



July 2015

Local officers are reminding residents to be computer vigilant following a recent suspicious call in the Smalley area.

A resident was called from a person claiming to work for Microsoft Security. After the caller was allowed remote access to the resident's computer the resident became suspicious and stated no payments would be made until the resident checked the caller's identity. The caller stated that the resident had an hour to decide but was to leave the computer on because of the danger to it. After advice the caller removed the internet connection and had the machine checked out professionally. Downloaded software had to be removed and the security setting had to be reactivated.

Microsoft offer advice regarding similar incidents on their website. <https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/security/online-privacy/avoid-phone-scams.aspx>

By taking a few simple safety precautions, residents can better protect themselves from computer fraudsters and scams.

Crime prevention advice includes:

- If you feel your computer needs maintenance seek guidance from people recommended by family or friends;
- Do not disclose personal information to organisations or people before verifying their credentials;
- Ensure that your computer has up-to-date anti-virus software and firewall installed;
- Ensure your browser is set to the highest level of security to prevent malware issues and computer crimes.
- Be extremely wary of post, phone calls or emails offering you business deals out of the blue. If an offer seems too good to be true, it probably is.

If you need advice about fraud, call Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 to discuss your situation with their specialist fraud advisers.

To report a fraud call 0300 123 2040 or alternatively, visit www.actionfraud.police.uk.

For further advice on personal security, home security and other crime prevention please see our Police website or click on the hyperlink : <http://www.derbyshire.police.uk/Safety-advice/Safety-Advice.aspx>, or contact your local Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team on 101.