

# Prevention is better than the cure...

Crime Prevention Newsletter | Autumn 2018



## Your crime prevention team

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.

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 using the contact details overleaf.

## Vulnerable, anxious and stressed...

**Kate\* explains how she felt after burglars broke into her family home to steal jewellery and cash:**

“ My partner and I were at work when 3 burglars came through the gate into our back garden and used my children’s trampoline to climb on to the conservatory. They smashed a bedroom window and gained access to our home.

Seeing all your underwear, make up, clothes and jewellery strewn all over your bedroom floor is one of the worst moments we have ever experienced in our lives. It has left us feeling very vulnerable, anxious, violated and stressed in a place that we considered safe.

Our children are fortunately unaware of what happened as it would have left them traumatised. ”

## A message from Kate\* for other homeowners:

“ I would definitely recommend an alarm which is activated day and night. On the day of the burglary, one of the burglars attempted to go downstairs which then activated our alarm and that’s when they left our property.

We made the mistake of just having sensors downstairs not thinking anyone would attempt to climb a conservatory to gain access through a window. We have since had upstairs ones fitted.

Use secure locks on any accessible gates and leave lights on when you are out. ”

For more information please visit our website: [www.westyorkshire.police.uk/burglary](http://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/burglary).

## BLOCK THE WEB MONSTERS



## West Yorkshire Police Cyber Contest 18/19

The competition is open to all pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 across West Yorkshire.

Pupils are required to work as a team to produce some online safety advice using whatever media or means they choose. This could be a website, app, leaflet, rap, song, dance, spoken message, or a combination of these!

Finalists will be invited to West Yorkshire Police Training and Development Centre, Wakefield for a prestigious and exciting final on February 14th 2019, where teams will present their project to the panel.

We are pleased to announce Asda are helping to sponsor this year’s competition.

First prize winners will receive a trophy, certificates and a tour of West Yorkshire Police’s Specialist Operations site.

Entry is simple and details have been sent to Head Teachers across West Yorkshire. Deadline for submissions is 7th December 2018.

For more information please visit our website: [www.westyorkshire.police.uk/cyber-contest](http://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/cyber-contest).





## MODERN SLAVERY: FORCED LABOUR It's not on my street...?

It is believed that **40.3 million** people around the world are in a situation of slavery. **68%** of these are subject to forced labour. It is estimated that **13,000** people are held in slavery within the UK alone.

Forced labour is any work or service which people are forced to do against their will, under threat of punishment. It could be happening in any town and in any trade including nail bars, agriculture, car washes and takeaways. Victims are often housed together in overcrowded properties.

For more information please visit our website: [www.westyorkshire.police.uk/modern-slavery-human-trafficking](http://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/modern-slavery-human-trafficking).

### Is there a house on **YOUR** street that isn't quite in keeping with the others?

- ❗ Do the people living there appear isolated or secretive? Do they avoid eye contact or conversation? Are the house windows covered up from the inside?
- ❗ Do more people appear to be living in the house than would normally be expected?
- ❗ Do they get collected/taken to work early in the morning and returned late at night?
- ❗ Do they appear to be controlled? Are they always accompanied if outside the house?
- ❗ If you have spoken to them, do they know who they work for? Are they getting paid an exceptionally low amount of money or had passports/documentation taken away?
- ❗ Do they look malnourished? Do they wear the same clothes all of the time?

If you think someone may be a victim of modern slavery please contact The Modern Slavery Helpline on **08000 121 700** or [www.modernslaveryhelpline.org](http://www.modernslaveryhelpline.org). Ring 999 if someone's life is in danger.

### Trusted trader, or dodgy doorstep chancer?

Bogus traders are dishonest tradespeople who often turn up unannounced. Some leaflet the area beforehand to look more genuine. They often offer roofing, gardening, driveway and handyman jobs. The work may be unnecessary, not completed, or done to a poor standard and overpriced.

### Has your neighbour or family member been targeted by bogus traders? Have they...

- ❗ Received more callers to the house than usual?
- ❗ Used a large amount of cash?
- ❗ Had unnecessary building work done?
- ❗ Unfinished building work on the house?
- ❗ Received any paperwork or receipts for the work?

**Don't do business on the doorstep.**  
**Use a recommended, trusted trader.**  
**Report bogus callers to the Police online or call 101.**  
**Dial 999 if they are still on your doorstep.**

For more information please visit our website: [www.westyorkshire.police.uk/fraud](http://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/fraud).

