Update from the Force Crime Prevention Team

Mobile phone theft and links to fraud

There has been an increase of reports of mobile phone theft, where offenders use distraction techniques to either see your passcode or gain access to your phone whilst unlocked. Offenders may work in groups or alone and often target people on a night out. The key element is to access the handset whilst active or observe the passcode being entered.

Keep your details safe:

- Set strong screen-lock passwords or pin codes.
- Secure high-value apps like wallets and banking apps with separate passwords and enable biometric authentication.
- Remove password auto-fill for high value apps.

- Ensure manufacturer security updates are installed promptly and anti-theft features activated.
- Be aware of surroundings when using your phone in public.
- Don't hand over your phone to people you don't know.
- For further advice: Mobile phone safety | Crimestoppers

Online crime reporting

INCIDENT OR CRIME, TELL US ONLINE.

It's quick, more convenient and handled by the same team who answer our calls.

Did you know you can report non-urgent crimes online? It's a convenient way to get in touch with us when an immediate police response isn't needed. Our online forms are handled by the same dedicated team who answer your calls. Report a crime | Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary

You can also visit one of our front counters to make a report. You can search for your nearest front counter on the following page: Contact us | Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary

#SameTeamDifferentMethod

Safe Street by Crimestoppers

As the days get longer, and the weather gets warmer, Crimestoppers' fictional friends on Safe Street work together to keep their loved ones, homes and neighbourhood safe and secure. Campaign partners, Neighbourhood Watch Network, have put together some top tips to help keep your home and community safe this summer: Burglary prevention | Neighbourhood Watch Network

Want to make your street a Safe Street?

Rise in QR Code 'Quishing' scams

Action Fraud received 1,386 reports of people scammed after using a fake QR code compared to just 100 in 2019. Contactless payment hotspots – like parking meters and restaurant menus – are common targets for criminals who replace a genuine QR code with a malicious one, which links to their 'fake website'. Fraudulent codes have also been spotted on parcels, in emails and on television.

QR codes can be very useful, both online and in person. If you need to scan a QR code in person check for signs it has been tampered with, if online look out for phishing emails or rogue social media posts with QR codes. Check to preview address and if you are unsure do not visit the site. It may be safer to visit the genuine website using your browser. For further information visit the Action Fraud website: QR Codes | Action Fraud

Know what stalking looks like

Police and Crime Commissioner Donna Jones is leading efforts in Hampshire and IOW to help victims come forward sooner, and to help families, friends, and frontline professionals recognise the often hidden or ignored warning signs. It may not begin with threats. It might be constant messages. 'Coincidental' appearances. Gifts. Emails. Monitoring your movements. It isn't romantic or harmless.

The Stalking Advocacy Support Service provides confidential support, legal advice and safety planning. See this article for further information: Fixated. Obsessed. Unwanted. Repeated: Know what stalking looks like - Hampshire Police and Crime Commissioner

Where to get help: https://stopdomesticabuse.uk/stalking or call 0330 0533 630

Festival safety

Heading to a festival this summer? Festivals are full of fun-loving people who want to have a good time, unfortunately they can also be targets for thieves and other opportunists. Take a look at the Festival Safe website which is full of practical tips and advice to keep you and your property safe. Crime | Festival Safe

British Transport Police text service

The 61016 text service offers the travelling public a means to contact BTP directly and discreetly, in order to report non-emergency crime when using the rail network, you can report:

- an incident that has already happened
- issues affecting your rail journey or your local station

YOUR UPDATE   Visit www.hampshire.police.uk   HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT CONSTABULARY