

POLICE INVEST IN PROPERTY DISPOSAL SERVICE

Cambridgeshire Constabulary are revolutionising their handling of lost and recovered property by signing up to an innovative service. As part of our commitment to delivering a citizen focused service, we have invested in a new initiative to help reunite owners with their property which has gone live on our website.

There are two strands to the new service. This first is called Property Finder and enables lost and stolen items that have been recovered by the police to be viewed and claimed via the Cambs police website. All items that are recovered by police in Cambridge will be put on the site for the minimum 28 days, before it is placed up for auction.

The second part is called Property Auction. Items that have been unclaimed after 28 days will be auctioned off with prices starting at £1 with no reserve. The service links in to a nationwide UK police property disposal auction site.

Previously lost and stolen property was kept by the police for 28 days before being auctioned off at local auction houses, with most of the revenue from the sale lost in administration fees. With the Property Auction service the constabulary can now re-invest more of the cash from the sale of items into developing and maintaining the effectiveness of the force's property management, with a proportion of the revenue being donated to charitable causes nominated by the Chief Constable.

The property disposal service will give the public easy, 24-hour access to lost and recovered property and items that are up for auction. Users just have to go through a simple registration process to claim property or bid on an item.

The constabulary is committed to helping victims of crime and other members of the public to recover their lost or stolen possessions. The overall aim is to provide a better service to members of the public, return more property to its rightful owners and raise conviction rates for offences such as theft and burglary.

We would encourage anyone who has lost property, or had goods stolen, to visit our website and see if it has been recovered by the police.

To access this new service please visit www.cambs.police.uk and click on news and appeals.