

# ALERT

## TRADING STANDARDS

Date: 17/12/2025

### Please be aware of Distraction Burglars and Rogue Traders operating in the area.

Distraction burglars aim to distract you and trick their way into your home to steal your money or valuables.

They may call at your door posing as officials, claiming to be from the council, police, market researchers, health carers, gas, water, electricity, phone, or TV companies. Others may try a tactic of taking advantage of your good nature by saying they are collecting for charity, or they need something from your house such as water for their car, a pen and paper to leave a note for a neighbour, they want to retrieve a ball that has gone in your garden or need to use your phone.

They may be very convincing, charming, and persuasive. They can be young, old, male, or female or even young children. They can appear official and may be smartly dressed in uniforms, official looking paperwork, and fake identification.

#### Tips to keep safe

**The message is simple, if in doubt, keep them out.**

1. **LOCK** - keep your front and back doors locked, even when at home
2. **STOP** - are you expecting anyone?
3. **CHAIN** - if you decide to open the door, put the chain on first
4. **CHECK** - ask for the caller's ID and check it by finding the number for the organisation yourself

**Protect others by reporting incidents like this to the police as soon as they happen on 101.**

**Report suspicious texts** you have received but not acted upon, by forwarding the original message to 7726, which spells SPAM on your keypad

**Report suspicious emails** you have received but not acted upon, by forwarding the original message to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk)

**If you, or anyone you know, have been affected by fraud or any other scam, report it to Report Fraud by calling 0300 123 2040 or visiting [www.reportfraud.police.uk](http://www.reportfraud.police.uk)**

**[tradingstandards@royalgreenwich.gov.uk](mailto:tradingstandards@royalgreenwich.gov.uk)**