



northyorkshire community messaging

My name is Sergeant Andy Palmer and I have responsibility in North Yorkshire Police for Crime Prevention. To improve our service to communities I will be posting monthly messages on varying topics, if you have any ideas or would like me to concentrate on a particular area then you can email me at andrew.palmer@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk.

The focus this month is around shopping online safely. Did you know that over £24 billion was spent shopping on the internet during last year's Christmas period alone? I have a couple of key tips you should follow to protect yourself when buying items online.

- Always look for a small padlock symbol in the address bar which means the web page is secure and avoid carrying out transactions using public Wi-Fi.
- You should never be asked for your card PIN number when making an online payment.
- Credit cards offer increased protection compared to debit cards for transactions between £100 and £30,000. For example if a retailer does not deliver an item you've paid for with a credit card then you are entitled to claim your money back.
- If you haven't used a site before then do some research first and look for reviews from other customers who have used the site. When offers seem too good to be true they often are and be especially cautious when the seller requests a money transfer!
- Install anti-virus software on your computer and make sure that it is up to date along with your operating software e.g. Windows & IOS.

You can find further information about crime prevention by clicking on the following link <https://northyorkshire.police.uk/staying-safe/>

Finally I would like to wish everyone a safe and very Merry Christmas!!