Current international and regional cybercrime trends

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Overview

- What is cybercrime
- Common types of cybercrime
- Emerging offences
- Trends in cybercrime

What is cybercrime

Cybercrimes are crimes which are:

- Directed at computers or other devices, or
- Where computers or other devices are integral to the offence

Common types of cybercrime

- Some common types of cybercrime include:

  - Attacks on computer systems
  - Email spam and phishing
  - Identity theft
  - Online child sexual abuse material
  - Online scams or fraud
  - Online trading issues

Attacks on computer systems

- Criminals are able to exploit vulnerabilities on computers and other devices.

- Techniques they use include:
  - Unauthorised access or hacking
  - Malware
  - Denial of service attacks

Online scams or fraud

Common types of online scams include:

- Unexpected prize scams

- Unexpected money scams

- Dating or romance scams

- Threats or extortion scams

- Jobs and investment scams

- Identity theft

Identity theft

Identity theft can occur by:

- Deceiving people to give out their personal or financial details

- Hacking online accounts

- Retrieving personal information from social media

- Illegally accessing information from business databases

Consequences of identity theft can include:

- Accessing financial accounts

- Opening new accounts and building debt in your name

- Taking control of your accounts

- Using your identity to commit further criminal activity

- Pretending to be you to embarrass or misrepresent you

Online child sexual abuse material

Child exploitation has transformed with the advent of the internet.

Offences include:

- Accessing, possessing, distributing, producing, advertising or making available child pornography or child abuse material

- Procuring, grooming or engaging in sexual activity with a child

- Sending indecent communication to a child

Emerging offences

- Criminals are using increasingly sophisticated means to commit cybercrime

- In particular, the following offences are emerging:
  - Pretending to be institutions to obtain a benefit
  - Hijacking attacks
  - Cryptocurrency theft
  - Intimate images/revenge porn

Trends in cybercrime

- As reliance on technology grows, the cost and incidence of cybercrime is expected to increase.

- Cybercrime is costing the Australian economy up to $1 billion annually in direct costs alone

- Online marketplace for tools to commit cybercrime are increasingly popular

- Encrypted services are becoming increasingly popular e.g. WhatsApp

Trends in cybercrime

- Mutual assistance requests have grown in response to the increase in cybercrime

- Offences directed at computer systems have grown, as have offences that utilise computer systems

Questions?