

UKASH Scam Alert

Staffordshire Trading Standards wishes to inform residents of a scam circulating involving UKASH vouchers. Residents have been receiving cold calls from people claiming to represent a UK Council, bank or similar official organisation.

The caller goes on to say that the resident is owed a Tax or bank charge refund and in order to access the money they need to go and purchase Ukash vouchers, then call a number and quote the voucher code to the person on the other end.

Often the cold caller will have the resident's name, address etc and may quote genuine address details or websites and claim that it is their organisation.

This is an old scam using a new tactic. Banks and UK Councils DO NOT contact customers/residents about tax/charge refunds. Ukas vouchers, once purchased, are treated like cash and you should never give out any voucher code/reference number to people by phone or email.

If you have been a victim of this scam then you must act fast to block any payment by contacting UKAS on: 0808 234 6244

If you have received any such calls then report it to action fraud on 0300 123 2040 or report it online at www.actionfraud.org.uk

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All our alerts are available in a range of formats and languages, including large print. Please contact Community Development if this would be helpful to you, or someone you know. Community Development, 14 Martin Street, Stafford, ST16 2LG E-mail: community.development@staffordshire.gov.uk

