

scam

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# Investment Scams



Scam emails, social media messages and online adverts offering amazing investment schemes or huge returns for a small initial payment, which often use images of celebrities or the branding of legitimate companies.

These scams particularly target those who are in financial difficulties.

## Common Scams




Beat the cost of living crisis with this one great cryptocurrency investment tip!

[Click here to find out more!](#)


Follow this revolutionary way to survive financially...

Click here to find out how to make thousands of pounds through a new Bitcoin investment scheme backed by Martin Lewis...




Find out which celebrity makes £125k a month using this unbelievable investment scheme!

Enter your details to find out how you can change your life with one small investment...



Hi, thanks for taking an interest in our investment opportunity! Start earning straight away - just download this app and transfer £100. I'll also need to see a scan of ID such as a driving licence or passport...



# Avoid Investment Scams



**Before making any investment, check that the company has been authorised by the FCA**

Check the Financial Services Register at [register.fca.org.uk](https://register.fca.org.uk) - check that the firm's contact details match the details on the Register



**The FCA warns that most firms advertising and selling investments in cryptoassets are not authorised by them**

They advise that whenever you invest in crypto you should see prominent warnings about the risk of losing your money. You shouldn't be offered any free gifts to join or bonuses to refer a friend



**Be wary of social media adverts or messages offering huge returns for a small initial payment.**

Be suspicious if you are contacted via phone, email or social media by someone you don't know about an investment opportunity. Never respond to requests to send money from someone you don't know



**Seek advice from someone you trust or from a financial advisor accredited by the FCA before making a decision**

Don't be rushed - be suspicious of tactics such as repeated attempts to contact you across different channels, incentives to buy before a specific deadline or promises of large returns and financial success



**Report investment scams**

Financial scams can be reported to the FCA on **0800 111 6768** or via [www.fca.org.uk/contact](https://www.fca.org.uk/contact)

If you have lost money, **contact your bank and report it to Police Scotland on 101**

If you are struggling with money and don't know where to turn, contact the Scottish Illegal Money Lending Unit in confidence on **0800 074 0878** or find organisations who can help on their website: [www.stopillegallending.co.uk](https://www.stopillegallending.co.uk)

Find out more:

[www.tsscot.co.uk/scamshare](https://www.tsscot.co.uk/scamshare)

