

**REPORT OF THE  
POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR THAMES VALLEY  
TO THE THAMES VALLEY POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**

**27 NOVEMBER 2015**

**REPORT ON CYBER CRIME**

1. Cyber crime is any offence where the reporting officer believes that, on the balance of probability, the offence was committed, in full or in part, through a computer, computer network or other internet-enabled device.
2. This includes all offences where online or internet-based activities have been involved, such as:
  - Sending or receiving emails;
  - Use of social media or networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Flickr, etc; This also includes on line dating sites (e.g. Match.com, e-harmony, Etc) and other online chat rooms;
  - Use of internet forums, blogs or websites;
  - Online auction or retail sites (e.g. Ebay, Gumtree);
  - Communication via on line video game networks (e.g. through X-box Live, Playstation Network); or
  - Communication platforms such as Skype, FaceTime, WhatsApp or Viber.
3. The terms 'computer, computer network and other internet-enabled devices' include offences committed using:
  - Desktop computers, laptops, notebook or chrome books, in the home or in the workplace;
  - Smartphones, tablets and other telecommunications devices linked to computer networks; or
  - Any other identifiable computer system or network that produces, processes and transmits data. This may also include internal intranets (e.g. those used for staff payment transfers).

4. A new campaign to change the way people protect themselves while shopping or banking online in order to avoid falling victim to cyber criminals was launched by the government last year.
5. The 'Cyber Streetwise' campaign aims to change the way people view online safety and provide the public and businesses with the skills and knowledge they need to take control of their cyber security. The campaign includes a new easy-to-use website and online videos.
6. The new website, [www.cyberstreetwise.com](http://www.cyberstreetwise.com), offers a range of interactive resources, tailoring an individual's visit to provide clear advice on the essentials for enjoying a safe experience online.
7. I was delighted to support Cyber Streetwise which is an important new campaign to help individuals and businesses increase their awareness of how to stay safe online.
8. Cyber crime is a major issue and has an effect on both individuals and businesses. It is important that it is tackled effectively to ensure that we protect the most vulnerable who are often targeted in this type of crime. This is why I included cyber crime as a priority in my updated Police and Crime Plan.
9. You will receive at the meeting a presentation from Chief Superintendent Ray Howard on this matter.

Anthony Stansfeld  
Police and Crime Commissioner