PSNI CYBER CRIME CENTRE

INFORMATION SHEET – 05/05/20

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.

The latest **NCSC Weekly Threat Report** once again highlights the vulnerability posed to organisations using unpatched Sophos XG Firewalls. Unpatched vulnerabilities are a favoured attack method used by cyber criminals and we would encourage organisations to ask the questions do we use this? **and is it patched?**

Support for home working

As an international, cross sector effort dedicated to eradicating cyber risk, the Global Cyber Alliance have released a number of recommended actions that can be implemented to reduce the risks associated with new having employees working remotely from home.

The actions outlined by GCA include, Patch to Protect, Sign in Securely, Defend against Phishing & Malware and Public Wi-Fi Wisdom.

Whether its employers having to roll out remote working for the first time, or employees who have never previously had to plug in at home, providing support in these key areas is an essential step towards protecting the integrity of an organisations network.

GCA has also created a 'Work From Home' community forum where subject experts are at hand to answer questions. Global Cyber Alliance

Action Fraud latest

As of 30/04/2020, some 1,326 Covid19 related UK frauds had been reported to Action Fraud resulting in losses of £2,798,163.

NCSC outline the new NHS COVID-19 app

As you will be aware from media reports, the new NHS COVID-19 contact tracing app is due for release this week, first on trial and then across the UK.

As you would expect, the privacy and security of app users' data has been a priority and the NCSC have today released 3 documents outlining its work in relation to the app such as advising on best practice throughout the app's development.

Alongside individuals making decisions on downloading to personal phones, many sole traders, owners or employees may seek to download the app on work related devices. We would encourage everyone to review the NCSC document that best meets their needs with a view to answering questions you may have.

A **technical paper**, '*High level privacy and security design for NHSX Covid-19 Contact Tracing App*,'

A **blog post**, '*The security behind the NHS contact tracing app*,'

An **explainer** setting out how the app will help slow the spread of coronavirus whilst protecting your privacy.

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