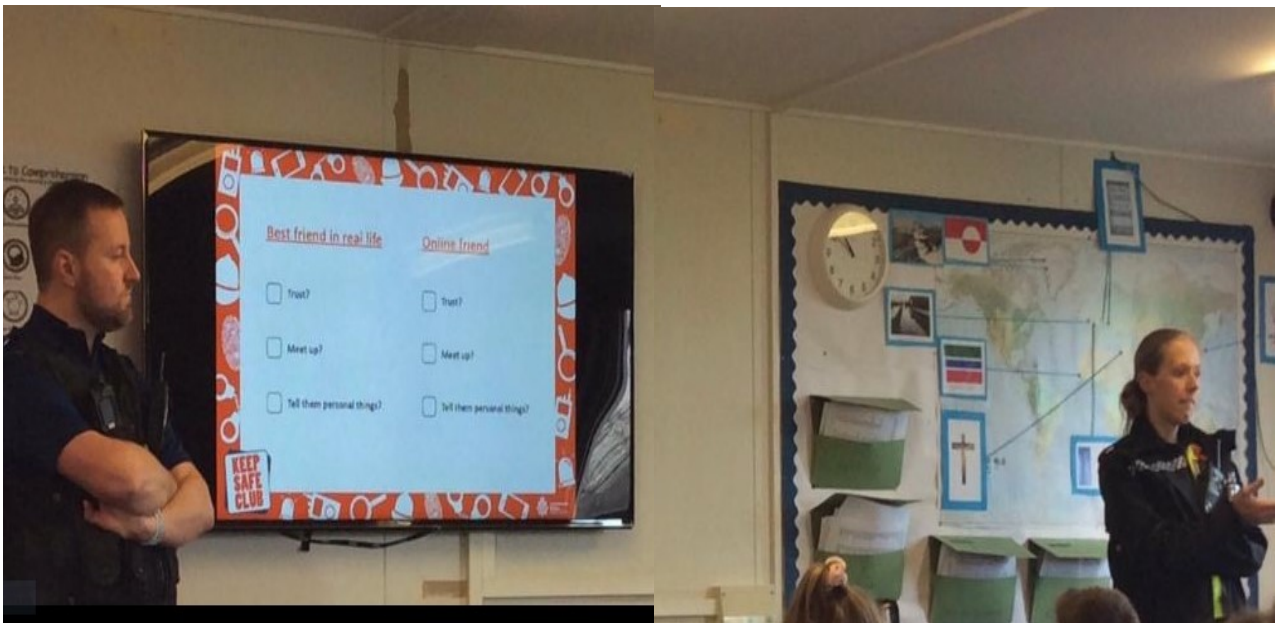




## News Update

PCSOs Lucy Brown and Matt Kiff have been out and about at the schools in Church Langton and Thurnby talking to the children about keeping safe. The topics covered the role of the police, internet safety and road safety. The children found the talks both informative and enjoyable.



## Beat surgeries

We are always looking for new venues in the area to hold beat surgeries. Please get in touch with your local officers if you can help with this.

**Beat surgeries in Harborough district in March;**

Monday 2nd March ( 10:00-11:00am) Outside of Co-op Kibworth

Thursday 12th March( 10:00-11.00am) Main St –Hungarton

Thursday 19th March ( 10:00-11:00am) Outside Co-op Scraftoft

Monday 30th March ( 10:00-11:00am) Brookside Gardens, Fleckney

We are always happy to hear from you, please email us at: [easterncountiesnpa@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:easterncountiesnpa@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk)

If you would like to hear what is happening in your area, sign up to Neighbourhood Link via



Passing motorists called in to report that they had concerns for the welfare of a horse in a field on Leicester Rd , PCs Rob Cross and Steve Winn popped down to see it. Not only was he safe and well but also very photogenic as he posed for a selfie! A fly grazing notice was attached to the gate so he may be on the move soon.

If you to keep up-to-date with the work of our rural crime officers, visit @LeicsRuralCrime or search ' Leicestershire & Rutnad Rural Crime' on Facebook.

**COURIER FRAUD – DO YOU HAVE AN ELDERLY NEIGHBOUR OR RELATIVE?**

We are warning people to be wary of courier fraud as there has been an unusually high number of incidents relating to this crime being reported in the surrounding villages of Harborough in recent weeks. Fraudsters typically target older people by exploiting their trust in the police and their bank.

**What is courier fraud?** Courier fraud is where fraudsters call someone pretending to be a police officer or bank official, warning that there are corrupt bank staff intent on stealing their money, and as for their help to solve the problem. Typically, the caller then tells the victim to withdraw a sum of money and a courier is sent to collect it.

**What to do if you receive a call?** If you receive a call of this type, put the phone down and report the incident to Leicestershire Police (using 101) using another telephone as on some occasions the call can remain connected.

Just because someone knows a few basic details about you such as your name and address, it does not mean that they are genuine. If someone calls you asking you to withdraw large amounts of cash or to go out and buy expensive jewellery before handing it over to a courier... IT'S A SCAM.

There are actions you can take to stop getting nuisance calls. Register your number with the Telephone Preference Service. You can call them on 0345 070 0707. It is free to register. They will add you to their list of numbers of people that don't want to receive sales and marketing calls.

**Phone scams**  
Fraud over the phone – or vishing – is when a fraudster calls claiming they're from your bank or another trusted organisation, often under the pretence there has been fraud on your account. It is easy for them to convince you too, since they can both fake the telephone number on the screen and do their research to find out some of your basic bank and personal details. Remember though, a genuine bank will never ask you for personal financial details like your PIN number or full banking password (even by tapping it into your phone keypad), or ask you to transfer money directly to them.

**Text message scams**  
A text might not be from who you think it is – Smishing is when fraudsters pretend a message is from your bank or another organisation you trust. They will usually tell you there has been fraud on your account and will ask you to deal with it by calling a number they provide or by visiting a fake website to update your personal details. Please take a moment to stop and think and realise this is the fraud, and any data you enter will be captured by them.

**Online fraud**  
Online fraud covers everything from online shopping to online banking, but one thing can help prevent both: take the time to install security software and updates most banks and browsers offer. These can help protect you whether the fraudsters are trying to dupe you with fake pop-ups in your online banking window, sending you 'scam alert' messages that hide malware, or faking retailer websites to make you input your financial details.

**Email scams**  
Fraudsters don't just try to contact you by phone and text, they also 'phish', contacting you by email, usually saying you need to verify or update some details or reactivate an account. So always be suspicious of unsolicited emails that are supposedly from your bank or some other trusted organisation because the address can easily be faked. Never automatically click on any links they contain either, not before stopping to check if they seem genuine first.

**What to do if you think you're a victim**  
If you think there has been fraud on your card or bank account – or if you suspect someone has attempted to compromise your financial details – report it immediately to your bank or other financial services provider and then contact Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or at [actionfraud.police.uk](http://actionfraud.police.uk).

@LeicsCyberAware

**IT PAYS TO TAKE TIME**

**TAKE FIVE TO STOP AND THINK**



**TO STOP FRAUD™**



**Leicestershire Police**  
Protecting our communities

Take Five is a national campaign that offers straightforward and impartial advice to help everyone protect themselves from preventable financial fraud. This includes email deception and phone-based scams as well as online fraud - particularly where criminals impersonate trusted organisations. Led by Financial Fraud Action UK, Ltd (FFA UK), it is being delivered with and through a range of partners in the UK payments industry, financial services firms, law enforcement agencies, telecommunication providers, commercial, public and third sector. Visit [takefive-stopfraud.org.uk](http://takefive-stopfraud.org.uk) for more information about Take Five, and which partners are involved.

[takefive-stopfraud.org.uk](http://takefive-stopfraud.org.uk)