

Neighbourhood Watch Community Notice

Non-Emergency contact number 101 – Emergency 999 <u>Chichester District</u>

Cold Calling

At approximately 12 noon today, 26/06/12, three males approached a home owner in the area of Cowdray Road, Easebourne.

The males were offering to mend the roof of the property, agreeing a price with the home owner and instantly starting the job before the home owner knew what was happening.

A neighbour saw what was happening and approached the home owner to offer support. Police were alerted. Officers arrived at the location where the males were working. The home owner stated that all was in order and the work men had agreed a price for the work carried out.

The males, believed to be family members were described as follows:

Male 1 - White male, 5'7, overweight with short dark hair.

Male 2 - White male, 5'7, overweight, short dark hair with a cleft lower lip

Male 3 - White male, 5'8, slim build, tanned, longer black hair with a slight curl on top.

They were in a white transit van, registration AV58 AWC.

Checks were carried out on these males and they are known to other Police Forces for similar incidents. Their M.O is to agree a price for the work they carry out but then demand more money once the job has been completed (if a job was completed at all), often taking the home owner directly to the bank to withdraw money.

These people target the elderly and vulnerable. Luckily on this occasion Police were able to deter the males from carrying out their usual methods of gaining money and no crime was committed.

Please remain vigilant and alert your friends, family and neighbours to prevent them being targeted and potentially becoming a victim to this scam.

These criminals are known to travel across Districts.

If you are approached by these males, or this vehicle please call us o 101 quoting reference 702 26/06/12

Lisa Shadbolt PCSO 27388

Chichester Police Station Neighbourhood Policing Team Telephone: 101

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 <u>all</u> 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.