



CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH
AGAINST SCAMS PARTNERSHIP

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scams Partnership Charter

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scams Partnership (CAPASP) is a partnership of organisations committed to taking a stand against scams and aims to make Cambridgeshire and Peterborough a scam-free county.

Scams are fraud and fraud is crime. Being a victim of this crime can have a devastating impact. These crimes are often targeted at people in our communities that are vulnerable for a variety of reasons, including poverty, isolation, frailty, disability, cognitive impairment, and by the very nature of them being specifically targeted.

- 53% of people aged 65+ have been targeted by scams and criminals (Action Fraud)
- Scams cost the UK between £5-10 billion each year (Annual Fraud Indicator)
- Anyone can be a scam victim, regardless of age, gender, education or economic background
- Scam victims might not always admit (or be aware) that they are a victim of a scam. Only 5% of victims report the crime (Age UK 2015)
- Scams are the product of organised, predatory criminals who gain trust to exploit and steal money

For support and advice on scams (e.g. rogue traders, romance scams, scam mail, telephone calls, text messages, emails), call Citizens Advice Consumer Service on **03454 04 05 06**

For a non-emergency response (if you have been a victim of a fraud/scam), call Cambridgeshire Police on **101**

If you have been affected by crime, get emotional and practical help from Cambridgeshire Victim and Witness Hub on **0800 781 6818**

To report a fraud, or suspected fraud, and share information to help stop others from becoming victims, call Action Fraud on **0300 123 2040**



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How are we going to do it?

The CAPASP is united in taking a stand against scams and making Cambridgeshire and Peterborough a hostile county to criminals. Join us in making a difference and commit to the Charter.

Charter party commitment:

We will work together in partnership to raise awareness of scams and to support victims of scams. **Scams are fraud, and fraud is crime.** Together we will take a stand against scams by assisting people to protect themselves, helping prevent people from being targeted by criminals and identifying and supporting any victims of scams. We are committed to the Charter's four key aims:

1. Communications

- Improve public and business awareness of scams and increase knowledge about the steps they can take to protect themselves
- Share consistent messaging and definitions to the public, partners and media

2. Prevention and Training Tools

- Participate in the Friends Against Scams initiative, and run awareness raising sessions
- Increase the protection that everyone, and especially people in vulnerable circumstances, should have against scams
- Take steps to make it more difficult for anyone to be targeted by criminals
- Introduce stronger obstacles and safeguards on the mechanisms used by perpetrators to reach their victims

3. Reporting and Referral Pathways

- Introduce consistent definitions and recording of scams to aid understanding of the true scale of the impact of scams
- Develop improved joint working and referral pathways between organisations and common support pathways for victims

4. Supporting Victims

- Improve and streamline the early identification of potential victims of scams and ensure they are offered appropriate support
- Promote the Scam Marshals scheme to victims as a way of empowering them in the fight against scams
- Remove or reduce any possible stigma and embarrassment about being a victim of scams and ensure victims are supported like victims of other crimes

For further details on the Charter and how you can take a stand against scams, visit: www.cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/capasp