

New SAR Glossary Codes for reporters and information – April 2020

United Kingdom Financial Intelligence Unit (UKFIU)

The UKFIU has implemented three new SAR Glossary Codes for reporters as a result of the increased threat posed by organised crime groups (OCGs) seeking to exploit the COVID-19 situation by means of fraud.

HMRC Self-Assessment Tax Refund system

Whilst the system was introduced by HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) prior to COVID-19 there is the potential for it to be exploited in the current climate.

Use code **XXSATXX** in any SAR relating to suspected fraudulent use of the Self-Assessment Tax Refunds system. This may relate to identifying a change in pattern or behavior in accounts which could suggest fraudulent activity.

Government Priority Schemes

The government has introduced a number of schemes to offer support to businesses/individuals during the outbreak. Reporters should be alert to the potential for these schemes to be exploited by OCGs to commit fraud.

Use code **XXGPSXX** in any SAR relating to suspected fraudulent use of Government Priority Schemes established as a result of COVID-19. This may relate to identifying a change in pattern or behavior in accounts which could suggest suspicious activity.

General code

The UKFIU is conducting specific analysis to inform partners of observations on what is being seen in reporting around COVID-19 and SARs.

It would assist UKFIU analysis if reporters also used the code **XXCVDXX** in any SAR relating to suspicious activity connected to COVID-19.

For further details on all these new codes please see the updated April 2020 SAR Glossary Codes and Reporting Routes document available from the UKFIU at www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk