

INTERNET FRAUDE

Tips & Tricks to verify if an advertisement for a student room or housing is genuine

Contact the Housing Service.

The Housing Service at your campus can provide advice and can give you an overview of reliable housing databases. To do so, email housing@thomasmore.be.

Beware when :

- The so called landlord has all kinds of excuses not to make a video-call or show the outside of the building
- The rent needs to be transferred to a non-Belgian bank account.
- The rent is much lower in comparison with other similar rooms or apartments.

Check the photos

You can quickly determine whether the photos in an advertisement actually belong to a different property using Google's search engine.

Check the location

Using Google Street View. If the advertisement includes a photo of the facade and an address, you can use this information to verify if the building actually exists. Scammers may use photos of the exterior of a building for an address where the property is not located.

What to do if you have been scammed

- Go to the police services of the city where the scam occurred to file a complaint. Provide as much information as possible to the police. It is also important to report any case of potential fraude, even if you have not fallen victim.

Mechelen:

Rivierenland Police Zone Mechelen
Address: Frederik de Merodestraat 88, 2800 Mechelen
Phone number: +32 15 464 464

Geel:

Police Zone Geel-Laakdal-Meerhout
Address: Stelenseweg 92, 2440 Geel
Phone number: +32 14 56 47 00

Antwerp:

Police Zone Antwerpen
Address: Borsbeeksebrug 38, 260 Berchem
Phone number: +32 0800 123 12

- Notify Thomas More's Housing Service email: housing@thomasmore.be.

Thomas More Kempen vzw
Studentenvoorzieningen

Campus Geel, Kleinhoefstraat 4, 2440 Geel, België | + 32 14 56 23 00 | www.thomasmore.be/stuvo

Thomas More Mechelen-Antwerpen vzw
Studentenvoorzieningen

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