

Police warn public to be vigilant of fraudulent ticket sales online

Police Scotland is warning the public to be vigilant of fraudulent ticket sales online ahead of high demand events and concerts this summer.

In 2024 there were 422 reported incidents of frauds across Scotland involving the online sale of tickets for major events, and the highest number of incidents in one month were reported in May with 51 cases.

Many of these frauds are taking place online on marketplace platforms rather than legitimate online retailers and are not connected to the artists, venues or organisers.

At least 80% of reported incidents of ticket fraud last year were advertised on Facebook, and 38% involved a social media account being hacked.

Scammers, or ticket 'touts', may typically send an email or message offering tickets for a high demand or sold-out event at 'too good to be true' prices.

Officers say that people should ensure they are buying from legitimate sources, checking any bank details being provided.

If you are being asked to pay by cash or bank transfer rather than a reputable online payment method, this is another

warning sign of fraudulent tickets.

Before purchasing, carefully review the ticket details to ensure their authenticity. Check for accurate event information, including the date, time, and venue. Pay attention to the seating section or assigned seats, which can indicate fraudulent tickets.

Detective Inspector Alasdair Penny, Cybercrime Harm Prevention Unit, said: "We are aware of a number of highly anticipated events this summer including TRNSMT festival in July and the Oasis reunion tour in August.

"We want to make sure the public is aware of how to spot potential fraudulent sales.

"Be vigilant. If a price or offer seems too good to be true, it probably is.

"Before purchasing, carefully review the ticket details for accurate event information, including the date, time, and venue. Pay attention to the seating section or assigned seats, which can indicate fraudulent tickets.

"Buy from legitimate sources, check bank details provided and use secure payment methods. Credit cards and reputable online payment platforms offer additional protection against fraudulent transactions. Avoid paying with cash, wire transfers, or unsecured payment methods.

"Please report any fraudulent activity to police. We will fully investigate, and we work alongside partners to raise awareness and tackle those involved in such offences."

More information on online safety can be found on [Police Scotland's website at](#): or on the [Trading Standards Scotland website](#):