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## Scam alert: Apache Log4j 2 library (CVE-2021-44228)

The NCSC (National Cyber Security Centre) is advising organisations to take steps to mitigate the Apache Log4j 2 vulnerability.

On Friday the 10th of December 2021, a zero-day was identified in the Apache Log4j 2 library, which is a common logging utility in services using Java technology, whereby an attacker can potentially manipulate the vulnerability to induce remote code execution on hosting applications without requirement to authenticate.

Log4j 2 is an open-source Java logging library developed by the Apache Foundation. **It is widely used in many applications and is present in many services as a dependency.** This includes enterprise applications, including custom applications developed within an organisation, as well as numerous cloud services.

An application which consumes untrusted user input and passes this to a vulnerable version of the Log4j logging library may also be exploited.

Please follow this link for more guidance and mitigation measures. [Alert: Active scanning for Apache Log4j 2 vulnerability... - NCSC.GOV.UK](#)

If you have received an email which you're not quite sure about, forward it to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk)

Phishing, what is it. Phishing is when criminals send scam e-mails, text messages or phone calls to trick their victims into doing something they otherwise would not do. The criminals aim is to make the victim click on a link within a fake email, visit a website and click on an attachment, which may download a virus onto their computer, or trick the victim into divulging their bank details or other personal data. The link below will explain in more detail how to report Phishing attempts and how to protect yourself from these scammers.

[Phishing: Spot and report scam emails, texts, websites and... - NCSC.GOV.UK](#)

If you have been a victim of crime, and it is not an ongoing emergency, you can report this to Police Scotland on 101.

*This alert was sent out for your information by Police Scotland Safer Communities  
Cybercrime Harm Prevention Unit - [PPCWCyberHarmPrevention@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:PPCWCyberHarmPrevention@scotland.pnn.police.uk)  
All information was correct at time of distribution. 13/12/2021.*

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