

People who attend the Coogee Beach Festival and park in the designated parking areas will be able to leave a flyer in their windscreen to indicate they wished anti-theft screws to be fitted to their cars.

The flyers will be handed to people as they arrive for display if they want the screws fitted. The screws are also available from local hardware suppliers and are simple to install.

For more information on the 26 January Coogee Beach Festival, visit: <https://www.cockburn.wa.gov.au/About-Cockburn/Events-and-Workshops/Australia-Day-Coogee-Beach-Festival>

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