

# Trading Standards Warnings: Office of Fair Campaign 2011, Tarmaccers and Roof Coatings

20 July 2011

Office of Fair Trading Doorstep Selling Campaign 2011



The campaign begins this week and is aimed at awareness and empowering people, particularly the over 70's and their friends and family, carers and medical professionals in relation to doorstep selling. Areas specifically highlighted are maintenance and property repairs, garden repairs given the increase of these incidents in the summer months. The campaign will also raise awareness of buying mobility aids, encouraging people to shop around before making a decision.

For more information see <http://www.offt.gov.uk/news-and-updates/press/2011/83-11>

Local issues:

## **Tarmaccers**

Reports of doorstep callers offering to tarmac drives have been received in the past month from Ormskirk, Chorley, Thornton Cleveleys and Colne areas of Lancashire, including one instance where work was carried out without the permission of the householder. If you need any house maintenance work carrying out, use the Safe Trader Scheme to find a trader, <https://www.traderregister.org.uk/index.php>

## **Roof Coating**

Reports from Lytham St Annes and Accrington have been received in relation to doorstep sellers offering to coat your roof, making it waterproof and retain heat. The sale was linked in with reducing fuel bills and the availability of a government grant for the work was implied. No government grants are available for any roof paint/coating, in general, roof coatings are purely cosmetic, be very wary of claims made.

As always, Trading Standards advice is never to do business on the doorstep.

Refer any complaints to Lancashire Trading Standards Service, Room D21, County Hall, Preston, Lancs PR1 3NU via Consumer Direct tel 08454 040506.