Intelligence Alert

GSC OFFICIAL ☐ OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE X

Evaluation		
Source Evaluation	1	Reliable
Intelligence Evaluation	A	Known directly
Handling Code	C	Lawful sharing permitted with conditions
National Intelligence Model Level	1: Local issue Currently only one LA member affected	
Handling Conditions	Cannot be shared outside of the member organisation. Contents must not be uploaded to any public facing websites.	

Mandate Fraud – Salary Diversion Alert

A NAFN member reports that two local schools have received emails purporting to be from the Headteacher. Each email requested a change to their personal bank account details for payroll purposes.

Our member identified the emails were spoofed by selecting "*File",* then *Properties* on the actual emails and looking through the *Internet Headers* section, which provided details of the actual email account to which any responses would be sent.

Prior to the incidents, both schools had been subject to internal audits, which identified weaknesses in key financial controls. The outcome of each audit was published online and included the following:

- Name of the school
- A summary of findings
- Areas of weakness within the financial controls (which could include payroll).

Our member believes the cyber criminals may have used this publicly available information to target the schools and send the fraudulent emails. It is important to raise awareness regarding this, as the fraudsters may target further schools/departments within local authorities/public sector organisations.

This matter is subject to a live investigation, therefore the bank details and email address used in the fraudulent emails have not been provided in this alert.

NAFN receive many reports of fraud but given the potential loss to the public purse, it is important to continue raising awareness. Please distribute this alert among relevant staff members. **If you would like to report any instances of the above information being used in similar fraud attempts please email them to** intel@nafn.gov.uk **and the details will be forwarded to the relevant teams. Please also report to Action Fraud**. Alerts provide information about fraud, risks and trends which may affect members; your contributions are vital – please email them to NAFN. Where appropriate please include handling restrictions.