

What Is Cold Calling?

Cold Calling or Doorstep Trading is defined as traders who call but have no previous contact with the resident.

Why Have We Made a No Cold Caller Zone?

We've made the No Cold Caller Zone so that villagers can easily turn away anyone who tries to sell at the door. These traders are often scammers intending to sell goods and services of poor quality at inflated prices, or to return later with intent to burgle.

There are signs at the entrances of the village so any traders coming to Weston-on-the-Green will have been alerted to the Zone. Coupled with the door stickers, traders should not ring or knock.

What if a Cold Caller does Ring or Knock?

If a trader you are not expecting does call, villagers should turn them away. The signs at the entrances of the village and door stickers mean traders should not ring or knock.

If one does, residents should tell them to leave, after which returning is a crime.

(Oxfordshire County Council)

IF YOU FEEL THREATENED:

Close the door on the caller and call 999

If you think a Rogue Trader has called at a door in Weston-on-the-Green, report it immediately by calling the police on **101** if they are still in the area, or Citizens Advice **0808 223 1133**

To get work done on your property, it is advisable to get several quotes.

Recommendations from trusted friends are useful, or you can find vetted traders through the Trading Standards "Buy with Confidence" scheme online.

Useful Links

Trading Standards information about doorstep crime can be found at:
<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/business/trading-standards/advice-communities/doorstep-crime>

Weston-on-the-Green Neighbourhood Watch

All village residents welcome! We are a group seeking to keep our village safe. Contact us on:

✉ wotg.nhw@gmail.com

☎ NW Co-ordinator 01869 350662

Weston-on-the-Green Parish Clerk:

✉ clerk@westononthegreen-pc.gov.uk



**WESTON
on-the
GREEN**

is now a

**NO
COLD CALLER
ZONE**



Created by Pam S

Who are Rogue Traders and Distraction Burglars?

Rogue Traders are those offering low quality goods or services at inflated prices. They may claim that the property needs totally unnecessary work. They may fail to finish the task, use unsuitable materials, or fly-tip waste from the job. See the back page of this leaflet for tips on how to get work done on your property.

Distraction Burglaries occur when two or more people call at the door and one occupies the householder while the others commit the offence.

DO NOT let strangers into your home.
DO NOT worry about being firm with them.
Remember, returning after they have been asked to leave is a crime.



Who are “Nottingham Knockers”?

Nottingham Knockers are traders selling goods, often low quality household items. Originally from Nottingham, the name has now been applied to (usually) young men selling these goods door-to-door. They often say they are ex-offenders on rehabilitation schemes. However, according to Trading Standards, no such schemes exist.

The trader may be surveying the house with the intention of returning later to burgle the property. Prices are often marked up to ensure being paid in “paper money”. If the householder buys anything, the trader may note how long it takes to get the money, and smell or feel it to see if it appears to come from a “stash” which could later be the target of a burglary.

Be Safe - Beware.

What about callers I am expecting or who have a genuine reason to call?

Accredited tradespeople will have appropriate photo ID.

Always use the chain on your door.
Always check IDs, but look up the company phone number - do not trust the number on the ID, it may be bogus.

Utility Companies have Priority Services Registers for eligible groups including those of pensionable age. To get on the register, contact your energy supplier. Details are on your energy bill. Callers from the company will then use identification and a password when they visit. More information is on the ‘Neighbourhood Watch’ page of the Village website:

www.westononthegreen-pc.gov.uk

