

TS Alert Message from Kent Trading Standards

Sent By (include Name, Address and Contact Details)

Trading Standards, Advice and Education (Ref 248), Eurogate Business Park, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8XU
Telephone 01233 652385
www.tradingstandards.gov.uk/kent

Message

Incident Date

ongoing

Area

County wide

Target

Anyone who has been contacted by scam mailings ('Prize draws', 'You've won a holiday', 'Clairvoyants' etc)

Description of People/Vehicles Involved

None

Description of Incident

Around 2 million adults in the United Kingdom have responded to a scam mailing in the last year, around half of those scammed have lost more than £50 in total, others have lost more than £5,000. Many of these people receive further contact from the criminals being then asked for even more money and or for personal information. Over £3 billion is lost to scammers each year and it is of growing concern.

What action should be taken (please indicate whether or not a response is requested and include clear contact details where appropriate)

Kent Trading Standards is fighting back at mass marketing fraud and asks anyone who has responded, or has been tempted to respond, to contact Trading Standards through Consumer Direct 08454 040506. We would also ask that offending mailings and the envelopes in which they were sent, particularly with a UK connection whether it is an address or even a stamp mark on the envelope, are sent to us at: Advice and Education, PO Box 71, Ashford, TN24 8WB.

Expiry Date

On going.

The normal period for validity of messages will be seven days

Distribution

Messages are not confidential and can be used for public distribution

Signed

Marion Ward

Date

3/6/10