

## Why do businesses and the public in the UK report fraud and cyber crime to Action Fraud instead of the police?

Action Fraud takes reports from victims nationwide providing a clear picture of the scale of fraud and cyber crime, allowing law enforcement to link crimes which happen across the country. This kind of intelligence is the key to disrupting cyber crime.

## What happens once I have made a report?

When you have made a report to Action Fraud you will be given a National Fraud Reporting Centre (NFRC) number and you will receive an update within 28 working days.

## Why is it important to report?

Each year, fraud and cyber crime costs the UK economy £193 billion.\* The money obtained by fraudsters and cyber criminals can be used to fund crimes like drug smuggling, terrorism and people trafficking.

By reporting fraud and cyber crime, you will enable law enforcement to understand how these criminals operate and help catch them.

\*Portsmouth University Annual Fraud Indicator 2016

## Further cyber security advice

If you are an organisation (private, public or voluntary) that wants information about cyber security, contact the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC).  
[www.ncsc.gov.uk/about-us](http://www.ncsc.gov.uk/about-us)

## How can I protect myself?

Follow @actionfrauduk on Twitter, or 'like' us on Facebook and keep up-to-date with the latest scams to watch out for.



The Action Fraud website lists a handy A-Z of different fraud types as well as our top tips to protect yourself from fraud:



You can sign-up for fraud and cyber crime alerts at:



Or find out more at:



CYBER AWARE



VS VICTIM SUPPORT

**ActionFraud**  
National Fraud & Cyber Crime Reporting Centre  
[actionfraud.police.uk](http://actionfraud.police.uk)

# Reporting fraud and cyber crime

## A guide for business

**ActionFraud**  
National Fraud & Cyber Crime Reporting Centre  
[actionfraud.police.uk](http://actionfraud.police.uk)

# What is fraud?

**Fraud is when somebody lies, or deceives you, in order to cause harm, usually by stealing your money.**

## What is cyber crime?

This is when fraudsters target computers, tablets or phones or use the internet to swindle you. Our increased use of electronic devices for everyday activities – both personal and business – means that cyber criminals have a wealth of opportunity to commit crime.

## What is Action Fraud?

Action Fraud is the UK's national reporting centre for fraud and cyber crime. Members of the public, businesses and charities can report to Action Fraud online or on the phone.

Victims' reports are assessed by specialists to see if they are suitable for further action and are then sent to the relevant law enforcement agency to investigate.

## What should I do if I'm a victim of fraud or cyber crime?

You can report fraud and cyber crime using the online reporting tool:

**[www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk)**

(24 hours a day, 7 days a week)

If you do not have internet access, or if you require more support, you can also contact Action Fraud on **0300 123 2040** to speak to an advisor.

## What should I do if I am suffering a live cyber attack?

If you are a business, charity or other organisation that is currently suffering a live cyber attack (an attack in progress), call **0300 123 2040** immediately. Do not use the online reporting tool. You can speak to a specialist advisor 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for help.

You should also keep a timeline of events and save any information that is relevant to the attack. An example of a live cyber attack would be when a website or online service crashes after being overwhelmed by a large volume of traffic from multiple sources. This is known as a 'Distributed Denial of Service' (DDoS) attack.