



POLICE CONNECT
Keeping you informed, keeping your community safe

Police are warning members of the public to be vigilant after an attempted fraud in east Suffolk last week.

The incident occurred on Thursday 14 March, when a woman from Woodbridge received a call from a man purporting to be from the Government Regulations Claims Department in relation to owed PPI.

The victim is in the process of making a PPI claim and so believed the call to be genuine. She was advised that in order to receive her refund, she would need to go to Argos and obtain a £200 Steam gift card which is used for gaming.

Once she had obtained the card, she would then need to call a phone number in London beginning 0203 and arrangements would be made for her cheque to be delivered to her, at which point she would hand over the Steam card which would be used to pay the tax she owed.

The victim then went to an Argos in the Ipswich area to purchase the Steam card, but fortunately a vigilant member of staff informed her that this was a scam and that she should call the police immediately.

Other victims of similar frauds have been asked to purchase different types of gift card, including Amazon and iTunes.

Suffolk Constabulary is reminding residents that government departments, banks, or any other legitimate body, will never make phone calls, use text messages or email to tell you about a tax rebate or penalty and will never ask for a payment in this way.

For advice on keeping yourself safe against scams, please visit: <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/advice/crime-prevention-z>.

For more information on this type of crime do visit: <http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/news/alert-fraudsters-claiming-to-be-from-hmrc-jun17>

Alternatively, report incidents of fraud to Action Fraud using their online reporting tool <http://www.actionfraud.police.uk> or by calling 0300 1232040.

You can also sign up to the Trading Standards weekly email alert on rogues and scams targeting Suffolk at www.suffolk.gov.uk/JoinTheFight

Help us keep our communities safe.

Police advice on a variety of subjects can be accessed via <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/advice>

To report something, or to otherwise contact Police, use the link <http://www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us>

To report something anonymously call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or visit www.crimestoppers-uk.org

Alternatively call **101** for non-urgent matters.

Always call 999 in emergencies, or if an immediate police response is required.

Police Connect Team