

AGENDA ITEM 5a

City Centre Community Warden report

The school holidays have started and the city has been very busy especially with the lovely hot summer we are having. With the school holidays comes an increase of ASB in the city, recently I have received reports of youngsters climbing on the rooves on both North and East Street and in some cases eggs have been thrown at people below, in these cases the police were called and we do have an idea who some of the youngsters are.

There has been an increase in electric bicycle thefts in the city generally as the value of these bicycles are significantly more than the unassisted ones. We are encouraging people to ensure that they lock their bikes up with a substantial lock or even locks , to mark their bikes by the police and if they can to place GPS trackers on them as well.

As I expected with the warmer weather there has been an increase in cycling in the city as well as e-scooters , most people are really good getting off when requested to do so, occasionally I will get some abuse or people ignoring me these are generally adults.

The ASB in the multi-storey car park has dropped considerably, this is mainly due to the college and schools being closed although it is still being hit by graffiti.

Shoplifting seems to be on an increase at the moment and we are getting a lot more young offenders at the moment again this probably due to the school holidays.

ASB associated with drinking and street community is up slightly, but is a lot better than previous years, I feel that this is because the rough sleeper outreach team have done a great job in placing individuals in accommodation as quickly as possible, meaning there are less people gathering in the city.

Begging still continues in the city however we have not been targeted by teams of beggars being dropped off as much as we used to. I am asking people to notify the police when they complain to me about begging, as the more full time beggars at the moment know I don't have any enforcement powers so they generally ignore me or I get met with abuse when I tell them it is an offence, I do explain to members of the public that the majority of the beggars in the city are accommodated.

We are still getting graffiti in the city, but the regularity of it is not as often and the more larger and more elaborate tags seem to be disappearing with smaller written ones taking there place which are a little easier to remove.

As you can see there is a lot going on in the city, but this is not unusual for the summer holidays, this just means my step counter is very busy.

Declan Moody - Senior Community Warden

19th August 2022