

Community Notice Non-Emergency contact number 101 – Emergency 999 Chichester District

Bogus Callers - Protecting our Communities!

Bogus callers seek out the elderly and vulnerable, often convincing them that an unnecessary job such as guttering or the resurfacing of a driveway needs doing or selling items of jewellery, ornaments or antiques a the door will benefit the home owner. They then pressure and intimidate the home owner to extract large sums of money.

Bogus callers are likely to engage in any of the following behaviour:

- A lack of any written quotation/contract
- A lack of business name details on invoices
- Unfair contract terms
- Lack of cancellation rights
- Misleading description (including misrepresentations as to work needed/carried out; price; false accreditation/trade association claims).
- Aggressive trading practices (e.g. escorting victims to banks/cash points in order to secure payment).
- In extreme cases, fraud by false representation.
- Often talking their way into your home

Protect yourself from the Bogus Caller, remember:

- No bank will ever ask for your personal details or PIN numbers over the phone
- <u>Always</u> check ID properly check their number matches the phone book
- If you suspect something isn't right, call us on 101 and let us know
- Lock your back door when answering your front door, and always use a chain
- **Protect** your neighbours if you have a vulnerable neighbour or friend, ensure that they know what to do
- <u>Protect</u> your family ensure that your elderly or vulnerable relatives do not become a victim. Help them to secure their property. Fit door chains to prevent people talking their way in, block unknown numbers from phoning their homes.

Please spread the word and protect yourself and those around you from becoming a victim.

Lisa Shadbolt
PCSO 27388
Chichester Police Station
www.facebook.com/chipolice
www.twitter.com/#!/chi_police

If you see anything suspicious please report it immediately.

It might be the vital piece of information we need! Sussex Police gratefully receive information on \underline{all} suspicious activity, suspicious persons and Anti-Social Behaviour, occurring in your area. We thank you for your vigilance and together, in partnership, we will effectively reduce and detect crime.