

# 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

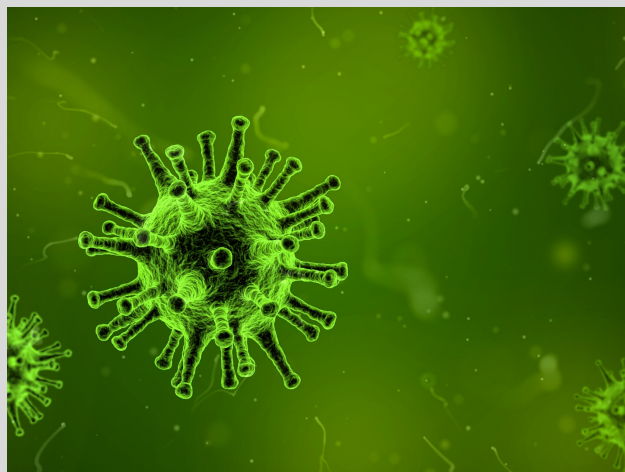
Support from  
trusted friends, family or  
neighbours is ideal. Be vigilant  
for strangers offering services at the  
door that may want to take  
advantage.

### 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**