



Lancashire Combined Watch Forum *The Neighbourhood Watch Association for Lancashire*

Newsletter

JULY 2019



Drugs in the community

Nitrous Oxide/ Laughing gas:

Description

Nitrous oxide is a colourless gas that's most commonly found in pressurised metal canisters. Small doses look like a small shiny metal dolls bottle, about 4cm in length with a small pin prick in the top. You may see them lying around in streets, parks, public community areas or outside bars and night clubs. It is inhaled, usually via a balloon, which you may also find nearby.

Dangerous or not?

Inhaling nitrous oxide directly from the canister is very dangerous because the gas is under such high pressure. It can cause a spasm of the throat muscle and stop a person breathing. Too much nitrous oxide can cause unconsciousness and/or suffocating from the lack of oxygen or fainting and having an accident. People have died whilst using or under the influence of nitrous oxide.

Legal or not?

It is a legal high therefore there is no penalty for possession (unless you are in prison) however it's illegal to supply/ give away or sell for its psychoactive effect (Psychoactive Substances Act 2016). Like drink-driving, driving when high is dangerous and illegal. If you're caught driving under the influence, you may receive a heavy fine, driving ban, or prison sentence. If the police catch people supplying illegal drugs in a home, club, bar or hostel, they can

Hot Weather and Water

Use the Water Safety Code to stay safe around water.

Keep your family and friends safe around water. Whenever you are near water:

- **Stop and think**
Look for the dangers and always read the signs.
- **Stay together**
Never swim alone. Always go with friends or family.
- **Avoid alcohol and drugs**
Never swim under the influence of alcohol or other substances.
- **Think about the temperature**

The water will be much colder than you think and can send your body into shock, making it difficult to breath and

Trivia:

1st July 1937 -
999 Emergency Service introduced
13th July 1985 –
Live Aid Concert

****Charity event****

Please support and/ or help on the day
Garstang Scarecrow Festival 5-7th July in Garstang
www.garstangscarecrowfestival.com

What is the Community Trigger?

The Community Trigger gives victims who have persistently reported problems of anti-social behaviour the right to request a review of their case, where they believe their complaint has not been properly addressed.

Who can use the Trigger?

A victim or someone acting on their behalf should use the Community Trigger if they have reported antisocial behaviour to the Council, Police and / or a registered housing provider (social landlord) three times about separate incidents in the last six months.

The Trigger cannot be used to report general acts of crime or hate crime and does not replace the formal complaints procedures of individual organisations.

What if my request does not meet the criteria?

If you do not meet the criteria outlined above, or you already have a formal complaint being dealt with by one of the organisations involved or the Tenants' Champion, your case is not appropriate for the Community Trigger.

To report an issue for the first time please:

Contact the police **online**, contact your local officer directly (details can be found on the **Your Area** section of our website) or by telephone on **101**

Contact your landlord if you are a tenant of a registered housing provider

Contact your local council, see the list below.

You may also wish to involve

Your local Councillor

The Tenants' Champion using the online complaints form.

In an emergency or if you feel in immediate danger always dial 999

What if I am not satisfied with the response?

If you are unhappy with our response, you can request a further review from the Chair of your local Community Safety Partnership.

Unresolved complaints can be referred to the **Local Government Ombudsman** or **Independent Police Complaints Commission**.

Using the Community Trigger

To use the Community Trigger, you should see the website of your local council and search for 'Community Trigger'.

Lancashire Victim Services

Lancashire Victim Services is an organisation which provides free and confidential emotional support, information and practical to help to victims and witnesses of crime. This is regardless of it being reported to the police or not.

How can Lancashire Victim Services help you?

- We provide emotional support over the phone, in person or online to help you move on after a crime.
- We are here to listen and to talk about any worries and concerns you may have after becoming a victim of a witness of crime.
- We have online resources to support you if you would rather not talk.
- We provide information and help you understand what will happen if your case goes to court.
- We give practical help to address problems you face as a result of crime.
- We support you regardless of whether you have reported the crime to the police or when the incident took place.

Within this, **Nest Lancashire** has been set up to support young people aged 5 to 18 who have been affected by crime or subjected to bullying, threats or harassment.

What can Nest offer?

- One to one support
- Group sessions with other young people
- Access to sport and other social activities
- Confidence building
- Help to ensure young people feel safe and secure again
- Support in reporting the crime if the young person would like to do so
- Information about young people's rights as a victim of crime
- Support for young people throughout the process if a case goes to court

What can we do for your organisation?

Lancashire Victim Services and Nest Lancashire offer free awareness sessions and workshop based presentations on a variety of issues that relate to crime and the impact following the incident.

Lancashire Victim Services cover the following topics:

- General Lancashire Victim Services
- Hate Crime Awareness
- Sexual Abuse Awareness
- Domestic Abuse Awareness (and how to spot the signs)
- Human Trafficking and Modern Day Slavery

These are all adult based sessions.

For Children and Young People, we cover the following topics:

- Healthy/positive relationships
- Bullying/Hate crime
- Radicalisation and Extremism
- Online Safety
- Cyberbullying
- Sexting and Grooming
- Consent and Emotional Readiness
- Drug use and Knife Crime

This is a free service which is funded by the Police and Crime Commissioners Office until 2022.

We also offer a number of free posters and leaflets with regards to many of these subjects (i.e. Domestic Abuse, Sexual Abuse, Hate Crime, CSE and Grooming, CSE and Exploitation).

If you would like any more information on awareness sessions or posters, please get in contact with faye.speed@victimsupport.org.uk

For any support or advice please get in touch.

You can speak to us over the phone, email us, arrange a meeting or visit our website. We're here to support you whenever you are ready.

0300 323 0085

info@lancashirevictimservices.org

www.lancashirevictimservices.org/contact

LCWF Contact Information:

- Website: <http://www.lcwf.co.uk>
- Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/lancsNHW>
- Any other enquires please contact: secretary@lcwf.co.uk

Any information for next edition/ comments/ feedback/ pictures/ news please email:
newsletter@lcwf.co.uk