

Savings Fraud



Cheshire Police are asking all banks to help protect some of our most vulnerable residents by ensuring that your staff are aware of an ongoing scam involving people pretending to be police officers.

We've received reports that vulnerable residents in this area have received hoax calls from fraudsters who claim to be working for the police.

The victim is told that someone has been arrested for taking money out of their bank account and the rest of their savings are not safe. The victim is given a number to call to verify the identity of the so-called police officer and is then coerced into withdrawing a large quantity of cash and foreign currency from her bank. They are then told hand it over to a courier for safekeeping.

We know there are many who have lost thousands of pounds which is why we need your support.

If you receive a call – DO NOT HAND OVER ANY MONEY – put the phone down immediately, make a note of the details, and call Cheshire Police on 101.

Contact Cheshire Police on **101**
In an emergency dial **999**
www.cheshire.police.uk



Hoax calls

iTunes vouchers



Cheshire Police have received reports that people in this area have received hoax calls from fraudsters who claim to be working for Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC).

On each occasion the victims receive an automatic voicemail saying that they owe HMRC unpaid taxes.

On returning the call, they are told that the only way to settle the balance is using iTunes vouchers.

We need to reassure residents that these calls are hoaxes – HMRC would never ask you to pay an outstanding tax bill using iTunes vouchers.

What you should know:

- No reputable organisation would ask you to settle an outstanding balance using iTunes vouchers.
- Telephone numbers and text messages can easily be imitated – you should be wary of the number you see on your telephone display.
- Sign up to the Telephone Preference Service (TPS)

- a free service that will limit unsolicited sales and marketing telephone calls.

If you receive a suspicious call, end it immediately and report it to **Action Fraud on 0300 1232040** or call **Cheshire Police on 101**.

For details on how to protect you and your family from fraudsters visit www.actionfraud.police.uk

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