# Masked gangs escalate parcel thefts from delivery vans in east London



A gang of masked thieves brazenly raided a DPD delivery van in broad daylight in east London, leaving the driver helpless as the perpetrators stole a large number of parcels. The incident took place in Forest Gate, where the driver had parked the van to make deliveries. Video footage shows the terrified driver with his hands raised while the gang ransacked the vehicle and loaded stolen goods into their car.

This episode is not isolated. Similar thefts have been reported across east London, including in Dagenham where two masked thieves were caught on camera stealing parcels from a stationary DPD van. The footage from that incident reveals the thieves quickly loading packages into their vehicle despite bystanders’ pleas, with the driver unable to intervene. These thefts have been speculated to target high-value items such as the recently released iPhone 15, though police involvement remains unclear in some cases.

Concerns about the security of delivery vehicles are growing as these incidents become more frequent and more brazen. In another occurrence not far from Forest Gate, two thieves were filmed raiding a Waitrose home delivery van near Bow Common. The culprits, arriving on Lime bikes, stole items directly from the parked vehicle. Videos of these raids have circulated widely on social media, raising alarms over the vulnerability of goods during last-mile delivery.

While these delivery-related thefts grab headlines, it is worth noting the broader context of security and public safety operations in east London. The Forest Gate area was previously the scene of a high-profile anti-terror raid in 2006, which later investigations found to have been based on faulty intelligence. The Independent Police Complaints Commission called for an apology from Scotland Yard after the raid, acknowledging that the operation caused distress to innocent families due to erroneous information about a chemical bomb threat. This history underscores the challenges faced by authorities in balancing security measures with community trust.

The rising trend of parcel thefts from delivery vans not only disrupts logistics operations but also threatens the safety and confidence of delivery personnel. The incidents highlight a pressing need for enhanced protective measures and law enforcement attention to secure the last leg of supply chains in urban areas vulnerable to such criminal activities.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14966493/Moment-masked-thugs-raid-DPD-van-broad-daylight-drivers-park-vehicle-deliver-packages-east-London.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.lbc.co.uk/news/brazen-thieves-stealing-parcels-from-dpd-van-london/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[2]](https://www.lbc.co.uk/news/brazen-thieves-stealing-parcels-from-dpd-van-london/), [[3]](https://www.royalmailchat.co.uk/community/viewtopic.php?t=111367)
* Paragraph 3 – [[4]](https://metro.co.uk/video/two-thieves-raid-waitrose-home-delivery-van-east-london-3238235/)
* Paragraph 4 – [[5]](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/uk/apology-call-over-forest-gate-raid-7206272.html), [[6]](https://www.theguardian.com/uk/2006/jun/06/topstories3.politics), [[7]](https://www.theguardian.com/uk/2006/jun/02/terrorism.world1)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14966493/Moment-masked-thugs-raid-DPD-van-broad-daylight-drivers-park-vehicle-deliver-packages-east-London.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.lbc.co.uk/news/brazen-thieves-stealing-parcels-from-dpd-van-london/), [[4]](https://metro.co.uk/video/two-thieves-raid-waitrose-home-delivery-van-east-london-3238235/)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14966493/Moment-masked-thugs-raid-DPD-van-broad-daylight-drivers-park-vehicle-deliver-packages-east-London.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.lbc.co.uk/news/brazen-thieves-stealing-parcels-from-dpd-van-london/> - In Dagenham, east London, two masked thieves were captured on video stealing parcels from a stationary DPD van. The footage shows the thieves quickly loading items into their car while ignoring pleas from bystanders. The DPD driver, wearing a hi-vis jacket, watched helplessly as the items were taken. The incident occurred shortly after the release of the iPhone 15, leading some to speculate that the thieves targeted these devices. It remains unclear whether the police were notified about the theft.
3. <https://www.royalmailchat.co.uk/community/viewtopic.php?t=111367> - A forum discussion on RoyalMailChat highlights a recent incident in Dagenham, east London, where two masked thieves stole parcels from a stationary DPD van. The thieves were seen quickly loading items into their car while ignoring pleas from bystanders. The DPD driver, wearing a hi-vis jacket, watched helplessly as the items were taken. The incident occurred shortly after the release of the iPhone 15, leading some to speculate that the thieves targeted these devices. It remains unclear whether the police were notified about the theft.
4. <https://metro.co.uk/video/two-thieves-raid-waitrose-home-delivery-van-east-london-3238235/> - In east London, two thieves were filmed raiding a Waitrose home delivery van parked near Bow Common. The thieves, riding Lime bikes, approached the van and stole items from it. The incident was captured on video and has been widely shared on social media platforms, raising concerns about the security of delivery vehicles in the area.
5. <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/uk/apology-call-over-forest-gate-raid-7206272.html> - An official report has concluded that two Muslim families caught up in the 'terrifying' Forest Gate anti-terror raid were innocent victims of a failure in police intelligence. The Independent Police Complaints Commission stated that Scotland Yard should apologise for the raid, which was based on incorrect information about the existence of a chemical bomb. The families criticised the report as a 'whitewash' and accused the police of failing to investigate whether the intelligence was properly checked before launching the operation.
6. <https://www.theguardian.com/uk/2006/jun/06/topstories3.politics> - Senior counter-terrorism officials now believe that the intelligence that led to the raid on a family house last Friday in a search for a chemical device about to be used to attack Britain was wrong. Counter-terrorism officials were under pressure after days of meticulous search of the house in east London failed to produce anything to link the two men they arrested to a chemical plot. A senior police officer said they had been left with 'no choice' but to force entry into the house because there was specific intelligence of a threat to public safety.
7. <https://www.theguardian.com/uk/2006/jun/02/terrorism.world1> - Statement by Peter Clarke, the Metropolitan police's deputy assistant commissioner, about the anti-terrorist operation in Forest Gate. The operation was planned in response to specific intelligence, with the overriding concern being the safety of the public. Due to the very specific nature of the intelligence, the operation was designed to mitigate any threat to the public, either from firearms or from hazardous substances. Some officers were armed, and others equipped with protective clothing. The purpose of the investigation was to prove or disprove the intelligence that had been received.