

A resident of the Avon and Somerset policing area recently contacted Action Fraud to report a recent scam attempt.




Someone had contacted the resident, claiming to be a police officer working on a current investigation. The scammer contacted them through two separate phone numbers, asking them to withdraw cash.

One of the phone numbers looked to be a genuine police number, but the intended victim wisely visited their local police station to check.

Criminals will sometimes spoof reputable numbers so their caller ID matches it or spoof local dialling codes so the number looks more trustworthy. Both of these happened in this case.

If someone calls you claiming to be from your bank or from the police and asks you to withdraw money from your account ... Stop! Think Fraud.

### **Remember:**

-  Your bank or the police will never call and ask you to verify your personal financial details or PIN. If you get a call asking you to do this, hang up, wait a few minutes, and call your bank from on a number you know to be genuine, such as the one on the back of your card . If you have been contacted on a landline, use another phone to call back, to prevent the criminal holding the line open. To check if a police call is genuine, call 101 or go to your nearest police station.
-  Police will not contact you and ask you to participate in an investigation that requires you to withdraw money from your bank, or to purchase high value goods, such as jewellery or gold.
-  Your bank or the police will never send a courier to your home to collect your cash, bank cards, PINs, or any other valuable goods. Any requests to do so are part of a scam.

Report fraud to Action Fraud online at [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or by calling 0300 123 2040.

If you believe you've been scammed, and someone is on their way to your house to collect money and/or valuable items call 999.

### **Counterfeit Banknotes**

Some holidaymakers tried to use counterfeit notes at a premises in Minehead. Thankfully it was noticed by staff and the group were spoken to by Police, and the notes were seized. However, there is potentially more circulating locally. They are £20 notes with the Kings Head on them and with a serial number of BB81275037.

Modern notes have a hologram at the bottom which changes between the value of the note and "pounds" when tilted. Other security checks are explained on the Bank of England website, [How to check your banknotes](#)

# HAVE YOU BEEN CONTACTED BY THE POLICE AND ASKED TO HELP AN INVESTIGATION?

THE POLICE WILL NEVER  
CALL YOU TO ASK YOU TO  
VERIFY YOUR PERSONAL  
DETAILS OR PIN BY PHONE  
OR OFFER TO PICK UP YOUR  
CARD BY COURIER.

STOP! THINK FRAUD.



**ActionFraud**  
National Fraud & Cyber Crime Reporting Centre  
actionfraud.police.uk

**STOP!**  
**THINK FRAUD**  
NATIONAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST FRAUD

REPORTS OF FRAUD CAN BE MADE TO ACTION FRAUD ONLINE OR BY CALLING 0300 123 2040