

# Distraction Burglary Scams, Following Suspicious Activity in Towcester

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Multiple reports received of a female knocking on doors in Towcester claiming to be from Money Supermarket last night. The Police will be making contact with the company to establish whether this person was genuine.

Safety advice around distraction burglary scams.

## **Be aware:**

- Distraction burglars will pose in various role such as police, carers, council, utility/phone/TV staff, charities and various other companies. They may even pretend to be local or someone in distress.
- They will find ways to lure you outside or away from your front door and may have another person present nearby. They may also try to use tactics to cause alarm; "We are from the Water Board and there's a burst pipe in the street. We need you to switch off your water immediately!"
- Another person may attempt to enter through an alternative door whilst keeping you distracted at your front door.

## **Remember:**

- Always lock your external doors, even when you are home.
- If possible, apply a chain before opening the door to strangers or do not open to strangers at all.
- Don't always believe their lanyards and uniform. If in doubt, close and lock the door and call their company to verify who they are. (Do not use a number they have provided!)
- If you believe they are not genuine or they are making you feel harassed, lock the door and call 999.
- **Remind vulnerable loved ones of this safety advice.**