

Prevention is better than the cure...

Crime Prevention Newsletter | Summer 2020



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.

NHW Week 2020 – results



The NHW week 2020 campaign was launched and delivered online due to Covid-19 restrictions; it proved to be hugely successful!

- ! Collectively the Force Twitter and Facebook pages reached a staggering 207,249 people
- ! Community Alerts in Wakefield and Calderdale reached 5,600 people
- ! Our Police and Volunteer videos reached a brilliant 15,555 people

As a result, we have raised the profile of Neighbourhood Watch in West Yorkshire. Our Bingley Neighbourhood Watch Co-Ordinator was approached by her local newspaper who wrote an article about all the good work her scheme has achieved.

Over the course of the week Neighbourhood Watch received over 50 enquires from people wanting to know more about setting up new Neighbourhood Watch schemes from all over West Yorkshire.

What is next for Neighbourhood Watch?

On Monday 13th July, we will be taking this day to celebrate 35 years of Neighbourhood Watch operating in West Yorkshire. Look out for our re-designed logo on all our published material, as well as a special edition newsletter, which will look at the changes to Neighbourhood Watch, technology that is helping to shape Neighbourhood Watch, and maybe even a few pictures of iconic styles from the last 35 years. More information on 35 years will be coming out closer to the day.

For more information, please visit our website: www.westyorkshire.police.uk/advice/our-services/crime-prevention/neighbourhood-watch

Bicycle theft



The lockdown period has changed some of our usual crime patterns. Our burglary and robbery levels have seen a decrease. However, some crimes like bicycle theft have increased with more people riding their bikes in the lockdown period.

It is therefore important that you follow some safety tips whilst out riding:

- ! Plan your route. Tell someone where you are going. How long for. Consider activating locate app on your phone
- ! Try and stay on well-known paths where there are plenty of people about
- ! Ride with your family or another person

Any bike, which is insecure, poorly protected and easy to steal, will be attractive to offenders. A few tips:

- ! Register your bike on www.bikeregister.com/ or www.immobilise.com/
- ! Buy a quality bike lock. Look for the Police approved 'Sold Secure' products
- ! If you store your bike in a garage or shed, use a ground anchor or fixed point and lock your bike to it
- ! Record all your bike details
- ! Remember to secure your bike to a fixed point i.e. a lamppost, even if you are leaving your bike unattended for 1 minute
- ! Consider using a marking scheme to mark your bike like Retainaguard or Selectamark
- ! Businesses – consider a Secured by Design (SBD) approved cycle storage solution, i.e. CyclePods

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



Thwart the fraudsters



Whilst certain crimes are sometimes difficult to prevent, fraud is wholly preventable. Fraud offences will always require an element of victim co-operation, whether that co-operation is through lack of knowledge, pressurised tactics, failing to fact check, or 'too good to be true' opportunities.

The **COVID 19** crisis has created new and unique opportunities for criminals. Whether it is an investment opportunity, a great deal on PPE using lack of understanding over the 'test and trace', these people will stop at nothing, making hundreds of attempts before finally 'hooking' someone.

It is not just the elderly and vulnerable that we need to protect. Did you know over **16 million** has been lost to online fraud since the lockdown began with around a quarter of victims in the **18-24** age group.

Mobile phones, cars, electronics and trainers are some of the top purchases bought from Facebook, eBay, Gumtree and Deepop that never arrive. You will have heard the saying 'too good to be true', well you would be right. This is not a trend that is attributed to Coronavirus, it is happening all the time. Do your checks and buy from reputable sites. Do not get duped, just because an item is £50 cheaper does not mean it is real. Many victims admit to having reservations that it might have been a scam. If in doubt speak to a friend or family member. Remember, they play on trust and pressure.

For more advice and information:

www.westyorkshire.police.uk/advice/fraud-and-financial-crime/fraud-and-financial-crime

Dob in a dealer

We all want our area of residence to be a place where we feel safe and secure.

Unfortunately, drug use and supplying of drugs in areas of residence can severely diminish and damage that feeling of safety and security.

The supply of drugs is linked heavily with Serious Organised Crime. If the supply of drugs is rife in a particular area, the pitfalls such as gang clashes, violence and Knife Crime can cast a ghastly shadow on its residents.

Dob in a Dealer

Programme **PRECISION**

We have had reports of drug dealing in the local area. Please help us to help you by reporting any suspicious activity to West Yorkshire Police, via our website: www.westyorkshire.police.uk/report-it. Alternatively, you can report anonymously to CrimeStoppers on 0800 555 111 or www.crimestoppers-uk.org. Thank you.

'Cuckooing' is another disease that the supply of drugs is a direct consequence of.

'Cuckooing' is when a drug dealer or gang takes over a vulnerable adult's address for criminal purposes, usually as a site to supply, store or produce drugs from. Gangs will exploit an individual's vulnerabilities in order to make a profit and avoid police detection.

This is why it is paramount that you report any suspicious activity to West Yorkshire Police via our website - www.westyorkshire.police.uk/report-it.

Alternatively, you can report anonymously to CrimeStoppers on 0800 555 111 or on their website www.crimestoppers-uk.org/.

For more advice and information, visit:
www.westyorkshire.police.uk/drugs

Leeds City Council, Bradford City Council, Calderdale Council, Kirklees Council, Wakefield Council, West Yorkshire Police & Crime Commissioner

www.westyorkshire.police.uk/precision