If you fall victim to any scam, report to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or http://www.actionfraud.police.uk
If you would like support as a result of becoming a victim of any crime, contact Victim Support on 01926 682 693.
**November Cyber Scam Update**

**Beware the Bitcoin Revolution scam with fake celebrity endorsements**

Dressed up as an ITV news story, a fake advert for ‘Bitcoin Revolution’ claims you can make millions from investing and that Jeremy Clarkson, Simon Cowell and Alan Sugar have all profited from the online cryptocurrency investment scheme.

The article is designed to lure in unwitting punters with praise from the stars and falsely claims as an endorsement to have been seen on BBC2, the Daily Mail, the Sun, Good Morning Britain and the Guardian.

It is trying to attract people to sign up to Bitcoin Revolution, inviting them to deposit an initial £250 and become ‘the next millionaire’ from their investment.

This is just the latest example of celebrity-fronted Bitcoin trading scams of a kind which according to the Financial Conduct Authority stole £27million from victims in 2018-19. The FCA in May said crypto and currency investment scam reports more than tripled last year to over 1,800.

Bitcoin Revolution claims that in return for a two per cent commission on your profits you have access to a platform which performs at a ‘99.4 per cent level of accuracy’ (the spelling mistake is theirs) - and is ‘ahead of the markets by 0.01 seconds.’

This latter part is a key selling point of the whole scam, intended to rope in investors who feel they are getting access to something which will give them an advantage over everyone else and beat them to a profit.

**TOP TIPS:**

Before investing online find out how to protect yourself from scams by visiting the ScamSmart website (https://www.fca.org.uk/scamsmart), and if in any doubt – don't invest.

**MONTHS TOP TIPS: Online Shopping Safety**

- **Password Protection** – make sure you have a strong, unique password for all your accounts. Remember: Three words, numbers and symbols!

- **Phishing Scams** – look out for phishing emails advertising deals and special offers – don’t click on any suspicious links or attachments!

- **Fraudulent websites and fake deals.** Look for ‘https’ in the website address. The ‘s’ stands for secure. There should also be a padlock or unbroken key symbol in the browser window.

**A scam using common women’s names is making the rounds**

Most people will know of someone called ‘Emma’, but replying to a text to one person calling themselves that will leave victims £20 out of pocket.

Fraudsters are playing on people emotions by sending a distressed sounding message from what appears to be an ordinary mobile number.

Similar scams have been caught out over the years, including one which targeted parents asking for phone top-up vouchers.

It was discovered that texting back would have duped the receiver out of £20.

**TOP TIPS:**

- Be cautious about answering calls and text messages from unsolicited numbers you don’t recognise, especially if they start 084, 087, 080 or 090.
- Communications with these unknown numbers may be charged at premium rates. If suspicious, contact the person you think it may be by other means.