



# SCAM and FRAUD ALERT

*From Hampshire and IOW Neighbourhood Watch*

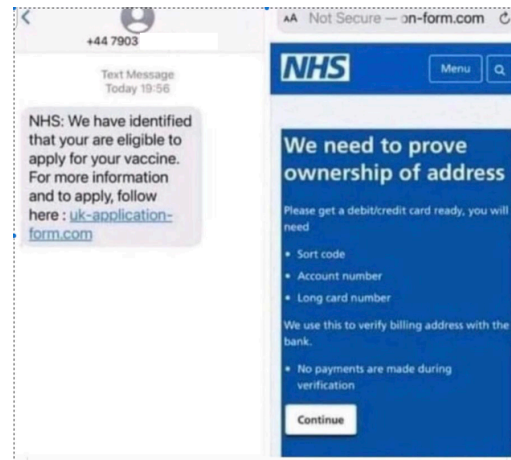
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## Covid Vaccine Scams

As we all look forward to receiving our vaccine jabs to help us return to 'normal lives', there have been many reports across Hampshire of bogus calls and text messages offering COVID-19 vaccinations.

In some cases people are asked to send a text message to confirm they wish to receive the vaccine. Doing so is likely to result in a charge being applied to their phone bill.

In other cases, people receive a text message saying they need to book a vaccination appointment and it takes them to a fake NHS form that then asks for their bank details to prove their identity.



## Where and when do I get a vaccine then?

The vaccine is only available from the NHS and the NHS will contact you when it is your turn. At present, appointments are only being offered to members of the public over 80 years old.

The NHS will:

- NEVER ask you to press a button on your keypad or send a text asking you to confirm you want the vaccine.
- NEVER ask for payment for the vaccine or for your bank details.

Please do not telephone your Doctor's surgery asking when you will get your vaccinations - they will contact you.

## How to keep safe from this fraud

There is a NCSC leaflet you can download:

[https://cfa.nhs.uk/resources/downloads/fraud-awareness/covid-19/COVID-19\\_SMS\\_and\\_Text\\_Message\\_Scams.pdf](https://cfa.nhs.uk/resources/downloads/fraud-awareness/covid-19/COVID-19_SMS_and_Text_Message_Scams.pdf)

If in doubt about any communication, our Cyber Champions are available to offer free advice. Just go to the Hampshire Cyber Watch Home page at <https://hampshirecyberwatch.org/> and hit the red button.