

## **Fake delivery texts link to cloned Post Office website**

Scammers are targeting the Post Office in a new fake text scam that's one of the most convincing that has been seen.

The texts state that a parcel delivery has failed and ask recipients to click the link to 'book a new date' or 'reschedule a delivery' via two sites that have nothing to do with the Post Office. This is a sophisticated scam that you need to be aware of. More details in the below link.

### **[Warning: fake texts link to a cloned Post Office website – Which? Conversation](#)**

As there has been an increase in the theft of Catalytic Converters recently, please read the below article:

### **[Catalytic converter theft: how to keep your car safe as thefts soar \(lovemoney.com\)](#)**

**The below video covering many types of scams has been made by Friends Against Scams** and I would certainly recommend watching this. At the start it is a bit strange as you have a female speaking with a male voice which shows how criminals can change the tone of their voice.

**[www.youtube.com/watch?v=r-DsFRKacRA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r-DsFRKacRA)**

**Criminals are targeting parents by pretending to be a child in need of financial help.** Consumer magazine Which? reports that the sinister con is already thought to have parted £50,000 from the pockets of concerned parents across the UK. More details in the below link:

### **[Warning over new WhatsApp 'hello mum' message scam which could cost you thousands - Liverpool Echo](#)**

Other variations of this WhatsApp scam are "Hi Dad (or Mum) new number changed from provider. Will you save this one? Let me know when you've saved it."

A Newbury resident received a WhatsApp message coming from +44 7494 410603 saying "hello mum this is my new number as I had damaged my phone, so you can contact me on here." She did respond thinking it was her son as this was not the first time he had broken a phone. The message went on to say "I am not good today I am very stressed" which she thought was a little strange for her son to say that, however she did ask what was wrong and the message said he had to pay an outstanding bill today but had no access on his new phone to his account for 48 hrs. Fortunately, she did not fall for this scam and make the requested payment.

**There are several HMRC scams circulating** such as the following and from the wording you can tell it is not genuine:

### **Pending Tax-Refund**

We would like to notify you that you still have an outstanding tax refund of £949.99 GBP from overpaid tax from year ending 2020 - 2021, despite our previous letters regarding your refund we have now receive your claim.

Please read the below article to find out more information:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/phishing-and-bogus-emails-hm-revenue-and-customs-examples/phishing-emails-and-bogus-contact-hm-revenue-and-customs-examples>

**Emails are being received purporting to be from the NHS asking you to apply for a Covid vaccination passport – example below:**

While restrictions on travel could prevent coronavirus transmission in the short term, hard copy and digital passports showing COVID-negative and vaccination status may help reopen airports and other badly hit areas of the economy.

Use this service to confirm you are coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccinated and receive your new Passport. You will need to:

### **Confirm your personal details**

- \* Wait 5 to 10 working days until you receive your Passport at your home address
- \* Use your new passport for travel without restrictions
- \* This is a very important step to live safely and freely alongside the virus

**National Insurance** is regularly targeted by scammers and in recent months, a number of warnings have been issued on criminals attempting to get information through phone calls or emails. HMCTS has warned that criminals have found a new way to target Britons.

What is the new scam?

HM Courts and Tribunal Services explained criminals are using HMCTS telephone numbers as a way to target the public by convincing them to hand over money and personal information such as National Insurance numbers. The calls impersonate HMCTS and may ask the caller to "press one" in order to speak with an advisor about unpaid fines or police warrants.

To protect oneself from this scam, HMCTS issued the following guidance:

- Be aware that HMCTS will not contact you by using an automated message
- Always take a moment to stop and think before parting with money or your personal information, it could prevent you from falling victim to fraud
- Remember, it's okay to reject, refuse or ignore any requests
- Only criminals will try to rush or panic you

**Other scams to be aware of:**

**[New Amazon scam is so convincing it's hard not to be fooled - delete this email NOW! \(msn.com\)](#)**

**[Contactless card warning as Britons' face 'skimming' which could steal personal details \(msn.com\)](#)**