UNSW Safety is issuing a Safety Alert to remind contractors not to leave vehicles, plant or equipment unattended on campus with keys in the ignition or running. There has been a recent incident on campus involving a vehicle that was left with keys in the ignition, was stolen, and driven in a manner that caused damage and had the potential to cause serious harm to people.

Background
On Tuesday the 24th May, a delivery truck driver left his keys inside his truck while making a delivery. A young male got into the driver’s side door and drove off. He made a U-turn at the end of Physics Lane, colliding with a bin, before proceeding up to Engineering Road. Here, he collided with a bollard, knocking it out of the ground, and made another U-turn, heading back towards the Barker St Car Park, exiting the campus at gate 14.

The truck turned left onto Barker Street colliding with several parked vehicles. The delivery driver of the truck tried to chase the vehicle on foot once he noticed that it has been stolen.

This incident had significant potential for people to have been injured in the way the truck was being driven.

Actions for contractors:
- Do not leave vehicles unattended on Campus with the key in the ignition/ available.
- Do not leave vehicles unattended with engine running.
- Contractors are to ensure they communicate this alert within their work groups.

Corresponding author for this alert:
r.janes@unsw.edu.au