



**STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE**

Bogus Officials/Rogue Traders

This can include doorstep crime, people claiming to come from the council, water-board or other official organisations. Perhaps somebody claiming that the property or garden needs essential maintenance. Also known as distraction burglars, bogus callers trick their way into people's homes to steal money and valuables. They make themselves seem genuine and plausible while your attention is elsewhere.

Examples of this would include bogus officials, people claiming to come from the council, water-board or tradesmen/workmen claiming that the property or garden needs essential/urgent maintenance. They often work in pairs; one to keep you talking at the front door while the other tries to access your house from a back door or window. Some might even plead for help, such as asking for a glass of water.

As a force, Staffordshire Police is doing all it can to catch those responsible for these despicable crimes, and there have been a number of successes. However, there is a lot more that individuals and communities can do. While the loss of money or valuables is very distressing, just being a victim causes a great deal of stress and may lead to loss of confidence and poor health. Older and more vulnerable people are more likely to be a target for rogue traders, doorstep criminals and scammers. Being a Good Neighbour - If you see anything in your local area relating to the welfare of a vulnerable person which worries you, check it out. If you are still concerned, contact the police on the non emergency number - 101.