CEO fraud, ransomware, mandate fraud and other crimes happen to businesses like yours every day.

That's why keeping safe online is *everybody's* business.

Internet Safety Starts with

you.

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BEDFORDSHIRE POLICE
Protecting People and Fighting Crime
Together

In the last year, one in five businesses has been the victim of a cyberattack*

That's only the businesses that reported it or were aware they'd been compromised, and this figure doesn't include fraud perpetrated by phone or post.

British Chamber of Commerce Survey, April 2017

Businesses have become one of the most attractive targets for fraudsters, tending to have more money – and almost certainly hold more data – than private individuals.

Start to safeguard your business by following these top tips:

- **Choose, use and protect passwords** carefully, and use a different one for every account. You could start by using three random words and adding capitals, numbers and symbols.

- **Always download updates** to software, apps and operating systems when prompted, as they frequently contain security fixes.

- **Ensure that reputable internet security software and apps** are loaded, kept updated and switched on.

- **Never reveal too much personal or financial information** in response to emails, phone calls or letters. Check that such requests – or instructions to make payments or change payee details – are genuine, as senders or callers may not be who they seem.

- **Don't open attachments, or click on links** in emails, texts or social media if the source isn't 100% known and trustworthy.

- **Carefully control access to your data** – both by employees and externally. Protect your customers and employees from breaches, and your business from contravening the Data Protection Act.

Get to know the rules, make sure employees are kept updated with regular training and education sessions, and make security part of your culture.

You should also consider gaining certification to the government's Cyber Essentials scheme. If you want to do business with the government or are in a government supply chain, you may be obliged to do this anyway.

CYBER ESSENTIALS

For expert, practical, free advice visit www.getsafeonline.org/safebusiness [f] [y] @getsafeonline

Get Safe Online

Get Safe Online is the UK's leading source of information and advice on online safety and security, for the public and small businesses. It is a not-for-profit, public/private sector partnership backed by a number of government departments, law enforcement agencies and leading organisations in internet security, banking and retail.

For the full story on protecting yourself, your family, and keeping your finances and your workplace safe on the internet, visit **www.getsafeonline.org**

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