

Prevention is better than the cure...

Crime Prevention Newsletter | Winter 2021



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



Hello and welcome to our Crime Prevention Newsletter

There is a Crime Prevention team in each of the five Policing Districts across West Yorkshire, addressing crime types ranging from burglary to modern slavery.



Find us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/WYPCrimePrevention

Their job is to support individuals, communities and businesses in reducing the opportunity for crime to occur. Please get in touch if you would like advice by emailing hqcpo@westyorkshire.police.uk or 101.

Cycle crime prevention



In the last 12 months West Yorkshire Police have registered over 1300 pedal cycles on the National Cycle Database run by Bike Register® by using their Police approved QR coded security stickers and Police enabled App.

We have worked with Leeds and Wakefield Councils and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority along with Leeds University to provide cycle marking events for communities across West Yorkshire.

We will continue to organise these events into 2022 and beyond, please check out your local NPT Facebook pages for events near you or contact your local NPT to organise your own. You may need to fund your own events at a small cost.

It is a timely reminder though with Christmas just around the corner to safeguard those new Christmas bikes.

Take a picture of the bike, turn the bike upside down and make a note of the serial number, record these in a safe place. Mark it with a third-party security product. There are many out there, but we are urging cycle owners to record on the National Cycle Database from Bike Register®

See our website for other security tips at www.westyorkshire.police.uk/advice/pedal-cycle-security/

Wildlife Crime

Wildlife crime is any activity that goes against legislation protecting the UK's wild animals and plants. It can cause pain and suffering to animals and can be linked to other crimes like firearms offences.

Different types of wildlife crime are listed here:

- ❗ Poaching
- ❗ Coursing
- ❗ Persecution of badgers, birds and bats
- ❗ Collection of or trade in protected species and animal products
- ❗ Not registering animals which require a licence
- ❗ Taking protected plants
- ❗ Use of poisons, illegal snares or explosives to kill or injure animals
- ❗ Animal cruelty, including dog and bird fighting
- ❗ Hunting with dogs
- ❗ Killing or capturing, damaging or destroying the habitat of any protected animal
- ❗ Heritage crime

West Yorkshire Police have dedicated officers throughout the force who take on the extra role of wildlife crime. For more information and to see who your local contact is:

www.westyorkshire.police.uk/about-us/our-departments/wildlife-crime/wildlife-crime

Useful links:

- ❗ League Against Cruel Sports - www.league.org.uk/
- ❗ RSPCA - www.rspca.org.uk/





Van/Tool theft prevention

Commercial vehicles or the goods, tools and equipment stored in them, can be a target for criminals.

Where possible, we recommend having several deterrents in place, so you are not perceived as a target. It is recommended that you apply a combination of security measures.

- ❗ Home security products such as video doorbells and driveway alarms can be effective in protecting your vehicle when parking at your home address
- ❗ Use physical security devices such as steering wheel locks, wheel clamps and pedal locks etc. to protect your vehicle
- ❗ The above can protect your vehicle from relay (keyless) theft too. An on-board diagnostics (OBD) port protector and a faraday pouch are additional protective measure too
- ❗ Ensure you always lock your van. Additional locks such as slam locks, deadlocks and rep-locks can make it difficult for thieves to access your vehicle
- ❗ Invest in a secure storage container for your tools

As with purchasing any vehicle physical security products, ensure they are either:

- ❗ Secured by Design - www.securedbydesign.com/
- ❗ Sold Secure approved - www.soldsecure.com/
- ❗ Thatcham approved - www.thatcham.org/

Cyber aware

Cyber aware is the Government's advice on how to stay secure online. They have outlined six actions that you can take to improve your cyber security:



1. **A strong separate email for your email** – Criminals can use your email to reset your other account passwords, so your email password should be strong and different to all your other passwords.
2. **Use three random words as your password** - Using three random words is a good way to create a strong, unique password that you will remember.
3. **Save your passwords in your browser** - Saving your password in your browser means letting your web browser (such as Chrome, Safari or Edge) remember your password for you. It is safer than using weak passwords, or using the same password in more than one place.
4. **Turn on two-factor authentication (2FA)** - Two-factor authentication (2FA) helps to stop hackers from getting into your accounts, even if they have your password. It does this by asking for more information to prove your identity, such as a code that gets sent to your phone.
5. **Update your devices** – Out of date software, apps, and operating systems contain weaknesses. This makes them easier to hack.
6. **Back up your data** - Backing up means creating a copy of your information and saving it to another device or to cloud storage (online).

For more information, visit - www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberaware/home

