

In  
**2022/23**  
in England and  
Wales, Trading  
Standards:

CONDUCTED TEST  
PURCHASES FOR AGE-  
RESTRICTED ITEMS AT  
**6,075**  
PREMISES

DISCOVERED  
MORE THAN  
**6,300**  
BUSINESSES IN BREACH  
OF ANIMAL HEALTH &  
WELFARE LEGISLATION

IDENTIFIED  
MORE THAN  
**9,000**  
BUSINESSES SUPPLYING  
**FOOD** THAT WAS  
MISDESCRIBED, DID NOT  
DECLARE ALLERGENS, OR  
CONTAINED TOXINS

SEIZED MORE THAN  
**3.2 TONNES**  
OF ILLICIT TOBACCO &  
**14.3M**  
ILLEGAL CIGARETTES  
WORTH A COMBINED  
**£7.6M**

REMOVED ALMOST  
**4.9M**  
**UNSAFE PRODUCTS**  
FROM THE MARKET

Source: ACTSO

# SCAMS & VULNERABILITY

Criminals are always finding new ways to exploit and prey on the public, taking advantage of vulnerability to ensnare victims with doorstep scams, phishing emails, bogus websites and a host of other techniques. Trading Standards teams are on the front line of fighting back, helping to safeguard victims and working to bring scammers and rogue traders to justice.

**73%**   
of UK adults have been targeted  
by scams – that's 40 million of us

**£1,730**   
is the average amount  
lost by victims of scams

**JUST 32%**   
of scam victims actually  
report their experiences

**1.14M**   
scam calls were received  
from April 2022 to May 2023

**22%**   
increase in scams against Scottish  
consumers in the past year\*

**2,000+**   
banking copycat websites  
were reported in 2023\*\*

Source: National Trading Standards; \* Consumer Advice Scotland; \*\*Which?