

This is a message from Northamptonshire West Police to all Neighbourhood Watch members.

We would like to advise you of information regarding a telephone fraud (received via a Police Operation being carried out by Norfolk Police).

A professional sounding adult male phones the victim (victims chosen are listed in the phone directory) stating he is calling from BT Collection Service because money is owed to BT.

The caller states that the (victims) bank has stopped the Direct Debit and that money is immediately owed else the phone will be cut off.

The amount that is allegedly 'owed' has been less than £10 (typically £9). The caller requires the victims credit card details so that payment can be made.

The caller also 'proves' he can easily cut off the victims phone telling them to hang up and try dialling out. It is then believed he puts them on 'hold' so that the line is still connected but of course the victim believes their line has been disconnected.

The offender then 'phones them back and again attempts to obtain their credit card detail. The main object is not the £9 but is to obtain the credit card data.

The caller is described as very professional sounding"

Keep your property secure at all times. It's important that all your doors and windows are locked. It's very important to remember that if you're not expecting anyone, you must not open that door until you are sure they are genuine.

Please can we ask NHW members to pass on the following message to all friends, relatives and neighbours?

We would ask all residents to stay vigilant and remember to report any suspicious activity using the dedicated NHW number 01604 432 436, alternatively contact Northamptonshire West Police or Crimestoppers on the numbers below quoting WB/CMS/438/09

Thank you.