This information sheet has been compiled by the Police Service of Northern Ireland Cyber Crime Centre and is intended to raise awareness of current threats and available guidance. Advice and information is changing daily as we all navigate our way through the current COVID19 pandemic so please ensure you only take information from reputable sources.

Help for small businesses looking to explore the digital world

The National Cyber Security Centre have released advice and top tips aimed at supporting sole traders and SME’s looking to move or expand from the physical to digital world.

As outlined in today’s blog on Moving your business from the physical to the digital, “For sole traders or small business owners, establishing exactly what new cyber security measures you need to put in place can seem like quite a challenge. This guidance will help you determine how ready your business is for this digital transition and point the way to any new cyber security measures you should put in place.

Today’s guidance outlines 6 questions that will help a business assess their cyber security baseline, namely;

1- What technology do you already use?
2- Are you using cloud services?
3- Do you have access to IT Support?
4- What cyber security measures do you in place?
5- Are there any regulations you need to follow?
6- Do you have cyber insurance?

Taken together with recent advice on home working, video conferencing and the regularly updated Small Business and Sole Trader advice pages, this guidance should help any small business safely transition from the physical to digital world.

EasyJet

As widely publicised yesterday, EasyJet have published details of a significant cyber incident leading to access being gained to ‘email address and travel details of approximately 9 million customers’. As one of the leading airlines servicing flights between GB and NI, there will be many local organisations who book travel direct with EasyJet and as such contact email addresses may now be in the hands of criminal actors.

Taken together with the impact of Covid19 on current airline travel and genuine emails in circulation around flight cancellations and refunds, the phishing potential of this database of addresses is clear to see. With email compromise through phishing an ongoing issue for local organisations, staff should be made aware of what to do should they receive a suspect email purporting to be from EasyJet such as reporting to report@phishing.gov.uk

For further information and advice check out the NCSC EasyJet statement

Check out the Little Book of Cyber Scams

Suspicious emails can be reported to the NCSC Suspicious Email Reporting Service - report@phishing.gov.uk

Useful websites
www.actionfraud.police.uk
www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberaware
www.haveibeenpwned.com

Social Media
@PSNI Belfast
@cyberawaregov
@ncsc