

Scams and Crime Prevention



SAFER
Buckinghamshire
Partnership



Working together for a
safer Buckinghamshire

Buckinghamshire & Surrey
trading standards



Postal Scams

To end contact from certain charities:

[Welcome | Fundraising Preference Service](#) 0300 3033 517

To register for the mail preference service:

[MPS Online](#)

To send scam post to Trading Standards, become a Scam Marshal:

[Scam Marshals play a huge role in helping the National Trading Standards \(NTS\) Scams Team to stop scam mail](#)
 [\(friendsagainstscams.org.uk\)](https://www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk)

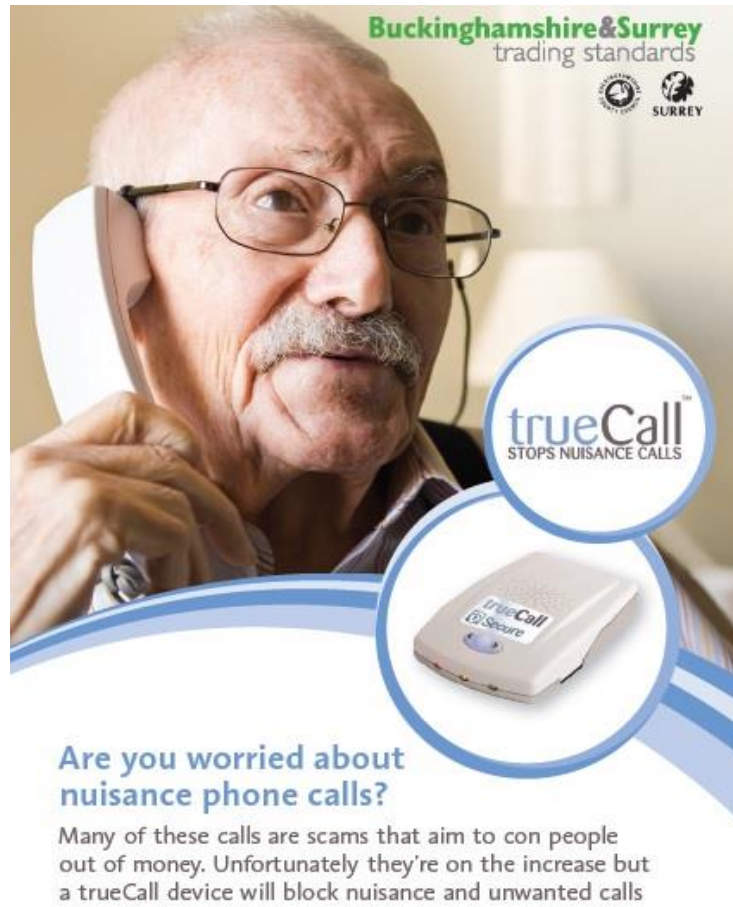
Doorstep Scams

- **Never open the door to someone you don't know**
- **Always check someone's ID badge, tell them to wait outside and verify their identity by phoning the company that they say they are from**
- **Put Trading Standards No Cold Calling sticker on your door as a reminder**

Text scams

- **Forward scam texts to 7726 (spells SPAM on number keypad)**
- **Never click on a hyperlink**
- **Don't assume that the text is genuine**

Call blocking

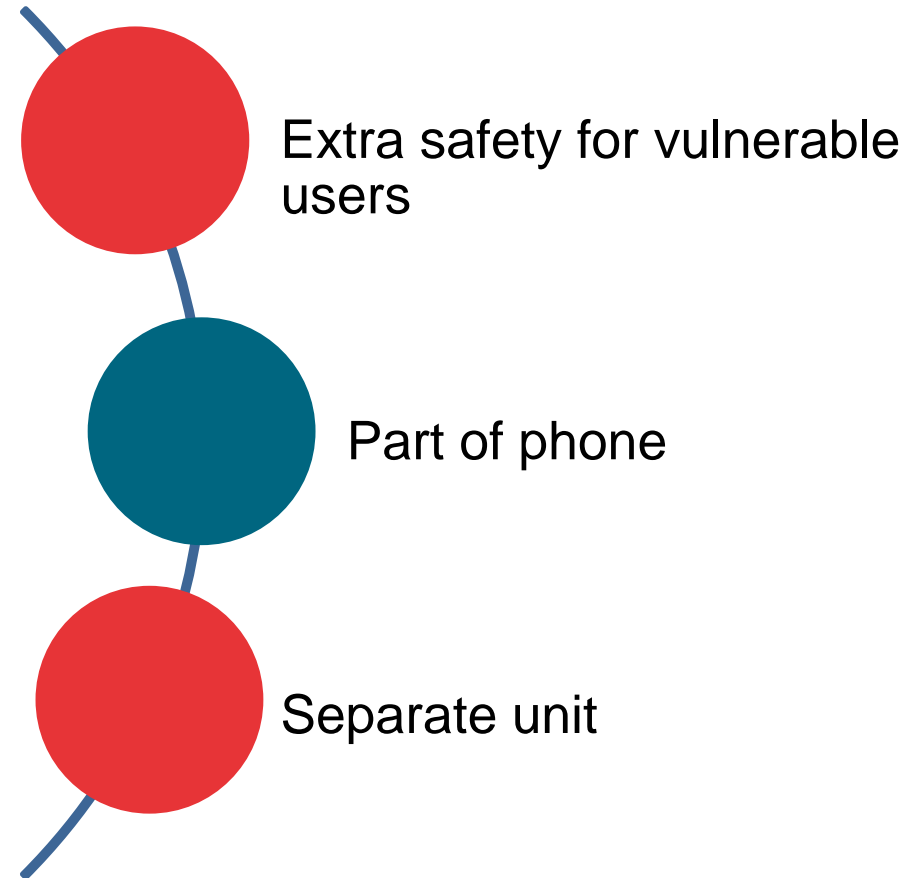


Buckinghamshire & Surrey trading standards

trueCall™
STOPS NUISANCE CALLS

Are you worried about nuisance phone calls?
Many of these calls are scams that aim to con people out of money. Unfortunately they're on the increase but a trueCall device will block nuisance and unwanted calls

The advertisement features a photograph of an elderly man with glasses talking on a white telephone. A circular inset shows the white trueCall device. Logos for Buckinghamshire & Surrey trading standards and the Council of Trading Standards are also present.



Online Scams

- Forward suspicious emails to report@phishing.gov.uk
- Always check the sender's email address
- Check grammar and spelling mistakes
- To stay safe online: [National Cyber Security Centre - NCSC.GOV.UK](https://www.ncsc.gov.uk)

Safeguard against scams



Sticker Packs

Buckinghamshire & Surrey
trading standards

Scams
Trading Standards
Sticker Pack

Phone sticker

Asking for money or bank details? **HANG UP!**
TELL TRADING STANDARDS: 0808 223 1133

Cheque book sticker

Writing a cheque for...
• Prize Draws?
• Clairvoyants or psychics?
• Mail Order Goods?

THINK TWICE - ASK ADVICE

FOR HELP AND ADVICE CALL TRADING STANDARDS: 0808 223 1133

Computer Sticker - place these stickers on your computer, tablet or mobile phone to remind yourself to Take Five before parting with any personal or bank information.



Trading Standards
STOP COLD CALLING
Sticker Pack

The Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008

WARNING

We do not deal with uninvited traders

PLEASE LEAVE AND DO NOT RETURN

Failure to do so is a criminal offence

Stick this outside your front door

What can you do?

The following advice can help a person who has been a victim of a scam or fraud -

Call 999 if you feel that you are in immediate danger

If a payment has been made in response to a scam contact the bank **immediately**

REPORT a scam or fraud: Action Fraud

Tel: 0300 123 20 40

Web: www.actionfraud.police.uk

ADVICE: Citizens Advice Consumer Service

Tel: [0808 223 1133](tel:08082231133)

Web: www.citizensadvice.org.uk

SAFEGUARDING from scams (including callblocker and sticker packs): Trading Standards

Tel: 07976073587

Email: peiling.harper@surreycc.gov.uk

Scam Warning Signs



Postal Scams

- Post office
- Mail
- Stamps
- Cheque books
- Products
- Free gifts



Telephone Scams

- Phone calls
- Payments
- SMS messages
- Friends
- Helpful caller
- Opportunities



Doorstep Scams

- Poor quality
- Fearful
- Pressure
- Unnecessary work
- Cash withdrawals



Online Scams

- Suspicious emails
- Final demands
- Refunds
- Online relationship
- Payments

Financial hardship and / or self neglect

Home Security

Top Tips

- Lock all your doors, windows, side & back gates
- Avoid leaving valuables on display and in plain view
- Keep keys out of sight & out of reach from doors & windows.
- Mark your property. Register for free at Immobilise.
- Join your local [Neighbourhood Watch Scheme](#)

Garden Security

- Ensure garden tools and equipment are locked away
- Prickly shrubs are effective at deterring trespassers
- Crunchy gravel & PIR lighting can alert you & deter intruders

Going Away

- Avoid discussing holiday plans on social media.
- Ask someone to watch over your house
- Cancel any deliveries.

[Community Safety - Home Alone](#)

Have you left your home in darkness?

Here's a bright idea - leave a light on!



Light up



Lock up



Be secure

- No car in driveway?
- No visible home security?
- No lights?
- No one home?
- shut and lock all doors/windows
- Keep valuables out of sight
- Use a timer light switch
- Mark valuables



Purse Dipping

Prevention Tips

Do not leave your handbag hanging over the shopping trolley or unattended at any time. Keep your bag on you at all times. Ensure your bag is closed with a secure zip fastening pocket to keep your purse protected.



Do not accept help from seemingly well-meaning strangers and never allow yourself to be distracted, especially whilst loading your bags in the car.



When using an ATM or chip and pin device always shield your number with your hand.



Fraudsters sometimes fit devices to cash machines that trap your card. If your card is retained by the machine for any reason, report it to your card company immediately.



Make sure you have your card company's 24 hour contact number stored in your mobile phone. This number can be found on the back of your card.



Call your bank ASAP to stop your card if it is stolen or you notice unusual transactions on your account.



The Safe Place Scheme

What is a Safe Place?

A business that has signed up to the scheme will provide a temporary safe haven to a vulnerable person who might find themselves in a difficult situation when they are out and about.



The Safe Place Scheme can help you if you feel lost, scared or confused when you're out in your local community.

How do you identify a Safe Place?

Businesses who are part of the scheme will display the safe place sticker in their window. This means that a vulnerable person can go in & ask for help.

How to find a Safe Place?

Most towns and villages across Buckinghamshire have a safe place.

Further information and a list of all locations can be found here:

www.familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/advice-and-support/family-safety/safe-places-scheme/



Loan Sharks

Help:

- Credit Union
- CAB (Citizens Advice Bureau)
- CAP (Christians Against Poverty)
- Stop Loan Sharks 0300 555 2222 or visit www.stoploansharks.co.uk



It was only £100 to help towards Christmas but now he's threatened my wife and children

#SleighNoToLoanSharks

STOPLOANSHARKS
Intervention . Support . Education



Mummy had to borrow £20 for dinner but now she won't stop crying

#SleighNoToLoanSharks

STOPLOANSHARKS
Intervention . Support . Education

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| Community Safety Team | Anti-Social Behaviour Referral Form Community Safety Referral Form | https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/community-and-safety/safety-and-crime-in-your-community/ |
| Crime Stoppers | 0800 555 111 | https://crimestoppers-uk.org/ |
| National Domestic Abuse Helpline | 0808 2000 247 | www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk/ |
| Modern Slavery Helpline | 08000 121 700 | www.modernslaveryhelpline.org/ |
| Thames Valley Police | 101 – Non-Emergency 999 – Emergency | https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/ |
| Victims First | 0300 1234 148 | https://www.victims-first.org.uk/ |

Follow us for community safety updates and advice:



@Bucks_Safety



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