

Latest News from Kent County Council Public Protection.

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19 March 2020

Want to report a doorstep criminal



Coronavirus/COVID-19 - Scammers active in Kent!

Scammers and criminals are already looking for opportunities to scam people as a result of the Coronavirus / COVID-19 pandemic. Happily, there are many more stories of kindness and generosity but we want to make people aware of the scams as they emerge – which they seem to be on a daily basis.

We have received reports from Kent Police of people door-knocking and claiming to be from the Health Authority.

What happens:

- The criminal knocks on your door.
- They claim to be from the Health Authority.
- They offer to do COVID-19 testing on residents.
- There are also reports of the criminal offering to take the residents temperature.

THIS IS A SCAM!

What to do:

- Do not let them in.



- If you ask them to leave and they don't, contact the police on 999.

Please warn vulnerable family members, friends and neighbours.

Be cautious - scammers take advantage

HELLO! If you are self-isolating, I can help.

My name is

I live locally at

My phone number is

If you are self-isolating due to COVID-19 I can help with:

Picking up shopping Posting mail

A friendly phone call Urgent supplies

Just call or text me and I'll do my best to help you (for free!)

Coronavirus is contagious. Please take every precaution to ensure you are spreading only kindness. Avoid physical contact (2m distance). Wash your hands regularly. Items should be left on your doorstep. #ViralKindness

Report

There has been a report of an elderly Kent resident who lost money when they gave their bank card to someone who offered to do some shopping for them. They received one of these cards through their door and an individual offered to help, however, they actually stole money from the resident and were not seen again.

Payment

Don't ever give your bank or card details to anyone, even if you think you know them very well. You could either agree to pay in cash after they have delivered the shopping or pay them online if you have the facility to do so. Or maybe you could agree another method of payment - **but never give your bank or card details.**

Contacts

If you are self-isolating, you could contact one of these organisations for help and support:

[Age UK](#) 0800 678 1602

[Asthma UK](#) 0300 222 5800

[BHF](#) 0300 330 3311

[Diabetes UK](#) 0345 123 2399

[Mind](#) 0300 123 3393

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Contact Details



For advice and to report issues to **KCC Trading Standards** contact [Citizens Advice consumer helpline](#) on **0808 223 1133**
[Consumer Advice scams action line](#) on **0808 250 5050**
Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm.

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