

Be Scam aware

Essex County Council Trading Standards are encouraging residents and their families to become Scam aware. Unfortunately, increasing numbers of people are becoming victim to a variety of scams that tend to target the elderly and vulnerable. Over 50% of over 65's will be targeted for some type of scam and Trading Standards have examples of people who have lost thousands. Common scams include mass marketing/postal scams, telephone investment frauds, doorstep/rogue trading scams, impersonation of banks and a number of on-line scams.

The best protection against scams is to be aware of the types of scams and tactics that the scammers use to persuade victims to part with their money. Essex Trading Standards is busy promoting Friends Against Scams – a National Trading Standards (NTS) Scams Team initiative, which aims to protect and prevent people from becoming victims of scams by empowering communities to "Take a Stand Against Scams". Anybody can join **Friends Against Scams** and make a difference in their own way.

For more information or to become a Friend Against Scams visit <https://www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk/article.php?xArt=11>

If you have been the victim of a scam then you can report it to Trading Standards and receive further advice from the Citizens Advice Service on 03454 040506 or report it to Action Fraud on 03001232040.

