

West Glamorgan Safeguarding Board

National Safeguarding Week



www.wgsb.wales

COVID 19- SCAMS

Unscrupulous criminals are exploiting fears about COVID-19 to prey on members of the public, particularly older and vulnerable people who are isolated from family and friends. National Trading Standards is warning people to remain vigilant following a rise in coronavirus-related scams that seek to benefit from the public's concern and uncertainty over COVID-19.

Members of the public should ignore scam products such as supplements and anti-virus kits that falsely claim to cure or prevent COVID-19. In some cases individuals may be pressurized on their own doorsteps to buy anti-virus kits or persuaded into purchasing products that are advertised on their social media feeds. In addition, some call centers that previously targeted UK consumers with dubious health products are now offering supplements that supposedly prevent COVID-19

STOP. BE AWARE OF PEOPLE OFFERING OR SELLING:

- Virus testing kits- Vaccines or miracle cures – there is currently no vaccine or cure.
- Overpriced or fake goods to protect yourself from coronavirus such as anti-bacterial products.
- Shopping or medication collection services.
- Home decontamination services.

#STAYSAFESTAYCONNECTED



STOP. Be aware of people offering or selling:

CHALLENGE. Question communications and encourage others to do the same

Don't be rushed into making a decision. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

- Only purchase goods and services from legitimate retailers and take a moment to think before parting with money or personal information

- Don't assume everyone is genuine. It's okay to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you. If in doubt, speak to someone you trust.

- If someone claims to represent a charity, ask them for ID. Be suspicious of requests for money up front.

If someone attempts to pressurize you into accepting a service they are unlikely to be genuine. Check with family and friends before accepting offers of help if you are unsure.

Contact: If you think you have been scammed, contact your bank first.

For advice on scams, call the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on 0808 223 11 33.

To report a scam, call Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040

