

Kent Fraud Alert System



TO STOP FRAUD™

Number 5 of the 12 frauds of Christmas – Courier Fraud

Watch out for courier fraud this festive season. Your bank or the police will never ask you to move your money to a different account or send someone to your home to collect bank cards or other valuables such as gold bullion.

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

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](#)

Have you been asked to withdraw cash by the police?

This is a scam.

The police or your bank will **never**:

- ask for your bank details or PIN
- ask you to transfer or withdraw and handover sums of money
- send a courier to collect your bank cards, cash or PIN



If you are unsure about a call or visitor you have received:

- Don't give out any personal or financial information.
- Hang up or close your front door to check the caller's identity.
- If they phoned you, wait 10 minutes before you use the phone again (or use a different telephone) in case they stay on the line.
- Contact their company yourself or dial 101 for the police – do not call a number they have provided.
- Report suspicious activity straight away.

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.

Preventing fraud

Together, let's stop scammers.



Remember, ABC:



never Assume



never Believe



always Confirm

**Kent
County
Council**
kent.gov.uk



TRADING STANDARDS



**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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Number 6 of the 12 frauds of Christmas – Romance Scams

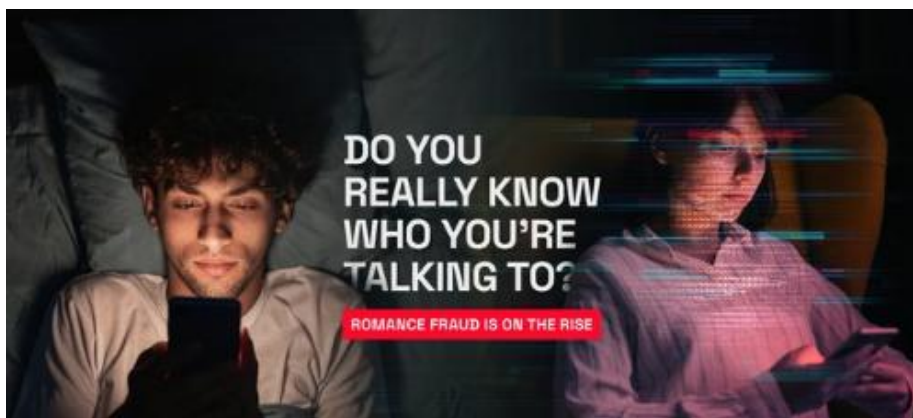
Over £106M was lost to romance fraud last year.

Unsure if the person you are talking with is real? Try reverse image searching their profile photos to see if they are used elsewhere online.

Find out more at - [Romance Fraud](#) | [Action Fraud](#)

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

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.



STOP!
THINK FRAUD
NETSCAPE COMMERCIAL PARTNER PROGRAM

Get to know the person, not the profile: check the person online using Google Image search or TinEye to see if their profile pictures can be found elsewhere online.

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Number 7 of the 12 frauds of Christmas – Gift Card Fraud

Watch out for unsolicited callers claiming you need to purchase gift cards to pay a fine or bill.

Additionally, criminals will contact you impersonating a family member or friend with a time sensitive bill to pay and state how they desperately need your help and could you buy a gift card and send them the number.

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

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.

What is gift card fraud?

Gift card scams start with a call, text, email, WhatsApp or social media message. Scammers will say almost anything to get you to purchase gift cards — like Google Play, Apple, Steam, iTunes, or Amazon cards.



Together, let's stop scammers – Remember, ABC

A

Never Assume
If you get a message from anyone claiming to be a friend or family member, or someone claiming to be from a reputable organisation such as HMRC, a bank, or the police, and you are asked to purchase any gift cards – **STOP! – it will be a scam.**

B

Never Believe
Scammers will often claim it is an emergency and typically invent a time-critical reason as to why they need you to help them, they need to pay an urgent bill, for example. They will often pull at the heartstrings and say you are the only person they can turn to.

C

Always Confirm
Protect yourself by trying to speak to the person who you think is asking for the gift card directly or in person – For example: if it is the bank, find the official contact number on your bank card, recent statement or ring 159 and speak with them.

Reporting a scam

If you think you or someone you know has been a victim of a scam report it immediately to Action Fraud online actionfraud.police.uk or over the phone **0300 123 2040**.

For more information and advice visit kent.police.uk/fraud or email KFAS@ecis.police.uk



Call 159

If you have paid money or shared bank details, contact your bank's fraud team straight away.

Call 159 for the bank hotline. This number connects you directly to your bank.



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Number 8 of the 12 frauds of Christmas – Charity Fraud

Thinking about giving to charity this Christmas? Do not let your money end up in a criminal's pocket.

The risk of fraud should not put you off giving to charities but you should be vigilant and make sure you are giving safely.

See - [Steps to safer giving - Donate with Confidence](#)

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