

Fraudsters are constantly becoming more intelligent with the ways they commit crimes.

Protecting and preventing our clients falling victim to fraud and scams is of upmost importance to us. In line with our commitment to our values and ethics we strive to educate clients and colleagues, to help people spot the warning signs of fraud and identify the types of scams that they may be targeted with.



Our approach to fraud prevention involves a risk-based system which is designed to protect our clients against fraud. We also balance the client's need to have a frictionless journey when carrying out their day-to-day service needs with us.

We want to ensure that you feel secure and educated against one of the fastest growing types of crime in the UK. So, if you don't feel sure when speaking to someone you don't know, or you have received digital correspondence that you aren't happy about, contact us and speak to your usual contact.

# Information sources and guidance for our clients:

The UK Financial services regulator, the FCA, provides the following information and guidance that helps consumers with awareness of scams, how to protect yourself, as well as how to report them.







In addition, the national "Stop Fraud" organisation promotes awareness & guidance for consumers.







# Beware of pension and investment scams

Fraudsters are becoming more sophisticated, and are targeting people who've withdrawn, or plan to withdraw, money from their pension and other accounts. Scams can include free pension & investment reviews, the chance to release money early, and they can even persuade people to transfer their pension as part of an investment scam. These scams tend to involve firms and/or investments which aren't regulated by the FCA, so if you fall victim to them there may be no compensation available.

Visit the pension scam hub to find out how to spot a scam, what to do to avoid them, and who to contact if you think you've been scammed.

## fca.org.uk/consumers/pension-scams

# Additional support

If a scam has left you struggling financially, you can contact **Citizens Advice** to help you find a way forward. You can speak to an adviser through its national phone service, Adviceline, on 03444 111 444, which is available from 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday.

If you've been defrauded or experienced cybercrime you should report it to Action Fraud either **online** or by calling 0300 123 2040.

You can report any cold calls or messages to the **Information Commissioner's Office.** 

If you need to talk to someone about how you're feeling, you can contact **Victim Support** either online or via their support line on 0808 1689111.

You can also contact **The Samaritans** at any time of the day or night on 116 123.



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### **Risk Warnings**

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Key Risks: Capital at risk. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The value of an investment and the income generated from it can go down as well as up, and is not guaranteed, therefore you may not get back the amount originally invested. Investment markets and conditions can change rapidly. Investments should always be considered long term.

This Information represents our understanding of current law and HM Revenue & Customs practice as at June 2023. Tax assumptions and reliefs depend upon an investor's particular circumstances and may change if those circumstances or the law change. Tax and Estate Planning Services (including Trusts) are not regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

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