

Wednesday 17th April 2019

Longford people urged to learn more about how to avoid fraudsters and keep their money safe

'Friends Against Scams' information and training being offered by Ulster Bank staff at the Longford Arms Hotel on Wednesday, 8th May

17th April 2019: People in Longford are being urged to learn more about how to avoid fraudsters and keep their money safe. 'Friends Against Scams' information and anti-fraud training is being offered by Ulster Bank staff at the Longford Arms Hotel on Wednesday 8th May from 6-8pm.

Attendees on the night will hear from Declan Kenny, Head of Conduct, Ulster Bank Personal Banking, Denise Cusack Ulster Banks' Community Protection Advisor and Community Banker Brigid Nally on ways to protect yourself from fraud and improve your digital banking skills. Several community organisations will be present at stands on the night, to promote the services they offer, and people will have the opportunity to get assistance with banking securely online at a digital hub and visit "Brigid", the Midlands Mobile Bank.

The 'Friends Against Scams' initiative is being rolled out around Ireland by Ulster Bank to help organisations to train staff and spread the anti-fraud message.

A recent survey commissioned by Ulster Bank, found that while almost three quarters (71%) of Leinster respondents say they are fairly confident that they could detect a potential scam (up from 55% in 2017), under a quarter of respondents in Leinster (24%) say they're very confident that they know what kind of security information their bank may ask them for (down from 26% in 2017).

Ulster Bank's Community Protection Advisor, Denise Cusack, said:

"At Ulster Bank we are committed to helping customers. That's why Ulster Bank staff in Longford and around the country have been receiving 'Friends Against Scams' training in recent months, so that we can help customers to avoid fraudsters and keep their money safe."

Ulster Bank's Community Banker in Longford Brigid Nally said:

"Many people who find themselves targeted by fraudsters can feel embarrassed and vulnerable. We hope that by raising awareness and bringing these things into the open, people in Longford will feel more comfortable in speaking out and help others avoid scams in the future. I would encourage everyone to pop along to the Longford Arms Hotel on Wednesday 8th May from 6 to 8pm to learn more."

ENDS

Notes to Editor:

Research

The Ulster Bank fraud research was published in November 2018. It was carried out by Empathy Research. Research and was conducted through an online survey across a nationally representative sample of 1,023 adults aged 18+ in October 2018.

Friends Against Scams

'Friends Against Scams' was created in the UK to provide information about scams and those who fall victim to them. RBS was a founding partner of the 'Friends Against Scams' programme when it launched in the UK in 2016, with the simple aim to reduce the number of people falling victim to criminal scams. Ulster Bank staff around the country have been receiving 'Friends Against Scams' training in recent months, so that they are in a position to help customers to avoid fraudsters and keep their money safe.