

## Prepayment Electricity Meter Fraud

A national campaign, supported by ACPO, has been launched and is seeking to raise awareness of a fraud targeted at people with prepayment electricity meters (PPMs).

This fraud involves criminals knocking door-to-door offering £50 of credit for the PPM for £25. If it sounds too good to be true then it is, as these are illegal top-ups and the customer ends up paying twice for the electricity. To date £7million has already been lost by customers.

Kent is currently number four in the country for this fraud, with particular areas of concern, in order, being: Medway, Thanet, Swale, Gravesham, Maidstone, Dartford, Ashford, Dover, Sevenoaks & Tonbridge & Malling.

Z-cards, supporting this campaign, will shortly be sent out to neighbourhood policing teams with a view to distributing them to members of the public at risk of this fraud. These cards are part of the national campaign, which includes a Top-up Safe website which encourages customers to only top up through official outlets – [www.top-upsafe.com](http://www.top-upsafe.com)