

Crime Updates Archive

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Police warning concerning a 'you have won a prize' Scam (14 July 2010)

An elderly couple from Leigh received a series of unsolicited telephone calls during the course of the day from a person advising that they had won a prize of £400,000 on the basis that they had paid their bills on time! The caller added that a film crew would be on hand to record the presentation of the cheque.

A subsequent call is then received by the lucky winners to say that the courier has been stopped by police en route from Preston and advised that he required insurance to transport that sum of money. The target of the scam is then asked to pay £1700 for the insurance in order to get the prize money released.

The caller was described as having an African accent. He called from number 01876 3633897 which when called back was unobtainable. The company name was not given.

The advice from both police and Trading Standards is to view any such unsolicited call with suspicion, to terminate the call without divulging any personal or bank details and to contact Consumer Direct on 08454 04 05 06.