

Crime Updates Archive

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Directory scam warning for local businesses (9 November 2010)

Southend Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) would like to warn local businesses about an email scam currently doing the rounds.

An email sent from a company based in the Netherlands invites the recipient to register their business with an international directory.

It appears to be free but the small print explains that by registering, the customer agrees to a three-year subscription of around 1,000 Euros per year.

A few copies of the directory are printed, but not distributed, to suggest it is authentic.

Mick Holland, Community Engagement Officer, said: "We would always encourage businesses to minutely examine the small print before signing any agreement. This type of scam does occur quite regularly.

"The current economic climate means that we can expect businesses to be targeted by unscrupulous companies who are determined to extracted cash from unsuspecting business owners."

Anyone receiving an email from this type of company is asked to report the matter to Consumer Direct on 08454 04 05 06.

ENDS