

CORONA VIRUS SCAM ALERT

WEST YORKSHIRE TRADING STANDARDS NEWSLETTER



West Yorkshire Trading Standards has seen an increase in the number of COVID-19 related scams.

What Scams are trending at the moment in West Yorkshire?

01

Individuals are going around door-to-door selling face masks and trying to get into people's homes.

02

Individuals impersonating Red Cross workers and health authorities door-to-door knocking claiming to be carrying out mandatory testing for COVID-19 as an excuse to enter a home.

03

Scam text messages/emails from Police/government stating you have been fined for leaving the house.

04

Scam HMRC tax refund message/emails.

05

Message online or by text stating the UK Government is issuing a payment to all residents asking people to click a link which then goes to a fake gov.uk website asking people to enter personal details.

06

Scam phone calls offering priority vaccinations.

07

Parents receiving an email stating: 'As schools will be closing, if you're entitled to free school meals, please send your bank details and we'll make sure you're supported'. The Department of Education has confirmed that this is a scam e-mail.

08

Fake 'missed parcel' notes posted through letterboxes encouraging residents to call a premium rate phone number.

DOORSTEP CRIMINALS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE PANDEMIC

Top tips

YOUR DOORSTEP YOUR DECISION

If you feel pressured,
ask the person to leave.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY ARE BEST

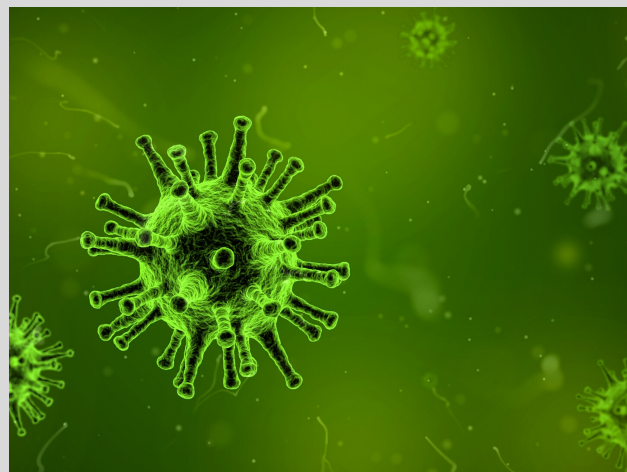
Support from
trusted friends, family or
neighbours is ideal. Be vigilant
for strangers offering services at the
door that may want to take
advantage.

NO SNAP DECISIONS

Take time to talk to someone
you trust before you make any
decisions.

DO THE CHECKS

You can check ID badges and
contact associations to check
membership registrations yourself.
Call the telephone number of the
organisation, obtain this number
yourself, not from the person at the
door.



Please be vigilant, bogus doorstep
callers are offering fake Covid-19
testing. If you think you have the
virus, contact NHS 111 for more
information.

There has been a lot of
misinformation online and
on Social Media. Be sure to
stay updated with the right
information Found on the
Official Government
website.

**Report complaints to
Citizens Advice
Consumer Helpline: 0808
223 1133**

**Report scams to Action Fraud:
0300 123 2040**