



## Avon and Somerset Police

One of our Neighbourhood Watch Schemes has today reported Rogue Traders operating in the Priorswood area of Taunton. The scheme members intervened when an elderly resident was offered services to their property for an inflated price, this was then reported back to the police.

Do please remain alert for an similar activity.

Previously residents are reported to have paid vast sums of money for poor quality work to these so called Specialists who have also taken the money and never returned to complete the work.

There are a few things that you should be wary of before allowing anyone into your home or garden.

1. Did they put a leaflet through your door claiming to offer discounts for OAPs?
2. Do they offer 20 / 30 / 40 % off for calling within a particular time scale of receiving your leaflet?
3. Do they offer work and then claim to offer a host of other services seemingly unrelated?
4. Does it look like a professionally printed leaflet, and do they ask for it back if you say no?
5. If you speak to an operator, do not be bullied into committing to their services or an appointment.
6. If they are in your home, phone a friend and ask them to come round.
7. You can ask them to leave at any point during their sales pitch.

These are just a few points to look out for, but the best rule to go by is that if you require any work you should find the person yourself or go by the recommendation of others that you trust.

There are plenty of websites that can steer you in the right direction to find the right company.

And of course there are some genuine, honest companies so make an informed decision, but remember:

“If you’re not sure, don’t open the door”