

Minutes taken from the WARD PANEL MEETING on 23/02/2017

Three main priorities to be addressed and reviewed at the next ward panel meeting end of May:

Harassment (stranger harassment)
Drugs around St James Street and Salop Road / Essex Road areas
Street Drinking around the Cleveland Park Road area

Suggestions made for the next meeting:

Environmental Visual Audits:

Street Art to brighten the railway arches or area near to Salop Road or Essex Road. There has been a persistent problem with drug dealing, dumping and motorbikes riding through the railway arch. It is still a popular route to be used as a getaway route. Can a gate that opens and shuts but left open be placed across the railway arch to deter people from using as a getaway route? Suggested by Rebecca Ward and Claire Coghill.

Can the roof on the public toilets on South Grove (Markhouse Ward) be knocked through, this is a hotspot for people to take a deal drugs can we look at a way for this to be disrupted? Suggested by Terry Smart, High Street Safer Neighbourhoods Officer.

Can there be more of a police presence around the car wash on Selbourne Road re the harassment issue. Can there be encouragement on facebook groups or social media links with regards to reporting the harassment to 999 or 101, as ultimately, police need to be made aware in order to target the problems.

There is a room inside The Scene overlooking the betting shops at the Hoe Street end of the high street which can be used as an observation point to observe blatant drug dealing and anti social behaviour outside the betting shops. Can RIPA be applied for to use evidence gathered from this observation point. Suggested by Claire Coghill

The end of operation Teague has seen a rise in the drug dealing and anti-social behaviour around LIDL and the international supermarket. (Scott has a warrant planned in relation to this which was not mentioned during the meeting, address and persons of which cannot be discussed at this time).

Licensing will need to be contacted with regards to content of alcohol, can all shops selling alcohol be visited by licensing to encourage them to sell lower alcohol percentage products. There has been an increase in the street drinking and anti-social behaviour outside the hairdressers near The Mill, these people purchase their alcohol from the local off licence on St James Street. Suggested by Claire Coghill.

Can there be better briefing between the police and the council with regards to who is arrested and in which addresses or which addresses these people stay at with a view to

offer these people more help re drug and alcohol workers and with a view to evict those who are causing anti-social issues.

Can there be a joining meeting between The High Street ward and the Markhouse Ward.
Can someone from St Mungo's and Street Rescue be invited to any of the next meetings.