

CYBER CRIME NEWS

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WELCOME TO CYBER CRIME NEWS

Welcome to the May issue of Cyber Crime News – the bi-monthly newsletter from Dorset Police to keep you up to date with the latest news, campaigns, crime prevention guidance and support for businesses. Please share with your networks.

The May issue will:

- Introduce the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) Cyber Action Plan, and the Home Office funded Police Cyber Alarm.
- Provide useful hints and tips and how to access training.

NATIONAL CYBER SECURITY CENTRE CYBER ACTION PLAN

When it comes to cyber security, many of us like to think we are secure enough. Either that, or we consider ourselves unlikely to be a target.

The reality is that absolutely everybody could be a victim.

Organisations both big and small hold value to cyber criminals, which is why Dorset Police, the Cyber Protect network and the National Cyber Security Centre offer the services they do.

One such service from the NCSC launched in the last few weeks is the NCSC Cyber Action Plan. Aimed at both small businesses and individuals, the Cyber Action Plan can help to highlight any gaps in your cyber defences. Cyber security can be a very daunting subject if you do not have much experience in it, but the Cyber Action Plan helps to break things down in to easily understood, actionable steps.

All you need is a few minutes to answer some questions around your cyber safety practices, after which you will see a report detailing some steps you can take to bolster your defences. This report can be printed, making it easy to refer back to as you begin implementing any necessary changes.

So, whether you think you've got it all covered, or you consider yourself somewhat of a novice, please take a look at the Cyber Action Plan here - <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyber-aware/actionplan>

CHECK YOUR CYBER SECURITY

The NCSC also recently launched their Check Your Cyber Security service - a tool that can check your organisations external website and IP address for any known vulnerabilities and provide advice on how to remedy them.

The Check Your Cyber Security tool can also run checks against your internet browser, helping you to ensure you are not using something with known flaws that might expose your data to cyber criminals.

The tool is really easy to use - simply enter your external IP address or domain and click "Check Now". The tool checks for exposed databases, remote access methods, file sharing and administrative access methods, and gives advice on how to remedy any issues it detects.

To make use of this tool, visit: <https://checkcybersecurity.service.ncsc.gov.uk/>



POLICE CYBER ALARM

There is one more service we would like to share with you this month – **Police Cyber Alarm**. This award winning tool is funded entirely by the Home Office, meaning it is free of charge for Dorset businesses to use.

Cyber Alarm helps your business monitor and report any suspicious activity detected on your network.

The service provides regular reports of suspicious cyber activity and vulnerabilities within your network, enabling you to identify and mitigate cyber risks.

The tool requires organisations to install a lightweight data collector on your network. Crucially, this data collector does not monitor any internal traffic. It exclusively looks at incoming traffic hitting your firewall, intrusion detection/prevention system, or antivirus logs. This allows it to detect approaches from known corrupt IP addresses, or other suspicious activity like port scans or access attempts.

Cyber Alarm can also scan your external website and IP address, providing reports of any known vulnerabilities such as expired certificates or deprecated encryption methods.

Cyber Alarm helps businesses to identify any potential weak points, as well as understand how potential attackers are attempting to gain access to your network. In doing so, it can help an organisation identify potential attacks before they happen and take steps to mitigate them.

Not bad at all for a completely free tool!

To find out more about Police Cyber Alarm and to register your organisation, head to www.cyberalarm.police.uk

HELPFUL ADVICE

Dorset Police offer free and impartial cyber awareness sessions to businesses of all sizes – from a handful of staff to hundreds. The sessions provide organisations with National Cyber Security Centre backed advice and guidance, covering cyber security fundamentals, including how to spot and respond to various cyber threats.

To arrange a cyber awareness session, email us at:
cybercrimeprevention@dorset.pnn.police.uk

REPORTING CYBER CRIME

If you fall victim to fraud or cyber crime, you can report this to Action Fraud by visiting www.actionfraud.police.uk or by calling **0300 123 2040**.

If you have received an email that you're not sure about, you can report this to the **National Cyber Security Centres Suspicious Email Reporting Service (SERS)**.

Simply forward the email to report@phishing.gov.uk.

The SERS automatically analyses suspicious emails and, if it considers it to be malicious, can take steps to have email accounts and associated websites closed down, meaning each report can really make a difference.



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