



# SCAM and FRAUD ALERT

*From Hampshire and IOW Neighbourhood Watch*

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## **Fraudsters posing as officials - from your bank or the police**

Courier Scam is one of the fastest rising types of fraud in the country. Scammers are becoming more sophisticated and believable. They can catch out anyone - people like you and me - if we are not alert.

80% of scams start with a phone call.

In a recent example, a criminal posing as a bank employee called a retired bank manager and warned him his account was being attacked - and he should move all money to a new account to protect it.

They gave him details of the new account - and a phone number to call to check they were authentic.

He believed the scammers, made the transfer and lost £8000.

## **How to keep safe from this type of fraud**

1. Banks or Police will never contact you in this way - so put down the phone.
2. Check with your bank using another phone - as the fraudsters can stay on the line.
3. Don't call a number they give you - use the number on the rear of your bank card.
4. Never give your PIN to anyone
5. If people call you 'out of the blue' - never give them any personal details.

## **If scammed - what next?**

6. Report this has happened - Call Hampshire Police on 101 and ask for Operation Signature.

## **More**

For more advice on tell tale signs and how to avoid being a fraud victim see the Hampshire Police website:

<https://www.hampshire.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/fa/fraud/personal-fraud/prevent-personal-fraud/>