

I am sure we are all aware of the ongoing wide range of scams attempting to take advantage of vulnerable people.

National Trading Standards have been actively working in this area for some time.

There is a huge amount of useful information on the National Trading Standards Scams Team website –

<https://www.nationaltradingstandards.uk/work-areas/scams-team/>



There is also an excellent online learning session

at: <https://www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk/training/friends-elearning?xPage=125>

This covers:

Chapter 1: Why is learning about scams important?

Chapter 2: Types of Scams

Chapter 3: How to spot a victim...

Chapter 4: Anyone can be a scam victim...

Chapter 5: Spot the signs

Chapter 6: Top Tips - what can you do to protect yourself and/or others?

Chapter 7: Reporting a Scam

Chapter 8: Congratulations - You are now a Friend Against Scams

Chapter 9: If you would like to do more...

The training only lasts half an hour or so and has some material that would be very useful for pastoral teams. I am pleased to tell you I am now a 'Friend Against Scams' and a 'SCAMChampion'.

Many local Trading Standards Teams also provide more locally based information about scams.

Please do think about doing the training and how you may be able to support those in our churches and communities who may be vulnerable. As we know Covid is increasing loneliness and isolation which makes people more vulnerable to scams.