

Prevention is better than the cure...

Crime Prevention Newsletter | Winter 2020



Merry Christmas and a Happy Safe 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.pnn.police.uk or 101.



Neighbourhood Watch update

Despite the restrictions we have faced throughout the year, NHW is still moving forward and making an impact in communities within West Yorkshire.

Our Force district Co-Ordinator's are working hard to make sure they stay in touch with their existing schemes but are also striving to ensure new schemes are up and running quickly.

We are encouraging people to educate themselves in staying safe online. A pilot training scheme is currently in the making that sees around 80 volunteers from schemes across West Yorkshire enrolling on fraud and cyber specific training. They will become NHW's first fraud single points of contacts for their local schemes. We hope to deliver this training in the new year.

The volunteers will have the ability to educate their schemes on fraud and staying safe online, as well as having the skills to support and signpost anyone unfortunate enough to fall victim of these issues.

For further information about fraud and staying safe online, please use the links provided below:

- ! **Cyber-hood Watch initiative** - www.ourwatch.org.uk/get-involved/attend-event/cyberhood-watch-initiative
- ! **Calling Tree** - supporting people who are isolated and not "online" - www.ourwatch.org.uk/get-involved/support-campaign/calling-tree
- ! **Community Alert** - lets you know what is happening in your area - www.wypcommunityalert.co.uk/
- ! **Trading Standards group** for learning and preventing fraud - www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk/

All I want for Christmas...



We get that security products may not be high on your list of 'must have' presents this year or any year to be honest. No amount of tinsel and fancy wrapping paper is going to change that. But they are a necessity.

'Secured by Design' (SBD) and 'Sold Secure' are an official police security initiative that tests whether a company or a product meets the high standards via robust testing.

From alarms to perimeter security to CCTV to locks and hardware, there are hundreds of products that have all been tested to keep you safe. A few are:

- ! **3 Star (TS007)** diamond rated cylinder lock
- ! **Video doorbells** - an alert capable HD quality camera
- ! **Technology** - motion detector, tracker and mobile camera suitable for a wide array of security solutions
- ! **Security marking** your property and log it on a secure database. Selectamark/Smartwater are examples
- ! **Steering wheel lock** - a great old school security measure for your vehicle

Why not make it good practice to ensure any security products you purchase are Secured by Design or Sold Secure tested and approved by visiting the links below:



www.securedbydesign.com/



www.soldsecure.com/



www.thatcham.org/ (for vehicle security)



Cycle crime prevention

With more bikes seemingly being bought this year than at any other time and with Christmas a time where many more will fly off the shelves, it is a timely reminder that bikes are still being stolen in West Yorkshire.

West Yorkshire Police have teamed up with Bike Register® to encourage bike owners to record details of their own bikes and register them on the National Cycle Database run by Bike Register.



Tips as per our Cycle Crime campaign:

- ❗ **Snap it** – Take a photo of your new (or old) bike and any identifiable parts
- ❗ **Flip it** – Turn the bike over and find the serial number
- ❗ **Save it** – Record the details of the bike in a safe place
- ❗ **Mark it** – Using a third-party security marking scheme like Bike Register® has proven to reduce bike crime

Speak to your local PCSO who can offer more information, we will be looking at organising some Bike Marking events this year but if cycle groups or organisations wish to organise their own events, we would gladly support you. Please enquire at hqcpo@westyorkshire.police.uk.

Online shopping

With the pandemic still very much with us, shopping on the internet may well be your preferred choice, making it very important to make sure you're buying safely and securely, and not falling victim to a scam.

Top tips:

- ❗ When you're shopping online, ensure websites are authentic by carefully checking the address is spelled correctly. Ideally, type it in rather than clicking on a link in an email or text
- ❗ When you're paying, make sure the page is secure by checking that addresses begin with 'https' ('s' is for secure) and there's a closed padlock in the address bar
- ❗ Log out of the web page or app when payment is completed. Simply closing it may not log you out automatically
- ❗ Do not pay for goods when using an unsecured Wi-Fi connection
- ❗ If you have one, use a credit card when shopping online. Most major credit card providers protect online purchases
- ❗ Ensure that your really important accounts (i.e. your email account, social media accounts, banking accounts, shopping accounts and payment accounts like PayPal) are protected by strong passwords that you don't use anywhere else



For more information on staying safe online, please visit:
www.westyorkshire.police.uk/advice/online-crime-safety