

Kent Fraud Alert System



TO STOP FRAUD™

Fraud Alert: Employment / Task Scams

For the last 2 days I have been engaging with a fraudster on Telegram offering a job with minimal training and paying £150 a week plus commission with a daily salary payout and no need for any personal information to be given. It is of course a scam and they abasically offering a fake job promising easy money for simple online tasks (e.g. surveys or reviews).

This is generally how it works:

- You are contacted unexpectedly via text or messaging apps.
- The role promises high pay for little or no experience.
- You may see fake “earnings” or receive a small payment.
- You are then asked to pay a fee to unlock more tasks.
- Any money paid—and promised earnings—are never returned.

Warning signs:

- Unsolicited job offers.
- Unrealistic pay for minimal work.
- Requests for upfront payments.
- Communication mainly via messaging apps.

Protect yourself:

- Never pay to access work or earnings.
- Do not share personal or financial details.
- End contact immediately if suspicious.
- Block the caller.
- Change passwords if you have shared details.

Preventing fraud

Together,
let's stop
scammers.



Remember, ABC:



never Assume



never Believe



always Confirm



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.

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

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**

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Romance Fraud on the increase!

We have seen more reports of Romance Fraud this week.

Analysis shows people aged 55 to 74 experienced the greatest financial losses, accounting for almost half of the total amount stolen.

Although men submitted a higher number of reports overall, women experienced higher individual losses, making up just over 40 per cent of the total value reported.

Romance fraud remains closely linked to online platforms, particularly social media and dating sites, where offenders can create convincing false identities. Investigators are also seeing increased use of AI-generated images and messages to support these profiles. In many cases, it is also linked to fake investment opportunities, including cryptocurrency, increasing the financial risk to victims.

We are urging the public to stay cautious when forming relationships online and to recognise the warning signs:

- Be cautious of individuals who develop relationships very quickly or express strong feelings early on
- Be wary of excuses not to meet in person or to avoid live video calls
- Never send money, cryptocurrency or gift cards to someone you have not met face to face
- Be alert to requests linked to investments, medical emergencies or travel costs
- Speak to a trusted friend or family member if something feels unusual or pressured

For further information view our videos, an interview with a victim and some expert advice from Mark Newman from our Fraud team.

[A victim's real life account of romance fraud - YouTube](#)

[Be on guard against romance fraud - YouTube](#)

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Fraud Alert: Impersonation of “European Consumer Claims Court”

We have received a report of a scam involving criminals posing as representatives of the “European Consumer Claims Court.”

An individual was contacted by someone claiming to work for this organisation and was asked to provide a copy of their passport for identity verification. They were also persuaded to pay out hundreds of pounds and share their bank details - **This is a scam.**

There is no legitimate reason for a genuine court or official body to request payment or sensitive personal information in this way, especially through unsolicited contact.



How the scam works:

- You receive an unexpected call, email, or message from someone claiming to represent a legal or official body.
- They ask for personal documents such as your passport.
- They request a fee (e.g. £150) for processing or verification.
- They may ask for your bank details to complete the transaction.

How to protect yourself:

- Do not share personal documents (like your passport) with unknown or unverified contacts.
- Do not send money or provide bank details to unsolicited callers or emails.
- Be cautious of urgency or pressure tactics.
- Remember ABC, Never Assume or Believe a call is Genuine, always confirm via ensuring the line is disconnected and calling the organisation via a trusted number that you have researched yourself and not one provided by the caller.



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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Fraud Alert – Fake Vodafone Call

Members of the public have received calls pretending to be from Vodafone. In one example, the caller said that the intended victim's contract was about to end and needed renewing straight away or their phone service would be cut off.

The intended victim followed our ABC advice of Never Assume or Believe and Always Confirm. So, they contacted Vodafone directly using official contact details and Vodafone confirmed this was a scam.

The offenders undoubtedly were trying to obtain personal and financial data.

What to watch out for:

- Unexpected calls about your account or contract.
- Pressure to act quickly (e.g. "you'll be cut off").
- Anyone asking for personal or payment details.

How to stay safe:

- Do not trust unexpected calls, even if they sound convincing.
- Hang up and contact the company yourself using a trusted number.
- Never give out personal or bank details to someone who calls you.

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Rogue Trader Alert

Rogue Traders have been active this week in Tunbridge Wells, Whitstable, Canterbury, Dover, West Malling and Gravesend offering poor quality roofing, garden and/or plumbing work and intimidating residents into overpaying or even quoting for unnecessary work.

Please be alert and warn your friends and family to never respond to cold callers as you will pay a high cost for unnecessary and poor-quality work.

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.

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