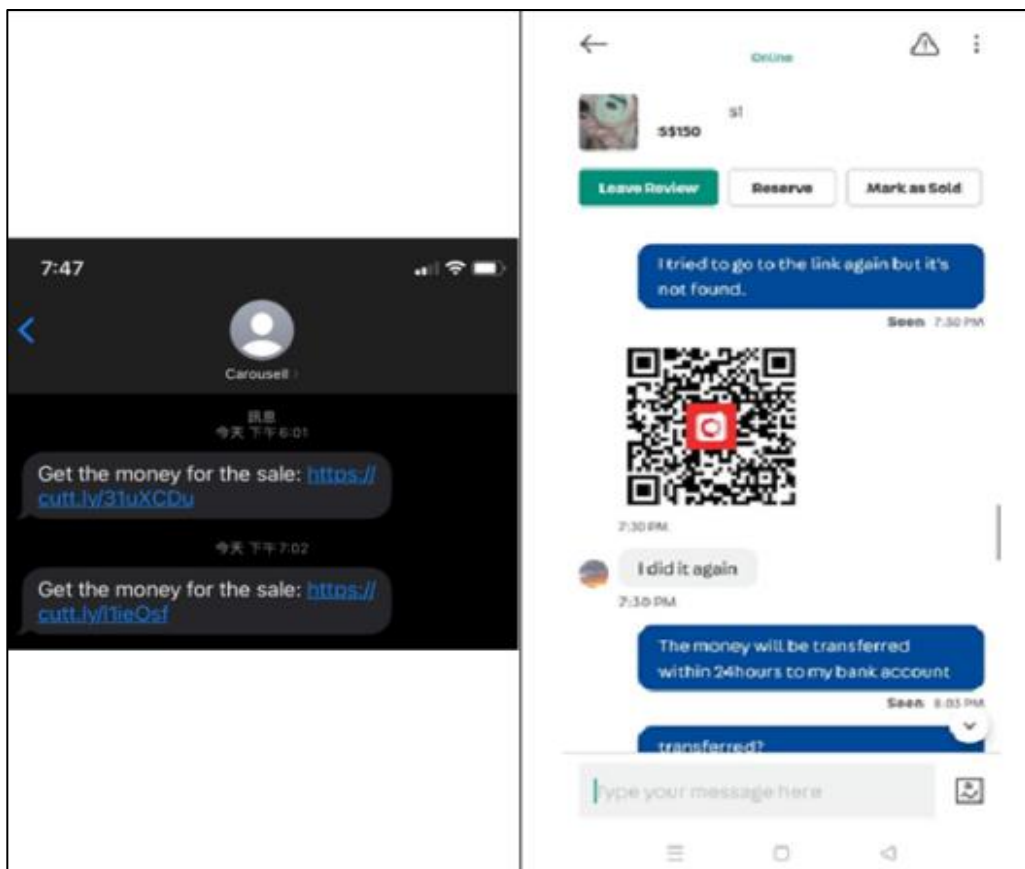


POLICE ADVISORY FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In the first edition of our Police Advisory for 2023, we would like to highlight the sharp increase of Phishing scams involving fake buyers on Carousell, with total losses amounting to more than \$1 million since January 2022.

2. In this variant, scammers would approach sellers on Carousell and express interest in the items listed on sale. The scammers will then insist on making their payment online and will provide victims with dubious URL links or QR Codes to receive the payment into their bank accounts.
3. Upon clicking on the URL links or scanning the QR Codes, the victims would be directed to a spoofed website that resembles legitimate online payment portals, where they were asked to furnish their banking credentials and OTPs to receive payment.
4. Victims would only realise that they have been scammed when they discovered unauthorized transactions made from their bank accounts.



Example of dubious website links and the conversation leading victims to the phishing website.



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5. **How to protect yourself from such scams:**

- **Always** verify the buyer's profile on online marketplaces by checking the account's verification status, creation date, reviews, and ratings
- **Be cautious** of buyers asking for email addresses or phone numbers on the pretext that these details are required for the buyers to make their payments
- **Do not click** on URL links before making verifications. Only domains that end with carousell.com or carousell.sg are Carousell domains
- **Never** disclose personal/banking credentials and OTP to anyone
- **Report any fraudulent** transactions to your bank immediately and report any suspicious use and fraudulent transaction from the online marketplace to the e-commerce platform.

6. To stay updated with the latest crime information, alerts and advisories, do sign up for Singapore Police Force's Community Watch Scheme.

7. Visit <https://www.police.gov.sg/Join-SPF/Volunteer-Schemes/Community-Watch-Scheme> > or scan the QR code.

Yours faithfully,

**SUPT LEE HAN SHENG
COMMANDING OFFICER
BEDOK NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE CENTRE
BEDOK DIVISION
SINGAPORE POLICE FORCE**

Sign up now!

