

# Postal Scams

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## How to identify Competition Scams:

You might get a letter or an email saying that you have won or been awarded a large amount of money from a competition, inheritance or lottery. They may say they are a psychic or clairvoyant. Alternatively it could be a catalogue that sells goods for inflated prices.

They also say that you need to respond and pay an advance fee to claim this money.

They might ask you to send or transfer the fee via your bank account, or send gift cards or vouchers to the value of the fee.



## WHAT THEY REALLY WANT



- ▶ For you to send them money, share financial details, or send them gift card/vouchers in lieu of money, which you will never get back.
- ▶ They will also share your details with other fraudsters, meaning that if you respond once, you will end up with hundreds of these types of scam letters every week, plus phone calls, texts and emails.
- ▶ Catalogue scams may sign you up to a Direct Debit agreement without you realising.

# What to do if you get a letter or email like this?

- Throw the letter away or delete the email.
- Do not to respond at all.
- Never send money or vouchers, or share financial information.
- If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!
- Register with the Mailing Preference Service on **0207 291 3310**.
- Call the Royal Mail to stop unaddressed mail on **03457 740 740**.



## WHAT IF THIS HAPPENS TO YOU OR TO SOMEONE YOU KNOW?

**REPORT.** Call Hampshire Constabulary on **101** and ask for **Op. Signature** to report that this has happened.

**SUPPORT.** Call the Victim Care Service on **0808 1689 111** for practical and emotional support.

**TELL 2 PEOPLE.** Telling a few people who can support you means they can help keep you safe and are aware of the scams that might catch people out.