

## Pharmacy break-ins - Be vigilant over the Christmas Holiday.

Pharmacy teams are reminded to be extra vigilant and ensure all security measures are active over the Christmas Holiday when they may be closed for longer than usual.



Several local pharmacies have experienced overnight break-ins during the past few weeks, the LPC acknowledges the assistance of West Midlands Police in sharing intelligence and seeking to spot trends, which indicate theft of **CASH left in tills overnight** as well as drugs with an attractive street value.

Police advice is to be extra vigilant especially around CCTV, Alarms, Locking up etc.

### **Keep burglars out of your business.**

To identify the risks to your business premises it is a good idea to think about the kind of incidents you may have experienced in the past. Walk around the inside and outside of your premises to identify where

your vulnerabilities are. Test your locks, shutters, grilles, windows and doors are working properly. If they are not working properly get them repaired or replaced by an approved contractor who uses Police accredited products.

## **Protect your business from the outside in**

- A well-maintained exterior free of rubbish and graffiti will reduce the likelihood of your business being targeted by criminals. So try to remove any graffiti.
- Identify areas that may be vulnerable to forced entry and have them made more secure.
- Make sure any service doors are locked and secure when not in use.
- Make sure you have a monitored alarm and that it's fully operational. For advice and approved suppliers of alarms and CCTV, visit the [National Security Inspectorate](#) and the [Security Systems Alarms Inspection Board](#).
- Make sure your CCTV is operational, provides good quality images and covers any vulnerable areas. 24-hour digital CCTV is also highly recommended. You'll find useful advice on buying surveillance equipment, from the [Surveillance Camera Commissioner](#).
- Make sure that wheelie bins are stored away as these can be climbed on to gain access to the building, especially via the first floor.
- Make sure there is sufficient lighting around the premises, especially loading areas.
- Consider moving high-value goods away from display windows overnight.
- Prune any overgrown bushes or nearby trees, as they can provide cover for anyone trying to hide from view.
- Doors and windows are particularly vulnerable – use security-rated products to make them more burglar-resistant. For more details visit [Secure by Design](#).
- External shutters, although effective, may require planning approval. Use attack-resistant laminated glass in sturdy frames where possible. Alternatively, film can be applied to glass to make it more resilient.
- Anti-ram raider bollards mounted externally can be used to protect frontages but may require planning approval.
- Try not to keep cash on the premises and always use a bolted-down safe.
- Make sure stockrooms are locked and, where possible, keep stock out of sight.
- Smoke-generating devices that activate on unauthorised entry create a smokescreen and foil burglary. They're designed not to damage stock.
- Make sure your keys are not left on the premises and that only designated staff have access. In case of emergency, make sure there's a list of keyholders who can be contacted.



Find out what's happening in your local area,  
search [HERE](#) for help and support.

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**REMINDER: NEW NHS Office of the West Midlands Pharmacy email address.**

The email address to contact NHSE/ICB regarding West Midlands pharmacy matters has changed  
with immediate effect to:

[nhsbsolicb.pharmacy-westmidlands2@nhs.net](mailto:nhsbsolicb.pharmacy-westmidlands2@nhs.net)

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[Report Branded Medicine Supply Issue](#)

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[Contact Community Pharmacy Birmingham and Solihull](#)

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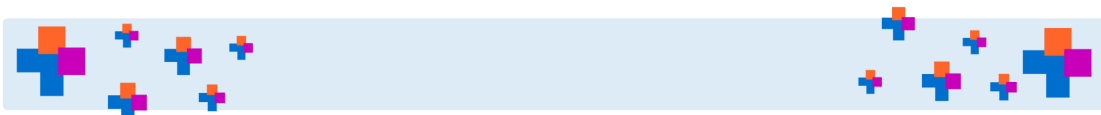
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