

# Kent Fraud Alert System



**TO STOP FRAUD™**

## WhatsApp Scam AKA the Scam of Mum and Dad

Unfortunately, this scam still continues and we still receive reports from victims of this scam.

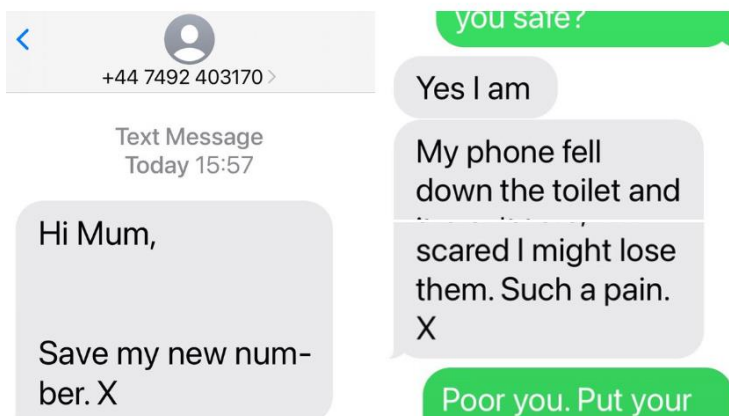
If you get an unexpected message from a family member or friend, then do not Assume or Believe the message is genuine but telephone the family member or friend on their existing number (not the new number) to Confirm.

If you get any suspicious text messages, then forward to 7726 (SPAM) and suspicious emails to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk)

If you think that you may have been a victim of this or any other 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.

The following useful link will give you more information and useful tips/advice on how to protect yourself from these types of scams,

[Report a scam text message - NCSC.GOV.UK](#)



## 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](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 deaf or speech impaired, text 'police' and your message to **60066**

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

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## The A to Z of Scams

Following on from the 12 Frauds of Christmas, see below from National Trading Standards and their 26 scams that you should be aware of that are exploiting worries about the current cost of living.

Find out more by visiting [A-Z Of Scams - Trading Standards Scotland \(tsscot.co.uk\)](https://www.tsscot.co.uk) where you find more in depth information about each of the scams.




Remember, if you think that you may have been a victim of this or any other 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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<b>A</b> Amazon scams	<b>B</b> Bank scams	<b>C</b> Cold Callers	<b>D</b> Delivery scams	<b>E</b> Energy scams
<b>F</b> Fake reviews	<b>G</b> Grant scams	<b>H</b> HMRC scams	<b>I</b> Insurance scams	<b>J</b> Job scams
<b>K</b> Know your rights	<b>L</b> Logging in remotely	<b>M</b> Makeup (counterfeit)	<b>N</b> NI number scams	<b>O</b> Online shopping
<b>P</b> Phone contract scams	<b>Q</b> QR code scams	<b>R</b> Rebate scams	<b>S</b> SKY/Broadband scams	<b>T</b> Toys (counterfeit)
<b>U</b> "Unbelievable!" Finance scams	<b>V</b> Vehicle tax scams	<b>W</b> WhatsApp scams	<b>X</b> X-rays of counterfeits	<b>Y</b> "You've Won!" (prize scams)
<b>Z</b> Zip broken (counterfeits)	<a href="https://www.tsscot.co.uk/a-z-scams">www.tsscot.co.uk/a-z-scams</a>			



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## HMRC Scams

It is tax season and fraudsters know it and will be sending out fake emails and text messages with offers of tax rebates or threats of arrest for unpaid tax.

From January 2023 HMRC might send you a text message if you call one of their helplines from a mobile phone. On the call, they will tell you to expect a text message and it will be either immediately or shortly after the call. In the text message they may send you a link to relevant GOV.UK information or a webchat. However, HMRC will never ask for personal or financial information when they send text messages.

Do not open any links or reply to a text message claiming to be from HMRC that offers you a tax refund in exchange for personal or financial details.

You should send any suspicious text messages to 60599 (network charges apply) or email [phishing@hmrc.gov.uk](mailto:phishing@hmrc.gov.uk) then delete them.

Below is a useful link for HMRC for you to find out more information.

[Examples of HMRC related phishing emails, suspicious phone calls and texts - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

HMRC Refund: You have an outstanding Tax refund of £276.74 from 2020 to 2021. Follow instructions to claim your Tax refund at: <https://gov-tax.refundpr.com/>

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## NHS Scam

From our colleagues at NHS, look out for possible scams asking you to invest in them. If you get a request asking you to do this, think twice, as unlike donating to a charity, this will be a scam. This is a new scam and the NHS have stated that people have already lost money, with one victim nationally, losing £200k.

If you think that you may have been a victim of this or any other 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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## TV Licence Scam

TV licence scams are common and rely on you clicking on a link to update your direct debit for a missed payment.

Scam TV Licence emails often tell you that you need to make an urgent payment, however, TV Licensing will only email customers about payments if they have missed one and you can sign into your account to check.

Scam emails will often say you can get a refund or a cheaper licence. TV Licensing will never do this unless you have contacted them about a refund and they are replying to you.

Scam emails may show a fake licence number. Your licence number is on letters that TV Licensing send you or search your email inbox for emails from 'donotreply@tvlicensing.co.uk' (or 'donotreply@spp.tvlicensing.co.uk').

For more information go to the following website - [Helping you avoid TV Licensing scams – and how to report one - TV Licensing™](#)

If you think that you may have been a victim of this or any other 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.

 **ALERT**



**TV LICENCE  
SCAM**

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