

# Alerts

## *Warning: Email misusing the name of Dechert LLP*

18 February 2021

An email has been sent using the domain "dechertlaws.com", that falsely claims to be from Dechert LLP.

### *What is the scam?*

An email has been sent falsely claiming to be from Paul Hare of Dechert LLP.

The email seen by the SRA asks the recipient about a purportedly unpaid invoice and is chasing for payment.

The email was sent from the email address "paul.hare@dechertlaws.com". It also provides a false contact telephone number of "+44 2038078122" but gives and misuses the genuine office address of a genuine firm of solicitors (see below for genuine details).

Any business or transactions undertaken through the email address "paul.hare@dechertlaws.com" (or any email using the domain "@dechertlaws.com"), or the above telephone number, are not undertaken by a firm or individual authorised and regulated by the SRA.

### *Is there a genuine firm or person?*

The SRA authorises and regulates a genuine firm of solicitors called Dechert LLP. The firm's genuine email domain is @dechert.com. The firm's genuine London office telephone number is 020 7184 7000 and the London head office address is 160 Queen Victoria St, London EC4V 4QQ.

The genuine firm has confirmed that it employs an individual called Paul Hare as Director of Finance. His genuine email address is Paul.Hare@dechert.com.

The genuine firm of Dechert LLP has confirmed that neither the firm nor their genuine Paul Hare have any connection to the email referred to in the above alert.

### *What should I do?*

When a firm's or individual's identity has been copied exactly (or cloned), due diligence is necessary. If you receive correspondence claiming to be from the above firm(s) or individual(s), or information of a similar nature to that described, you should conduct your own due diligence by checking the authenticity of the correspondence by contacting the law firm directly by reliable and established means. You can contact the SRA to find out if individuals or firms are regulated and authorised by the SRA and verify an individual's or firm's practising details. Other verification methods, such as checking public records (e.g. telephone directories and company records) may be required in other circumstances.