

North Yorks Police Community Messaging – April 2016

Official figures show North Yorkshire has lowest crime rate in England

Published Thursday 21 April 2016, the "Crime Statistics for England and Wales, year ending December 2015" report has placed the North Yorkshire Police area as the lowest crime location in England.

There were a total of 36,335 crimes in North Yorkshire giving a crime rate of 45.1 per 1,000 of the population. While this reflects a 5% rise in crime in comparison to the same period the previous year, it is below the 8% increase in England and Wales and takes into account improved crime recording standards nationally.

Broken down into the main crime categories, the Office of National Statistics' figures for North Yorkshire show:

- Drug offences decreased by 7% (1,881 crimes in total, 151 fewer crimes)
- Possession of weapons offences down by 22% (178 crimes in total, 51 fewer crimes)
- 1% decrease in theft offences (16,934 crimes in total, 233 fewer crimes)
- Theft from person down by 9% (482 crimes in total, 49 fewer crimes)
- All other theft offences down by 8% (4,708 crimes in total, 389 fewer crimes)
- Overall burglary increased by 4% (4,130 crimes in total, 141 more crimes of which 50 were dwelling and 91 non-dwelling burglaries)
- Criminal damage and arson went up by 9% (5,641 crimes in total, 442 more crimes)
- 1% increase in Vehicle Offences (2,266 crimes in total, 19 more crimes)
- Robbery increased by 24% (168 crimes in total, 32 more crimes)
- Sexual offences went up by 18% (1,150 crimes in total, 179 more crimes). As previously highlighted, this rise is regarded as a positive reflection of the confidence victims have in North Yorkshire Police, particularly those making historical complaints. This has been influenced by Operation Yewtree and Operation Hibiscus (Jimmy Savile/Peter Jaconelli investigations), and the opening of a Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) in York two-and-a-half years ago
- Violence against the person went up by 22% (8,572 crimes in total, 1,570 more crimes). Of these crimes, almost half - 4,156 - come under the Violence Without Injury category. This is largely attributable to the Violence without Injury category. This includes Common Assault and Harassment offences. Recent analysis confirmed this rise is linked to improved recording following a recent HMIC inspection, an increase in historical reports, increased pro-activity around enforcement of orders and improved victim confidence
- Public order offences increased by 4% (1,267 crimes in total, 50 more crimes)
- Miscellaneous crimes against society, which includes the possession and publication of extreme sexual images, remained at the same level with 544 crimes in total
- Shoplifting increased by a 1% (4,040 crimes in total, 45 more crimes)
- Bicycle theft remained at the same level with 1,308 crimes in total

Assistant Chief Constable Paul Kennedy said: "North Yorkshire Police remains determined and resolute in our efforts to keep people safe from a range of dangers, including the emergence of cyber-based crime. Our officers, staff and volunteers work around the clock, every day of the year, targeting and disrupting criminal activity across the county and beyond our force borders. Our Road Crime Teams and Roads Policing Group officers, working in tandem with the Force Control Room and intelligence officers using advanced automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) technology, are at the forefront of this proactive approach to policing. There will be no let-up from North Yorkshire Police, particularly in those areas showing an increase. We are constantly striving to improve the way we operate and provide the very best service possible for the people and communities we are proud to serve."

North Yorks Police Community Messaging – April 2016

Missing person

We have concerns for a 58 year old female by the name of Lyn Maycock who is described as 4'11" slim build has shoulder length bobbed grey hair wears glasses & wearing grey sweater grey patterned leggings black trainers & red quilted jacket, uses a walking stick. Vehicle details are Silver Hyundai I10 Reg FN63YBR. Any sightings ring 101 quote ref 12160070227

Roadside scam suspect arrested and charged

A man is due at court charged with offences connected to a suspected roadside scam.

The 40-year-old from Middlesbrough, who is originally from Romania, was arrested on Sunday evening (3 April 2016) after allegedly targeting a motorist on the northbound A1(M) on-slip at Wetherby services. The victim, a 76-year-old man from Northumberland, was flagged down by the man at around 7pm. He claimed the grey Renault Laguna car had run out of petrol and needed money urgently. He allegedly offered to exchange a low-value European currency for British pounds. The man got in the victim's car and they drove towards Leeming Bar. The victim was able to alert the police who acted quickly to arrest the man.

Following questioning in custody, he was charged with fraud by false representation and theft of a mobile phone.

He is due to appear at Northallerton Magistrates' Court on 29 April 2016, 9.30am, court room 1. Inspector Mark Gee, of Richmond Police, said: "While police enquiries continue to investigate this and other similar incidents across the county, we urge people to be aware of possible roadside scams involving cash for fuel or tyre repairs. It is also vital that people keep reporting suspicious activity to the police or Crimestoppers. Please make that call and we will do everything we can to help."

Please contact North Yorkshire Police on 101, select option 1, and speak to the Force Control Room. Or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 55511 and quote reference number 12160057587.

Football Ticket scam

The National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) has recently received an influx of reports that fraudsters are targeting the public, via social media, in relation to football tickets.

Fraudsters are posting pictures or statuses online telling members of the public to contact them via Direct Message for football tickets. This then leads to a mobile messaging conversation. During the conversation, bank details are provided by the suspect so that the tickets can be purchased.

After the victim has paid for the ticket the fraudster blocks them to stop further conversation, leaving victims without the tickets and out of pocket.

Protect yourself:

- Check the security of the website and validity of the post
- Avoid taking the conversation offline to private messages
- When purchasing any products over the internet always try to make the payment via PayPal or a credit card where you have some sort of payment cover

North Yorks Police Community Messaging – April 2016

Tax rebate scam

Fraudsters are texting members of the public offering a tax rebate. The text message contains a link to a website and requests to provide personal information, such as bank account information, to claim the nonexistent rebate.

Protect Yourself

- Don't click on web links contained in unsolicited texts or emails.
- Never provide your personal information to a third party from an unsolicited communication.
- Obtain the genuine number of the organisation being represented and verify the legitimacy of the communication.
- HMRC will never use texts or emails or tell you about a potential rebate or ask for personal information.
- If you have provided personal information and you are concerned that your identity may be compromised consider Cifas Protection Registration.