

Feeling safe

Score: 5.318

Number of comments: 273

| Issue raised | No. | Suggestions | No. | Quotes |
|---|-----|---|-----|---|
| People feel safe (158 Comments and suggestions) | | | | |
| Feel safe | 127 | Fears about crime are increased by social media | 2 | "Always feel safe. Safest place I have ever lived in" |
| Feel safe but wary at night | 18 | | | "Mostly but don't like walking in remote spots on my own now." "Would never park on the goods yard at night" "quieter streets like at the back of the New Inn/Cuckoos nest and outside the Shak because always people who talk noise/drun" |
| Neighbours and the community help people feel safe | 11 | | | "Yes, good neighbours, secure home and a positive outlook all help. Family and friends close by." |
| Crime (88 comments and suggestions) | | | | |
| Crime rate increasing | 48 | | | |
| Outsiders coming in | 2 | | | "Crime isn't a major issue, but we do have occasional spates of burglaries, usually associated with 'gangs' from outside the village" |
| Perceived increase in crime based on rumours and danger is exaggerated by social media and rumour | 17 | | | "I haven't personally experienced feeling unsafe but see things on Facebook that concern me." "my son recently attended a boxing club outreach session where he was warned about knife-crime in the area, and this did worry us. I worry that local teenagers and young people may have knives." "Always feel safe here. Hear stories about rogue kids - facebook. Encourages the rumour mill." |

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| Petty crime increasing | 13 | Suggestion linked in with the lack of police and a request that the presence of police should be increased | 1 | <p>"Petty crime is increasing - theft, fly tipping, property damage"</p> <p>"Village life does feel safe but an increasing problem with graffiti, needless vandalism and thieving certainly is a worrying trend that needs arresting".</p> |
| Crime is fuelled by alcohol | 2 | | | |
| Fears amongst young people about being kidnapped | 5 | | | <p>"Scared by quiet roads. Heard person got kidnapped in the park. White van pulled up and offered a lift but it was refused."</p> <p>"We got chased. Some kidnapping."</p> |
| Street Lighting (46 comments and suggestions) | | | | |
| Needs improving /repairing (Clough Leigh, Train Station area, Station Bridge, Grange Avenue, Peel Street, Brougham Rd, Cars Road, Reddisher Rd, Waters Rd, Fall Lane, Olive Branch area, Church Lane, Warehouse Hill, Goods Yard) | 42 | Improve/increase lighting | 4 | "Street lighting is very inconsistent and leaves some areas feeling unsafe from train station" |
| Police (88 comments and suggestions) | | | | |
| Lack of police | 36 | Increase police presence | 11 | <p>"Lack of police patrols. If these were increased, there might be a reduction in antisocial behaviour, vandalism and crime"</p> <p>"The lack of a police presence of the village, seems to encourage large numbers of youths to congregate in the village particularly around the church"</p> |
| | | Permanent police hut in the village (staffed day and night) | 1 | |
| | | Increase cctv | 4 | |
| | | Bring back neighbourhood watch | 1 | |
| | | The police should work with the community more | 1 | |

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| Greater police presence needed | 17 | Need more police present – used to be a much greater police presence | 7 | “I think a police hut should be put in the village and manned day and night if possible.” |
| Issue with distance of police from Marsden | 6 | | | <p>“there is a worry about distance from closest police station. Feel it is a bit too far away to be helpful.”</p> <p>“It sometimes feels we are a long way out and not monitored by the Police.”</p> <p>“now we are advised that there is one policeman to cover an area of 25 square miles and he is soon to be moved to Dewsbury”</p> |
| Effectiveness of police | 4 | | | <p>“Again, talking to people, it sounds as though more minor offences such as theft and vandalism are logged by the police but not followed up until later”</p> <p>“Nothing is being done about drugs being sold very openly in the village”</p> |
| <i>Real Ale Trail and ASB (45 comments and suggestions)</i> | | | | |
| Leads to issues with ASB | 31 | | | <p>“Real Ale Trail can attract anti social behaviour.”</p> <p>“The Ale Trail means that at weekends there are often crowds of drunks both on the trains and in the village - usually good humoured but they can be intimidating”</p> |
| ASB that is not connected with Ale Trail | 8 | | | <p>“Mostly I feel safe, however there is a surprising amount of antisocial behaviour from a small number of residents”</p> <p>“Crime and antisocial behaviour on the moors (Mount and old Mound Rd) during evenings”</p> |
| People come to the village to commit crime/cause trouble | 5 | This issue also lead to the request for CCTV on roads coming into Marsden from outlying areas. | 1 | “Failing that we need lots of working cctv and lighting in the village and good cctv on the entry and exit points to the village as criminals come in |

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| | | | | <p>steal and then leave over to Manchester way for example. Bring back neighbourhood watch schemes."</p> <p>"Crime isn't a major issue, but we do have occasional spates of burglaries, usually associated with 'gangs' from outside the village."</p> |
| Drugs (22 comments and suggestions) | | | | |
| Drug use and dealing | 21 | There are concerns about drug dealing and drug use which need policing proactively, having something for youths to do | 1 | <p>"At the top of the list is the dealing of drugs in the village. Talking to different people, particularly those who have lived longer in the village, this is a common occurrence and takes places regularly - outside the Co-op, in the churchyard, publicly in the streets. Probably the main reason for such a problem is the lack of police presence in the village."</p> <p>"in the evening there are people smoking and selling drugs (eg. at the skate park)"</p> <p>"Local drug problem - difficult especially in park - could do with PCSOs in village more and build relationships with teenagers."</p> |
| Youth Problems (48 comments and suggestions) | | | | |
| Youth problems | 20 | | | |
| Youths hanging around in gangs (on Peel Steet, Near the Church, | 15 | | | <p>"increasing groups of youths who seem to have scant regard for respect."</p> <p>"I have witnessed antisocial behaviour with young people smoking, swearing in the park whilst in the park."</p> <p>"Young people hanging around in the evenings are intimidating."</p> |

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| | | | | “certain locations that are a major risk for young people such as the skate park” |
| Need something to do | 11 | Support youth clubs Set up an ‘older persons’ youth club | 1 1 | <p>“The problems are the lack of interesting and viable and affordable opportunities and activities for young people and the unemployed. Empty and derelict property are not the problem so much as disenfranchised young people with no clear stake in their future.”</p> <p>“there is a lack of local opportunities for young people which has cause an increase in drug use. - in Marsden there are 1 extreme to the other, some people are get good educations and jobs whilst others turn to drugs and alcohol as they haven’t had the same opportunities”</p> |
| <i>Derelict buildings (20 comments and suggestions)</i> | | | | |
| Derelict buildings | 13 | | | |
| Safety angle and lead to criminal behaviour | 3 | | | “derelict buildings and open spaces designed for young people that are not overlooked either from houses or by adult supervision. These provide opportunities for crime, etc” |
| Change of use or pull down | 4 | | | <p>“the big mills need to be reused and be bought back into use (DO NOT DEMOLISH)”</p> <p>“Semi-derelict mills will become more problematic as time passes. They need to be maintained to ensure they don't fall into ruin”</p> <p>“The Mills again need looking at - such a waste of valuable space and is a danger with them crumbling - high winds have seen glass fly down. It needs to be demolished, being sensitive of course, but reused for something more meaningful.”</p> |

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| <i>Community Feel (27 comments and suggestions)</i> | | | | |
| Community feel | 9 | Residents pointed out how they appreciated the community feel of living in Marsden | 9 | "Marsden is the safest place I've ever lived. The low levels of crime and strong sense of community mean its a great place to live and grow a family." |
| Makes people feel safe | 2 | | | "People are generally friendly and look out for each other. Part of feeling safe is feeling part of a community." "and there is the feeling that anybody will help if you are in any need or trouble." |
| Self policing | 7 | | | "No small village can say they have no problems with drug or alcohol abuse or anti-social behaviour but generally a close knot community self-monitors" "A small population means people self-police and look out for each other." |
| <i>Other emergency services (3 comments and suggestions)</i> | | | | |
| Fire station too far away | 1 | | | "The village is reasonably safe, although small amounts of vandalism etc. does occur. We used to have 2 resident policemen, and a Fire station, now we are advised that there is one policeman to cover an area of 25 square miles and he is soon to be moved to Dewsbury, the nearest Fire station is in Slaithwaite which adds 10 mins tarvelling time to any incident. The ambulance service now has to take us to Calderdale Hospital in Halifax. Do we really feel safe???" |
| Ambulance service now takes you to Calderdale / concern about access to A&E | 2 | | | "The village is reasonably safe, although small amounts of vandalism etc. does occur. We used to have 2 resident policemen, and a Fire station, now we are advised that there is one policeman to cover an area of 25 square miles and he is soon to be moved to Dewsbury, the nearest Fire station is in Slaithwaite which adds 10 mins tarvelling time to |

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| Protected characteristics (9 comments and suggestions) | | | | |
| Homophobia | 1 | | | "I feel safe most of the time but do worry at night and try not to walk alone. I have experienced some homophobic verbal abuse but rarely and it hasn't ever been physical." |
| Marsden can be unsafe for women | 8 | | | "Generally yes but I have been curb crawled and followed at night" |
| Speeding/highways matters (11 comments and suggestions) | | | | |
| Speeding | 8 | | | "Traffic very fast on Manchester Road" "Speeding on Manchester Road is a major issues up to 80mph in the village no speed bumps some old damaged traffic cameras that don't work" |
| Cars don't stop at crossings | 2 | | | "Cars don't stop at the crossing on Manchester road (we need lights here)" "there is a problem with speeding and a disregard for Zebra crossing protocols" |
| Drink driving complaints | 1 | | | "Police presence is very low key there is some low level crime but a high incidence of drunk driving that needs to be addressed" |
| Other (21 comments and suggestions) | | | | |
| Litter | 7 | This was mentioned in relation to the parks and that it was dangerous for children to play | 2 | "As a regular park user smashed vodka bottles etc is something you have to watch out for when with your children." "lots of glass and rubbish in play spaces" |

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| Need CCTV or it reinstating | 4 | Reinstate CCTV as people felt safer when it used to be in place. Especially useful now the police are based so far away from Marsden | 4 | <p>“CCTV has been removed from the village centre. This was a big mistake and it should be reintroduced as a priority.”</p> <p>“There used to be CCTV in Marsden. This helped prevent and solve crimes and made people feel safe. It now feels if an incident happens by a business with CCTV it is up to that business to help rather than general community CCTV that other areas of Kirklees have.”</p> |
| Dogs not on leads | 2 | | | “I then got verbally abused by the woman owner after asking her to put the dog on a lead” |
| Lack of community officers | 1 | | | |
| Off road motorbikes | 1 | | | “Some of the routes on the moors are very unsafe sometimes due to off road bikes riding across public footpaths.” |