

Case studies

Case study #1: Fraudulent DBS check Finchley Jackson*, 52, London

“I signed up to receive new job notifications from Indeed and one day I received an alert for a job as a Warehouse Operative for Renault Logistics. I filled out the application form which involved just a few questions.

A few hours later I got a call asking if I wanted to take the job, even though I had only completed a short application. I thought it was a great opportunity so said yes, and next day received an email asking when I would be available for an induction.

The company confirmed that I would need to do an induction the following Tuesday, and that I would need my National Insurance number, passport, birth certificate, have a CBS (DBS) check and provide a job reference.

The company sent across a link to apply for the CBS, flagging that they would pay for the administration fees and I would only have to pay £19 for the check. I got in contact with a friend and former boss for the reference and filled out my application for the CBS check and paid for it.

The company told me via phone that I would be contacted about the time and place for the induction but they never got in touch, I sent out emails to both of the employees of the company that I had been in contact with but never heard back.

I’ve never been a victim of a job scam before – I spoke to my job consultant after not hearing back from the company who told me that this CBS check was a scam and I had lost the money.

I reported the company and my experience to JobsAware as I want to share my story so that others are aware of these types of scams out there as I’m worried this will happen again to other people.

Since the scam I have been extra careful when searching and applying for other jobs, it’s evident that job scams are increasing as fraudsters are trying to get money out of people who want to work.”

Case study #2: Requests for money as part of a scam Naomi*

“When searching for a job online, I came across a role on an online job board. As part of my application, I provided my full name, date of birth and address. I also provided documents such as a scanned copy of my passport, proof of address, a National Insurance letter, and a DBS certificate.

The company asked me for money as part of the job application, but when I refused, they stopped replying to my emails. When I attempted to call them on the phone number provided in the job advert, the number was invalid and I was unable to get in contact with anyone.

The experience made me feel very anxious and panicked, and discouraged me from looking for further jobs online. I've been left worried that the fraudsters will use my details in illegal ways.

*Please note, details have been changed to protect anonymity.