

Bank (Safe Account) Scams

Also known as safe account scams, scammers steal your money by getting you to move it to another bank account that they control.

They do this by calling people out of the blue and pretending to be from trustworthy organisations like your building society or bank, the police, or even the Financial Conduct Authority. They claim your money is at risk – your account has been compromised or there's been a security breach – and that you need to urgently move it to an account they've set up for you for safe keeping.

Since it is you who moves any money it can be difficult or even impossible to recover.

Protecting yourself from these scams is simple:

Remember that no bank, building society, police force or other legitimate organisation will *ever* ask you to move money If you want to engage with the caller, start by asking why your money is at risk? If a bank really had a concern to would simply freeze your account(s) (better still just hang up)

If you are really worried, call your bank using the number printed on the back of your card

Please also read the paper on Courier Fraud

For more Police advice on Bank and Safe Account Scams, tap <u>here</u>.



Information in this note is based on that used by Surrey Police Cyber Crime Unit; it is provided in good faith but neither the author, the Innovation and Technology Committee or Phyllis Court Club can accept any responsibility for its use. © Jeff Maynard. 2023.