

BUFFALO CITY MUNICIPALITY

MEDIA RELEASE



**Buffalo City
Municipality**

23 October 2008

For immediate release

We are hereby calling on all members of the community to be aware of a growing criminal tendency in which perpetrators are posing as General Valuations Data Collectors.

The Municipality is currently conducting a General Valuation of all properties in the municipal area in line with the Municipal Property Rates Act of 2004.

About 69 data collectors are deployed to evaluate properties in East London and King Williams Town area while 12 are working in Mdantsane and visits are carried out between 08h00 and 20h00 from Monday to Friday and up to 13h00 on a Saturday.

Recently we have received several reports of people who are abusing this system by posing as General Valuation Data Collectors and gain access to properties for criminal acts.

Data collectors are easily identifiable (see attachment) by bibs with colours, words and logo and they are carrying identity cards with their names, photographs, identity numbers and project personnel numbers. These cards have been signed by BCM's Municipal Manager.

In an effort to curb this problem, the Municipality is working closely with all police stations in area in an ensuring that as soon as a person become suspicious of a data collector they can contact us for a quick reaction.

For further information residents can contact our Information Centre on 043-7220240 or visit www.valueMe.co.za.

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