

At this time of year, genuine charities will be seeking donations. However, fraudsters may seek to exploit the Xmas period with fake charities or, copycat websites of the genuine charity.

They may send out phishing communications using email, text and social media, in order to deceive you into believing they are genuine, which may result in clicking on a malicious link and submitting your bank information into a fake website and the possession of the criminal.

To check if a charity is registered, visit [gov.uk/checkcharity](https://www.gov.uk/checkcharity) and rather than click on a link, do some internet research and visit the genuine website if you want to donate. Before you enter bank card details into the webpage, ensure not only that the site is genuine, but the web address in the top URL address bar displays HTTPS meaning the link between your device and the payment webpage is secure. The same applies for telephone numbers, I would suggest that you don't call the number within the communication, instead, do your internet research and identify the genuine charity website and follow the donation options listed.

For more information visit <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/charities>

#FraudFreeXmas

Best wishes



Donate with confidence at Christmas

- Check the charity name and registration number at: [gov.uk/checkcharity](https://www.gov.uk/checkcharity)
- Make sure the charity is genuine before giving any personal or financial information.

Action Fraud **CITY OF LONDON POLICE** **FR FUNDRAISING REGULATOR** **CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

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