

Why is it important to report?

Each year, fraud and cyber crime costs the UK economy hundreds of billions of pounds and can ruin lives.

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 prevent further fraud.

What happens once I have made a report?

Once you've made a report, Action Fraud will provide you with a crime number (NFRS). If you signed up for our online services you'll be able to follow the progress of your report and add to it via the Action Fraud website.

We'll be sure to keep you informed via email or letter.

What if I need additional support?

We will refer you to your local victim support service, such services offer confidential emotional support and practical help. If you feel you don't need additional support, simply uncheck the victim support referral box when you make your report.

How can I protect myself?

You can follow [@actionfrauduk](#) on Twitter or Facebook where you can keep up-to-date with the latest fraud and cyber crime trends.



If you don't use social media you can sign-up for fraud and cyber crime alert emails at:



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



Or you can find out more at our partner sites:



Reporting fraud and cyber crime

A guide

What are fraud and cyber crime

Fraud is when somebody lies, or deceives you, in order to obtain money. Cyber crime is when criminal activity is carried out by means of computers or the internet.

What is Action Fraud?

Action Fraud is the national reporting centre for fraud and cyber crime operated on behalf of the police service by the City of London Police.

Businesses and charities can report fraud and cyber crime to Action Fraud.

Reports are analysed to see if they are suitable for further action and where possible sent to the relevant law enforcement agency for investigation.

Choose the right service for your situation:

Action Fraud is not an emergency service; in an emergency you should **dial 999**.

If the crime involves your bank account or credit card, always contact your provider **first**.

If your identity was used to obtain credit or a service such as a mobile phone, always contact the company **first**.

Face-to-face crime which involves a suspect can be dealt with by your local police by **dialling 101**.

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

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

Actionfraud.police.uk (24/7)

The website and reporting tool automatically adapt so they can be used on mobile phones and tablet computers. We're also on hand to assist you via webchat, so there is no need to pick up the phone if you have any questions.

If you are unable to report online, you can call us on **0300 123 2040**. Reports made online or on the phone are given the same level of priority.

Why should people in the UK report fraud and cyber crime to Action Fraud instead of the police?

Action Fraud takes reports on behalf of the police 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.

