

CYBER CRIME SENTINEL

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ROCU
West Midlands | Regional Cyber Crime Unit

IN THE NEWS

TOP CYBER HEADLINES

THE LATEST NEWS ON CYBERCRIME FROM THE REGIONAL CYBER CRIME UNIT

This newsletter has been collated by West Midlands Regional Cyber Crime Unit and is intended for wider distribution within the West Midlands Region to raise awareness among businesses and members of the public.

CYBER PROTECT WEEKLY TIP

SEXTORTION EMAIL SCAM - WHAT IS IT?

Sextortion email scams are a type of phishing attack whereby people are coerced to pay a Bitcoin ransom because they have been threatened with sharing video of themselves visiting adult websites. These scams are made to appear all the more credible because they provide seemingly plausible technical details about how this was achieved, and the phish can sometimes also include a password used by the recipient. We have seen the campaign threaten that if the victim does not provide a payment within a specific timeframe (payments usually ranging from \$1,000 to \$4,000), which is requested into a bitcoin wallet, then a compromising video will be shared to all their contacts and social media channels.

WHAT TO DO?

- Do not reply or click on any of the links in the email. Report suspicious e-mails to: actionfraud.police.uk/report-phishing.
- Don't be tempted to make the Bitcoin payment. Doing so may encourage more scams as the fraudster will know they have a 'willing customer'.
- If you have made the Bitcoin payment, you should report it to your local police force by calling 101.
- If the email includes a password you still use then change it immediately.
- For more information, visit: NCSC Sextortion Emails: How to protect yourself - <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/sextortion-scams-how-to-protect-yourself>

WHAT IS A ROMANCE SCAM?

You're convinced to make a payment to a person you've met either through social media or on a dating website. Fake profiles are used by criminals in an attempt to build a relationship with you - this is often known as catfishing. Criminals use information found on social media to create fake identities to target you with a scam, looking for profiles that say you're 'widowed' or 'divorced'.

ALWAYS REMEMBER

- Avoid sending money to someone you've never met in person and always consider the possibility of a scam
- Research the person you're talking to as profile photos may not be genuine
- Be alert to spelling and grammar mistakes and inconsistencies in stories
- Stay on the dating site or on the messaging service until you're confident the person is who they say they are and meetings in person take place in public
- Only accept friend requests from people you know and trust - <https://takefive-stopfraud.org.uk/>

Bank of England to Tackle Cybercrime - <https://bit.ly/33dARZr>

Don't download this TikTok app -- it's spyware - <https://bit.ly/2FsNpDN>

Warner Music Group Discloses Data Breach - <https://bit.ly/32exmT7>

FBI: Thousands of orgs targeted by RDoS extortion campaign - <https://bit.ly/35kUNfr>

Newcastle University cyber attack 'to take weeks to fix' - <https://bbc.in/2Fpkhxc>

Cyber-Criminals Change Tactics to Exploit #COVID19 - <https://bit.ly/32hDzhi>

European ISPs report mysterious wave of DDoS attacks - <https://zd.net/3hf62Zb>

Brit bloke extradited to face \$2m+ cyber-scam charges - <https://bit.ly/3ilHi30>

Chilean bank shuts down all branches following ransomware attack - <https://zd.net/2ZpXkl0>

Girls just wanna have fun-damental cyber security knowledge - <https://bit.ly/3bLaUEg>

Netwalker Ransomware hit Argentina's official immigration agency - <https://bit.ly/2ZpYuwS>

France, Japan, New Zealand warn of spike in Emotet attacks - <https://zd.net/3hhBlTo>

TECH TALK

NCSC Weekly Threat Report Topics

New advisory offers support against malicious activity

Business Email Scammers want more, more, more

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/report/weekly-threat-report-4th-september-2020>

Windows 10 themes can be abused to steal Windows passwords - <https://bit.ly/3bJCr9a>

Microsoft Patch Tuesday, Sept. 2020 Edition - <https://bit.ly/35KL0Gp>

Academics find crypto bugs in 306 popular Android apps, none get patched - <https://zd.net/3bHJntU>

Android's September 2020 Patches Fix Critical System Vulnerabilities - <https://bit.ly/35BpH3B>

Hack attack! We challenged a cyber firm to break into our phones and emails <https://bit.ly/3ioogck>

Researchers develop secure multi-user quantum communication network - <https://bit.ly/3bMlrOh>

EVENTS & ENGAGEMENTS



Got a question about
cyber security?

Ask us on our live Q&A

slido

10:00 am - Wednesdays

If you received an email which you're not quite sure about, forward it to the Suspicious Email Reporting Service (SERS)

report@phishing.gov.uk

<https://app.sli.do/event/jvodjdcu/>



THE
**CYBER
RESILIENCE
CENTRE**
FOR THE WEST MIDLANDS

CORE MEMBER - FREE

Includes:

NCSC Guidance - How organisations can protect themselves in cyberspace, including the 10 steps to cyber security from the Government NCSC division.

NCSCs Exercise In A Box – a tool to give your organisation a ‘dummy’ run of a cyber attack. Similar to testing your fire drill. Tailored for different sized organisations.

NCSC Board Toolkit - Resources designed to encourage essential cyber security discussions between the Board and their technical experts.

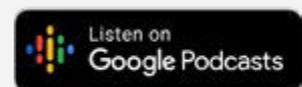
E-news – regular digestible updates relevant to West Midlands organisations about cyber resilience

<https://www.wmcrc.co.uk/>



Our lives are relying on technology more every day. Join us each Friday for your bitesize cybersecurity podcast. In this increasingly technical world we deliver non-technical cyber news, and identify the current threats we're facing.

<https://cyberthreatweekly.buzzsprout.com/>



APPEAL: PLEASE GET IN TOUCH FOR FREE CYBER AWARENESS INPUTS FOR YOUR OWN BUSINESS, ORGANISATION OR GROUPS.