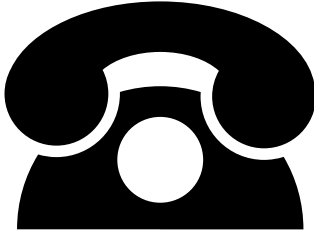


Home repairs? Do not take a chance!

	There have been reports of bogus callers in East Dunbartonshire – here are some key pieces of advice to help keep you safe.
	Say “no” to doorstep traders and cold callers, for example, offering to clear your gutters, repair a loose roof tile, tidy your garden or clean your drive.
	Do not allow anyone you are not expecting to enter your home or to carry out work. Always ask for official ID.
	Not everyone is who they seem – try to get three quotes for any work which is needed and ask friends/family for advice. You can also use official schemes such as East Dunbartonshire Trusted Trader.
	Hang up on telephone scams – even if they claim to be official, such as the Council – if it's too good to be true, then it likely is.

	Delete dodgy emails and do not open links. Do your own research and contact firms directly.
	Do not panic buy or be pressured into making a quick decision – legitimate traders will return at a later date.
	Get a fixed price and a list of works in writing. Agree what will be done, when and who by.
	Be wary of traders who claim they can start immediately, but demand cash or a bank transfer up front. Never pay for work yet to be carried out.
	Keep front and back doors locked (and windows) – use a door chain or bar when answering the door.
	If you ever feel threatened or pressured, please say “no” – call Police Scotland on 101 (999 in an emergency).



For more advice, visit www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/consumer-advice or call Trading Standards on 0300 123 4510.



For hints and tips on avoiding scams and frauds, please visit www.scotland.police.uk/advice/scams-and-frauds/rogue-traders-and-doorstep-crime



Planning work on your property? Use a trader you can **trust**.



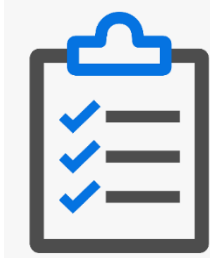
The **East Dunbartonshire Trusted Trader** scheme is here to help - from plumbers and builders to bathrooms and roofs.



The scheme – supported by the Council and Trading Standards – provides information on local, trusted businesses.



Do not take a chance – search for Trusted Traders via the website – www.trustedtrader.scot/EastDunbartonshire



You can read feedback and comments left by previous customers.



The scheme, supported by Police Scotland, aims to protect residents from doorstep crime and support the local economy.