# Cyber Security Awareness

@LJMU

## SINCE THE START OF COVID RANSOMWARE HAS AFFECTED…



- 10 UK Universities

- 11 FE Colleges

- Multiple schools and academy trusts

The education sector is a target of choice for cyber-criminals

Attacks increased 700% between 2019 and 2020

# WHO / WHY? THREAT ACTORS

- "Script kiddies" – unskilled, using tools purchased online

- Hacktivists – seeking to promote a cause or ideology

- Organised crime / gangs – motivated solely by money

- Nation states

- Insiders

"74% of data breaches start with credential abuse" - Forbes
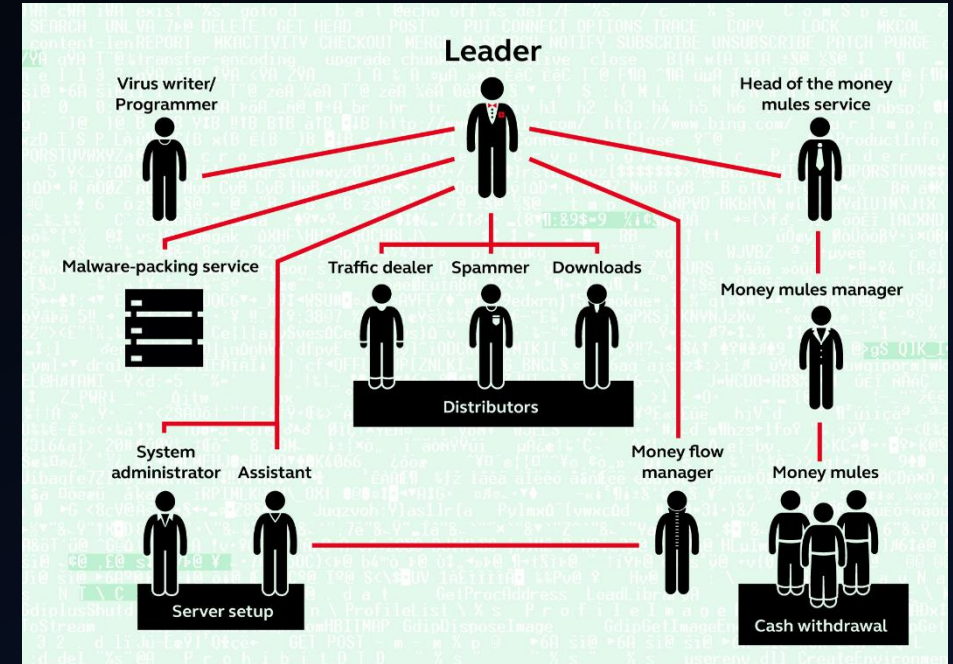
# KEEPING YOUR PASSWORD SAFE

- DON'T
  - Use weak passwords
  - Re-use passwords
  - Use information discoverable from social media
  - Use dictionary words
  - Use sequential numbers or letters
  - Use keyboard patterns, eg qwerty
  - Give your password to <u>anyone</u> (including ITS)

- DO
  - Use passphrases, or three random words
  - Use 2FA where available
  - Use a password manager
  - Test your account, set up alerts eg https://haveibeenpwned.com/

## TOP 10 BAD PASSWORDS

- 123456
- 123456789
- qwerty
- password
- 111111
- 12345678
- abc123
- 1234567
- password1
- 12345

## PREMIER LEAGUE PASSWORDS

1. liverpool
2. chelsea
3. arsenal
4. manutd
…
11. mancity

# WHAT IS PHISHING?

- Attempts to trick you into revealing personal data, eg username and password

- Often uses a malicious attachment, or a link to a malicious website

- Phishing is generally indiscriminate, sent to many recipients

- Spear phishing is targeted, and may use personal information harvested from other sources to increase credibility

- Victims of phishing at LJMU have had payroll data changed, and wages paid into the attacker's bank account!
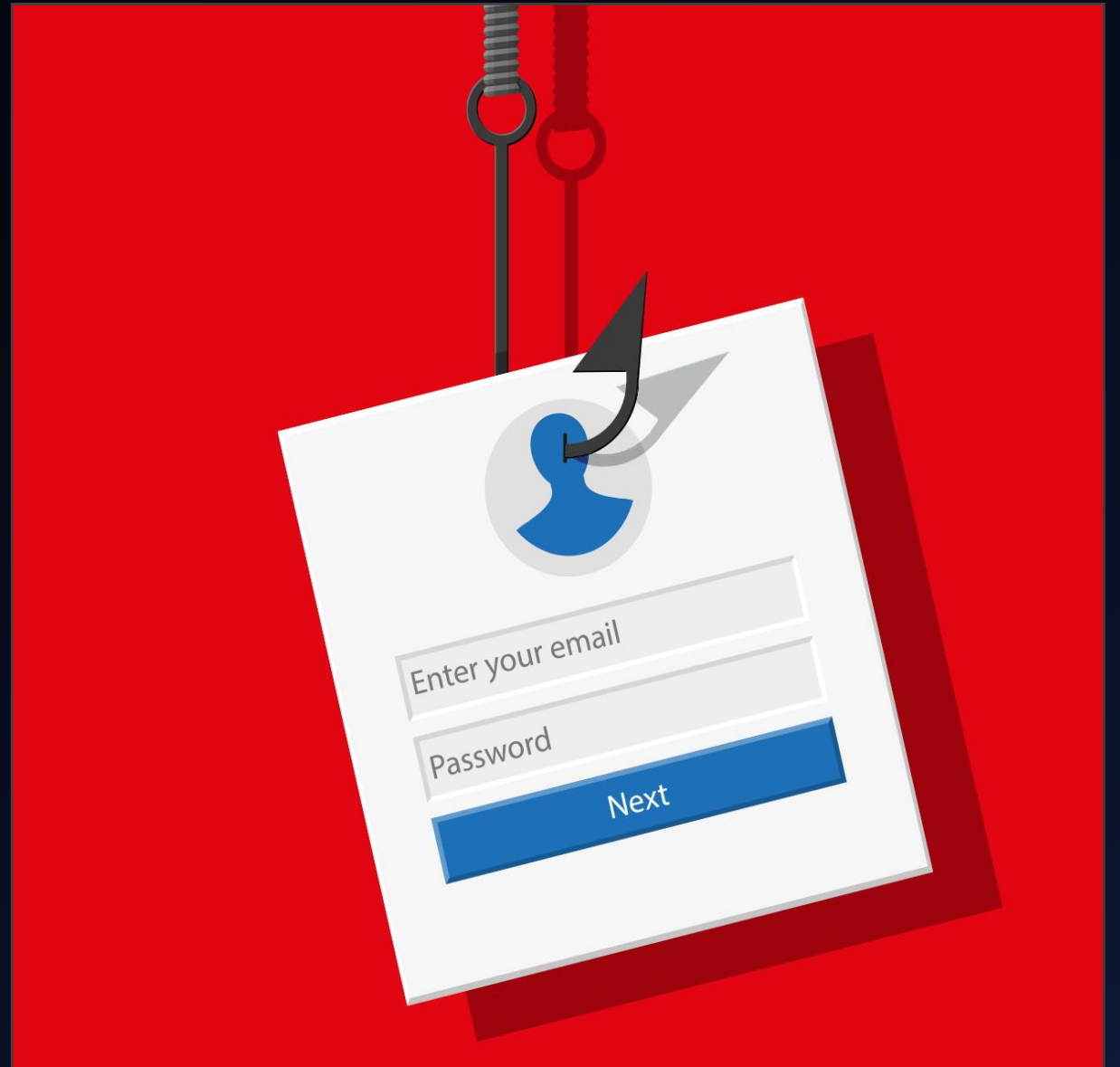
# HOW TO AVOID BEING PHISHED…

- Do not open attachments or click links in emails you were not expecting
- Check with the sender, eg by phone or text, to see if they really sent the email
- Think carefully before taking any action based on email requests
- Be especially suspicious if the email suggests a sense of urgency
- Other tactics used in phishing emails include:
    - Scarcity
    - Familiarity
    - Authority
- They often prey on our desire to help, and our tendency to trust

## USEFUL LINKS

Password Breach Lists:

- https://haveibeenpwned.com/

- https://breachalarm.com

- https://www.dehashed.com

- https://www.ncsc.gov.uk
  - Guidance on creating good passwords
  - General information on security and staying safe online