

## Parking Penalty Charge Notice Scam

Avon and Somerset Police are warning the public of a phishing text circulating recently which encourages recipients to click on a link to pay a fictitious parking fine. The link leads to a convincing looking fraudulent website which looks like the official government website. You will then be asked to enter your email address, vehicle registration number, and your card details to make a payment, usually of £20.

If you receive a text message like this, do not click on the link, as fraudsters can steal your personal and financial data to commit identity fraud and take your money. Even by clicking the link and not entering any information could result in malware being downloaded onto your device.

Text Message  
Today 10:53 AM

Parking Penalty Charge Notice:  
Please Pay a parking penalty charge notice (PCN) issued by a local council.  
If you do not pay a PCN within 28 days, you'll get a 'charge certificate' and you'll have 14 days to pay the original fine plus 50% more.  
If you do not pay you'll be prosecuted - you may have to pay a bigger fine as well as court costs.  
Please pay your fine at the link after reading the information.

████████████████████  
Thank you again for your cooperation.

+ Text Message

Phishing messages can be reported by forwarding to 7726, which spells 'SPAM' on your keypad. If you have become a victim of a phishing text scam, report this to your bank immediately, which can be done by calling 159, and report to Action Fraud.