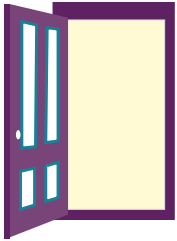


scam

share

spotlight on...

Doorstep Scams



Doorstep scammers go to great lengths to look legitimate and may have branded vehicles, clothing and leaflets.

Some of the most common doorstep scams are related to home maintenance, gardening work or services such as gutter cleaning or pressure washing.

Common Scams



We've just finished a job and have some materials left over. We can give you a cheap deal on a new driveway - we'll need to start work straight away though...

I was passing and noticed that your roof needs some urgent repair work. I can start work on it straight away - I'll need you to pay a small deposit so that I can buy materials...



We've just completed some gardening work for your neighbours and can offer you a good deal...

I work with a telecoms company and we've had complaints about broadband speeds in the area. Can I come in for a minute to check your router?



I'm selling household products door-to-door as part of an ex-offender rehabilitation scheme. I've just been released from a young offenders institution and I'm trying to make some money before starting a college course...

Avoid Doorstep Scams



Close the door on uninvited callers

Don't feel obliged to answer the door to a cold caller - it is your home and you should not let anyone in unless you feel comfortable.



Verify the caller's identity

Close the door and, rather than phoning the number on the caller's ID card, look up the company's number on their official website or in an official phone directory to check their identity. Legitimate traders will be happy to wait while you perform these checks.



Do plenty of research

Rogue traders go to great lengths to appear legitimate - get at least 3 quotes before having any work done and check at least 3 review sites to make sure you are getting genuine feedback. Find traders who have been vetted by Trading Standards at www.approvedtrader.scot



Take time to think before making a decision

Rogue traders may try to pressure you by saying they have special deals only available today. Don't let a cold caller start work straight away.



Report suspicious behaviour to Police Scotland on 101, or 999 in an emergency.

Report doorstep scams to Advice Direct Scotland on 0808 164 6000 or via scamwatch.scot

Sign up to the Neighbourhood Watch Scotland Alert system to receive localised alerts about crime prevention and safety issues: www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk

Find out more:

www.tsscot.co.uk/scamshare

