Cyber Security Alert

Scam Emails

Police Scotland Cybercrime Harm Prevention Team.

15.05.2025

Recognise and report scam emails, texts, websites, adverts or phone calls.

Cyber-criminals will take advantage of any situation to target and scam the public and we are seeing several scam emails in circulation, purporting to be from the retail sector, following the recent highly publicised attacks.

You may or may not be associated to an affected organisation, but the cybercriminals don't care about that, they want you to be drawn into their scam.

Part of that scamming process is to send out thousands of emails, which have been very carefully written and presented, perhaps with an affected organisations logo. They do this to quickly gain your trust.

This makes the scam email look more authentic and will offer some form of incentive for the victim. This could be to open a link to claim a reward or download a voucher as a form of apology as affected customer.

In some cases, the scam email will put you under pressure saying you have a limited time to respond, or some other negative comment or urgency being placed on you to reply.


In addition to links, cybercriminals will also include QR codes which, when scanned will trick the victim into visiting scam websites.

It is vitally important that you do not share your personal details / data on any platform and through any communication you have not initiated.

We have included the following links to the NCSC (National Cyber Security Centre) for your information and added awareness in How to spot a scam email, text message or call - NCSC.GOV.UK

If you think you have responded to a scam email, or been tricked into scanning a QR code or shared password or banking details, please take action with this Phishing scams: If you've shared sensitive information - NCSC.GOV.UK

If you suspect your details have been included in a Data Breach this link will provide you with support on how to manage that. Data breach guidance for individuals – NCSC.GOV.UK
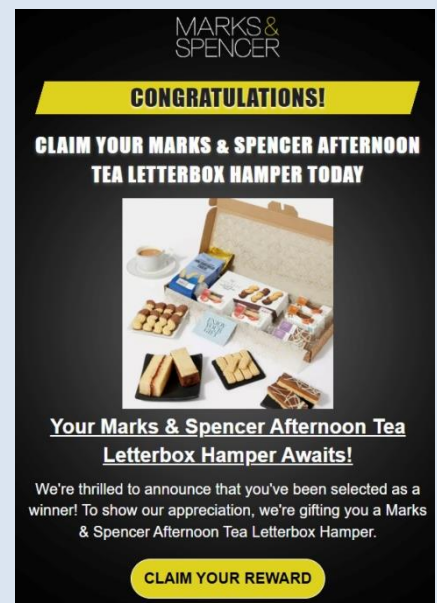
To help tackle cybercriminals who send scam emails, you can help us by reporting these to **Report a scam email - NCSC.GOV.UK**

If you have been a victim of crime, and it is not an ongoing emergency, you can report this to Police Scotland on 101.

This alert was sent out for your information by
Police Scotland Cybercrime Harm Prevention Team -