



## Community Safety Message – North Yorkshire Police

As the **Christmas season** rapidly approaches, we at **North Yorkshire Police** would like to remind everyone to stay vigilant regarding safety and security at home and within your community. The holiday period is a time of celebration, but it can also be a time when opportunistic crimes take place, such as thefts and burglaries.

Below are some important tips and advice to help keep you, your loved ones, and your property safe over the festive period:

### Home and Outbuilding Security

- **Secure Your Home and Outbuildings**

Ensure all doors and windows are locked, even when you're at home. Consider upgrading locks if needed.

- **Doorbell Cameras**

If battery-operated, keep them charged and ensure lenses are clean for clear footage.

- **CCTV Systems**

Check that cameras are recording properly, the correct time is displayed, and Wi-Fi connections are stable.

- **Alarm Systems**

Test your alarm system and make sure it's fully operational. *Ask yourself: when did you last test it?*

- **Outdoor Lighting**

Use motion sensor lights to deter intruders. Timers for indoor lights can give the impression someone is home.

- **Package Deliveries**

Arrange for someone to receive parcels or use secure collection points. Avoid leaving packages on doorsteps.

- **Protect Your Valuables**

Keep gifts out of view from windows. Close curtains and blinds in the evening to prevent prying eyes.

### Additional Safety Tips

- **Vehicle Security**

Lock your car and remove valuables from sight when out shopping or visiting family.

- **Online Shopping & Scams**

Stick to trusted websites, avoid suspicious links, and never share personal or banking details unless secure.

- **Social Media Awareness**

Avoid posting travel plans or expensive gifts online—criminals monitor social media.

- **Neighbourhood Watch**

If you're going away, let a trusted neighbour know so they can keep an eye on your property.

- **Report Suspicious Activity**

If you see something unusual, report it via **101** or online. In an emergency, dial **999**.

- **Personal Safety While Out**

Plan your journey home, stick to well-lit areas, and keep your phone charged.

If anyone has any queries or wants further advice regarding security, please reply to this community messenger and we will happily assist.

From all of us at **North Yorkshire Police**, we wish you a safe and joyful Christmas season. Thank you for helping us keep our community secure.

**Please share these tips with friends and family so we can all enjoy a crime-free Christmas.**

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