

Kent Fraud Alert System



TO STOP FRAUD™

Winter Fuel Fake (Phishing) Emails

There has been an increase in phishing messages being reported where the victim describes receiving a message highlighting an urgent need to complete a link to avoid stopping the loss or chance of obtaining Winter Fuel Payments.

The victims have reported that the message provides a deadline. When the link is clicked, the victims are taken to a cloned government website asking for personal details initially, once completed, the next page will request card details.

This is all a scam designed to steal your financial data. Please be wary of any emails like this and do not click the link.

Report suspicious emails by forwarding them to: report@phishing.gov.uk

If you think that you may have been a victim of any 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.

Preventing fraud

Together,
let's stop
scammers.



Remember, ABC:



never Assume



never Believe



always Confirm



For further information about Fraud, visit our website at [Advice about fraud | Kent Police](http://www.kent.police.uk/advice-about-fraud)

You will also find valuable information from the Home Office at [Stop! Think Fraud - How to stay safe from scams](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/stop-think-fraud)



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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Fake Energy Support Grant Message

We have had reports of people receiving the below text message. It gives you 24 hours to apply for an energy support grant.

By clicking the link, you are taken to a realistic looking website under the control of the criminals, where they will look to steal your personal and financial data. Always be wary of texts or emails asking you click links in messages and that are time sensitive.

Report suspicious texts by forwarding to 7726.

Official DWP reminder:
Due to rising energy prices you are now recognised as eligible for an Energy Support Grant of between £200 and £300. The grant will help you pay for your household electricity and gas bills, as well as the cost of energy consumed by common appliances such as water heaters, cookers and air conditioners. You have until Sunday 15 June 2025 to apply. The system will automatically close the application portal at that time. Click here to apply now: <https://rebrand.ly/pggjaq0?cyx=6dcLGV>
The DWP is with you to help keep you warm.



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Fraud Alert – Advance Fee Fraud

The victim received a phone call from a company claiming to be able to recover money for overpayment of Solar panels.

The Offenders were able to supply information about the victim's solar panels that had been previously installed.

They stated that the company that originally had fitted these had gone into administration but that the victim was eligible for a considerable refund.

They claimed that the matter had gone to court and to receive this refund, the victim would need to pay a fee which was payable in advance to the offenders of approximately £1500. They were subsequently requested to pay a further fee of £350.

Unfortunately, it was a scam.

You will never need to pay an advance fee to a court to release a compensation payment.

There are a number of variations of this type of fraud in relation to cold calls about solar panels but all will involve paying some type of advance fee.

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Over £3 million lost to Romance Fraudsters by Kent victims last year

Kent Police is warning people to beware of romance fraud after a Swale resident was tricked out of almost £100,000 and lost her home.

She is one of thousands of victims targeted by dating scammers every year in the UK, with Kent residents losing a total of £3.1 million in the last financial year.

The force is supporting a national campaign aimed at raising awareness of romance fraud and helping people to spot when someone may be trying to take advantage of them.

A total of 240 reports were received from Kent victims in 2024/25, with each person being scammed out of an average of £13,000 each.

The following is a press release issued by Kent Police with advice on how to spot the signs of this scam and the steps that you can take to avoid becoming a victim - [Over £3 million lost to romance fraudsters by Kent victims last year | Kent Police](#)

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Do you really know
who you are
talking to?

ROMANCE FRAUD

Have they asked
you to move off the
dating app? And quickly
move to another platform
such as: Google hangouts,
WhatsApp or email?

Have they given
you a "hard luck"
story and asked for
your financial help?

Do they always
have an excuse
for not meeting or
speaking via a video
chat?

Shortly after
meeting them on
line, have they told
you that they are madly
in love and want a
relationship?

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Investment Scam Alert: Do Not Get Caught Out

We are still seeing an increase of reports for investment scams.

Social media is a major hunting ground for investment scammers, with 36% of all UK investment fraud reports last year linked to platforms like, WhatsApp, Facebook, and Instagram.

Have you received an unexpected message offering a “can’t-miss” investment opportunity?

It could be a scam.

Criminals often impersonate trusted public figures like Martin Lewis, Elon Musk, or Jeremy Clarkson to gain your trust. With the rise of AI and deepfake technology, these impersonations are becoming more convincing than ever.

Stay informed and protect your money. Visit - [City of London Police: over £649m lost to investment fraud in 2024, with cryptocurrency fraud on the rise | City of London Police](#)

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HAVE YOU BEEN CONTACTED OUT OF THE BLUE AND GUARANTEED PROFIT ON AN INVESTMENT?

In 36 per cent of investment fraud reports, social media platforms was recorded as being a key enabler.

If you have been contacted out of the blue via social media with a lucrative investment opportunity - stop, block, and report.



CITY OF LONDON POLICE
ActionFraud
STOP! THINK FRAUD

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