



Sussex Police reminds residents about the Risks of Doorstep Criminals and Rogue Traders.

Although Sussex is one of the safest places to live in the country, the risk of doorstep criminals and rogue traders still exists, particularly for those vulnerable members of communities.

As a member of Neighbourhood Watch, Sussex Police would like you to remain vigilant for doorstep criminals and in particular to keep an eye on vulnerable neighbours who may be more at risk to this particular type of crime.

Remember:

- If you don't have a door chain or door bar get one fitted.
- Keep your front and back doors locked, even when you are at home.
- Do not leave money, wallets or keys within easy reach of the door.
- Lock your back door before answering the front door – thieves sometimes work in pairs, one ringing the front door bell while the other enters at the back of the house.
- Before answering the door, stop and think 'am I expecting anyone?' Look through a spy hole or window to see who is there.
- If you decide to open the door, engage the chain or door bar. Keep the chain engaged until you are completely sure the caller is genuine.
- Always ask for and check the caller's identity card carefully, even if an appointment has been arranged. You can always telephone the company to confirm the caller's identity but never use the number provided by the caller as it could be false.
- If someone calls unannounced at your house don't allow them to pressure you into agreeing to have work carried out. If you ask them to leave and they don't, dial 999.
- Don't ever go to a bank or cash point with a trader; legitimate traders would never do this.
- Discuss any repairs you feel need carrying out on your property with a relative or friend who can help you find a reputable trader.
- Don't agree to any work or sign anything on the spot.

Remember - you can help vulnerable neighbours by simply giving them a copy of this email.

SUSSEX POLICE CONTACT NUMBERS:

999 (Emergency) or 0845 60 70 999 (Non Emergency)

www.sussex.police.uk