



FOR Cardiff
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Cardiff
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21st October 2019

Dear St. Mary Street Tenant / Owner and FOR Cardiff member

Anti-Social Behaviour in St. Mary Street

In response to the petition signed by most businesses in the street and sent to FOR Cardiff, South Wales Police, City of Cardiff Council and the media, plus feedback from businesses directly to us, various work has been undertaken in an attempt to deal with the increase in anti-social behaviour, criminal/suspicious activity and its impact on trade and trading conditions.

Last week I chaired a meeting with senior Police Officers, City of Cardiff Council, a representative from Jo Stevens MP's office and 8 businesses from the street, each representing different sectors. It provided a useful forum to share the experiences that businesses are facing, and for the Council and Police to inform on the work they are undertaking and the legal restrictions that are in place. We considered various long- and short-term options to address the issues but for reasons of sensitivity I will not go into fine detail on everything. Among the actions from the meeting are:

- Our FOR Cardiff funded Police Officers will increase patrols (often covertly) in St. Mary Street
- FOR Cardiff have commenced the employment of an operative to collect needles and clear recesses of litter, faeces, discarded cardboard and quilts etc from private property
- When on duty, FOR Cardiff's Ambassadors will, if you wish, email 101 on your behalf, in order to save you time. We strongly advise you and your staff to report all incidents of anti-social behaviour and criminal/suspicious behaviour. Our duty mobile number is 07983 311723. Obviously, you can still do this yourself by emailing publicservicecentre@south-wales.pnn.police.uk.
- FOR Cardiff have offered to contribute to the refurbishment of a mobile Police Station that South Wales Police currently has so that the policing presence in high footfall areas such as St Mary St & Queen St can be significantly increased.
- Jo Stevens MP undertook a walkabout with me last Friday meeting Owners / Managers from 5 businesses who have been adversely affected by the levels of ASB in the street. There was much learnt all round and actions have arisen from this useful meeting – thanks to those businesses who shared their experiences.
- We have asked if there is any opportunity for the Wallich's / City of Cardiff Council's breakfast run to cease operating in the street as it was felt that this is detrimental to businesses. An alternative site would result in the street being less of a hub for activity which is leading to the problems that you have highlighted. I await feedback on this.

I will update you on the other action points that we took from the meetings as and when the time is right but, be assured that the issue is being taken extremely seriously by all partners. FOR Cardiff remain committed to being the conduit to represent the views of businesses to partners, without whom we would not be able to make a positive difference.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Field', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Adrian Field - Executive Director