

CORONA VIRUS SCAM ALERT



WEST YORKSHIRE TRADING STANDARDS NEWSLETTER
West Yorkshire Trading Standards weekly update on
COVID-19 related scams.

What is happening at the moment in West Yorkshire?

Bogus Callers Targeting Vulnerable Residents

01

Reports of a rogue trading company cold calling residents to say they've sent a letter stating they needed to 'come and check if the air was fresh' and 'would instal instruments to cleanse the air if not. They claimed pure air would prevent the corona virus.

02

Reports of a doorstep caller in Kirklees targeting vulnerable residents who are socially isolated. Caller claimed he was from the Red Cross, he then said he was from Social Services and he was responding to a report that there was no food in the house. The male then entered the property following the householder into the kitchen. He was not invited in. No food was brought, nor did he have identification of any kind.

03

Reports of rogue traders operating in the Mirfield area offering gardening services to consumers. The traders are going door to door offering to do work for a certain price, this price then changes when work is completed.

04

Door to door mattress sellers reported in Brighouse, traders reported to be selling mattresses that may be unsafe for consumers and not meet fire safety regulations.

We are receiving reports of fake PPE equipment being offered, and supplied in West Yorkshire. Claims are made that products meet specific safety standards, but often they have dubious supply chains, where conformity to those standards cannot be confirmed. More to follow on this next week.



Scams Trending Regionally & Nationally

- Investment scams on social media offering 8% return on purchasing student flats.
- Phishing emails purporting to be from EasyJet offering compensation to customers who have had their holiday cancelled.
- Phishing emails purporting to be from Amazon requesting customers update their delivery address.
- Scam callers claiming to be from NHS Test and Trace service asking for personal banking information.

Think twice before clicking on links in emails.

The week in stats...

West Yorkshire= 15 COVID-19 intelligence logs submitted from 18.05.20 to 24.05.20 and 28 complaints / enquiries

COVID-19 intelligence logs for Yorkshire & Humber Region from 18.05.20 to 24.05.20 = 37

Total Amount of National Trading Standards Sanitised Intelligence Logs = 4748 (01/03/2020-25/05/2020)
(This figure includes the Bank Holiday)



@wytradstandards

Regular updates can also be found on:

@SAFERProject

We are seeing a decline in reports of doorstep incidents relating to Covid-19 in West Yorkshire. We do ask that you remain vigilant during this pandemic and look out for others. If you are approached on your doorstep by fraudsters, please report this.

Report to us:

New mailbox to deal with reports of Covid-19 Scams in West Yorkshire:
Covid19.Scams@wyjs.org.uk

Forward scam emails to report@phishing.gov.uk

Report complaints to Citizens Advice

Consumer Helpline:

0808 223 1133

Report scams to

Action Fraud:

0300 123 2040