

## **Hampshire Residents have been receiving bogus CAB calls.**

Hampshire County Council's Trading Standards Service have highlighted suspicious telephone calls in the local area recently.

One such occurrence has a caller claiming to be assisting the Police and Ambulance Service. They offer to visit the property to carry out a security check and to see if medical assistance is required.

Another has a caller claiming to be from the Citizens Advice Bureau and offers to help clear outstanding debts. The caller may also claim that they have been asked to contact the resident by a concerned person. Citizens Advice Gosport would like to assure residents that they will not contact you in this way and do not offer a "debt clearing" or "payment scheme" service.

Valerie Kelly, Chief Officer said "we would like to assure the people of Gosport that we will only call existing clients from our local office and if they are ever unsure, they can end the call and call us back on our admin line 02392 520 112".

Trading Standards urge any residents receiving such calls not to respond, or to give out any personal information to unknown persons over the telephone.

Suspicious are that the callers may be trying to sell home security devices, such as burglar alarms, and may make exaggerated claims about their effectiveness.

Any persons affected by debt in Gosport can seek advice through Citizens Advice Gosport who are open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9:30am – 3:00pm. For those in work or have care needs they are open Wednesday evenings 5:00pm – 7:00pm.

For advice on scams, to report a matter to Trading Standards, or for a 'Buy With Confidence' directory of traders approved by Trading Standards, contact our partners at the [Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline](#) on 03454 04 05 06. Citizens Advice Gosport are hosting two SPAM OR SCAM Sessions on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 10am – 1pm at Gosport Discovery Centre and Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July at Gosport. These are part of Scams Awareness Month, a national campaign encouraging people to report and talk about scams.

Any persons affected by this, or any other scam can also report the matter to Action Fraud by calling 0300 123 2040 or visiting [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk)