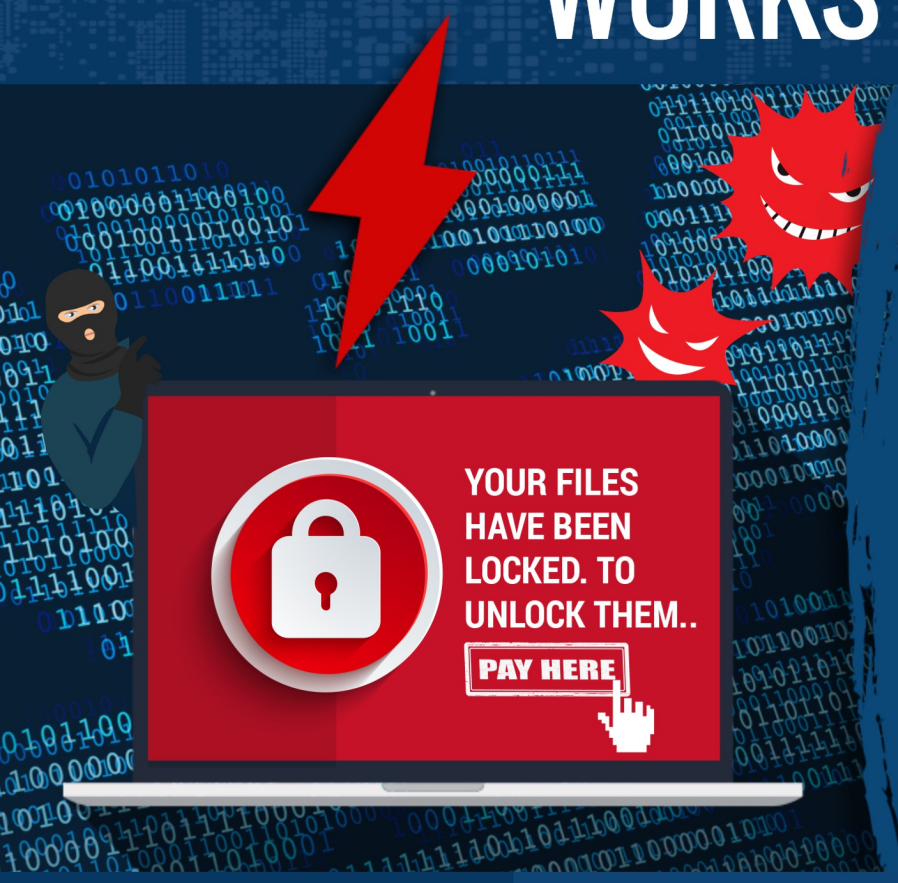
DO YOU REALLY KNOW...

...HOW RANSOMWARE WORKS?



Ransomware is a form of malicious software (Malware) that enables cyber criminals to remotely lock down files on your computer or mobile device. Criminals will use ransomware to extort money from you (a ransom), before they restore your access to the files. There are many ways that ransomware can infect your device, whether it be a link to a malicious website in an unsolicited email, or through a security vulnerability in a piece of software you use.

UK

The UK was among the top 5 countries affected by ransomware in 2015

Symantec - Evolution of ransomware 2015

90,000

The estimated number of devices infected in one week by a single piece of ransomware

http://www.forbes.com/

£514

The average ransomware demand

Symantec - Ransomware & Businesses 2016

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF...

- Don't click on links, or open any attachments, you receive in unsolicited emails or SMS messages. The links may lead to malicious websites, and any attachments could be infected with malware.
- Always install software updates as soon as they're available. Whether you're updating the operating system or an application, the update will often include fixes for critical security vulnerabilities.
- Install anti-virus software on your computer and mobile devices, and keep it updated. Bear in mind that ransomware can often be picked up by visiting disreputable websites including illegal movie streaming websites and some adult sites.
- Create regular backups of your important files to an external hard drive, memory stick or online storage provider. It's important that the device you back up to isn't left connected to your computer as any malware infection could spread to that too.
- Don't pay extortion demands as this only feeds into criminals' hands, and there's no guarantee that access to your files will be restored if you do pay.

ActionFraud
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