Kent Fraud Alert System

12 Frauds of Christmas

Its day 4 of the 12 Frauds of Christmas. Today's scam is Pet Fraud,

<u>Pet Fraud</u>

Be aware of pet fraud scams in the run up to Christmas to stop you from being a target. Being offered an expensive breed for a 'too-good-to-be-true' price is a big warning sign and the poor welfare of a pet is the cost.

Do your research: if purchasing from a website or person you don't know and trust, carry out some research first. Look up their reviews. If you're purchasing an item from an online marketplace, you can view the seller's feedback history before going ahead with the purchase.

Trust your instincts: if you're unable to view the animal in person, ask for a video call. If you're buying a young animal, make sure you're able to see the mother and rest of the litter. If they are a responsible seller they will understand If you have any suspicions, do not pay any money until you're certain it's genuine.

Choose your payment method wisely: avoid paying by bank transfer. Credit card or payment services such as PayPal give you a better chance of recovering your money if you become a victim of fraud.

If you think that you may have been a victim of this type of scam, then contact your Bank immediately and report it to Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or calling 0300 123 2040.

Pet fraud

If you think you may have fallen victim to this, then contact your bank immediately and report it to **Action Fraud**



Preventing fraud

TO STOP FRAUD

Together, let's stop scammers.



Remember, ABC:

inever Assume

<u>never</u> Believe

always **C**onfirm

Get the latest scam advice: @KentPoliceECU



#12DaysOfFraud



Contacting Kent Police

Report a non-urgent crime online **www.kent.police.uk/report** Talk to us on LiveChat – available 24/7 **www.kent.police.uk/contact** In an emergency, if crime is in progress or life is in danger call **999** If deaf or speech impaired, text '**police**' and your message to **60066**

www.kent.police.uk

