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No cold calling zones

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A No Cold Calling Zone is an area which discourages door to door sales (or cold calls) and offers protection to older and vulnerable residents who are often the target of such calls.

While many callers may be legitimate businesses offering goods and services which may be of interest to you, there are also traders (or bogus callers) whose job it is to unfairly persuade you to part with large sums of cash.

- Callers are made aware that Blackpool is a No Cold Calling Zone by signs placed on the main roads around the area
- Residents can display a No Cold Calling Sticker in a window or door that is easily visible from the entry point of your property

By doing this you are saying that you do not wish them to call.

Whilst in this country cold calling is not illegal, should callers ignore your sticker there are a number of things that can be used to tackle the problem.

Should you get a cold call from any person you feel has ignored your wishes, please report this to us.

Report a doorstep caller

Rapid response

Where possible we will aim to attend incidents as they happen, or reports of cold callers who are still in the area. If you would like to let us know about anyone who is calling in your area, particularly if it is in an area where a large number of elderly and potentially vulnerable people live, please call us immediately on 01253 478375.

Please provide as much information as possible to identify the caller including:

- Their name
- The company they work
- A description

Please be particularly wary of callers advising you that you need roof or house repairs, gardening work or tarmacing.

Reputable traders do not need to cold call. Care and Repair may be able to help you with modifications to your home.

Some individuals or groups are exempt from the No Cold Calling agreement, these are Councillors and MPs, permitted charity collectors, market researchers and religious groups.

Energy companies

The 6 largest gas and electricity companies have a voluntary code of practice to not call at houses displaying a sticker. These are:

- British Gas
- EDF Energy
- E-On
- N Power
- Scottish Power

• SSE

Should any of these calls against your wishes, please let us know.

Safe and Secure

Rather than engaging with cold callers, get a range of quotes from reputable traders, such as those on <u>Blackpool Council's Safe and Secure Directory of approved traders</u>.

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