Kent Fraud Alert System

TAKE FIVE TO STOP FRAUD™

National Insurance (NI) Scams

Although previously alerted, I wanted to remind everyone that Action Fraud are still seeing a big increase in automated National Insurance scams.

Residents across the UK, including Kent have reported receiving an automated telephone call telling them their "National Insurance number has been compromised" and in order to fix this and get a new number, the victim needs to "press 1 on their handset to be connected to the caller". It is a scam and once connected to the "caller", they are pressured into giving over their personal details in order to receive a new National Insurance number but are actually connected to a criminal who can now use their personal details to commit further frauds.

Remember, if you receive one of these calls, then disconnected immediately as HMRC would never contact you this way. With all these types of calls, never press button 1.

If you believe you have been a victim of this scam, then contact your bank, immediately and report it to Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040.

Preventing fraud

Together, let's stop scammers.

Remember, ABC:

- never **A**ssume
- never **B**elieve
- always **C**onfirm

Get the latest scam advice: @KentPoliceECU

POLICE - ALERT

CITY OF LONDON POLICE
National Policing Lead For Fraud

National Insurance scam leads to surge in calls to Action Fraud

ActionFraud
National Fraud & Cyber Crime Reporting Centre
actionfraud.police.uk

CLASSIFICATION - SUITABLE FOR PUBLICATION

January 2021

Kent Police

TAKE FIVE TO STOP FRAUD™

Press Release – Re spoofing of Police telephone numbers

We are warning residents to beware of bank card scams where criminals attempt to trick victims by cloning police phone numbers. Those responsible are not actually calling from a police station but change their caller ID to make it appear like they are – a process known as 'spoofing'.

Over the past three weeks Kent Police has received at least six reports of this nature from residents living in parts of Gravesend and Maidstone. A number of potential victims were contacted by someone claiming to be from Holborn police station, in London. The suspect would claim the victims' bank card had been used fraudulently and attempt to obtain their account details.

In one instance, a person was contacted by someone claiming to be from South Wales Police. The victim received several calls with phone numbers appearing to match the local force, as well as other agencies including the Home Office and HM Treasury. She was told her identity had been stolen and advised of steps to safeguard her money, which included transferring funds from her account to an alternative account. The victim was warned not to tell anyone and even threatened with arrest if she failed to comply. More than £60,000 is reported to have been stolen in separate transactions.

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Detective Sergeant Fiona Dalzell of the Kent and Essex Serious Crime Directorate said: 'It is important to remember that a police officer will never ask you to pay money over the phone or try and obtain any of your bank details. 'Never give out your personal information in response to an incoming call or rely upon the caller ID as the sole means of identification – especially if the caller is asking you to do something that will affect you financially. 'If you receive a suspicious call, hang up the phone and call a trusted number, such as a family member or friend, from a different phone, or wait at least five minutes to ensure the line has cleared. This will ensure you are not still talking to the same fraudster or an accomplice. 'Contact your bank immediately if you think you may have been scammed and report the incident to Action Fraud.

If you believe you have been a victim of this scam, then contact your bank, immediately and report it to Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040.

Kent Police

Contacting 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 deaf or speech impaired, text '**police**' and your message to **60066**

www.kent.police.uk

TAKE FIVE

TO STOP FRAUD™

Royal Mail Email Phishing scam(s)

I have been notified by a few of you about receiving phishing emails impersonating Royal mail about parcel deliveries. Below is the official information around these from the Royal Mail website with advice on how not to fall victim with an example of one the current phishing emails and things to look out for.

If you believe you have been a victim of this scam, then contact your bank, immediately and report it to Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040.

Email subject: Your package could not be delivered on 07/12/2020 (the date will change)

Sender: Royal Mail Group Ltd, various email addresses may be used including press.office@royalmail.com

The email informs you that your package could not be delivered due to no custom duty being paid.

Do not click on any links or enter any details

Royal Mail

Dear customer

Your package could not be delivered on 07/12/2020 because no customs duties were paid (J3,89). Follow the instructions

Dispatch Date: 08-12-2020 - 09-12-2020

Reference : 403407882-1599653879

Beneficiaries : Royal Mail Group Ltd

Amount to be paid : J3,89

To confirm the shipment of a package, click here.

We thank you for recording it and wish you continued convenient sending with a waybill online.
Best regards .

Royal Mail

We have sent this email to _____@dmu.ac.uk

Royal Mail | Royal Mail Group Ltd

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Get the latest scam advice: **@KentPoliceECU**

Kent Police

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www.kent.police.uk