

Prevention is better than the cure...

Crime Prevention Newsletter | Autumn 2019



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.



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. Get in touch if you would like advice by emailing hqcpo@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk or calling 101.



Dark nights approaching

Burglars like to “work” unseen and tend to prefer empty houses. A home without lights on and surrounded by darkness could signal that a house is unoccupied.

Take a few simple measures to try to reduce the likelihood of a burglary taking place:

- ❗ Leave a light on inside the house- preferably an upstairs light so lower ground floors are not illuminated like shop windows.
- ❗ Use timer switches to turn on lights if you are going to be out when it gets dark, and ensure to vary the time it comes on to avoid set patterns.
- ❗ Fake/simulated TV units can give the impression that someone is in when your home is empty (never leave the actual TV on).
- ❗ Don't leave items of value on show through ground floor windows- i.e laptops, tablets (and the power leads), car keys and game consoles.

For more information, please visit our website: <https://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/advice>

Layers of home security – the building

For the majority of us our home is our safe place that stores many beloved items, so it is important that we use our existing security and make enhancements where possible to reduce the chances of becoming a victim.

Here are some tips to improve your home security:

Doors & Windows:

- ❗ If replacing doors and windows look for ones that achieve the latest PAS 24 standard, which is the enhanced security standard for doors and windows
- ❗ Keep entry points to the house locked at all times; a large proportion of offences are committed through an insecure door or window. This change of habit does not cost and could save you a lot. Make sure you remove keys from locked doors, but it is vital that you can access them easily/quickly in case of emergency

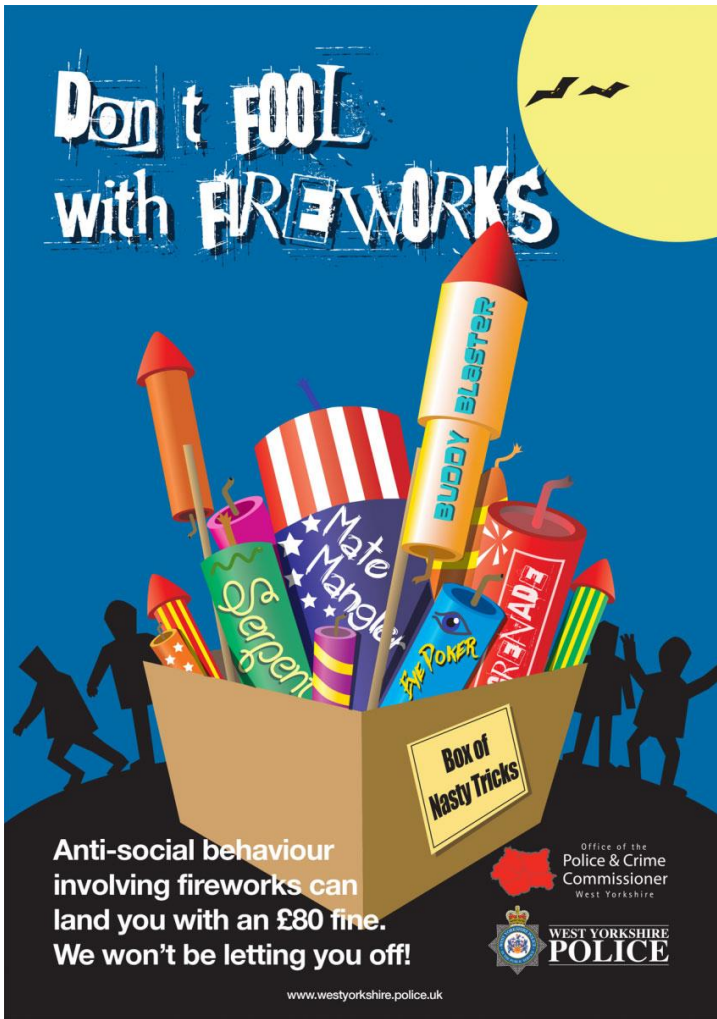
Lighting:

- ❗ Install external dusk to dawn lights to illuminate areas around the outside of your home
- ❗ Check existing internal and external light bulbs to make sure they are in good working order

Intruder Alarm:

- ❗ Do you have an intruder alarm? If so use it. Alarms bring attention to a property, and some even notify the key holder or police to the breach of security.

For more information, please visit our website: www.westyorkshire.police.uk/advice/home-security.



Autumn safety advice

Halloween and Bonfire night are a great way to bring local communities together; however, it can leave some people feeling anxious. Respect decisions on whether to participate and stay safe whilst doing so.

Halloween:

- ❗ If you do not want trick or treaters at your door, please visit our website and download our poster to display in your home



- ❗ Ensure your doors are locked between visits to maximise security

Bonfire/ Fireworks:

- ❗ An organised display is the safest way to enjoy fireworks but if there isn't one close by to attend, keep bonfires small and manageable, build them away from houses, outbuildings, vehicles and trees.
- ❗ Make sure your fireworks conform to British Standards BS7114, EN14035 or EN15947.
- ❗ REMEMBER it is an offence to buy fireworks by anyone under the age of 18, and an offence to set off fireworks in a public place.

For more information, please visit our website: <https://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/advice/personal-safety-and-possessions/bonfire-firework-halloween-safety>

Fraudulent Emails

Fraudulent emails and texts are sent by criminals posing to be a legitimate company, bank or shop. They can look very professional and might say you're due a refund or there is a problem with your account, in a bid to obtain your login details.

Have you experienced:

- ❗ Unexpected correspondence?
- ❗ Been asked to click a link to a website or download an attachment?
- ❗ Felt pressured to act quickly?

Check the contact details to match those on official documents and websites

Speak to an official member of staff, using a different device.

Report fraud to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040

Never click on links
Emails are not
always
what you
think

