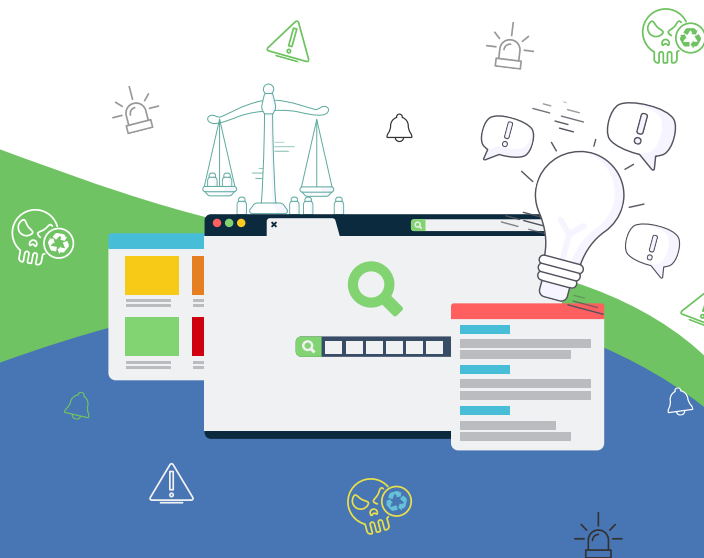


WHAT TO DO IF YOU'RE THE VICTIM OF AN

# INVESTMENT SCAM



Follow our four steps on what to do if you think you have been scammed, you're concerned about an investment or you have been contacted by fraudsters



It can be easy to fall for an investment scam: the people that run them are skilled and experienced at persuading targets to part with their money



If you think you have been contacted about a scam or paid money to fraudsters, there are steps you can take to protect yourself and help stop them for good



## 1 STOP SENDING MONEY

If you think you have been scammed you should stop sending money to the firm and individuals involved

If you have given them your bank account details, tell your bank immediately



STOP



BREATHE



INFORM

## 2

### REPORT THE SCAM TO ACTION FRAUD & THE POLICE

Next you should report the scam to the appropriate authorities

Action Fraud will especially be interested if you sent money to a bank account or by another type of money transfer

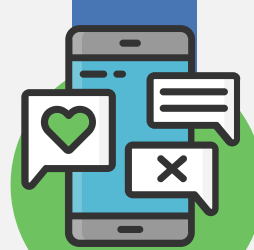
YOU WILL BE GIVEN A CRIME REFERENCE NUMBER

CALL ON:  
0300 123 2040

THE REPORTING PROCESS CAN BE COMPLETED ONLINE

Action Fraud

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU FULLY COMPLETE THE REPORTING PROCESS



## 3

### BE AWARE YOU MAY BE TARGETED AGAIN

If you have been the victim of a scam, or simply been contacted by fraudsters, you may be targeted again

Fraudsters will take advantage of you by:

Reassuring you of their (fake) legitimacy

Threatened with legal action

Give an offer for them to buy back your shares

Told they can help you recover your money

THEY MAY PRETEND TO BE FROM AN OFFICIAL AGENCY

THESE ARE ALL FAKE & ARE WAYS FOR THEM TO TAKE MORE OF YOUR MONEY

THEY MAY BE THE SAME PEOPLE OR ENTIRELY NEW FRAUDSTERS

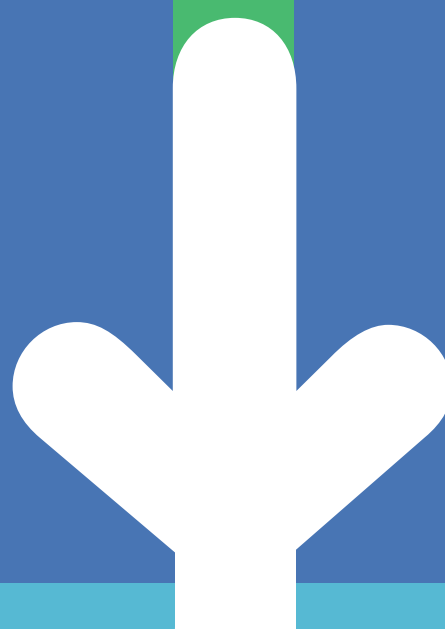
## 4

### AVOID BEING SCAMMED AGAIN

We recommend only dealing with financial services firms that are approved by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) here: <https://register.fca.org.uk/s/>

Remember:

- authorised firms are very unlikely to contact you out of the blue offering shares
- it is also unlikely for law enforcement agencies & other agencies from abroad to contact you



@NEBRCentre



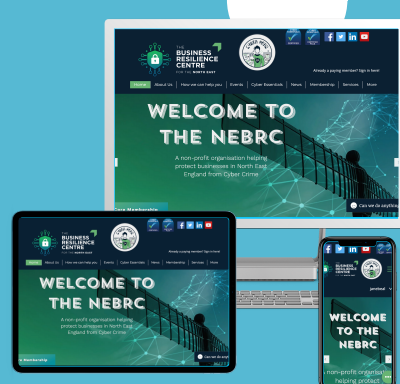
enquiries@nebrcentre.co.uk



@NorthEastBusinessResilienceCentre



## GET IN TOUCH



<https://www.nebrcentre.co.uk/>