GIFT CARD FRAUD

What is it?

A gift card scam is when you are pressured to buy a gift card and share the code or a photo of it. Once the fraudster have the code, they can spend the money.

Top tips to stay safe

Don't share a gift card or photo of the card with someone who contacts you unexpectedly.

Before you buy or share a gift card, check the request with someone you trust.

Take a moment if you feel rushed. Scammers try to make you act before you have time to think.

Remember

Scammers can use convincing stories to make buying and sharing gift cards seem normal, urgent or helpful.

Banks and police officers will **NEVER** ask you to pay or help with an investigation using gift cards.

STOP! THINK FRAUD

Report Fraud

Scan the QR code or go to www.suffolk.police.uk

SUFFOLK CONSTABULARY

Suffolk Against Fraud

Suffolk County Council Trading Standards

COURIER FRAUD

What is it?

Courier fraud is when a fraudster **contacts you by phone** and convinces you to **hand over money, bank cards or personal details** under false pretences.

Remember

Banks and police officers will **NEVER:**

- Ask for your pin.
- Send a courier to collect your card or cash.
- Ask you to withdraw money as part of an investigation.

STOP

Don't be rushed or pressured.

CHECK

Contact your bank using a number you trust or speak to a trusted friend or relative.

PROTECT

Never hand over your card, PIN, cash or valuables to a courier.

Banks and police will never collect these from your home.

STOP! THINK FRAUD

Report Fraud

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INVESTMENT FRAUD

What is it?

Investment fraud involves deceiving individuals into investing money in fake or misreperesented opportunities. The money invested is stolen by the fraudster resulting in financial losses for the victims.

Top tips to stay safe

Don't be rushed into making an investment. Legitimate organisations will never pressure you into investing on the spot.

Seek advice from trusted friends or relatives - or seek professional independent advice.

Verify before investing

Always check whether the firm is authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) before you invest.

Use the FCA Firm Checker and search for the company yourself rather than following a link sent to you.

Never send money or share personal information if you cannot confirm the firm's details.

STOP! THINK FRAUD

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ROMANCE FRAUD

What is it?

Dating and romance fraud involves deceiving someone into a fictitious romantic relationship, often online, to gain their trust and exploit them financially. Victims are manipulated through emotional connections.

Top tips to stay safe

Never send money - if you're in a relationship with someone you have only met online, any requests for money should ring an alarm bell.

Talk to friends and family - sometimes a second opinion can really help if you are uncertain about sending money or helping someone you are speaking to online.

Check if the person is genuine - treat people as you would if meeting in person, by asking questions and taking your time. Be cautious about how much information you share.

Use reverse image search on Google to see if their profile pictures can be found elsewhere online.

STOP! THINK FRAUD

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ROGUE TRADERS

What is it?

Rogue traders call uninvited to your home to sell goods and services. They generally target more vulnerable people and provide poor quality, unfinished and often unnecessary work.

Work offered may include:

- Driveways and paving
- Garden maintenance
- Home/roofing and gutter repairs
- Disability equipment and aids
- Security alarms and products
- Pension and investments

Top tips to stay safe

Do not agree to have any work done until:

- You have checked the trader's name and address
- You have given written notice of your right to cancel
- You have checked the price by getting other quotes
- You have a clear agreement on the work to be done and how much it will cost

If you do not want a service, do not feel obligated to accept it.

Never let someone into your home that you do not trust.

STOP! THINK FRAUD

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