



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MLA sets the standard for the vetting of locksmiths

With the ever increasing importance placed on security, the vetting of those involved in the industry is becoming more and more vital. When it comes to locksmiths; people who are advising on the physical security of your home or business, and as such will have access to your door keys, then the emphasis on ensuring the quality and background of these service providers is essential.

Despite persistent lobbying and pressure by the MLA, the government has made it clear that it has no intention of following the lead of, amongst other countries, the USA and Ireland in the implementation of licensing for locksmiths here in the UK. This could therefore leave the door open for criminals to masquerade as locksmiths.

The MLA is once again pioneering in this area by setting the standards for self-regulation within the locksmithing industry. All new members are CRB checked upon joining the association. The MLA is in fact registered with the CRB as the umbrella body for locksmithing, a status awarded by the Criminal Records Bureau, recognising the MLA as being at the forefront of self-regulation within the industry.

This strict background vetting goes hand in hand with the assessment of approved companies and requirement for a qualified locksmith to be employed. So, when using an MLA approved company, customers can rest assured that they are being provided the best level of service possible, as well as have the peace of mind that the appropriate vetting has taken place.

For further information please contact:

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Notes to Editors

About the MLA

The Master Locksmiths Association is a non-profit making body; established to set and promote standards of conduct, practice and materials within the locksmithing industry. It encourages its members to further their knowledge through ongoing education, regional meetings, seminars, its membership magazine Keyways and its website. Standards of entry to the MLA are rigorous and high (including CRB checks and inspections), and its ethos of "Skill and Integrity" exists to ensure that the public, government and industry receive the appropriate service and advice on security matters provided by its members. Created in 1958, the MLA became a limited company in 1986 and now the membership, currently standing at over 1400, is world-wide. The MLA is now the leading trade association for the locksmithing industry and is recognised as the authoritative body for locksmithing by the Police, the Home Office, the British Standards Institute, Association of British Insurers (ABI) and Building Research Establishment (BRE) amongst others. The MLA also offers a full suite of training courses to the trade, held at their purpose built training facility at their headquarters in Daventry. Sold Secure, the leading independent security test and validation laboratory is a wholly owned subsidiary of the MLA.

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