



A growing problem

Do you know how to spot a cannabis factory?

If you suspect a property is being used in the production of cannabis, look out for signs of:

- A strong, pungent smell coming from the property.
- Electrical wiring that has been tampered with.
- Beware of traps - electrical wiring may have been rigged up to door handles.
- Powerful lights left on throughout the night.
- Windows blacked out.
- A sudden jump or increase in the cost of electricity bills.
- Scuffed paint or wallpaper.
- Large quantities of bin bags, full of vegetable material, thrown away.
- Rewiring efforts or bypassed circuitry.

Deterring drug production in rental properties

Landlords and letting agents should consider the advice below when letting out rented premises:

- Be wary of prospective tenants willing to pay months of rent in advance, or above the going rate, particularly in cash.
- Never accept rent in cash, ask for bank account details.
- Never accept tenants without checking references/backgrounds first.
- Be suspicious if a tenant never allows you access to the property or refuses you entry to certain rooms or areas of the property.
- Has the tenant asked to meet you away from the property to pay rent or to discuss anything about it?
- Has the tenant put deadlocks or alarms on the internal doors or made attempts to install fortifications on the exterior of the property?

Also ensure that you always:

- Ask applicants to provide photographic identification.
- Check a prospective tenant's current address and rental history.
- Obtain contact telephone numbers of all tenants and their registration numbers.

For the latest crime prevention advice visit:

www.westmercia.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/

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For crimes in progress call 999.

For non emergencies report online: www.westmercia.police.uk/report
If you are unable to report online, you can contact the police via the 101 non-emergency number.



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