

## TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Regulating with Konesty, Integrity and Fransparency

September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025

## Cybersecurity Advisory Strengthening Vigilance and Protecting Your Data

The Financial Services Commission continues to place the highest priority on the safety and security of the financial services sector. In light of recent increases in phishing emails and other malicious online activities, we urge all stakeholders to remain vigilant against potential cyber threats.

As part of our ongoing efforts to strengthen safeguards, we have increased the minimum password length requirement for the KRegistry system to 15 characters. We encourage you to create a strong passphrase—something that is easy for you to remember but difficult for cybercriminals to guess. For example, using a sentence, a line from a favourite book, or a personal saying combined with numbers or symbols can make your password significantly stronger. Short and simple passwords can be cracked in seconds, while longer, more complex passphrases provide a much stronger line of defence.

We also remind all users to practice good cybersecurity hygiene, including:

- Be cautious with emails: Do not click on suspicious links or open unexpected attachments.
- **Verify before you trust:** Confirm the sender's details before responding to requests for sensitive information.
- Use multi-factor authentication (MFA): Enable MFA wherever available for an extra layer of protection.
- **Keep systems updated:** Ensure software, browsers, and antivirus tools are up to date.
- Avoid saving passwords in browsers: Use secure password managers instead.
- **Report incidents quickly:** Notify your IT team or the relevant authority if you suspect a phishing attempt or any unusual activity.

As **October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month**, we encourage all organisations to take this opportunity to heighten staff awareness and reinforce safe practices to help keep your data secure.

Together, by staying alert and following these safeguards, we can strengthen the resilience of the financial services sector in the Turks and Caicos Islands.

## **Financial Services Commission**