

Data Breaches

One of your online accounts may have been involved in a data breach where your passwords and other personal details have been leaked. This information could then be used by fraudsters and cyber criminals to carry out cyber-attacks or to scam and exploit you and others.

A good way to help protect your personal data is by closing dormant or rarely used online accounts. Always ensure you use a strong separate password (see Cyber Safety Guide) for each online account and enable a second layer of protection using two-step verification if available. This also applies to old accounts that may no longer be secure or that can't easily be closed. See nsc.gov.uk/guidance/data-breaches for further details and reporting information.

How can you find out if your data has been included in a Data Breach?

Use a data breach search tool such as [haveibeenpwned](https://haveibeenpwned.com) to find if any known data breaches include online accounts you use or were set-up using your email address.

- Visit haveibeenpwned.com
- Enter your email address or phone number to search for any linked data breaches (do not enter passwords).
- Visit each website mentioned in any data breach results to close or secure your account.
- If you are concerned about identity theft as a result of a data breach or other data leak visit cifas.org.uk for relevant advice.

Data Protection

See enforcementtracker.com and informationisbeautiful.net/search/data+breach for an overview of recent breaches and DPA/GDPR related fines. Visit ico.org.uk for UK data protection legislation and details of the related complaints process.

 EasyJet 9,000,000	 Facebook 533,000,000	 Twitch 10,000,000	 Vodafone 2,000,000	 BA 380,000	 Zoom 500,000	 Experian 15,000,000
 Snapchat 1,700,000	 Coinbase 270,000	 Spotify 500,000	 Uber 57,000,000	 Virgin Media 900,000	 Capital One 100,000,000	 Yahoo 32,000,000

For further cyber safety resources and advice contact:

CyberProtect@northants.police.uk

 NorthantsCyber



Northamptonshire Police

Fighting crime, protecting people

Copycat Websites and Online Services

Copycat websites that appear to be legitimate government services and departments are regularly set-up by cyber criminals. They are designed to steal your personal data and payment details or charge extensive handling fees for tasks that are normally free or can otherwise be easily completed online using the actual relevant government website.

Cyber criminals often post fake links on social media or use sponsored ads and other techniques to get their sites to appear in your Google or other search results when looking for an official site covering: driving licences, passports, business grants, blue badges, etc.

Always use the **gov.uk** website portal to find the genuine HMG (UK) government service, department or information you need.

Attendance Allowance Become an appointee for someone claiming benefits Benefit appeals Benefit cap calculator Benefits Births, deaths, marriages and care Blind Person's Allowance Blue Badges and public transport if you're disabled British passport eligibility Budgeting Loans Business and self-employed Calculating State Pension Cancel a lost or stolen passport Carer's Allowance Carer's Credit Change your name or personal details on your passport Childcare and parenting Citizenship and living in the UK Claiming JSA step by step Complain to the Independent Case Examiner Confirm someone's identity online for a passport application Crime, justice and the law Diffuse mesothelioma payments Disability Living Allowance Disability premiums Disabled Facilities Grants Disabled people Driving and transport Driving in the UK and abroad Driving licences Driving with medical conditions Education and learning Employing people Employment and Support Allowance Environment and countryside Get a passport for your child Get a prescription prepayment certificate Getting your first adult passport Help with NHS prescriptions and health costs Housing and local services Housing Benefit Housing costs and universal credit Incapacity Benefit Income Support Income tax rates and allowances, tax codes and refunds Independent Living Fund Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit Intensive Personalised Employment Support Jobseeker's Allowance Lorry, bus and coach drivers lost and stolen passports Money and tax Mortgage Interest Run On Moving from benefits to work National Insurance Number plates, vehicle registration and log books Passports, travel and living abroad Payment exception service Pension Credit calculator Pension Credit, eligibility, claiming and deferring Personal Independence Payment Reduced Earnings Allowance Redundancies Dismissals and Disciplinarys Renew or replace your passport Self Assessment Severe Disablement Allowance Specialist Employability Childcare Support State Pension Support for Mortgage Interest Tax credit appeals and complaints Tax credit checks Tax credit overpayments Tax credit payment dates Tax credits calculator Universal credit claims Vehicle and driver data and information Vehicle tax, MOT and insurance help Visas and immigration Voluntary contributions and credits, numbers, rates and classes Fostering and adoption services Work and Health Programme Schools jobs and pensions Get a passport Boat registration Treasure and wreck reporting

Other Phishing Sites

Similar techniques are used by cyber criminals to get you to visit fake but realistic logon pages or phishing sites to obtain your passwords, personal information and payment details. These may look identical to the genuine online store, social media site, payment service, customer support page or account logon you would expect to see.

Avoid clicking links received via email, text message or social media unless you have verified the source. Fake competitions, quizzes, surveys, discount vouchers and offers are also popular methods used by criminals to get you to click on a link to a phishing site.

- Enable your browser (**safebrowsing.google.com**) or security software web-safe (eg. Microsoft Edge SmartScreen) feature to help avoid known untrusted sites.
- A rudimentary but useful check using a domain/web address can be carried out on: **check.getsafeonline.org**
- Report suspicious websites so they can be checked and removed: **ncsc.gov.uk/section/about-this-website/report-scam-website**

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