## Safe and Sound (Wyre Forest) April 2017 North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership Chair – Sue Hanley

Last month I mentioned that a community safety project for youngsters, which is managed by Safer Wyre Forest and The ContinU Trust, had been shortlisted for a national award. I am very pleased to announce that the Community Ambassador Project scooped the Young Persons Safety Award in the Suzy Lamplugh National Personal Safety Awards 2017.

The Awards celebrate and recognise the hard work of individuals and groups who, through their work and commitment to personal safety, make a real contribution to keeping people safe. To win such an important national award demonstrates the fantastic working partnership we have here in Wyre Forest, which is raising awareness of community safety issues among our young people – congratulations to everyone involved.

On a different note, the weather is improving and we'd like to encourage residents to check their shed security. Expensive items like power tools are often kept in sheds that are not secure enough to protect them from thieves. Here's what you can do to get sheducated!

- Don't leave ladders and tools lying around your garden; they could be used to break into your home
- If you have CCTV look at using it to cover your sheds and outbuilding as well as the house. Or you could fit a battery alarm available from DIY stores
- Fit a good quality hasp and staple fitted with a strong padlock and secured with coach bolts (not screws). Replace standard hinges with strap hinges secured by coach bolts or use security screws on existing hinges
- Put internal diamond mesh grilles on windows and whitewash, frosted film or curtains will stop anyone looking in to see if you have anything worth stealing
- Property mark garden implements with your postcode and house name or number and register them free of charge on www.immobilise.com
- Garden tools, bikes and ladders should be secured with a heavy chain and padlocked to an eyebolt secured to the floor or wall

For more information about home and garden security, please visit <a href="https://www.nwcsp.org">www.nwcsp.org</a>. Follow us on Twitter @saferwyreforest