

ROMANCE SCAM

Threat

Feigned online romantic intentions towards a victim, gaining their affection, and then using that goodwill to commit fraud.

Description

Fraudsters look for potential victims via online dating agencies / chat room. After gaining trust and commitment from the victim, the fraudsters will ask the victim to send them money for reasons such as "medical treatment for their parents", or "want to visit you but have no money".

Consequences

Once the victim sends money, there will be further requests until the scam is detected or the victim is broke.

Awareness

General awareness of the perils of online romances and sending money to people you have not met in person.

Other indicators;

- The relationship develops seriously in a short space of time,
- The person is reluctant to divulge person details that can be easily verified,
- The person is unable to share many photos of themselves may be an indicator they are using someone else's image,
- The person needs money for an emergency.

For more information, please contact your ANZ representative.

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