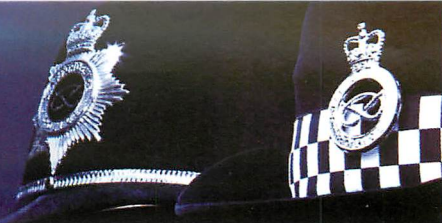




Keeping our communities
safe and reassured



Be aware of who's at your door

Staffordshire Police is warning local residents
to be on their guard against bogus officials

Distraction burglary and bogus caller crime is where criminals call at homes posing as officials or asking for your help with something. They make up a story to try and gain access into your home. They generally work in groups of two or more, so if they are successful in gaining access one can keep you talking whilst the other sneaks in to search for money and valuables.

There are a number of things you can do to protect yourself and your home:

- check the identity of anyone calling at your door, before deciding whether to let them in
- phone the company they are claiming to be calling on behalf of
- set up passwords with your utility companies
- don't keep large amounts of cash at home
- keep doors locked - even when you are at home
- remember water board, gas board and electricity board no longer exist
- if you have a door chain, use it every time you answer the door
- **if in doubt, keep them out**
- if you feel threatened by someone calling at your door, or suspect a bogus caller may have visited you, dial 999 and report the incident to the police.

