



For immediate release

FOUR OUT OF 10 REVELLERS STUCK IN THE MUD OVER MISSING BELONGINGS

Study reveals more than a third could be left high and dry this festival season

Thousands of revellers preparing to pitch their tents this festival season could be left out of pocket as four out of 10 may be forced to stump up to replace missing belongings.

New research commissioned by Halifax Home Insurance has revealed that almost a quarter of us don't know if we are covered for our valuable possessions outside the home.

Meanwhile 15 per cent of those questioned admitted they had no insurance for personal belongings including iphones, digital cameras and designer sunglasses – which came top of a poll of items most commonly lost or stolen at a festival.

With more than a quarter of adults and almost half of teenagers owning a smartphone,* and the festival season kicking off this month, Halifax Home Insurance is urging music-lovers descending upon the fields this summer to avoid dampening spirits by making sure their phones are protected – as well as digital downloads.

Both Halifax Home Solutions and Halifax Home Options insurance cover legally downloaded data to a mobile phone under standard contents or extended contents/personal belongings cover.**

Martyn Foulds, senior claims manager, Halifax Home Insurance, said: "With a growing number of people owning expensive smartphones, cameras and sunglasses, it's important that festival-goers and anyone going to large scale events check their policy before setting off to ensure they are covered should they go missing.

"If there is a possibility that any of your possessions may be unattended for even a small period of time at a campsite for example, then checking your policy or extending your contents as necessary before you go is a small measure which could save a lot of money should anything go wrong."

Halifax Insurance Top Tips for festival go-ers

- Avoid leaving valuables in unattended tents and cars
- Ensure you bring only necessary cash and store close on your person
- Only take necessary items and consider what you can share with friends
- Take a small bag with zipped openings that can be worn on your person
- Store valuable belongings in the bottom of your sleeping bag when going to sleep
- Use designated lock-up areas if provided by festival organiser
- Immediately report anything lost or stolen to the police and ask for a crime reference that you can report to your insurance company

Top 5 items lost or stolen at a festival

1. Sunglasses
2. Digital Camera
3. Wallet
4. iphone/smartphone
5. Shoes

Ends

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Note to editors

Based on a survey on 2000 UK adults conducted by OnePoll between 25 and 27 June 2012

*Ofcom 'The Communications Market 2011' (August 2011)

**In the event of a claim, the data must not be recoverable from another source and customers must be able to produce evidence of purchase such as receipts if requested.

Halifax Home Solutions and Home Options insurance cover legally downloaded data to a home computer or a mobile phone under standard contents or extended contents/ personal belongings cover. Certain limits and exclusions apply. An additional cost may be incurred for extended cover. For a full list of cover details, view the policy booklet at [**www.halifax.co.uk/insurance**](http://www.halifax.co.uk/insurance)