INTRODUCTION

The Census will take place on the night of Sunday April 3rd, 2022. The census is carried out by the Central Statistics Office (CSO). A team of 5,100 Census Enumerators will deliver and collect census forms to and from every home in the country over the ten-week period between 2 March and 6 May. Each enumerator will have about 450 homes to visit in their assigned area. Delivery of census forms will begin on 2 March and it may take several visits to reach a householder if they are not at home. When the enumerator calls to your home they will explain a little about the census and deliver your form. The enumerator will leave a calling card with their contact details if there is no answer when they call. The enumerator will never enter your home. Always ask to see their identification card.

HOW TO IDENTIFY WITH YOUR ENUMERATOR

- Each enumerator will be clearly identifiable as they will wear a yellow high-visibility jacket marked “Census Enumerator” on the back and “Census” on the front. They will have a satchel with “Central Statistics Office An Phríomh Oifig Stádrímh” printed on it. All field staff will wear their official enumerator identification card around their neck and will show it to you when engaging with you.

- Enumerators have been given strict instructions NOT to enter your dwelling or home.

- Enumerators will work between 9 am and 9pm on weekdays and weekends.

- If in doubt, call the census office at 0818 2022 04 to verify the enumerator’s identity or contact your local Garda Station.

Householders should always be aware of the potential for ‘bogus callers’ or ‘fraudsters’ calling to homes pretending to be from different organisations which could include impersonating a census enumerator.

BOGUS CALLERS SECURITY CHECK

- Are you expecting callers, if not look out the window to see the caller.
- Have a viewer fitted in your door, you are safer behind a closed door.
- Have a door chain / limiter fitted and keep the chain/ limiter on, if you must open the door use the limiter. There are electric doorbells that link to your mobile phone.
- Make sure your back door is locked before you go to the door.
- If you are going to engage, Ask for ID – a genuine caller won’t mind.
- The basic rule is if you don’t know the person at your door, you shouldn’t let them in. Census enumerators will not ask to enter your home.
- If anxious contact your local Gardai.
SCAMS ONLINE & BY PHONE

- The Census team/enumerator will not contact you by phone or online unless you have already provided your contact details to them. This would only happen if you contact the team with a query or give the enumerator your phone contact details to arrange suitable times for form collection.

- Be alert to con artists using online communication or text by phone under false pretences saying that they are from the Census.

- Do not give out your credit/debit card, passwords, bank account details, social welfare numbers etc to anyone over the phone. The Census team/enumerator will never ask you for any of these details.

- If you receive a text message, phone call or email asking for these details or asking you to pay a fine, please don’t engage or respond to these messages and don’t click on any links provided.

- In general, do not give out personal information over the phone unless you know who you are talking to.

IF YOU THINK YOU HAVE BECOME A VICTIM TO THIS TYPE OF CRIME, WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

- Never be embarrassed or ashamed to contact the Gardaí. Do so immediately. An Garda Síochána provides a high level of service to every victim of crime by providing a respectful, reassuring, responsive and reliable service, addressing the needs and expectations of all victims in a non-discriminatory manner.

- Write down all you can remember about what happened to include descriptions of the persons, their clothing, any peculiarities or distinguishing features and any vehicles used by them. Keep safely any documents they may have given you.

- For those people who may have older or vulnerable neighbours or friends, be a good neighbour and advise them of these possible scams. If you suspect that bogus callers are in your area and appear suspicious or are near a vulnerable neighbour’s home – never hesitate in contacting the Gardaí immediately.

CONCLUSION

Following the advice in this leaflet will help to stop you becoming a victim of crime. Your local Garda Crime Prevention Officer or Community Garda can also help in this regard. In the event that you are threatened by physical force do not resist. Try to remain calm and, if possible, concentrate on getting a good description of the culprit.