



Central Intelligence Unit

Intelligence Recording Bureau

Email: IRB.IntelligenceOfficers@westyorkshire.police.uk

24-7 Contact Email: IMU@westyorkshire.police.uk

Bulletin No: BUL-26-0030

Date: 27/07/2026

NATIONWIDE ALERT: THEFT OF CONTROLLED DRUGS AND PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION FOR DESTRUCTION

West Yorkshire Police is currently investigating the theft of controlled drugs and prescription medication from STERICYCLE LEEDS aka SRCL (full address: KNOSTROP TREATMENT WORKS, KNOWSTHORPE LANE, CROSS GREEN, WEST YORKSHIRE, LS90PJ) facility as part of Operation Beetleberry.

The investigation has identified several employees who are alleged to have stolen controlled drugs and prescription medications that had been submitted by law enforcement agencies and NHS organisations for secure destruction by incineration.

This alert is intended to raise awareness among law enforcement partners, healthcare organisations, and other agencies that utilise pharmaceutical waste disposal services.

Recipients are encouraged to review current security, audit, and assurance processes relating to the transportation, storage, tracking, and destruction of controlled drugs and prescription medications destined for incineration facilities.

Consideration should be given to:

- Security arrangements during transit to destruction sites.
- Chain of custody and audit processes.
- Verification and reconciliation procedures.
- Assurance mechanisms confirming that items submitted for destruction have been successfully incinerated.

As STERICYCLE operates multiple facilities across the UK, organisations may wish to review local arrangements and consider any additional safeguards required to mitigate the risk of theft or diversion.

Intelligence has been submitted to WYP systems: ref 13260426549.



WEST YORKSHIRE
POLICE

Intelligence Recording Bureau

Email: IRB.IntelligenceOfficers@westyorkshire.police.uk

24-7 Contact Email: IMU@westyorkshire.police.uk

Bulletin No: BUL-26-0030

Date: 27/07/2026

For further information regarding this investigation, please contact:

Detective Superintendent Marie Bulmer, Operation Beetleberry, West Yorkshire Police

EMAIL: Marie.bulmer@westyorkshire.police.uk

and/or

Detective Sergeant Frankie Morgan, Operation Beetleberry, West Yorkshire Police

Email Frankie.morgan@westyorkshire.police.uk

: