Intelligence Alert

GSC OFFICIAL ☐ OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE ☒

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.	

Standing Order Fraud Alert

A NAFN member has reported that a number of NatWest branches have received letters, purporting to be from a school requesting standing orders be set up and made payable to various bank accounts.

The letters included the logo, telephone number, postal and email address of the school, in addition to an authorised signatory of the Head Teacher, which had been forged. The standing orders were to be set up for quarterly payments beginning **20 June 2025** in amounts ranging from **8,400** to **9,100** (no currency was stated). One letter requested a monthly standing order of **£2,600** from **9 June 2025**. All standing orders were to use the reference "**APService**". Each letter requested payments be made to one of the following bank account details:

Bank Name: Virgin Money
Account Number: 60495611
Sort code: 821975
Account Name: Sairam Tatineni

Bank Name: HSBC Bank plc
Account Number: 44282922
Sort code: 401262
Account Name: Ramoji Etikala

Bank Name: Lloyds Bank plc
Account Number: 26080762
Sort code: 309980
Account Name: Divya Gamini

Due to the vigilance of the bank, the fraudulent requests were not processed. Our member confirms the schools in their area have been advised to check their bank accounts in order to identify any fraudulent standing orders and ensure no unauthorised payments have left their account. They have also been reminded of the need to have robust bank reconciliation processes in place. We urge you to circulate the content of this alert to teams processing payments/payment requests.

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.