



SUFFOLK NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH HUMBER DOUCY LANE SOUTH SCHEME

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WATCH UPDATE JUNE 2026

Don't engage rogue traders

Suffolk police are warning residents about two men who are offering to do pressure washing work and then charging excessive amounts of money for minimal work. The two men, accompanied by a child, have been targeting elderly and vulnerable people in Martlesham - and potentially other areas of the county. They are also very persistent if the residents decline the offer. The men, who drive a white/silver van, have also been reported as returning days later to householders requesting further money in the form of cheques. Officers are seeking more information and are also advising residents not to agree to any work being offered by other than legitimate traders. Anyone with details about the men and the van are asked to contact us via www.suffolk.police.uk/tell-us or call 101, ref 37/28272/26.

If a doorstep rogue trader is on your property, behaving aggressively, or is refusing to leave, call 999 immediately. Crimestoppers – Contact the independent charity Crimestoppers 100% anonymously on 0800 555 111, or via their online form: www.crimestoppers-uk.org You can find more advice on rogue traders at [Rogue traders - Suffolk County Council](#)

Analysis shows people aged 55 to 74 experienced the greatest financial losses, accounting for almost half of the total amount stolen. Although men submitted a higher number of reports overall, women experienced higher individual losses, making up just over 40 per cent of the total value reported.

Stay alert: romance fraud cost UK victims £102M last year.

Victims of romance fraud lost more than £102 million last year, as criminals continue to exploit online relationships to manipulate people into transferring money. Romance fraud remains closely linked to online platforms, particularly social media and dating sites, where offenders can create convincing false identities. Investigators are also seeing increased use of AI-generated images and messages to support these profiles. In many cases, it is also linked to fake investment opportunities, including cryptocurrency, increasing the financial risk to victims.

As part of this campaign, we are urging the public to stay cautious when forming relationships online and to recognise the warning signs:

- Be cautious of individuals who develop relationships very quickly or express strong feelings early on
- Be wary of excuses not to meet in person or to avoid live video calls
- Never send money, cryptocurrency or gift cards to someone you have not met face-to-face
- Be alert to requests linked to investments, medical emergencies or travel costs
- Speak to a trusted friend or family member if something feels unusual or pressured

If you think that you have been targeted, please report it to Report Fraud at www.reportfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040. If money has already been transferred, you should contact your bank immediately. In Scotland, victims of fraud and cybercrime should report to Police Scotland on 101.

Hot Weather

Police advise in hot weather when having doors and windows open to be aware of opportunistic thieves who may use them to access your property. Also to ensure all windows and doors are locked in the evening and when leaving the house.