



**Cheshire  
Constabulary**

# NEWSLETTER

Penketh and Cuerdley | February 2021

## ALERT

February:

Sheds have been broken into and bikes have been taken, please ensure if bikes are being left in outbuildings that they are secured preferably with a accredited D-Lock



## INTRODUCTION

Hello, I hope this newsletter finds you well. My name is PCSO Stephen Heaps and I am the local officer that covers the area of Penketh and Cuerdley. I am looking at different ways to communicate with the local community and am also aware that some of the local residents are not on social media or may not have access to the internet, so this newsletter is another way of trying to get information and alerts to the community.

### Scams

We are seeing an increase of elderly and vulnerable people being victims of various scams. Below is a list of the most used scams that people are falling victim to, however the best practice is if you get a phone call purporting to be from any company is to hang up and call them back on a trusted number to discuss the matter.

#### Popular companies being used by scammers

The most popular companies that the scammers are likely to use are HMRC, PayPal, Royal Mail, Amazon, NHS and even the Police these organisations would never call you to request money.

#### Money transfers.

If you are being pressured into moving money or paying fines no reputable firm would practice in this way, hang up and call back on a trusted number.

#### Your name.

Normally any reputable companies who call you would know your name, if they don't this should be a warning signal to hang up.

#### Gift cards

Some fraudsters are asking for payment in Gift cards to avoid bank transfers etc again this should be another warning that something is not right.



## Contact Us

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Email

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### Does it sound to be too good to be true?

If it does then it normally isn't, tell them if they have your details then to send you a letter in the post so you can check its legitimacy

### If you use the internet and receive E-mails somethings to check

The E-mailer email address if it looks strange like [John153587@hotmail.com](mailto:John153587@hotmail.com) but it is proclaiming to be from Argos then this should be a warning flag

Is the spelling and grammar all wrong? Then this is another warning signal that the email is a scam

Do not click any links if you feel that the email is not quite right.

If the email asking for money or failed payments or fines this is a warning signal as companies will write to you in such matters or if you are still unsure then try calling the company on a trusted number not the one on the email.

Also ensure your antivirus software is up to date and your phone/computer software is up to date and operating on the latest upgrade.

For more information regarding protecting yourself from becoming a victim of a scam try the following Websites

[www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk)

[www.cheshire.police.uk](http://www.cheshire.police.uk)

[www.takefive-stopfraud.org.uk](http://www.takefive-stopfraud.org.uk)

If you are not on the internet you can call 101 and ask to speak to a local officer for your area or call in at your local police station for information and handouts.



## Coronavirus: NHS Text Alerts



- The NHS are trialling a new mobile phone text service, making it easier and more convenient for people to book their life-saving covid vaccine.
- The text message will show as being sent from 'NHSvaccine' and will include a link to the NHS.uk website.
- The NHS will never ask you for payment or banking details. If you are unsure about a text message you have received, you can call 119 to book your appointment.