

Tickets can sell out very quickly when you are trying to see your favourite band or football team, and criminals take advantage of this by offering tickets for sale that are fake or do not exist.

Most event tickets are sold via reputable websites, but fraudsters set up fake ticket websites, place adverts on resale sites or use social media to sell tickets that they do not hold.

Once you pay for the tickets, you will either not receive them or they are fake, meaning you arrive at the venue and can't get in. Also remember that some tickets are nontransferable so can only be used by the person who initially purchased them, and it may be illegal to resell them.

If you have been the victim of a scam or fraud, please report it to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or at www.actionfraud.police.uk Contact your bank immediately if you think you may have lost money.

How to protect yourself

Only buy tickets from a reputable ticket website, the event promoter, the venue box office or an official agent. Always be suspicious of requests to pay by bank transfer and use a credit card when making your purchase for extra protection. Be wary of paying for tickets if you are being told that someone will meet you at the event with your tickets.

For further information on safely buying tickets, visit the STAR website – the Society of Ticket Agents and Retailers. www.star.org. <u>uk</u>

For more information about how our Anti-Crime Team can help you, please contact:

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