



Keeping People Safe

This e-mail has been marked OFFICIAL [PUBLIC];

Good evening again,

I would like to make your congregation aware of another scam which has again raised its head in our District. This is a difficult topic to discuss but these scams do not discriminate with age/gender or online experience.

The victim will get an unsolicited email from an unknown contact but it will be sent direct to your inbox thus avoiding any spam filters. On first examination it may well look genuine and the scammer will try and make you think it is real by using an old email password. These old passwords will in fact have been obtained by a data breach in the last couple of years but will still make some people worry that their security has compromised.

The scammer will issue some sort of threat that they have recorded the victim using their computer to view pornography and that should they not give in to their demands the footage will be sent to all their email and social media contacts.

The scammer will send details of money demanded, usually in the form of American Dollars to be sent to a Bitcoin payment

address. When money is sent via Bitcoin it is a form of electronic currency that will have your money untraceable. If you fall prey to their first demand you may not hear the last of them and your details could well be shared on other scam sites as a potential victim.

If you wish to see further details and examples of the scam you can go to - <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/alert/alert-cyber-criminals-send-victims-their-own-passwords-in-new-sextortion-scam>

Should you have any more queries please reply to the email and I will provide what advice I can.

Regards,

Sgt Stevie Gibson
PSNI Ards

Any views expressed by the sender of this message are not necessarily those of the Police Service of Northern Ireland. This e-mail and any files transmitted with it are intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. Internet email is not to be treated as a secure means of communication. PSNI monitors all internet email activity and content. If you have received this e-mail in error please notify the sender immediately by using the reply facility in your e-mail software. All e-mails are swept for the presence of viruses.

