

# Tibberton and Cherrington Neighbourhood Watch Group



## Update - Tibberton and Cherrington Parish Council Meeting, May/June 2020

**We Don't Buy Crime / SmartWater Rollout** – Only 4 more kits to register of the 172 we purchased.

**Signs** – Putting up the new signage is on hold at this time, West Mercia Police (WMP) have advised this is not an essential activity.

**SmartWater VEHICLE Stickers** – I am still waiting to hear definitively from SmartWater on this, chasing.

**West Mercia Police advice during lockdown** - WMP is emphasising the need for people to remain vigilant and report anything suspicious to them. Online and by telephone, there are many scams happening, both COVID19 specific and general phishing scams. The standard advice remains - Do NOT reply to suspicious emails; no one ever lost money or data by putting the telephone down or sending the email to Spam/Junk and deleting it. (By all means keep a copy as a pdf file if you wish.) A new reporting service has been established, details below with examples and a 2-week update from WMP; please pass this on to parishioners.

### **Suspicious Email Reporting Service (SERS) [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk)**

**Please be aware and remain vigilant of phishing emails. One of the many scam emails currently in circulation purports to be from the TV Licensing advising to cancel direct debits.**

These messages may look like the real thing but are malicious. Once clicked, you are sent to a dodgy website which could download viruses onto your computer or steal your passwords.

The criminal's goal is to convince you to click on the links within their scam email or text message, or to give away sensitive information (such as bank details).

If you receive an email which you're not quite sure about, forward it to the Suspicious Email Reporting Service [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk)

**For further information and advice please go to:**

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/suspicious-email-actions>

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/section/about-ncsc/what-is-cyber-security>

<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>

<https://staysafeonline.org/stay-safe-online/>

**Forward any suspect emails to: [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk)**

In just over two weeks, the public has passed on more than 160,000 suspect emails.

- National Cyber Security Centre reveals range of fraudulent sites it has blocked with the help of the British public
- Scams include attempts to exploit coronavirus fears through fake offers of testing kits and face masks
- Public have flagged more than 160,000 messages to the NCSC's new suspicious email reporting service – with more than 1,400 links to scams removed.

CYBER security experts have today lifted the lid on some of the online scams which the British public have reported to a pioneering new Suspicious Email Reporting Service.

Emails reported to the National Cyber Security Centre include callous attempts by criminals to exploit the coronavirus through fake offers of face masks and testing kits.

The NCSC has shared some examples of what it has removed with the help of the reporting service. These include:

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- Scam web pages that have been flagged include mock-ups of official GOV.uk and TV licencing websites. Visitors are lured into giving their billing information to scammers posing as these legitimate organisations.
- There has also been scam web pages purporting to sell coronavirus linked bogus products such as testing kits, face masks and even vaccines. The NCSC noted a rise in cyber crime exploiting the coronavirus pandemic last month.

The automated email reporting service makes it easier than ever for people to help protect others from falling victim to scams.

To use it, people are asked to simply forward suspect emails to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk). If they are found to link to malicious content, it will be taken down or blocked, helping prevent future victims of crime.

Reporting fraud and Cybercrime <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>

Action Fraud is the UK's national reporting centre for fraud and cybercrime where you should report fraud if you have been scammed, defrauded or experienced cybercrime in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

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17<sup>th</sup> May 2020