

CASE STUDY
RETAIL
SECURITY
SERVICES



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Eden Thomas, property owner

PROVIDING A SECURITY SOLUTION FOR VULNERABLE EMPTY HIGH STREET SHOPS

Retail shops are most vulnerable when they're empty, and security is crucial during this period as vandalism and break-ins are highly likely. Vacant retail shops also make a prime target for squatters to occupy.

High streets have been in decline for many years, and the 2020 pandemic accelerated the number of vacant retail shops seen in every town across the country.

The rise in vacant shop numbers brought with it a significant increase in crime incidents, mostly in vandalism and arson attacks, but also squatting the empty properties despite this latter being illegal in commercial properties since 2012.

It's a major headache for owners for retail properties, who need a quick, effective solution to give them peace of mind until a new tenant is able to move in.



Energy is Life

ETHEREAL PIECES

A VACANT RETAIL SHOP AT RISK

In May 2021, the owner of the shop occupied by Ethereal Pieces, a boutique in Broadstairs, Kent, contacted us to secure their empty shop after the tenant left the property at short notice.

The owner's main concern was the tenant re-entering the shop as they didn't hand the keys back upon leaving and could have easily passed them on to someone else. Unwanted post building-up inside the main door was also an issue as it presented a fire hazard risk from potential arson attacks.

THE SHOPSHIELD ONE SOLUTION

Whilst a vacant retail shop is certainly vulnerable, especially from any rear access points, they can be effectively secured with a few simple steps. Our retail shop security package, ShopShield, provided the perfect solution:

Risk assessment

The initial multi-point risk assessment provided a clear understanding of the property's weak spots and primary vulnerabilities, enabling us to advise the client of the best security solution.

Locks changed

As keys can always be copied, we changed both the front and rear door lock mechanisms and provided a new sets of keys.

Letterbox secured

The risk of lighter fuel being sprayed through an open letterbox and set alight is huge, so we installed a temporary physical metal barrier that covers the letterbox and can be removed when required.

Key safe installed

As the property owner required others to have access to the property for viewings, we installed a high security key safe, with combination code access, mounted beside the rear door.

Flammable waste removed

All paper-based waste, such as post and marketing collateral, was bagged up and removed for disposal or recycling through one of our waste transfer sites.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

In addition to the base ShopShield package, we also installed a wireless, video verified alarm inside the building. The alarm system is monitored 24/7 by our Alarm Receiving Centre.

The property owner, Eden Thomas, was delighted with our straightforward solution, and explained, "We were impressed by the quick turnaround with security solutions put in place in only 48 hours."

To find out how Clearway can help you:

Call: **01322 479652**

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