



northyorkshire community messaging

6 Sheep and 10 lambs have been stolen from a field near to Kirby Knowle. This occurred between 10pm on the 22/07/2019 and 7am on the 23/07/2019. If you saw anyone with a trailer or livestock wagon in the area between those times please call 101 quoting reference 12190134387

Sometime between 02:30hrs & 03:30hrs 20/07/19, unknown person/s have broken into a store room at the Angel Public House, Easingwold and have stolen alcohol and soft drinks. If you have any information that will assist Police with our enquiries could you please contact NYP on 101 quoting ref number 12190131448

North Yorkshire Police are supporting Operation Aztec, a national firearms surrender which will run between 20th July - 4th August. The purpose of the Firearms Surrender is to remove firearms from criminal availability, thereby reducing the risk of harm to the public, protecting our communities and reducing the likelihood that firearms will be available for terrorist use.

On 12th July persons purporting to be from Microsoft have called someone asking them to send money to Sierra Leone. The reasons being that they were owed compensation from a problem with Microsoft. This is a scam and you must not give them access to you laptops or other devices. Can people please make sure elderly or vulnerable relatives are also aware of this scam.

Help and support can be found on Action Frauds website or at your local police station.

Between 8th July and the 11th July vital items have been stolen from a Defibrillator in Sowerby. The main equipment was not touched. However, some items were removed. These are vital to the effective use of the Defib. We cannot stress enough how callous and dangerous these actions are.

If you have seen anything or have any information that may help please contact North Yorkshire Police quoting reference 12190125761

Each month North Yorkshire police receive from Action Fraud a spreadsheet detailing reports made in the previous month. We are still seeing residents falling victim to the most common scams (Microsoft, HMRC etc) but this month I have noticed an increase in the type of fraud whereby a victim receives a message on Facebook telling them they have won a large cash prize and need to pay an admin fee to release the prize or the government are giving people large sums of money in exchange for £1000+ of I-tunes vouchers. This message will seem to come from a 'friend'. Please, **Take 5**. If it sounds too good to be true, it **DEFINITELY** is

HM Revenue & Customs Alert

What you need to know

Action Fraud has experienced an increase in the reporting of malicious calls and voicemails, to members of the public purporting to be from Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs (HMRC).

Fraudsters are spoofing genuine HMRC telephone numbers to deceive their victims over the phone. The fraudsters state that as a result of the victim's non-payment of tax or other duty, the victim is liable for prosecution or other legal proceedings in order to settle the balance. The fraudsters suggest victims can avoid this, by arranging payment to be made immediately by methods such as bank transfer or by purchasing iTunes gift cards.

If the victim is hesitant or refuses to comply, the suspect makes a threat such as immediate arrest, sending bailiffs to the victim's address or, in some cases, deportation.

Often, the period for which the tax is allegedly due is distant enough to guarantee the victim will have little, if any, paperwork or ability to verify the claims. Once the money is paid the suspects sever all contact with the victim.

In genuine cases, HMRC will initially make direct contact with you via post/letter and potentially follow up that letter with a phone call at a later date.

If HMRC contact you via telephone they will quote the reference number on the initial letter you should have received. HMRC will not discuss something you are not already aware of, like a tax investigation, and will NOT demand immediate payment.

It is vital that the public exercise caution when receiving messages or telephone calls of this nature.

What you need to do

- Always question unsolicited requests for your personal or financial information. Just because someone knows your basic details (such as your name and contact details), it doesn't mean they are genuine. Instead, contact the company directly using trusted methods such as a known email address or phone number.
- Legitimate organisations wouldn't ask you to pay taxes, bills or fees using an iTunes gift card, or any other type of voucher. If you're contacted by anyone that asks you to do this, you're likely the target of a scam
- Don't be rushed or pressured into making a decision. Under no circumstances would a genuine bank or some other trusted organisation force you to make a financial transaction on the spot.
- Report Phishing attempts. If you receive a call, text or email of this nature and have not lost money, you can report this as phishing to Action Fraud at: <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/report-phishing>

A Fraud Ambassador from North Yorkshire Police has recently appeared in the news section of That's North Yorkshire TV speaking about the so called "Press 1" scams. The news interview, was to promote fraud awareness and to advise on how to combat it:-

- The fraudster may call you, out of the blue, then tell you something like "there is a warrant for your arrest/your internet is going to be cut off/there is a problem with your computer/you have a refund waiting/money is being withdrawn from your bank.
- The fraudster will then tell you to "press 1."
At this point, you will be transferred to another person, there may be a large connection fee for this, sometimes upwards of £5.
The call will then cost you, and their aim is to keep you talking for as long as possible, as the call may be costing you upwards of £3.60 per minute.
Should they then abstract personal information about you, there are further opportunities for them to defraud you using a different method.

How to beat the fraudster.

If you are called and you are told to "press 1" - hang up the phone.

Don't attempt to call them back, don't feel that by keeping them on the line you are costing them money, they use the money they take off others to fund their criminality.

Share this with your friends - Tell2 - Tell two people the information we give to you.

For up to date information, you can find us on Facebook - search for: North Yorkshire Police Fraud Awareness.

Alternatively, you can call 101 and ask for your local Fraud Ambassador to contact you.

In recent months a number of local fishing lakes in the North York/Thirsk are have been the target of organised thefts. Often anglers are attending lakes for competitions early in the morning, leaving their vehicles in the lakes car parks unattended containing large amounts of expensive fishing gear. The sites often have cafes on site and trusting anglers sadly have left their vehicle unlocked whilst having their breakfast only to return to empty vehicles.

A quad bike and a lawnmower were taken as part of a burglary in the Thirkleby area overnight on the 12/13th of June. If anyone has any information please contact North Yorkshire Police on 101 quoting reference NYP-13062019-0182.

Please be aware and secure property