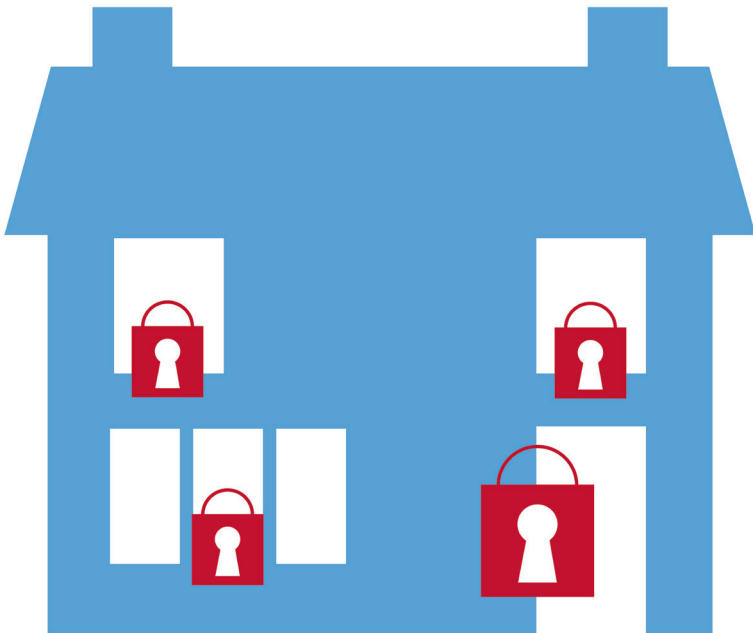


# Be aware of Bogus Callers!



Not all burglars break into homes - some are innocently granted access by unsuspecting victims.



**METROPOLITAN  
POLICE**



**Haringey Council**

Bogus callers are people who try to con their way into your home to steal from you or trick you out of money. They may claim to be from gas, electricity and water companies, tradesmen, charities or the Council. They may claim to be calling to carry out urgent repairs and can succeed because they sound believable, so do not be misled.

## **Follow these important steps to ensure the caller claims to be who they are:**

- Think before you open the door - look out of the window, use your chain and spy hole.
- Always ask callers for proof of identity. Genuine tradesmen will always carry an identification card with their photograph on. Check this carefully and if you are unsure, telephone the company the caller claims to represent.
- If the caller is from the Council, verify the appointment was previously arranged, either through a letter received or contact the relevant department.
- Gas, water, and electricity companies now offer a password identification system. Any caller from these types of companies should be able to give a pre-arranged password as additional proof of identification.
- Beware of callers who attempt to distract you by encouraging you to leave a room or your house as they may have an accomplice waiting nearby.
- If you are not convinced of the identity of the caller, do not open your door but ask them to come back later and arrange for a friend, relative or neighbour to be present on their return.

Treat every stranger with caution.  
If you are worried, **dial 999 immediately**  
and ask for the police