

It's easier than you might think to make sure your donations go to genuine, registered charities.

6 simple steps to supporting charity and NOT crime

1

Genuine fundraising materials should feature the charity's name, registered name and a landline contact number. Be wary of those that list only a mobile number.

2

Before making a donation or accepting a collection tin, check the charity's name and registration number on the online Register of Charities at www.gov.uk/charity-commission (click on 'Find charities')

3

Look for the FRSB tick logo indicating that the charity is signed up to fundraising regulation, encouraging people to give with confidence. www.frsb.org.uk

4

Genuine charity collectors should be wearing an ID badge, have a sealed container and be able to produce a valid local authority or police licence. If the collection is in a privately owned place (including shopping centres and train stations), check that they have the owner's permission. Collectors should also be able to prove they have the charity's permission to collect.

5

If in doubt, ask the collector for more information - a genuine fundraiser will always be happy to answer questions and explain more about the work of the charity.

6

If you have any concerns about the legitimacy of a request for donations, don't hesitate to contact that charity directly. Be wary of any appeals where contact details are not provided.

If you are concerned that you may have been targeted by a fundraising scam, you should report this to Action Fraud by calling **0300 123 2046** or visiting www.actionfraud.police.uk

Please keep giving safely to charity.