

Police online safety warning



Police are urging members of the public to stay safe online after a number of recent reports of people being extorted for money on social media.

Over the last month Police Scotland has received reports from members of the public who have communicated with unsolicited individuals on social media platforms. These communications have then encouraged the victim to compromise themselves, leading to demands for money.

Detective Inspector Alan O'Brien said: "In the incidents that we are aware of, the victims were all young men who frequently use social media and who were contacted by someone they were led to believe was genuine to undertake sexually explicit acts.

"I would urge everyone to exercise caution whenever they engage in conversation with someone online who they do not personally know.

"Never give out any personal information or send out anything that may leave you in a vulnerable position.

"Anyone who has had a similar approach online or wishes to report falling victim to this scam is asked to contact police immediately."

Those with information can contact Police Scotland on 101 or alternatively, the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.