

Kent Fraud Alert System



Rogue Trader Alert

Over the past week we have received reports of victim's being subject of these types of offences from Sheerness, Romney Marsh, Ashford, Sevenoaks, Maidstone and Faversham.

Many reports involved cold callers offering to conduct (unnecessary) work and then stating that they had found more non-existent problems.

They have been touting for Roof work, gardening and cleaning gutters etc.

These types of offences are not isolated to any individual locations and are taking place across the county.

Remember –

- Never deal with cold callers.
- Always obtain at least three written quotes and never agree to work on your doorstep, no matter how tempting the offer.
- Ask family and friends for recommendations.
- Agree payment arrangements and start and finish dates in writing beforehand.
- Never pay in full until you are completely satisfied with the work.



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 or call 0300 123 2040.

For further information about Fraud, visit our website at [Advice about fraud | Kent Police](#)

You will also find valuable information from the Home Office at [Stop! Think Fraud - How to stay safe from scams](#)

Preventing fraud

Together,
let's stop
scammers.



Remember, ABC:



never Assume



never Believe



always Confirm



**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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TO STOP FRAUD™

Bank Impersonation Scams

We have seen some reports of people receiving text messages from criminals impersonating their Banks.

They will often say that they are from the Bank Fraud department and that there is a problem on the account. They will request that the person either transfers their balances to a new safe account online or that there is a problem with their card and they will send a courier to collect it or even that they need to withdraw their money from their account and send it via Royal mail to a safe place.

All of these are SCAM's. Your Bank will never ask you to do any of these things. If you receive a call from your Bank, then ring them back using 159 but ensuring the line has first been disconnected.

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Romance Scams

More than £99.4 million was lost to romance fraud in 2024 across the UK.

Romance fraud remains a high-risk fraud, impacting those targeted financially, emotionally, and psychologically.

- Verify photos: Use a reverse image search to ensure the photos are real.
- Be suspicious: If they start asking for money, especially if you have not met in person.
- Talk to others: Speak to your friends or family - do not keep them a secret.
- Beware of celebrity Romance Scams online, just because it looks and sounds like the person, it may not be them, due to the use of deepfake and voice cloning which means criminals can look like and sound like the people they are impersonating.
- Never send money, gift cards or sim cards to a person you have only ever met online, no matter how desperate their need is.

For further information visit - [Romance scams](#) | [Action Fraud](#)

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Over £99.4 million was lost to romance fraud in 2024

Romance fraud is one of the most callous and psychologically damaging types of crime that costs victims more than just a broken bank balance.

If you have been a victim of romance fraud, make a report to Action Fraud.



ActionFraud
National Fraud & Cyber Crime Reporting Centre
actionfraud.police.uk

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Courier Fraud

We have received multiple reports of Courier Fraud in the past few across Kent.

The criminals are still employing various methods from posing as Police Officers from multiple Police Stations, stating that they have arrested someone in possession of the victim's bank card to requesting financial information or asking victims to withdraw cash for a courier to collect as evidence.

If you get any calls like this, STOP, it is a scam. The Police will NEVER ask you for financial details on the phone or request to collect your card or cash or gold as part of an investigation.

STOP! THINK FRAUD | **ActionFraud**
National Fraud Reporting Centre
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

STOP! THINK FRAUD | **ActionFraud** | MORE TRUST | LESS CRIME | HIGH STANDARDS

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. Watch - Courier Fraud Warning: [Courier Fraud Warning: Stay Wise, Don't Compromise](#)

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 or call 0300 123 2040.

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Emergency Alarm

Mobile phones in the UK will be sent a test Emergency Alert at around 3PM on **Sunday 7th September 2025**, as part of plans to strengthen the country's preparedness. The Emergency Alerts system is used to warn if there is a danger to life nearby, including extreme weather.

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 to click on links.

Always be wary of links in messages. You can report suspicious text messages by forwarding to 7726.

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