

Beware Door step Scams

The focus for the final week of Scams Awareness month is on doorstep scams.

Scammers commonly pose as legitimate doorstep sales people and attempt to sell goods or services that are of poor quality, unnecessary, faulty, overpriced or which do not exist. In some cases victims are unaware of the inflated price for goods or services. Prices start low and escalate rapidly. Victims are often billed for services that they did not ask for or which were worth considerably less. Victims can be deliberately targeted either by the state of their property or by the victim's demeanour. Doorstep fraudsters put people under pressure and can appear friendly, polite and trustworthy

Protect yourself from doorstep Crime.

If you're not sure don't open the door.

Top 5 tips to avoid door step scams

1. Use a door chain to check who's calling.
2. Don't trade on the door step.
3. Ask a trusted friend or family member for advice on reputable traders.
4. Display a "No Cold Calling" sticker outside your door.
5. Always report any suspicious activity.

If you're not sure, get advice and always report a scam.

How to tackle scams?

- **get advice**, from Citizens Advice consumer service 03454 04 05 06
- **report scams**, and suspected scams to Action Fraud 0300 123 2040
- **tell others about your experiences**, so that others can avoid scams

Further information can be found at:

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/sam16/>

<https://www.croydon.gov.uk/advice/tstandards>