

SECURITY ADVICE FOR PHARMACIES

ADVICE FOR PHARMACIES DURING COVID19

The Police Service is committed to working with pharmacies to protect their business and prevent crime. We recognise this will be an anxious time so here is a summary of security advice which provides the steps you can take to protect your staff and business.

This document aims to complement and enhance any existing security arrangements at a time of a national emergency, but does not replace the legislative requirements of the Misuse of Drugs regulations 1973 (Safe Custody). The following advice must be read in conjunction with the Home Office security guidance document for existing or prospective Controlled Drug Licensees: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/general-security-guidance-for-controlled-drug-suppliers>

- Do not divulge when deliveries are expected.
- Place temporary barriers on open plan counters to restrict access.
- Remove identification lanyards when leaving the premises and secure computer log in cards.
- Encourage staff to positively engage with customers, promote social distancing and vigilance.
- Prepare storage and sorting areas in advance of deliveries.
- Maintain Public & Private area separation, use signs to set rules and lock unused rooms.
- Use planned opening and closing procedures. When closed, utilise existing security to its full effect.
- Seek advice from Met Police or Master Locksmith Association.

It is important that you or your staff keep controlled drugs out of the sight of counter areas and do not inadvertently draw attention to additional quantities of drugs on the premises.

- S** Staff - Train, support and talk to your staff about the information in this document
- T** Take a note of every incident no matter how small and report crime to the police
- A** Assess the security of your premises, inside and out and have an up-to-date premises security risk assessment
- Y** You can seek further advice from the Master Locksmith Association and Metropolitan Police Service
- S** Signage - set clear rules and make it clear which are staff only areas
- A** Advise staff to lock unused rooms and be vigilant
- F** Follow pre planned open & close routines
- E** Ensure drugs are locked away in a security rated cabinet and behind several layers of security.