



I have been told that some of you are receiving scam emails from the Inland Revenue, banks, charities, any well known organisation. These scam emails seem very credible and look very authentic and regardless for the reason in the message, end up asking for you to supply your banking details by clicking on the link they helpfully supply.

Never respond to these emails.

As with all deceptions, they rely on us not looking too deeply into their email, that the screen shows us what we expect to see and that because it comes from an 'official' source, we must respond with the information they are asking for, although sometimes we don't even have an account with them!

If you want to check on the authenticity of the message, look up a contact number for the company using the phone book or the internet, (don't use any contact details from the message), and ask to speak to their Fraud Department. They will be happy to verify whether the email is genuine and often ask for the email to be forwarded to them so that they can investigate the matter themselves.

Most companies will not need to ask for your banking details and if they do, they will do it by post on company headed paper.

Always think – Why do they need this information?

For more advice, go the Home office website -
www.homeoffice.gov.uk or <http://www.getsafeonline.org/>