

Hampshire Cyber Watch

Cyber Watch is a team of Cyber Champions who are Neighbourhood Watch volunteers that have been trained by Hampshire Police Cyber Crime Unit.

The team are there to help Hampshire residents avoid becoming victims of cybercrime. They are able to support and educate people who are being targeted by criminals via computers, smart phones and other electronic devices.

You can request support and further information on the service at the [Hampshire Cyber Watch website](#).



Typical issues they are able to advise on:

- Potential phone or email scams you have spotted
- If you think you have been hacked
- If you've lost information that could affect your privacy
- You are being targeted by frauds & scams
- You have received malicious messages



Protect your heart from a #Fauxmance

With Covid-19 restrictions causing increased feelings of loneliness, more people have turned to social media and dating websites/apps to find a partner, providing criminals with the perfect opportunity to commit romance scams.

They often use fake identities to trick you into sending them money by posing as military personnel or aid workers. They may claim to be stuck overseas or pretend to need money for a personal emergency.

Top Tips:

- ♥ Research the person you're talking to as profile photos may not be genuine.
- ♥ Reverse photo searches can help to tell you if the photo is real.
- ♥ Keep to the messaging service used by the dating website.
- ♥ #TakeFive🖐️ if they ask you for a loan or financial support as this is likely to be a scam



Online Safety Activities for the Family

With routines changing all the time, home schooling and the daily challenges of being in lockdown taking their toll, it's not always easy to find the right time to chat to your child about keeping safe online. It's important to remember it doesn't always have to be a formal conversation, talking to your child about what they are doing online is a really important step to help keep them safe.

The NSPCC have put together a [list of activities on their website](#) to help get you and your family talking about online safety during lockdown and beyond.

Payment in Advance: Recruitment Scams

Criminals are using the potential rise in unemployment as an opportunity to advertise fake job listings that require little skills or qualifications and offer high salaries.

Applicants can then be asked to pay an upfront fee for DBS checks, additional training or other vetting and security checks for jobs that don't exist. Fraudsters can take job descriptions from genuine companies to convince you they are real. **Remember, if it looks too good to be true, it usually is.**

Avoid giving personal details such as your National Insurance or Passport Number until you are certain of the legitimacy of the company by carrying out some of your own checks. For further information or to report a fraudulent recruitment opportunity go to the [SAFER Jobs](#) website. There is also helpful advice on the [Which?](#) and [Take Five to Stop Fraud](#) websites.

Bike Security Tips

Please remember that safety begins at home, so take the same care to lock your bike as securely at home as you would on the street. There are around 300,000 bike thefts each year, 60% of these occurred when the bike wasn't secured. The team at [Secured by Design](#) have some helpful tips to keep your bike safe.

They also say that there is a good chance that bikes registered with [BikeRegister](#) and protectively marked are less likely to be stolen because thieves look for the easiest opportunity.

Secured by Design



Official Police Security Initiative



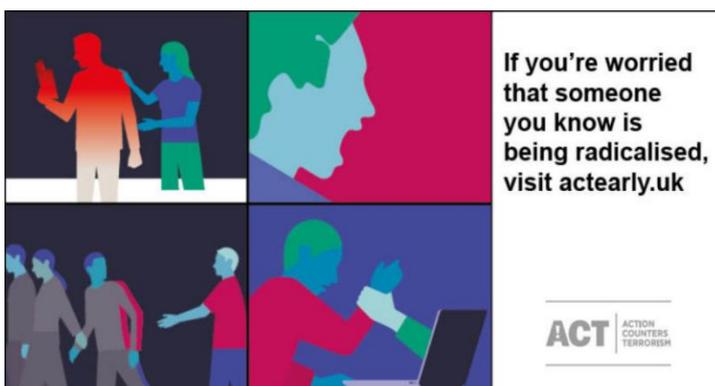
Email Addresses and Data Breaches



You can easily check if your email address has been part of a data breach by visiting the website <https://haveibeenpwned.com/>. This can tell you when the breach occurred and what type of breach it was.

There is also useful advice on the site about password strengths and other ways to keep your information secure online.

ACT Early



CT Policing have launched a new safeguarding website [ACT Early](#) for people worried someone they know might be vulnerable to radicalisation.

The website has information on:

- Awareness of the signs of radicalisation
- Where to go for further information and support
- Understanding of, and confidence in the referral process