

Kent Fraud Alert System



TO STOP FRAUD™

Council Tax Energy Rebate Scam

Scammers are calling UK households and asking for bank details in order to qualify for the government's £150 energy rebate.

The scammers claim to be associated with the council and explain a refund is due. They then ask for your bank details in order to pay out the £150 rebate.

There has also been variations of this scam with people receiving phishing emails and fake text message. Don't be tempted to respond to these texts and emails, if you do not currently pay your council tax by direct debit, you should wait to receive your letter from the council that will explain how to claim the rebate.

Please remember the council will not telephone and ask for your bank details over the telephone. Additionally, be cautious about emails or texts asking you click on a link to supply your details.

If unsure about a call, text or email, then use ABC of Scam Awareness and never Assume or Believe that a call, email or text is genuine and Confirm by calling them on a trusted number and not one that may have been provided by them.

If you think that you may 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 calling 0300 123 2040.



KENT RESIDENTS
TARGETED BY
ENERGY REBATE SCAM

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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Bit Coin Scam

Action Fraud received over 1,000 reports in 3 days about emails promoting Bitcoin investment schemes claiming to be endorsed by Martin Lewis. This is a Scam. The links in the emails will simply take you to malicious websites, which will steal both your personal and financial information. If you receive an email like this, then forward to report@phishing.gov.uk

When considering making any investment, I would always recommend seeking independent financial advice from a professional before proceeding.

If you think that you may 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 calling 0300 123 2040.

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SCAM WARNING

Fraudsters impersonate Martin Lewis to promote Bitcoin investment scams

Action Fraud has received 1,178 reports in three days relating to scam emails promoting Bitcoin investment schemes that are claiming to be endorsed by Martin Lewis, the consumer finance journalist. The links in the fabricated "news" articles lead to malicious websites designed to steal your personal and financial information.

- Spotted a suspicious email? Forward it to the Suspicious Email Reporting Service (SERS) - report@phishing.gov.uk
- Seek advice from trusted friends, family members or an independent professional advice service before making a significant financial decision.



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Fraudsters impersonating the Chinese Embassy

I received a report from a Kent resident stating that they had received a recorded message claiming to be from the Chinese Embassy in London. The message stated that they had papers to collect from the Embassy and the Embassy needed to verify their identification. The message was aimed at obtaining the persons personal and financial data and they swiftly put the phone down.

Please be on the lookout for variations of this scam and remember, if you receive calls like this, never divulge your personal data.

If you think that you may 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 calling 0300 123 2040.

Instagram Phishing Email

Be on the lookout for fake emails impersonating Instagram. They claim that someone in Russia is trying to take over your account and that you need to click on a link. This will take you to a malicious site that will aim to steal your Instagram log on details. If you receive an email like this, then please forward to report@phishing.gov.uk

If you think that you may 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 calling 0300 123 2040.

SCAM WARNING



Watch out for these FAKE emails targeting your Instagram account

Action Fraud has received 272 reports in one week relating to fake emails purporting to be from Instagram. The emails state that someone from Russia is attempting to reset the recipient's Instagram account password. The links in the emails lead to malicious websites that are designed to steal Instagram login details.

Spotted a suspicious email? Forward it to the Suspicious Email Reporting Service (SERS) - report@phishing.gov.uk

Want to check if an email from Instagram is real? Head over to the "Emails from Instagram" option in the app's Security settings.



If you require any more information on Scams or arranging a Presentation, Email me, Steve Kelly, Kent Police Fraud Protect and Prevent Office, at stephen.kelly@kent.police.uk



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