

2 February 2010

BEWARE HOAX CALLERS

People in North Dorset are warned of a scam being carried out in the area where thieves pretend to be from the district council.

The Council has received two reports this week of older women being targeted, one from Marnhull and another in Sturminster Newton. Both were phoned and told they were entitled to Council Tax refunds. The potential victims were then asked for their bank details.

The district council will never ask for bank details over the phone. Nor will officers from the district council's council tax team ever come to residents' property and ask for money.

However, there are occasions when the Council sends bailiffs to collect overdue accounts but this will follow correspondence between the Council and resident and the bailiff will carry identification.

If you are approached by anyone claiming to be from North Dorset District Council you can always check their identity by calling 01258 454111.

Similar incidents to the above have also been reported elsewhere in Dorset recently.

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For more information contact: the Communications Manager at North Dorset District Council on 01258 484100.