



I wanted to share with you three short media reports relating to fraud across the UK during August 2020, in the hope that a raised awareness of crimes being committed elsewhere, may just help protect local communities here in Cambridgeshire.

British pension savers lose £31 million to scams since 2017 – regulators

British savers have lost 31 million pounds to pension scams since 2017 according to official data but the actual figures are likely to be much higher, British watchdogs said on Tuesday. Individual losses from pension scams reported to the Action Fraud national reporting centre ranged from less than 1,000 pounds to 500,000 pounds, and the average victim was male and aged in their 50s,

the Financial Conduct Authority and The Pensions Regulator said. The figures are likely to be under-stated because pension savers often don't recognise when investment schemes are scams, and also do not know how much they have in their pension pots, the regulators said. "During these uncertain times, it is more important than ever to defend your lifetime savings from scammers," said Mark Steward, Executive Director of Enforcement and Market Oversight at the FCA.

Fraud warning as criminals hijack Government phone number

The UK Government has issued a warning after con artists hijacked an official number and are using it to try to scare people out of money. People are receiving calls from an official number used by the Government Legal Department, with threats ordering them to pay up. People who don't pay are told they could be arrested. A Government spokesman said: "We have been made aware that the Government Legal Department (GLD) general enquiry number (020 7210 8500) is being used by fraudsters to try and extract money from members of the public."

Quick-thinking Renfrewshire bank staff stop OAP losing £10k to phone conman

Cruel crooks tried to dupe an 84-year-old Renfrew woman out of £10,000 by claiming her account had been compromised. Police said a conman with an "African" accent called the vulnerable OAP claiming she needed to move her money fast or face losing it. She twice tried to transfer the cash to an unknown account but staff at her local TSB branch stepped in each time to prevent her losing her life savings. After calling the suspect back, he ordered her to visit the Paisley branch on Saturday and to tell them the money was being moved to her son.

ENDS

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