

## SCAM WARNING



# Coronavirus-related frauds increase by 400% in March

Between 1st February 2020 and 18th March 2020, Action Fraud has received **105 reports** from victims of coronavirus-related frauds, with losses totalling close to **£970,000**. The majority of the reports are related to online shopping scams where people have ordered protective face masks, hand sanitiser, and other products, which have never arrived. We have also received over **200 reports** about coronavirus-themed phishing emails attempting to trick people into opening malicious attachments or revealing sensitive personal and financial information.

**Watch out for scam messages:**  
Don't click on the links or attachments in suspicious emails, and never respond to unsolicited messages and calls that ask for your personal or financial details

**Shopping online:** If you're making a purchase from a company or person you don't know and trust, carry out some research first, and ask a friend or family member for advice before completing the purchase. Where possible, use a credit card to make the payment, as most major credit card providers insure online purchases.

**Protect your devices from the latest threats:**  
Always install the latest software and app updates to protect your devices from the latest threats.