



Police are warning Cheshire residents not to fall victim to phone fraudsters posing as police officers.

Cheshire Police are currently investigating a number of incidents relating to elderly residents receiving phone calls from a male purporting to be a Police officer. The caller is providing his victims with a plausible story that their bank card has been used and he requires them to phone 999 so that Cheshire Police can investigate the matter.

Cheshire Police would like to advise residents to be aware of this latest scam and bear in mind the following advice if you receive a cold call."

- Don't be afraid to put the phone down on someone if you are unsure about handing over details.
- Banks never call and ask for your four-digit card Pin or ask you to withdraw money to hand over to them or transfer money to another account.
- Never assume a caller is genuine just because they hold some information about you. Criminals may already have some basic information, such as a name, address and account details to try to make the call appear legitimate.
- Always be wary of cold callers who suggest you hang up the phone and call them back.
- If in doubt ask for the officer's name, collar number and station and then hang up. Using a different phone, as the caller may still be linked to yours, call 101 to check the identity of the officer.
- Remember that it takes two people to terminate a call so try and use a different phone line if you are asked to ring back. If you think you've already been a victim of this scam, contact your bank or card company immediately.

Anyone who is a victim of this scam should contact Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 and Police on 101.