

# Kent Fraud Alert System



TO STOP FRAUD™

## Report Fraud launches

This week, the City of London Police, the national lead force for fraud, announced the full public launch of Report Fraud, which has now officially replaced Action Fraud.

A new media and advertising campaign is going live from Monday 19 January to help raise awareness of the brand-new service for reporting cybercrime and fraud.

The advertising campaign will run across radio and social channels, featuring the service's clear new visual identity and message, 'Every Report Counts'.

Please see their campaign hero film here: <https://youtu.be/CpZRbpNxCOM>



## Preventing fraud

Together,  
let's stop  
scammers.



### Remember, ABC:



never Assume



never Believe



always Confirm

For more information, you can read more of our press release here: [Report Fraud launches | City of London Police](#).

To report cybercrime and fraud: [UK's Home for Reporting Cyber Crime & Fraud - Report Fraud](#).

Find out more by visiting our website at [Advice about fraud | Kent Police](#) and also 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.

[www.kent.police.uk](http://www.kent.police.uk)



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## Rogue Trader Alert

We have received reports of doorstep criminals active in Maidstone, Ashford, Gravesend and Canterbury. Never respond to cold callers! You will pay an excessive cost for unnecessary and poor-quality work.

Please warn your vulnerable friends and family to be alert.

You can:

- Ask the visitor to return another time when someone can be with you
- Get three written quotes
- Ask family and friends for recommendations
- Agree payment arrangements and start and finish dates in writing beforehand and never pay in full until you are completely satisfied with the work.

If you need work done on your home or garden use a safe, local trader from KCC Trading Standards Checked: [Trading Standards Checked](#)

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If you have been a victim of any type of scam, then contact your Bank immediately, which you can do by calling 159 and reporting to Report Fraud at [Reporting cyber crime and fraud or phishing attempts - Report Fraud](#) or call 0300 123 2040.

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## Charity Fraud

Charity Fraud Alert Criminals may exploit our generosity by claiming to raise money for fake charities or by impersonating well known ones.

To protect yourself, follow these guidelines:

When meeting a fundraiser in person:

- Ensure all collectors wear a clearly visible ID badge.
- Check that collection buckets are sealed and undamaged. Most fundraising materials should display the charity's name, registration number, and a landline phone number.
- If in doubt, ask for more information. A genuine fundraiser will be happy to answer your questions.

When donating online:

- Type the charity's website address directly into your browser rather than clicking on a link. Look for the registered charity number on the website.
- Do not click on links or attachments in suspicious emails.
- Never respond to unsolicited messages or calls asking for your personal or financial details.
- Be wary of online advertisements that only feature a mobile number.
- Ignore requests to donate through money transfer companies, as this is a common scam.
- Only donate to online fundraising pages created by people or organizations you know and trust. If in doubt, contact the charity directly.

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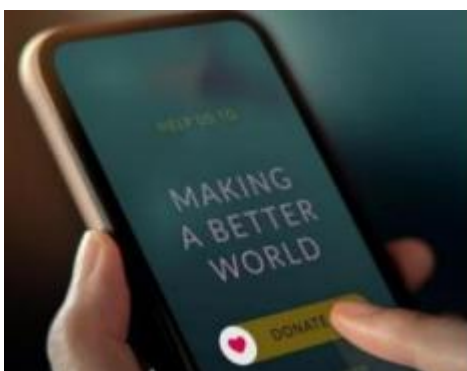
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## Fake Text Message/One Time Pass Code Scam

I was recently made aware by a member of the public of the following attempted scam.

They received a fake text message from a criminal impersonating Halifax with a one time pass code for a purchase at Argos. However, the intended victim did not have a Halifax account and realised it was a scam. It is uncertain what the one time pass code was for but may have been an attempt at a Sim Swap to enable them to take control of the intended victim's phone.

If you get any messages like this, never give out the code and forward the text message to 7726.



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## Text messages impersonating Phone Companies

Be on the lookout for text messages impersonating your mobile phone company stating that they have not received your latest payment and that you need to click on a link within the message.

STOP IT IS A SCAM.

By clicking the link, you will be redirected to a realistic web site under the control of the criminals where they will steal your personal and financial data.

The below is an example of one type message received today and sent to me by a member of the public.

Your mobile phone company will never contact you like this asking you to click on a link and update your details etc.

If you get a text like this, then forward to 7726.

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**MyO2: The payment for your recent bill was not taken successfully. Please visit: <https://myo2ref-notices.web.app> to avoid late fees.**



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