

COVID-19 SCAMS

Scammers often target vulnerable and older people, and sadly, these same unscrupulous criminals are now using the global pandemic as another way to steal from their victims, and cause additional distress, at this already worrying time.

Security experts have noticed a rise in scams linked to the outbreak including those who pose as leading authorities such as the World Health Organisation (WHO), the Government, the NHS and the Police.

Emails

Emails are sent with links claiming to contain important updates. However, these links, if clicked on, can lead to devices being infected with malware. Scammers also create websites with names similar to real organisations in order to con people into believing they are genuine.

Anyone receiving an email that seems suspicious in any way, should never click on links or attachments, and never respond to unsolicited messages that ask for their personal or financial details.

Phishing Emails

COVID-19 themed emails containing links and attachments try to trick people into divulging personal information, including financial information.

HMRC

Emails pretending to be from HMRC offering a tax refund and directing victims to a fake website in order to get personal and financial details.

Assistance with funding for school meals

Specifically targeting families with emails offering financial support. Parents/carers are then asked to click on a link to fraudulent website and then submit personal and financial details.

Supermarket Scam

You're asked to answer a few questions, share and then download a voucher, but really the voucher is fake and the whole scam is set up to steal your personal details.



Tuesday, 14 April 2019

You have been selected to take part in our short survey to get a £45 Voucher at Tesco!

Remaining Voucher: 232

Congratulations!

You have been qualified to get £45 Voucher! How to proceed :

1. Share this page by clicking "SHARE" button and type "Thanks!" in the comments field!
2. Click on "Claim Voucher" and enter your details.
3. Download the Voucher.

Share on Facebook

Claim Voucher

Like Comment Share



17,259 Others Like this.

Cybercrime and Fraud

There has been a noticeable increase in cybercrime and fraud, possibly due to the fact that many of us are living our lives differently right now. We are communicating with one another online significantly more and we are engaged with agencies and organisations which we may not have been before.

Always be sure before you share personal and/or financial information online and over the phone.

'The sneeze of death/pandemic survival'

People who are searching online for answers and information about COVID-19 are encouraged to click dangerous links which then detail unpleasant and/or fake information that plays on people's fears and hopes.

Newsletters and updates

Fraudsters are sharing articles about the outbreak with a link to a fake company website where victims are encouraged to click to subscribe to a daily newsletter for further updates.

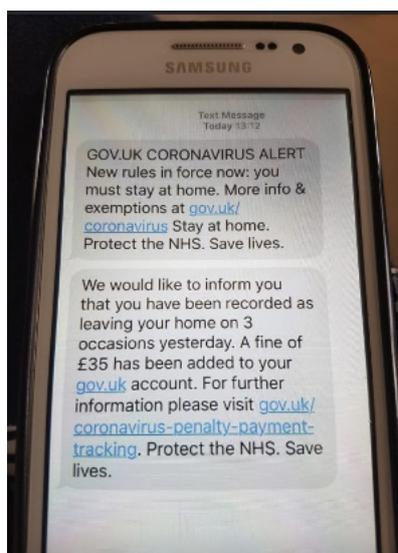
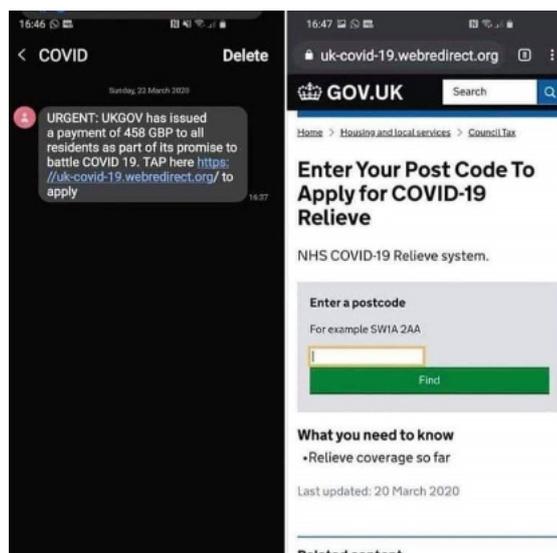
Trading advice and investment opportunities

Fraudsters are offering investment scheme and trading advice encouraging people to take advantage of the financial market downturn. Scams include trying to trick people into buying medical supplies online, or sending emails offering fake medical support.

Text Messages

Fraudulent text messages have increased recently. Various ones exist claiming to be from GOV.UK.

Do not click links and research online first to check for accuracy.



What to do

If you think you have been targeted by a scam:

1. **DON'T RESPOND**
2. Report the scam to [Action Fraud](#)
3. Forward the message to 7726 ('SPAM' on a keypad)

Useful Contacts & Support

Action Fraud

Call 0330 123 2040

If you are deaf or hard of hearing you can contact on textphone **0300 123 2050**

<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>

Online reporting <https://reporting.actionfraud.police.uk/login>

Police

Call 101

Which?

<https://www.which.co.uk/news/2020/04/which-launches-scam-alerts-as-fraudsters-exploit-coronavirus-crisis/>

Citizens Advice

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/scams/what-to-do-if-youve-been-scammed/>

Age UK

<https://www.ageuk.org.uk/information-advice/money-legal/scams-fraud/>

IMPORTANT

If you feel threatened, report this to the police immediately by calling 999.

STAY ALERT ► CONTROL THE VIRUS ► SAVE LIVES

 **Your Response
Welfare Line**

**0345 345 0271
0330 135 9019**

 **@Your_Housing**

 **@yourhousing**

 **yourhousinggroup.co.uk/contact-us**