

# Prevention is better than the cure...

Crime Prevention Newsletter | Spring 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](https://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](mailto:hqcpo@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk) or calling 101.

## Flight and holiday fraud



With summer and religious holidays such as Easter and Hajj just around the corner, you may begin looking for flights and trips abroad. However, watch out for fraudsters offering cheap deals that do not exist.

### Protect yourself:

- ❗ Avoid booking through a third party company, particularly if they make contact unexpectedly.
- ❗ Avoid paying via bank transfer or cash as they are difficult to trace and are not refundable.
- ❗ Research the company to check it is legitimate and has positive customer reviews.
- ❗ Check the website carefully and ensure the company's contact information is visible.
- ❗ Check the travel company is a member of a recognised trade body such as:

ABTA ([www.abta.com](http://www.abta.com))

ATOL ([www.caa.co.uk/atol-protection](http://www.caa.co.uk/atol-protection))

- ❗ Check the website is secure before entering any personal details; the web address should start https instead of http.
- ❗ Trust your instincts... if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!

If you have been a victim of fraud, report it to Action Fraud by calling 0300 123 2040 or by visiting their website: [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk).

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

## Layers of home security – the boundary

The boundary to your property is your first line of defence against potential burglars, and may take the form of a wall, fence, or hedge.

### Front boundaries:

- ❗ Low boundaries at the front of your home are ideal as they provide maximum visibility.
- ❗ Cut back any overgrown or high hedges that may provide a hiding place for offenders.
- ❗ Install external dusk to dawn lights to illuminate your home during the hours of darkness.

### Rear and side boundaries:

- ❗ The height of rear and side boundaries should be 1.8m. Consider using trellis, which adds to the height, is attractive and more difficult to climb.
- ❗ Gates should be fitted with lockable side bolts and a sturdy padlock to prevent access.
- ❗ Defensive planting, such as prickly plants, against existing fencing may act as an additional barrier.



For more information, please visit our website: [www.westyorkshire.police.uk/advice/home-security](http://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/advice/home-security).



**Who's talking to your child online?**

**Who's making friends with your child online?**

**A five minute chat with your child about their online activity could save a lifetime of hurt**

For help and advice:  
[www.westyorkshire.police.uk/yourchild](http://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/yourchild)  
**#YourChild**

NSPCC Leeds Safeguarding Children Partnership Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner West Yorkshire WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE

## #YourChild campaign

West Yorkshire Police has teamed up with the NSPCC, Leeds Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP) and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) in West Yorkshire to encourage parents and carers to have a five minute chat with children to keep them safe online.

Having regular conversations about the age suitability of games and sites, who your child is communicating with online and what they would do if they saw something that worried or upset them are great starting points. This campaign aims to encourage all parents to engage in these important conversations.

### What can I do?

- ❗ Encourage parents and carers to be engaged in their child's online activity
- ❗ Have regular five minute chats with your child around staying safe online – remember, interaction is key
- ❗ NSPCC/O2 have a free advice line for anyone wanting information about keeping children safe online – 0808 800 5002

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

## MODERN SLAVERY: Sexual exploitation

Sexual Exploitation comes in many forms; this includes but is not limited to sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, forced prostitution and the abuse of children for the production of child abuse images and videos.

A person who is trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation may be controlled by violence, threats, substance abuse, deception or grooming. This can happen to any gender, race and age and can take place in brothels, hotels, residential housing or on our streets through forced prostitution.

### Potential indicators to look for:

- ❗ Always in the same clothes or a lack of belongings
- ❗ Evidence of physical or emotional harm
- ❗ Poor living conditions or working and living at the same address
- ❗ Unable to travel freely e.g. picked up and dropped off by another person
- ❗ Have money for their services collected by another person; limited or no access to bank accounts
- ❗ Acting as if under instruction from someone else; appearing hesitant or letting others speak for them.
- ❗ In receipt of unexplained gifts (mobile phones, jewellery etc.) from trafficker

If you notice one or more of the above indicators 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.