



## **Regulatory Services Pollution Control Team**

### **Intruder Alarms - Important Information**

Many people and businesses like to protect their property by fitting an intruder alarm. Alarms are designed to attract attention when there is a break in, but they also sound if there is a fault as most are designed to fail to safe - which means that if in doubt they activate. Intruder alarms are sensitive and can develop faults and activate by accident. If you are away and cannot turn the alarm off your alarm can cause intense local disturbance preventing people working and sleeping. If an alarm sounds for over 20 minutes it may result in action being taken against the owner for causing a noise nuisance. Some alarm owners end up having to pay costs and/or fines if no-one can be contacted and the alarm has to be turned off by noise control officers.

By following four simple steps owners can avoid their alarm causing any problems.

1. Make sure your alarm is installed by a qualified engineer and is set at the right level of sensitivity.
2. Make sure your alarm is well maintained.
3. Make sure your alarm has a cut out device fitted. The sounders should cut out after a maximum of 20 minutes, whatever has caused it to activate.
4. Make sure you register the keyholder details for your alarm with the Police and the Pollution Control Team at the Council. Remember to update everyone if they change.

Even if you try your best your alarm could still be triggered. Common causes of activation include a fault with the alarm, electrical storms, decorations or curtains moving in a draught, pets and animals e.g. spider webs on sensors and, last but not least, intruders. If your keyholder details are registered then either you or they can be contacted quickly.

Please note that some alarms fail to safe (i.e. ring) if the power supply is disrupted, therefore, if you are on a coin or token meter this can cause problems with regular activations if you do not 'feed the meter' before being absent from the property for any period of time. It is necessary to make sure there is sufficient power until your return. Please note that persistently sounding intruder alarms can advertise a premises as vacant and they may suffer subsequent unauthorised entry. It is best that you register more than one keyholder as this improves the chance of the authorities contacting someone in the event of a problem and will save the need and cost of forced entry to turn the alarm off.

**Confidential**

To: Pollution Control Team, Regulatory Services, PO Box 602, Barnsley, S70 9FB.  
Fax: 01226 775699.



**Intruder Alarms - Keyholder Registration Form**

**Alarm details**

Address at which the alarm is installed


Postcode

Name of Alarm Owner/Occupier

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Alarm Owner's Telephone Numbers

Day	Evening	Mobile
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**Keyholder 1 - Details**

Name

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Address


Postcode

Telephone Numbers

Day	Evening	Mobile
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**Keyholder 2 - Details**

Name

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Address


Postcode

Telephone Numbers

Day	Evening	Mobile
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I agree to this information being held by Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council.

	Owner	Keyholder 1	Keyholder 2
Signature			

**Confidential**

To: Community Service Desk, South Yorkshire Police, Churchfields, Barnsley, S70 2DL.  
Fax: 01226 736373



**Intruder Alarms - Keyholder Registration Form**

**Alarm details**

Address at which the alarm is installed


Postcode

Name of Alarm Owner/Occupier

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Alarm Owner's Telephone Numbers

Day	Evening	Mobile
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**Keyholder 1 - Details**

Name

--

Address


Postcode

Telephone Numbers

Day	Evening	Mobile
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**Keyholder 2 - Details**

Name

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Address


Postcode

Telephone Numbers

Day	Evening	Mobile
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I agree to this information being held by South Yorkshire Police.

	Owner	Keyholder 1	Keyholder 2
Signature			