

TEXT MESSAGE FRAUD

I'll be honest, sometimes this can be a tricky one to spot. We all get genuine text reminders these days from the GP or parcel delivery. texts are often short and include unfamiliar web addresses. But there are criminals out there sending fake scam messages so here are a few things to look out for.

Be cautious if you spot some of the following

- An 'irresistible' product offer or prize from a number or company you don't know
- An urgent alert about security, for example "Your bank account details have been compromised"
- A message about a product or service you haven't purchased or requested
- A delivery company demanding you pay a fee before they deliver a parcel
- An appeal from a family member asking you to send money
- Encouragement to click on an unknown link if you're not sure, visit the organisation's website directly rather than clicking through
- A request for you to share personal data
- Language designed to create a sense of urgency or panic
- Messages sent outside normal business hours, especially if they are very late at night or very early in the morning

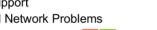
Generally text reminders will only be sent if you have initiated them through an action in the first place, such as an online order or made an appointment. On some phones and mobile phone networks, when deleting a message, there is an option to delete and report junk. You can also do this by forwarding the message to 7726. Think twice before clicking links and ask a trusted friend or family member if you have any doubts.

More information & help can be found here www.actionfraud.police.uk stopthinkfraud.campaign.gov.uk



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Security

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