



# **Withholding Your Mobile Phone Number**

Following our keep in touch calls with groups we have received some queries from volunteers and staff regarding how to withhold their mobile phone numbers when contacting their group's members or participants. This factsheet covers the basics of how to do it.

## **Let your members or participants know you are using a withheld number**

Withholding your mobile phone number does help ensure your privacy and that nobody has your personal number but you may wish to warn people that you are using a withheld number. Hidden caller IDs are often associated with spam callers and some people may choose not to answer unless the caller is identified or if they are expecting your call.

## **How to withhold your mobile number before making a call**

If you don't want to withhold your number permanently, only before making a particular call, it's very straight forward to do.

Simply type the numbers 141 before the phone number you plan to dial.

This is the same system used on landlines but it also works on mobiles. It was first introduced to stop people getting your number when they dialled 1471.

## **How to withhold your mobile number permanently**

If you don't want anyone to see your number when you call, you can tweak your mobile phone's settings to stop this happening.

The instructions on how to do this may vary depending on your manufacturer but it should be broadly similar.

### **On an Android**

- Click on the *Phone* app

- Press the three-dot menu button in the top-right of the screen and choose *Settings*
- Click on *Supplementary Services*
- Click on *Show My Caller ID* and select *Hide number*

### **On an iPhone**

- Open *Settings*
- Choose *Phone*
- Untick *Show My Caller ID*