

# Kent Fraud Alert System



TO STOP FRAUD™

## There has been an increase in Employment Fraud across Kent

Have you recently received a message through social media or a messaging app from a recruiter offering you a new job, claiming they can make you rich quickly, and offering you incredibly high salaries for part-time hours and/or require you to make an upfront payment to secure work?

**Employment fraud happens when a criminal claims to be a recruitment agent, hiring you for a job - that doesn't exist. Criminals will ask you to fill out a questionnaire or provide personal information about yourself and ask you to pay money to them as an administration fee.**

### **Protect yourself against employment fraud:**

- Be suspicious of job offers that seem too good to be true, criminals promise high salaries and luxurious benefits for minimal work!
- Be cautious if you are being contacted by recruiters by SMS/WhatsApp without prior communication and consent, or from an unverified account. If you receive a job offer unexpectedly, from an unknown contact, be cautious.
- Be wary of job offers that immediately ask you to provide personal information, such as bank details or a photocopy of your driving license or passport. Genuine employers typically gather such information later in the hiring process.
- Check any job advertisements or documents for poor spelling and grammar – this is often a sign that criminals are at work.
- Do not be rushed into making a decision. Criminals use tactics such as creating a false sense of urgency to pressure victims into making quick decisions. They may say things like “This opportunity will not last long.” Take time to research and evaluate job offers.
- Pay attention to how the recruiter communicates. Genuine companies typically do not contact us from an email address from generic email accounts - beware if the employer or agent contacts you from an email address such as @Yahoo or @Hotmail

Be suspicious if the entire hiring process happens through messaging without any face-to-face or video interviews. Genuine employers want to meet their potential candidates in person or via video chat. Remember, a professional employer/agency **will not ask you for money** to work for them.

If you 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](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or call 0300 123 2040.

For further information about Fraud, visit our website at [Advice about fraud | Kent Police](#) and you will also find valuable information from the Home Office at [Stop! Think Fraud - How to stay safe from scams](#)



**Kent  
Police**

Report a non-urgent crime online [www.kent.police.uk/report](http://www.kent.police.uk/report)

Talk to us on LiveChat – available 24/7 [www.kent.police.uk/contact](http://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.

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## Courier Fraud Alert

In the past few weeks, we have seen an increase of reports from victims in relation to Courier Fraud

Residents have been getting phone calls from criminals mostly impersonating Police Officers and some claiming to be from their bank.

One method we are seeing is victims receiving a call from criminals impersonating their Bank and stating their cards have been involved in a scam and that they need to collect them. The criminals will then send a courier to collect these and then use them to purchase goods and withdraw cash.

Your Bank will never telephone requesting to collect your cards!!

Additionally, the Police will NEVER ask you for financial details on the phone and request to collect your card or cash or gold as part of an investigation.

Remember the ABC of Scam Awareness and Never Assume or Believe a call is genuine and always Confirm. If you get an expected call from someone claiming to be Police or any other organisation, then take their details and end the call. Then call back using a different phone if available. If another phone is not available, then wait 5 minutes and ring a family member or friend to ensure the line has been disconnected and then ring 101.

Never call a number they have supplied and never ring 999 whilst still on the call with them. You must always disconnect the call first before ringing 101.

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**STOP! THINK FRAUD** | **ActionFraud**  
Report Fraud & get advice - 0300 123 2040  
www.actionfraud.police.uk

## FRAUD!

### SPOT IT AND STOP IT!

- Calls claiming to be the bank or the police
- Sudden claims of suspicious banking activity
- Being asked for PIN number or passwords
- Requests for bank card or cash as 'evidence'
- Asked to purchase high-end jewellery and goods
- 'Couriers' sent to collect card, cash, or bank details



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## Investment Scams – Celebrity Endorsements

Please be alert to too good to be true investment opportunities on social media, which have celebrity endorsements. Criminals will use Artificial Intelligence to impersonate famous people and lead you to believe that these are genuine opportunities, when in fact they are a scam.

A red flag in all these cases is the promise of a high, market-beating return on your cash that cannot be obtained anywhere else.

How to protect yourself from Financial Investment fraud –

- Investment opportunities: Do not be rushed into making an investment. Remember, legitimate organisations will never pressure you into investing on the spot.
- Seek advice first: Before making significant financial decisions, speak with trusted friends or family members, or seek professional independent advice.

If you 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](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or call 0300 123 2040.

**Preventing fraud**

Together, let's stop scammers.

**Remember, ABC:**

- never Assume
- never Believe
- always Confirm



ActionFraud  
Report Fraud - Call 0300 123 2040  
www.actionfraud.police.uk

CPD LONDON  
POLICE  
www.met.police.uk

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## Mis-sold Car Finance Scam

Never missing a trick, criminals are pretending to be car finance lenders and are contacting individuals and falsely stating that they are owed compensation for mis-sold car finance and requesting personal information including their name, address, date of birth and bank details to assist them in making a claim.

However, at present –

- There's no car finance compensation scheme in place yet.
- Car finance lenders are not yet contacting customers about compensation.

If you receive a call like this, hang up.

If you receive an email, then you can report this by forwarding to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk)

You can report suspicious text messages by forwarding to 7726.

If you 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](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or call 0300 123 2040.

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# Kent Fraud Alert System



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## Emergency Alert UK date set

The test Emergency Alert will take place at approximately 15.00 on the 7th of September 2025. Why is the Emergency Alert test taking place?

Emergency alerts are used by many countries around the world. They function as an effective way to warn people when there is a danger to life nearby, for example extreme weather conditions.

Ahead of the upcoming test, the Cabinet Office says it will be running a public information campaign to inform people about the test.

However, this may also provide an opportunity for criminals, so remember, no one will be contacting you requesting that you supply personal data, account details etc. or sending texts and emails asking you click on links.

Always be wary of links in messages.

You can report suspicious text messages by forwarding to 7726.

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