

Kent Fraud Alert System



TO STOP FRAUD™

Delivery Scams

How the scam works –

An unexpected parcel is delivered to the victim's door, which will normally contain a high value item such as a laptop or iPhone. Shortly after the delivery, a person wearing a uniform from the same company will attend and state that the item was delivered in error and that they are there to take it back. However, it is a scam. The item would have been ordered in the persons name without their knowledge and the criminals would have tracked the order to know when it was delivered and when to knock on the door to say it is all one big error. The totally unaware occupier will not know there has been a scam until they receive letters requesting payment for the item.

If you get an unexpected delivery that you have not ordered, then contact the company and agree with them which courier company will collect it and on what day they will attend.

If you think that you may have been a victim of this or any other type of scam, then contact your Bank immediately, which you can do by calling 159 and report it to Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or call 0300 123 2040.

For further information about Fraud, visit our website at [Advice about fraud | Kent Police](#)



Preventing fraud

Together, let's stop scammers.



Remember, ABC:



never Assume



never Believe



always Confirm

Get the latest scam advice:



@KentPoliceECU



**Kent
Police**

Report a non-urgent crime online www.kent.police.uk/report

Talk to us on LiveChat – available 24/7 www.kent.police.uk/contact

In an emergency, if crime is in progress or life is in danger call **999**

If you have a hearing or speech impairment, use our textphone service **18000**.

Or text us on 999 if you've pre-registered with the emergency SMS service.

www.kent.police.uk



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Olympic Scams

With the games almost upon us, criminals will be busy targeting the public with fake offers and in particular fake tickets.

If you are you planning a trip to see the Summer Olympic and Paralympic games, then remember to purchase only from the official Paris 2024 ticketing website – [Paris 2024 Official Ticketing – Olympic and Paralympic Games](#) this is the only authorised source for buying tickets.

Also beware of fake emails offering free Olympic prizes and all you have to do is fill in a survey, as these will be scams seeking to steal your personal and financial information.

Finally, be mindful of fake websites offering official merchandise at a substantially reduced price, such as clothing etc. as often the items will never be received. Only purchase items from reputable sources and carry out your research.

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ActionFraud
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Gift Card Scams

We have seen an increase in scams involving people being asked to purchase gift cards from stores. Fraudsters, claiming to be legitimate employees of organisations such as the police, DVLA or HMRC and are phoning customers and telling them they need to buy gift cards to pay for non-existent fines and taxes.

If you receive a request from someone asking you to buy a gift card or several gift cards to pay a fine, tax or a fee to win a prize, this is fraud!

People should also be wary if you receive an email from one of your contacts asking you to buy them a gift card, it's likely that a scammer is behind the message.

Gift cards are popular with criminals as they can be used to launder money, are less likely to be intercepted by crime agencies, and are difficult to trace compared to bank transfers.

If you ever get a request to purchase gift cards for a payment, then this is a red flag for a possible scam.

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Beware scammers asking for gift cards



www.RicksDailyTips.com

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Rogue Traders

This week we have seen more reports of this type of criminality, in particular in Whitstable, Sheerness and Hythe.

Beware of cold callers offering to clean driveways for extortionate amounts of money. Additionally, people offering to carry out unnecessary roofing work.

These types of offences are not isolated to any individual locations and are taking place across the county.

Remember –

- Always obtain at least 3 written quotes and never agree to work on your doorstep, no matter how tempting the offer.
- Ask family and friends for recommendations.
- Agree payment arrangements and start and finish dates in writing beforehand.
- Never pay in full until you are completely satisfied with the work.

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DOORSTEP CRIME ALERT!
SEE IT - REPORT IT

ACTIVE IN
WHITSTABLE AND
SHEERNESS

DOORSTEP CRIME ALERT!
SEE IT - REPORT IT

ACTIVE IN
HYTHE

Kent Police TRADING STANDARDS CHECKED

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WhatsApp Scams

If a family member or friend makes an unusual request on WhatsApp, always call the person outside of WhatsApp to confirm their identity.

Report spam messages or block a sender within WhatsApp. Press and hold on the message bubble, select 'Report' and then follow the instructions.

If you think that you may have been a victim of a scam, then contact your Bank immediately, which you can do by calling 159 and report it to Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or call 0300 123 2040.

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WhatsApp scams

Beware of fraudsters posing as friends or family, and claiming to need urgent financial help.

- **Contact them directy**
If a family member or friend makes an unusual request on WhatsApp, always call the person outside of WhatsApp to confirm their identity.
- **Block the sender**
Report spam messages or block a sender within WhatsApp. Press and hold on the message bubble, select 'Report' and then follow the instructions.
- **Report to Action Fraud**
If you lost money as a result of the scam message, please report it to Action Fraud.



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