Donate Safely to Charity

With the ongoing events in Ukraine creating an ever increasing humanitarian crisis, the work carried out by charities and voluntary organisations is invaluable in helping those in need.

Sadly, organised criminals are seizing on opportunities for their own gains with the charity sector being an attractive target. Fake appeals, organisations and payment portals can be tricky to spot, as the time is diligently taken to make them appear as authentic as possible.

Various charitable organisations are reporting fake web pages and social media profiles which are asking for donations.
Charities welcome your generosity in their support and by making simple online checks before you donate, you can ensure your money reaches registered charities and genuine appeals .

Get Safe Online has valuable advice when donating to charities online. Take time to make sure you are safe to proceed, by checking the web links and charities' official web pages for information.

Robert Smith, Contract Compliance Manager at Serco NorthLink Ferries is encouraging that donations go to their intended purpose; "Criminals are setting up fake websites and social media profiles in order to steal funds from generous donations. Donators must be cautious of any links or requests asking you to donate which come via email, phone call, text message or social media. Make sure to verify that your donations are going to a trusted organisation."

The Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) is an umbrella body that brings together 15 UK aid charities in times of crisis; both the Office of the Scottish Charity Register and the Charity Commission for England and Wales have provided guidance on giving safely to support the Ukraine response.