



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

Beat Bogus Officials

If you suspect a bogus caller is at your door call 999 immediately

- Keep doors locked and windows secure at all times. Look through your spy hole or window
- Don't let any caller pressure you into making a quick decision. Don't feel you are being rude or uncaring by saying 'no' - your own safety is more important
- Check the identity of the caller by calling the company they claim to be from eg. council or gas, electricity, water
- Do not use any telephone numbers provided by the caller
Use the telephone numbers listed in your local directory or sent to you by your service provider
- 'Water Boards' no longer exist, it is an obsolete phrase used only by bogus callers
- If a builder or tradesman offers to accompany you to the bank so you can withdraw cash to pay them don't accept. Arrange for someone you know well to take you and pay the tradesman later
- Don't keep large quantities of cash at home; put it in the bank where it is safe
- Ensure that if you do let somebody in to your home, you close the door behind them - distraction burglars often work in teams, where one will distract you whilst others sneak in through the insecure door
- If somebody asks for your help (needs to make a telephone call, lost a ball in your garden, needs a drink or pen and paper) refer them to a younger neighbour or assist them through a closed door or call a friend or neighbour to come and help
- If you are not sure, don't open the door!