

Protect your bike

The change in the weather means more people are out and about using their bike. High value bikes are being targeted and are generally taken from sheds and garages and sold online via social media platforms quickly and easily.

If you use a bike ride tracking app such as Strava make sure your privacy settings are changed so that your start and end point aren't being shared; this is likely to be your home address and tell others where your bike is stored.

Register your bike for free using an accredited property database such as <https://immobilise.com/> or <https://www.bikeregister.com/>

Always ensure your bike is locked securely and anchored to an immovable point, even when being stored in a shed or garage. It is best to use two locks which are fitted closely to the bike.

For more details on bike security please visit the Secured by Design website:

<https://www.securedbydesign.com/guidance/crime-prevention-advice/bike-security>



False Investment Scams

There has been an increase in reports of investment and 'Get Rich Quick' scams on social media (particularly Snapchat and Instagram). The scammers contact people claiming their investment successes, they use a variety of methods including posting stories and taking over social media accounts to direct message from people known to you.

After victims have invested, further contact is ignored or further payments are requested to release funds.

Please remember:

- If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Check the Financial Conduct Authority website to make sure the company is legitimate.
- Don't be rushed into making an investment. No legitimate organisation will pressure you into making a transaction, or committing to something on the spot.
- If you receive a message from someone you know about investments or asking for money, call them before sending money, to ensure it is definitely them.
- Seek advice from trusted friends, family members or independent professional advice services before making a significant financial decision.



Bobby Buddies

We are appealing to the knitting community to help make more teddy bears to hand out to children involved in incidents of domestic abuse. The bears, knitted or crocheted by volunteers, are given to children by officers to help them communicate with them.

Patterns can be found in the article below and finished bears can be handed in to your local police station.



[Appeal to knitters to help make Bobby Buddies for child victims of domestic abuse | Hampshire Constabulary](#)

Changes to the law for driving and mobile phone use



Since 2003, it's been an offence to use a hand-held mobile phone or similar hand-held device for 'interactive communication'.

However, now that mobile phones can perform so many more functions the offence has been updated and will include all use of your phone.

There are just two exemptions to the law:

- Allowing for a call to be made in an emergency where it is not practical to stop
- For contactless payment for a service provided at the time - for example, road tolls or drive-thrus, but the vehicle must be stationary.

Using a mobile phone for navigation will continue to be legal, as long as it is kept in a cradle and not in the driver's hand. For further details please see: [Changes in the law on driving while using a mobile phone \(parliament.uk\)](#)

Views on Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)

The Police Crime Commissioner is asking the public for their views and experiences of VAWG which will provide a clear understanding of the impact and scale of these crimes across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. The survey is available here:

[Public VAWG Survey 2022 \(alchemer.eu\)](#)



Fraudulent COVID Messages

Criminals are using COVID testing to target the public with fake text messages.

- ✓ The NHS will NEVER ask for payment or any financial details.
- ✓ If you are suspicious about an email, forward it to **report@phishing.gov.uk**.
- ✓ If you are suspicious about a text message, forward it to the number **7726** (it's free of charge).

For information on NHS coronavirus testing, visit www.nhs.uk

YOUR

UPDATE

Email cpahampshire@hampshire.pnn.police.uk
Visit www.hampshire.police.uk



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