

Workers who reveal confidential details 'at risk of fraud'



The workplace is the second most likely place for people to become victims of fraud, yet new research shows that millions of workers give out confidential information over their office phone.

A study by online payment provider PayPal has revealed that 8.8 million UK workers - one in five - are happy to read out their debit and credit card details over the phone at work.

PayPal UK's head of financial planning, Neil Edwards, said that people feel comfortable paying bills and checking statements at work, largely due to the fact that many of us spend more time at work than at home.

"However, the workplace is in fact the second most vulnerable place for fraud and consumers are misguided in simply assuming that they are safe and trusting those around them as much as they would family or friends," Mr Edwards warned.

The finance expert said that the number of employees reading out confidential bank and personal information in front of other people at work was "worrying".

"By doing so they are putting themselves at risk," he insisted, adding that paying over the internet was an easier and safer choice and would "significantly reduce the chances of their personal information being left wide open to fraud".

The survey also revealed that 13 per cent of people reveal confidential information in public places, such as pubs, shops, restaurants or while travelling on public transport.