

# Master Locksmiths Association

## *Licensing the professional Locksmith*

The Master Locksmiths Association (MLA) is the leading trade association for the locksmithing industry. A truly not-for-profit organisation promoting the skill and integrity of its approximately 1,400 members, it was established over 50 years ago to set and promote standards of conduct, practice and materials within locksmithing. Recognised as the authoritative body for locksmithing by the police, home office, British Standards Institute (BSI), The Risk Insight, Strategy and Control Authority - RISC Authority (formally IPCRes) and Building Research Establishment (BRE), the MLA also has a subsidiary company, Sold Secure, which performs certification of security products via manual attack testing.

In the absence of Government based licensing (meaning that anyone can call themselves a locksmith), the MLA can provide peace of mind to the end customer through its licensing scheme.

MLA licensed locksmith companies, who undergo strict vetting (including criminal record checks, regular inspections to ensure quality etc), are able to provide advice based on knowledge and experience, recommend products that are fit for purpose as well as provide professional installation and maintenance services.

The Approved Companies inspectorate means the MLA can demonstrate that all Company Members are meeting high standards. Each company is inspected on a regular basis, thus ensuring that its members and their operatives maintain standards in workmanship and administration. Also members are expected to conform to legal requirements and customer charters exist to ensure customer satisfaction.

Inspections have the effect of making locksmithing companies more accountable for their daily operations. Approved Company members are made aware that the MLA considers that training is an essential means to maintaining standards and the association provides training and information through various means.

The Logo depicted on the bottom right hand corner is the one that is advertised by an approved company on their premises, vehicles and stationery, confirming to the public the standards expected of them.

Channels of arbitration exist to fully investigate any complaints or disputes, should they arise, and the MLA advises or takes any necessary action depending on the outcome

## **MASTER LOCKSMITHS ASSOCIATION THE KEY TO YOUR SECURITY NEEDS**

**VETTED**

**INSPECTED**

**QUALIFIED**



Find your nearest MLA approved locksmith by contacting the association on 01327 262255 or visiting [www.locksmiths.co.uk](http://www.locksmiths.co.uk)