

Get Support

Victim Support

There are a number of ways you can get in touch with Victim Support Humberside and South Yorkshire.

Call:

0800 368 7586

Email:

humberside@victimsupport.org.uk

Website:

humbersouthyorks.victimsupport.org.uk
affectedbycrime.com

Citizens Advice

Citizens Advice Consumer Service can offer support if you or someone you know has been scammed. They will give you advice on what to do next. You can visit the website (www.citizensadvice.org.uk) or call Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 0808 223 1133

FraudWatch

Fraud comes in many different forms, and absolutely anyone can become a victim.

On the FraudWatch website you will find information about the different types of fraud, videos that can be used to raise awareness, as well as tips on how to avoid being a victim.

Call:

01482 772 125

Website:

fraudwatch.org.uk

Useful Links

FraudWatch - fraudwatch.org.uk

Say No To Fraud - saynotofraud.uk

Get Safe Online - getsafeonline.org

Cyber Aware - cyberaware.gov.uk

Stop! Think Fraud -

stopthinkfraud.campaign.gov.uk

Report It

Report fraud to Humberside Police by calling 101 or visit humberside.police.uk.

You can also report it to Action Fraud on

0300 123 20 40

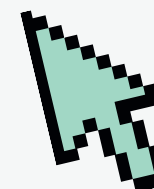
or by visiting actionfraud.police.uk.

We also suggest reporting the person to the social media platform or website too.

Other ways to report

You can report suspicious texts you have received but not acted upon, by forwarding the original message to **7726**, which spells SPAM on your keypad.

You can report suspicious emails you have received but not acted upon, by forwarding the original message to **report@phishing.gov.uk**.



By Community VISION
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Befriending Fraud

REAL ✓



FAKE ✗



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HUMBERSIDE
POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER



What is Befriending Fraud?

Befriending fraud is where a criminal creates a fake account on websites or social media platforms and sends connection requests. They make you believe they want to be your friend and will build a relationship with you.

After developing a friendship, they will then make an attempt to ask for login information, favours or money. This friendship may have been developed over a long period of time before any requests for money are made.

How does it happen?

The fraudster will often use an online platform such as email, web chat or social media to create a fake account. These accounts are often using a fake or stolen identity. The individual will then gain your trust, and play on your emotions to ask for money.

These requests are often for help to pay for transport to visit you, or for medical expenses for them or one of their relatives. They will generally tell you a story that is going to require money from you.

It is not your fault, fraudsters are good at what they do, you have been targeted, support is available.

How to spot it

- The Fraudster will create a sense of urgency or panic to prompt you to act fast without thinking. You may be manipulated into believing you hold power to resolve the situation by sending money or invest your own money in a limited time only offer.
- They are likely to be using a fake name or photos.
- The person may play with your emotions and make you feel sorry for them. They will have a really sad story to tell you.
- Fraudsters use tactics which make the requests for secrecy seem like a normal request or make you feel disloyal if you speak to people outside your friendship. This is to cut you off from your family and friends and from people who can provide support.

Stop and Think Fraud ask yourself:

- Have I met this person face to face?
 - If not, could they be hiding something?
- Are they asking me to keep our friendship between us?
 - Have they asked me to not tell anyone why I have sent them money?
- Have we become friends faster than I expected?
- If I don't send them money, have they said we can't be friends?

If the answer is yes, you could be talking to a fraudster.



Top Tips

- Speak with a friend, family member or the police if you are worried you may be a victim of fraud.
- Look the person up online. Do they have accounts on other social media platforms? Does the information on these profile's match what they have told you?
- Use TinEye to reverse image search the persons photo, visit tineye.com. When you search the photo, if it comes up with the same photo a few times with different names, it is likely that it is a fake photo.
- If you haven't met them in person, never send them any money.
- Report suspicious texts, emails and phone calls using the methods provided in this leaflet.

For more information and useful links, visit fraudwatch.org.uk/befriending-fraud