

Annex A

Completed Prosecutions and Pending Court Cases

Table 1: Scambuster Prosecutions 1st April 2014 to 31st August 2016

Operation	Summary	Outcome
Whisky	On-line bogus recruitment and CRB checking scam. No actual jobs and paid for CRB checks not carried out.	Sole trader (guilty plea). 6 months imprisonment, suspended for two years. 180 hours unpaid community work. £2,466 compensation to victims and £5,048.prosecution costs.
Digger	On –line airline tickets scam. Paid for tickets not provided.	Company director and company (guilty pleas). Company fined £1,000. Director given 12 Community Order, 150 hours unpaid work, disqualified from acting as a company director for 5 years and ordered to pay £9,407 compensation to victims.
Belle	Council tax re banding scam. Fee paid to have a homeowner’s property re banded. No or minimal work carried out. Over 1,600 complaints received by trading standards with an estimated value of the fraud of over £250K.	Sole trader (guilty plea) and two employees (convicted following a trial). Sole trader imprisoned for 5 years and 10 months and disqualified form acting as a company director for 13 years. One employee imprisoned for 2 years the other 6 months imprisonment suspended for 2 years.

Hopsack	Confiscation proceedings under the Proceeds of Crime Act against 6 defendants who had previously convicted of operating a second hand car dealership defrauding consumers.	Total criminal benefit determined by Leeds Crown Court to be £26,565,449 and the Judge ordered the total to be repaid by the defendants as £6,552,302. Of this the 'main' defendant was ordered to repay £6,203,025 and in addition pay £44,430 compensation to his victims. The defendants' company was fined £250K. (The main defendant failed to pay all of his confiscation order and was sentenced to a further 6 years imprisonment in default).
Hector	On-line business grants scam. Victims were told a 70% grant was available for website development (if they paid 30% of the cost). No grant and no work carried to justify the monies paid.	Sole trader (guilty plea). 18 months imprisonment suspended for two years, 300 hours of unpaid work, £8,776 prosecution costs and £13,255 compensation to be repaid to victims.
Krypton	Rogue builders. Aggressive selling, pressurising vulnerable consumers into paying for unnecessary work,	Father and son (guilty pleas), Father 3 years imprisonment, disqualified as acting as a company director for 12 years and ordered to pay £10,000 compensation to one of his victims. Son 80 hours of unpaid work and £500 prosecution costs.

Nail	<p>Itinerant drive tarmacing gang targeting vulnerable elderly home owners. Overcharging and carrying out unnecessary and very poor quality work.</p>	<p>Father and son (guilty pleas). Each sentenced to 2 years imprisonment. Father also ordered to pay £10,000 prosecution costs and £3,950 compensation to their victims.</p>
Angel	<p>Employees of a kitchen retail business (operating under numerous business names from accommodation addresses). Misrepresentation as to the quality of the product, standards of customer service and breaches of trade marks legislation. Over 1,700 complaints with consumer detriment of over £2.6m.</p>	<p>6 defendants (one guilty plea, others found guilty following 5 month trial at Manchester Crown Court). All imprisoned (18 months, 15 months, 12 months, 9 months, 9 months and 6 months). All to face confiscation proceedings under the Proceeds of Crime Act.</p>

Table 2: Scambuster Cases Before Crown Court to 31st March 2018

Operation	Summary	Court/Trial Estimate
Cleo 2 (Part 1)	Copycat websites. First trial of 4 defendants on single charge of conspiracy to defraud. 494 witnesses. Assets restrained pending any confiscation proceedings.	Teesside Crown Court/ September 2016 for 12 weeks
Aquarius 2	A 'revisit' to an old Proceeds of Crime confiscation order to apply for the defendant to make additional 'payback'	Wood Green Crown Court / October 2016 1 day hearing
Smudge	Roofing repair/insulation business targeting vulnerable elderly consumers. Defendants are 3 company directors and contractor. Overcharging and carrying out unnecessary work. Assets restrained pending any confiscation proceedings	Leeds Crown Court / October 2016 for 10 weeks
Flip	Medical bed supplier. Defendants are company secretary (husband) and sole director (wife). Falsely purporting to carry out a survey (rather than selling) and aggressive commercial practices targeted at vulnerable consumers. Assets restrained pending any confiscation proceedings	Leeds Crown Court / January 2017 for 1 week for wife only(husband has entered guilty pleas)

Dougal (Part 1)	Copycat websites. First trial of 4 defendants on single charge of conspiracy to defraud. 428 witnesses. Assets restrained pending any confiscation proceedings.	Teesside Crown Court / April 2016 for 12 weeks (1 defendant has entered a guilty plea)
Cindy	Copycat 'passport' website. Various fraud offences. Company director and company defendants. Assets restrained pending any confiscation proceedings.	Leeds Crown Court / June 2017 for 6 weeks
Funder	Vacuum cleaning repair company. 3 defendants. Cold calling householders making false claims about necessary repairs and aggressive practice to sell new overpriced cleaners to mainly elderly vulnerable consumers. Assets restrained pending any confiscation proceedings.	Leeds Crown Court / June 2017 for 4 weeks
Angel 2	3 further employees of the kitchen business in Operation Angel. Also confiscation proceedings against convicted defendants and the 'absent' proprietor of the business who absconded in December 2013. Assets restrained pending any confiscation proceedings	Manchester Crown Court / November 2017 for 6 weeks with various preliminary hearings.

Cleo 2 Part 2/ Dougal and Dougal 2	13 additional defendants/ charges have been 'put on' hold pending the outcomes of linked proceedings.	Teesside Crown Court / Awaiting listing dates.
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