

Update from the Force Crime Prevention Team

Edition 58, November 2023

Keyless Car Thefts – did you know:

- Thieves only need to be within a few metres from your car keys to capture the signal.
- Any car that uses keyless entry is at risk.
- It can take less than two minutes for thieves to gain full access to your car.









Sextortion Scam Awareness



A sextortion scam is when a criminal attempts to blackmail someone, usually by email. The scammer will claim they have login details or a video of the victim visiting an adult website, and will threaten to disclose this unless the victim pays a ransom (usually bitcoins). The criminal behind these attacks do not know if you have a webcam or if you've visited these adult sites. They are attempting to scare their victim in to paying a ransom.

Do not reply to them, report the email to report@phishing.gov.uk and change any passwords that are mentioned. Visit Action Fraud for more advice: Sextortion scams (actionfraud.police.uk)

Black Friday: shop securely online

- It is worth researching online retailers before using them to check they're legitimate. Read feedback from people or organisations that you trust e.g. consumer websites.
- Use a credit (rather than a debit) card when shopping online, that way if your payment details are stolen, your main bank account won't be directly affected.
- Only provide mandatory details on a website when paying for an item (usually those marked with an asterisk (*) like delivery address and payment details). For more advice visit: Shopping online securely NCSC.GOV.UK



Shop securely online this festive season

If you have visited a website you think is trying to scam you, report it to the NCSC and they will investigate:

Report a suspicious website - NCSC.GOV.UK

Lights On to help deter burglars

- Leaving a couple of lights on in your home will make it look occupied.
- Invest in some timer switches. These will turn lamps on and off for you.
- Gadgets are available which fit into bayonet light fittings and turn your main lights on and off.
- Help keep your energy bills down by using energy saving light bulbs.





Neighbourhood Watch Youth Council

Are you aged 16 to 24? Put yourself forward for Neighbourhood Watch's Youth Council.

The Youth Council with Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) empowers young people to work together to create safer, happier communities. Young people's opinions on how they think their wider communities could be improved and their thoughts about crime prevention and safety initiatives often go unheard.

Visit the NHW website for more information here.

PCC Survey: have your say on what you pay for Policing

Police and Crime Commissioner Donna Jones is urging residents to share their views in the annual police budget precept consultation.

The Commissioner is asking local residents to complete an online survey and provide feedback.

The survey runs from Monday 6 November, and closes at 11.59pm on Sunday 10 December.



Find out more <u>here</u>.

WhatsApp Voucher Scams

Action Fraud are seeing reports of supermarket voucher scams on WhatsApp from Asda, Tesco and M&S so far. Don't click on any links or send on to friends.





