

Looking After Yourself Outside of Work

Email Scams



Google have reported that 18 million Covid-19 related hoax emails are being sent to their email users every day. Of the 100 million daily phishing emails which they have blocked over the last week, a fifth have been in relation to Covid-19.

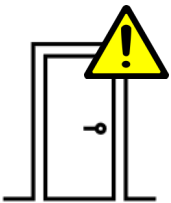
A 'phishing' email is where you are encouraged to reveal personal information, or it may contain a link which when clicked will download a virus onto your computer. Many of these emails are pretending to be from official authorities and organisations. Often the fraudster will try and create a sense of urgency – never feel rushed into responding.

If you click on a dodgy link and only realise afterwards, here's what to do –

- If this was done on a work device, contact IT immediately
- If it is on your own computer, if you have antivirus software, run a full scan. If you don't have antivirus, consider getting it.
- If you have input a password, change your password as a matter of urgency.
- If you have passed on any of your bank details, contact your branch immediately.

You can also forward any suspicious emails to report@phishing.gov.uk. The National Cyber Security Centre's automated programme will test the validity of the site and if found to be a phishing scam, it will be removed immediately.

Door to Door Fraud



There have been many reports throughout North and West Yorkshire in relation to door to door scams. The scams reported so far include –

- Rogue traders trying to sell items such as face masks.
- "Good Samaritans" offering to do shopping for the elderly and vulnerable which ends on them making off with a cash card and pin number.
- People impersonating officials gaining access to homes by saying they are offering COVID-19 testing.

Here's some tips on how to look after yourself and your family.

- Check the ID of any person cold calling. If you make checks with the organisation they are saying they are from, find the number yourself, don't use one which the caller gives you.
- Don't be afraid to ask the person to leave.
- Please make sure that your elderly or vulnerable friends and relatives know that there are dishonest people about who are trying to take advantage

In the news...



Man in court over fake Corona-virus "treatment" kits:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-51991245>

UK forces hundreds of scam Covid-19 shops offline:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-52361618>

Large scale Covid-19 facemask mandate fraud uncovered by Interpol:

<https://www.interpol.int/en/News-and-Events/News/2020/Unmasked-International-COVID-19-fraud-exposed>

Pharmacist arrested on suspicion of selling home Covid-19 testing kits

<https://www.thepharmacist.co.uk/covid-19/pharmacist-arrested-on-suspicion-of-selling-home-covid-19-testing-kits/>

Surveyor arrested for fraud after 250 Covid-19 tests found in his vehicle

<https://www.mylondon.news/news/west-london-news/london-coronavirus-uxbridge-surveyor-arrested-18092835>