

August 2017

Consumer Alerts

Beware door to door property repair services

Reports have been received of a cold caller knocking door to door, offering roofing, plumbing and handyman services. The trader is targeting vulnerable householders in the Hyndburn area and taking large amounts of cash for poorly done work. Residents are warned not to deal with cold callers, to research any traders they use and obtain prior quotes and references. Make sure you get a quote and receipts.

Remember, if you agree to a contract in your own home you will have 14 days cancellation rights, 14 days to change your mind.

Trading Standards advice is to always say no to cold callers. The Safetrader scheme can help you find a trader in your area, contact 0303 333 1111 or go to www.safetrader.org.uk

Scam Inheritance letter

Letters are being delivered to Lancashire residents claiming they have been left £11 million dollars by a distant relation who has the same surname. The letters look as if they have been posted in the UK and are written in stilted English.

The writer, based in China, states he has access to an account, indicates he can arrange this money to come to you and requests discretion.

This is a scam. It is likely the scammer will request your personal details and will require upfront fees or taxes for you to be able to claim this inheritance.

Do not respond, throw the letter away.

Euro millions scam email

Reports are being received of individuals receiving a scam email that looks as if it has come from the National Lottery claiming you have won the Euro Millions Draw for £1 million. The email is address to the Email Account Owner and asks for your full name and telephone number.

Remember, if you haven't bought a ticket or entered a draw, you will not have won. If you have legitimately won a draw you have entered, you will not have to pay any money to claim your prize. Delete the email, do not respond. Don't be hurried or pushed by claims that the prize must be claimed within a short time frame.

To reduce telesales calls join the Telephone Preference Service, www.tpsonline.org.uk, 0345 0700707

Contact the Trading Standards Service via the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on 03454 04 05 06