

iTunes Vouchers



Cheshire Police are asking all retailers to help protect some of our most vulnerable residents by ensuring that your staff are aware of an ongoing scam involving iTunes vouchers.

We've received reports that vulnerable residents in this area have received hoax calls from fraudsters who claim to be working for Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC).

On each occasion the victim is told they owe money to HMRC and is threatened with arrest unless they settle the balance but the only way to settle the balance is using iTunes vouchers.

While the majority of people have not fallen for the scam, we know there are many who have lost thousands of pounds which is why we need your support.

We're asking all retailers to ensure that their staff are aware of the scam to help prevent further victims.

If any elderly, or vulnerable customers visit your store looking to purchase large quantities of iTunes vouchers DO NOT HAND OVER THE VOUCHERS – instead, advise them about the scam and call us immediately on 101 so we can ensure that they don't fall victim.

Contact Cheshire Police on **101**
In an emergency dial **999**
www.cheshire.police.uk



**Cheshire
Constabulary**



Hoax calls

iTunes vouchers



Cheshire Police have received reports that people in this area have received hoax calls from fraudsters who claim to be working for Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC).

On each occasion the victims receive an automatic voicemail saying that they owe HMRC unpaid taxes.

On returning the call, they are told that the only way to settle the balance is using iTunes vouchers.

We need to reassure residents that these calls are hoaxes – HMRC would never ask you to pay an outstanding tax bill using iTunes vouchers.

What you should know:

- No reputable organisation would ask you to settle an outstanding balance using iTunes vouchers.
- Telephone numbers and text messages can easily be imitated – you should be wary of the number you see on your telephone display.
- Sign up to the Telephone Preference Service (TPS)

- a free service that will limit unsolicited sales and marketing telephone calls.

If you receive a suspicious call, end it immediately and report it to **Action Fraud on 0300 1232040** or call **Cheshire Police on 101**.

For details on how to protect you and your family from fraudsters visit www.actionfraud.police.uk

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