

TIAA's Be Scam (Fraud)

Savvy Month

Donation Fraud

Fraudsters are always looking for a new way to make money and the Ukraine crisis has created the perfect opportunity for them.

Hundreds of fake charity websites have been set up by on-line scammers to trick people who want to make a donation to the Ukrainians. Some fake websites have even used the branding of charities such as Save the Children.

The Charity Commission and Fundraising Regulator have urged the public to give safely to registered charities to support those affected by the war, so that donations reach their intended causes.

If you have been the victim of a scam or fraud, please report it to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or at www.actionfraud.police.uk Contact your bank immediately if you think you may have lost money.

How to protect yourself

Before giving any financial information, check the charity's name and registration number at 'search the charity register' - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk). Most charities with an annual income or £5,000 or more must be registered.

Be very careful when responding to emails requesting donations or clicking on links within the emails. Remember that they could be fake and designed to steal your money and personal information.

Find out more about the charity that you want to donate to and understand how they spend their funds. The Charity Commission advises giving to registered charities with experience delivering humanitarian aid.

Look for the Fundraising Badge on charity fundraising materials. This is the Fundraising Regulator's logo which shows that a charity has committed to fundraise in line with the Code of Fundraising Practice.

Fraudsters may also approach people on the street. Ask to see their collector's ID badge and check that they have a licence to fundraise from the local authority.

For more information about how our Anti-Crime Team can help you, please contact:

- **David Foley**, Regional Managing Director
- **M: 07786 856 973** | **E: David.Foley@tiaa.co.uk**

