

This is a Community Message from Police, sent on behalf of Trading Standards on 17 Feb 2014.

**Have you had a tree, or branches, come down during the recent stormy weather?
Looking for a tree surgeon who won't rip you off?**

Don't become the victim of uninvited doorstep callers offering to cut down, or make safe, trees, or large branches in your garden. This is the time of year when 'rogue traders' may take advantage of those unfortunate enough to have suffered damage to their homes and gardens.

Before employing anyone to remove trees or branches check out the **Trees** page on the Borough of Poole's website at <http://www.boroughofpoole.com/environment/countryside/trees-and-woodland/privately-owned-trees/>

There is a link on this webpage to the [Arboricultural Association](#) which has a list of qualified tree surgeons.

Trading Standards recommend that you consider choosing a trader on the [Buy With Confidence](#) scheme. All the traders have been checked out by Trading Standards and are CRB checked. Get access to a list of reputable traders from builders, roofers, plumbers and electricians, to gardeners and tree surgeons. **Better safe than sorry!**

If trees from your garden have caused damage to your neighbour's property you may find that you have access to a Legal Helpline through your buildings/contents insurance – depending on the terms of your policy - Check it out!