PSNI CYBER CRIME CENTRE

INFORMATION SHEET – 27/04/20

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.

Ransomware

Unfortunately once again we have seen ransomware hit a local organisation resulting in the encryption of available backups.

As a cybercrime type, ransomware may not be as frequently seen as phishing, mandate fraud or insider threats, but the consequences of a successful attack are something not even the best prepared organisation would willingly opt to experience.

Following the latest guidance from the **NCSC** will help reduce:

- the likelihood of becoming infected,
- the spread of malware through your organisation
- the impact of the infection

Click here for full details on the NCSC tips on mitigating Malware and Ransomware.

TIP1 - Make Regular Backups
Offline or Cloud Backups are an essential step

TIP2 – Prevent malware from being delivered to devices
Remote access such as RDP remains an often overlooked vulnerability

TIP3 – Prevent malicious code from running on devices
Disable / constrain macros, educate staff and keep software up to date

TIP4 – Limit the impact of infection & enable rapid response
Use 2FA to limit use of stolen credentials, keep infrastructure patched and develop an exercise plan.

Steps to take if your organisation is already infected

NCSC Guide to **Cloud Backups**

Around the news
TrickBot gang's new stealthy network - hacking malware - bleepingcomputer.com

30,000% increase in pandemic related threats seen in March - bleepingcomputer.com

Spoofed NHS website infects visitors with Trojan - techradar.com

Help for Teens
Want to help your teenager develop their cyber security skills? @CyberAces is a free online course developed by SANS & is a great way to introduce your child to the world of cyber security.
For information see: **CyberAces**

NCSC Suspicious Email Reporting Service – forward suspicious emails to report@phishing.gov.uk
Did you know you can report spam sms on your phone to 7726 (SPAM)

Useful websites
www.actionfraud.police.uk
www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberaware
www.nicybersecuritycentre.gov.uk

Social Media
@PSNIBelfast
@cyberawaregov
@ncsc