

Kent Fraud Alert System



TO STOP FRAUD™

Phishing Emails and how to spot them

With so many of us receiving dubious and suspicious emails, commonly known as phishing emails, I want to remind you of what phishing is and some tips on how to spot the signs of a scam email.

Phishing is a method used by fraudsters to access valuable personal details, such as usernames and passwords. These can have a monetary value to criminals. Phishing can also involve sending malicious attachments or website links in an effort to infect computers or mobile devices. Criminals send bogus communications: emails, letters, instant messages or text messages. Very often these appear to be authentic communications from legitimate organisations. Embedded links within the message can direct you to a hoax website where your login or personal details may be requested. You may also run the risk of your computer or smartphone being infected by viruses.

How to spot a scam email

- The sender's email address looks suspicious. Roll your mouse pointer over the sender's name to check it. If it doesn't match the website address of the organisation it says it's from it could be a sign of a scam.
- The email doesn't use your name – it says something like 'Dear customer' instead.
- There's a sense of urgency, asking you to act immediately.
- There's a prominent website link that may look at first glance like the proper address but has one letter missing or is spelt wrong.
- There's a request for personal information.
- Poor grammar and spelling mistakes.
- The entire text of the email is contained within an image rather than the usual text format, and the image contains an embedded hyperlink to a bogus site. Again, roll your mouse pointer over the link to reveal its true destination. But don't click it!
- Finally if in doubt or if you know that it is a scam then forward to report@phishing.gov.uk and they will look to take action.

Finally, if believe you have been a victim of this type of 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 Assume

 never Believe

 always Confirm

Get the latest
scam advice:



@KentPoliceECU



**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   

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HM Courts & Tribunals Service number spoofed in HMRC impersonation Scam

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HM Courts & Tribunals Service are aware of fraudulent calls and emails from scammers claiming to be HMRC. The calls may “mimic” or spoof a phone number from Royal Courts of Justice, in order to make you believe that the call is genuine.



If you get a call like this, it is a scam and would ask that you do not provide any of your financial details or transfer any monies in order to pay a fine. HMRC or the Courts would never contact you in this way requesting these details or asking you to make a payment.

Holiday Fraud Scams

Holiday fraud can vary from fake accommodation listings that don't actually exist, to “too good to be true” offers with flights being particularly targeted. Criminals can approach you over the phone, via text, email

Holiday fraud warning

Think twice before handing over your money and personal information when booking holidays this year.

Action Fraud is warning the public to remain vigilant against holiday and travel related fraud, as holiday bookings surge following the recent announcement on how lockdown restrictions will be eased.

For top tips on how to avoid falling victim to holiday fraud, visit: actionfraud.police.uk/holidayfraud

Action Fraud POLICE



and social media, offering incredibly cheap deals to tempt you into booking a holiday with them. In reality, the holiday you've booked, or parts of it, doesn't exist at all.

Here are some tips on how to protect yourself -

- Do your research—make sure you've read plenty of reviews and have checked that the company is an ABTA member.
- Pay Safe—use a credit card where possible and avoid paying into bank accounts
- If it's too good to be true, it usually is!



**Kent
Police**

Contacting Kent Police

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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**

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