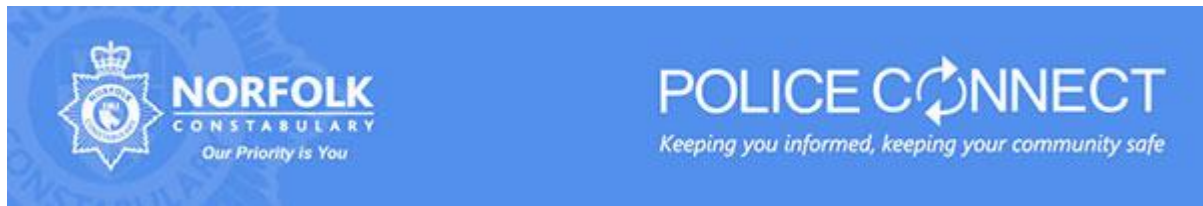


The following is a Police Connect message.



## Scam Alert – Emails claiming to be from Royal Mail

We are asking residents to be aware of emails circulating claiming to be from Royal Mail.



The poorly-worded email claims ‘Courier was unable to deliver the parcel to you’ and asks you to ‘Please confirm your parcel from £3.95’. This is followed with a ‘Confirm Now’ link.

These emails are a scam and are not connected with Royal Mail in any way. Anyone following the link will be taken to a website which will attempt to gather personal and financial information.

Royal Mail offer advice on dealing with scam emails using their name and list examples of known scam emails on the [Royal Mail website](#).

## Rogue Trader Alert – Doorstep cold caller offering power tools

We are warning residents to be on their guard after receiving reports of a man approaching people in the Ormesby area offering to sell power tools. The man was seen to return to a silver Renault van.

We advise **never** to purchase items if approached in this manner.

There is a high possibility that the items being sold are low-quality counterfeits which could

be unsafe to use or stolen.

It is possible this seller could move on to other parts of Norfolk.

Anyone spotting these sellers in Norfolk or concerned about rogue trader activity in their community can contact us through our partners the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 03454 04 05 06, or Norfolk Constabulary via 101.

## **Rogue Trader Alert – Doorstep cold callers selling household cleaning products**

We are warning residents to continue to be on their guard after receiving further reports of doorstep cold callers trying to sell household cleaning products.

Recent reports have been received from the King's Lynn and Cromer areas.

We advise **never** to deal with anyone who cold calls at your property offering to sell something.

It is possible these sellers will continue to move onto other locations in Norfolk.

Anyone spotting these sellers in Norfolk, please contact us through our partners the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 03454 04 05 06, or Norfolk Constabulary via 101.

If you feel intimidated or spot these cold callers and are concerned for vulnerable neighbours call 999.

## **Cold Calling Alert – Doorstep cold caller enquiring about your energy supplier**

We are warning residents to be on their guard after receiving reports of doorstep cold callers in the Bradwell and Bowthorpe areas.

The cold callers are saying they have been 'sent by the Energy Companies to see if you're happy with your current energy supplier'. The cold callers then ask for details, including information about your current energy supplier.

Our advice is **never** deal with doorstep cold callers and never be pressured into sharing information on the doorstep, no matter what claims are being made.

Anyone concerned about doorstep cold calling in Norfolk can contact us through our partners the Citizens Advice consumer helpline via their [online reporting form](#) or by telephone on 03454 04 05 06.

## **Information Alert – England Illegal Money Lending Team grants 2019**

The England Illegal Money Lending Team (IMLT) has funds available to enable local organisations to access grants that actively reduce crime and disorder and raise awareness of loan sharks.

The fund is formed of money seized from illegal money lenders under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 (POCA) and is awarded to groups who wish to invest in local community projects.

During 2018/19 the team granted £141,269 for 37 crime-busting initiatives.

Groups can apply for up to £5000 to spend on any worthwhile community project that meets the criteria:

- Contributes to raising awareness of the dangers of using loan sharks
- Prevents crime and disorder and makes a difference in local communities
- Promotes the work of the Illegal Money Lending Team (IMLT) in communities
- Encourages reporting of loan sharks and signposts victims to the team

The IMLT funding has supported many projects over the years and helped local people and neighbourhoods avoid loan sharks.

If you've got what it takes and your project idea meets the criteria, please complete an [application form](#) and return it electronically to [Catherine.wohlers@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:Catherine.wohlers@birmingham.gov.uk) by midnight on the closing date.

The closing date for applications is 30 June 2019.

More information is available on the [Stop Loan Sharks website](#)