

SCCRAG Presentation on 2018 Activities and Plans for 2019

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What has been achieved in 2018?

HELPUSHELP



Initiated by SCCRAG in 2014: taken forward by DACT

Encouraging people to get involved helping people who beg and sleep rough in Sheffield.



and many more supporting organisations
= 30 at the Christmas Cabin

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The **HELPUSHELP** Christmas Cabin

Supporting organisations - 30 staffing the Cabin
+ 15 providing logistical assistance



22nd to 28th November 2018

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The **HELPUSHELP** message & progress

- KEY message is about **diverted helping** – people are sympathetic & want to help
- They are realising that on-street donations fund a chaotic lifestyle
- HuH encourages the public to make informed choices
- There has been an increase in engagement via social media & people emailing via the website seeking advice on how and where they can volunteer or drop off items
 - All on-street people are being contacted regularly
- There is more order and lots of support available. . . But -
- Entrenched street-dwellers are hard to persuade that it's in their interest to accept support

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Raised by SCCRAG with City Council leaders

A moratorium on any plans for new city centre student accommodation (being investigated by SCC study group)
A decade target of 10,000 new residents in 2,3,4 bedroom apartments, taking population to 30,000

- SCC – 'planning laws don't let us dictate sizes, but all new buildings are designed to be altered into larger accommodation'

There is no understanding of city centre living. A Cabinet member and senior officer should have overall responsibility for delivering ALL City Centre policy and operational matters (SCC – 'not practical' – SCCRAG 'an unsatisfactory response!')

Too much priority is being given to cars in the centre and not enough to pedestrians and the need to cut air pollution. The whole area should be designated as pedestrian-friendly, with cars giving way

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he Pedestrian unfriendly Centre:

There are some good ideas, but not enough



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Raised by SCCRAG with City Council leaders (2)

5. SCCRAG is concerned about the future of Fargate (an SCC group is considering its future potential & design)
6. There should be more multi-storey parking facilities, signed access and a common, easily understood pricing policy (SCC: 'it's commercially run; we cannot influence')
7. SCCRAG proposes a review of parking spaces off West Street - the residential cost of parking has been increased & the times reduced - much greater inconvenience has been created for local residents
8. SCC councillors and officers should meet with resident representatives to examine how local access through the Glossop Road bus-gate can be implemented, because of the damaging impact the 2017 changes had on local businesses and deterred visitors to the area

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Glossop Road Bus-Gate

- 1: the original un-enforced gate
- 2: the enforced gate after 2017
- 3: the enforced gate as SCCRAG requested



At restricted times, access to the arrowed Cavendish Street is via Regent Street, Leavygreave Rd Regent Terrace. takes 5 seconds to go through the gate & turn left but that gets a £30 fine

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Sheffield People's Petition - www.ItsOurSheffield.co.uk

SCC Cabinet control being criticised. But is that the problem?

Big businesses are controlled by a board There is inaction, but what's the cause?

Huge budget cuts must be a factor

Staff turnover & shortages contribute

Officer frustration? Obfuscation?

Inexperience? Leadership?

Struggling to meet priorities: no time for the extras that matter to people?

It must be incredibly frustrating – But Austerity leads us downhill....

There's a need to listen, discuss, explain, be innovative & creativeand it doesn't have to be expensive



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Raised by SCCRAG with City Council leaders

- There has been a long-term failure to introduce a working online register of licensed premises conditions, as promised by Licensing 5 years ago. <https://licensing.sheffield.gov.uk/1/LicensingActPremises/Search>
- No progress in 3 years on the Cumulative Impact Policy that enables a limit on the number of off-licences on West Street
- SCC's appeals process is flawed – those being complained about are drafting the replies for the 2-stage appeals process.
- SCC has a good Code of Corporate Governance - which it appears to ignore. eg: 'Good governance means that we take sound and lawful decisions – **decisions that take into account local people's needs, their well-being, and what is needed for a prosperous, caring and successful city. The whole purpose of the council is to improve life for Sheffield people. It needs to do this fairly and to maintain public confidence and trust**'.....
- **Tree-Gate?? Bus-Gate?? – take into account local people's needs???**

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City Centre Medical Facilities

• Devonshire Green Medical Centre

Ratings (1)

2 Stars



"The doctors at this surgery are fantastic, and I've never had a bad experience with them - I'd recommend them wholeheartedly. However it is next to impossible to get in to see them... I was advised by many staff that using the online system is the way to get an appointment asap, yet these appointments all seem to be at least 4 weeks in the future".

• Sheffield City Walk-In Centre

Ratings (1)

4 Stars



BUT: Under NHS plans, Walk-in Centre to be closed + Hallamshire Hospital A&E to close and be moved to Northern General!!!

"As someone who works 15 miles away from their GP practice, and finds it very difficult to get an appointment, I feel very lucky to have this walk-in centre in central Sheffield. Services like this are convenient for busy office workers and must take the pressure off GPs and emergency departments as well".

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Mitigating Circumstances?

Or an excuse not to act?

The Council has suffered a £430m in funding this past decade. Welfare cuts are expected to continue into the 2020s with more than £4 billion due to be slashed nationally over the next five years

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Anti-Social Behaviour

Begging

Rough Sleeping

Group Loitering & Addiction

Graffiti & Vandalism



Currently the city centre is suffering from high levels of rough sleeping, begging, vandalism and graffiti. Help-us-Help is aimed at some of these challenges. Do we need to do more on visual appearance?

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Anti-social behaviour



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S.Y. Police: Neighbourhood Policing Policy

www.reportingcrime.uk

South Yorkshire Police

Online Services



www.facebook.com/sheffieldcentralnwhp/



Neighbourhood policing guidelines

01 October 2018

A typical list: The figures for Police Recorded Crime Data for Sheffield Central is as follows:
 20 Assaults, 5 x Burglary residential
 2 x Burglary Commercial, 2 x Bladed articles in public place
 5 x Drug offences, 13 x Criminal Damage, 4 x Robbery, 7 x Public Order offences, 11 x Theft from Motor Vehicles, 26 x Shoplifting offences, 34 x Theft offences, 3 x Theft of Motor Vehicles

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Current priorities of the City Centre Team are

- Tackling the Problem Street Culture
- Understanding and addressing the consumption and dealing of Spice
- Disrupting Child Criminal Exploitation in the city centre
- Managing the Night Time Economy
- PCSO XYZ is dedicated to patrolling the city centre in the early morning (6am onwards), engaging with rough sleepers and moving on those who may cause a disruption to businesses or members of the public (e.g if they are blocking doorways). On one day a week members of Framework, who are the Homeless Outreach Team, join him.
- His invaluable work also means that he often detains wanted people, locates missing people and assists the central neighbourhood team and partners in keeping up to date with an individual's current situation.
- Recent actions of Central NHP involve the apprehension and remand on bail of spice dealers active in the City Centre

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SCCRAG's Experiences with SYP

- Neighbourhood Policing is making a beneficial difference
- There are fewer anti-social groups loitering around the city centre
- Currently, use of spice appears to be lessening
- Issues around Victoria Court and Eldon Court have ceased
- There are problems around the Cathedral, which are being addressed
- There are still some sporadic cases of serious ASB, which are slow to be picked up on (West Street, early January, 3 female staff threatened in a hairdressing salon) SCCRAG is following up
- The police are one of the most pro-active agencies that SCCRAG is dealing with.

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SCCRAG's Other 2018 Activities (1)

Public Meetings Programme

- Jan: AGM
- Feb: PC's Paul Briggs and Libby Betney SYP
- March: Dr Alan Billings, Police & Crime Commissioner
- April: Agencies- Archer Project, Bens Centre, Framework Sunday Centre, Soup Kitchen + Tracey Ford HuH
- May: Dan Ladbury - Hallam university estates
- June: Tom Finnegan-Smith - Head of Strategic Transport and Infrastructure
- Sept: 3 Green Councillors
- Oct: Paul Blomfield MP
- Nov: Amanda Phillips - the Moor
- Dec: Council Cabinet Members Open Forum

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SCCRAG's Other 2018 Activities (2)

- Promoting Help-us-Help throughout year
- Dialogue with Council Cabinet Members
- Written articles on ASB, city centre living, etc for Star and Telegraph
- Best Bar None and Purple Flag accreditation involvement
- Panel speaker on CELAD - research project engaging the community in local alcohol decisions - with professionals from Sheffield and across the country
- Involvement with Cumulative Impact Policy review
- Attendance at:
 - Licence Committee meetings regarding new or amended licences
 - city centre Council-led meetings, including Task Force
 - SYP Central Neighbourhoods Quarterly Performance Review
 - Sheffield University residents' meetings
 - Sheffield Telegraph business editor round table discussion of build-to-rent with leading property professionals in Sheffield region

19 So what for SCCRAG in 2019?
Promote our Harmony Park proposal



A pocket park with percussion instruments
UK made, high quality, sounds like Wind Chimes
Available to all, wheelchair friendly, inclusive play space
SCCRAG to raise sponsorship for instruments
SCC to provide location
SCCRAG favourite site: Fountain Square @ Barkers Pool

Family Friendly Shopping Precinct - Darwin, Australia

20 Fountain Square Musical Pocket Park



Two levels- one Harmony Pavilion: enjoyment for all ages
One Pocket Park: great fun For toddlers upto 7 years
Bring happiness to the location!



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Fountain Square Musical Pocket Park in a city renowned for making music



22 Continue the Dialogue with SCC in 2019

- The unanswered questions on:
 - Glossop Road Bus-Gate – access for locals & visitors
 - the West Street Cumulative Impact Policy – progress?
 - The Council Appeals process – make it fair
 - Licensing data website to work
 - Pedestrian priorities over cars
 - Residential parking issues
- Where is the City Centre share of money from the Community Infrastructure Levy income, arising from city centre redevelopment?

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City Centre Medical Practices Seminar ...?

Sheffield: CQC publishes its review of how local health and social care systems work together

Published: 8 June 2018
https://www.cqc.org.uk/sites/default/files/20180522_local_system_review_sheffield.pdf

Extract: Strategic Priorities
System leaders must continue to engage with people who use services, families and carers and undertake a review of people's experiences to target improvements, bringing people back to the forefront of service delivery.

Many residents feel the GP service needs improving; as the city centre population grows, current services are unlikely to meet demand. Plans to close Broad Lane Walk-in Centre have been denounced; moving A&E to Northern General has been heavily criticised. Some practitioners have suggested alternative solutions.

SCCRAG is planning a half-day seminar to bring together those involved to consider the options and how to plan for the next decade.

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Central Recycling Facility for Small items?

- How do we recycle small electrical & electronic items?



- Living in City Centre = minimal use of a car
- Planning strategy limits parking spaces
- Recycling facilities are difficult to access from the centre
- Do we need a recycling facility?

SCCRAG to ask the Universities if they can help and to look further if they can't

You can now Register to be a Member of SCCRAG

www.sccrag.org

You can Register for SCCRAG emails, become a Member & send Comments Here

Name *

First

Last

E-mail *

Comment or Message

Do you want to receive occasional emails from SCCRAG?

Yes

If you would like to be classed as a Member of SCCRAG (there is no charge) please check the box.

Yes

Yes enables us to know how many are interested in the City Centre when talking to other organisations about the number of people involved with SCCRAG - Thanks for your support if you checked 'Yes' - you will be eligible to vote at our AGM!

Submit

And Finally: Thanks

- To our sponsors



- To those who kindly work with us



Douglas

Rob

Martin

- To our local Councillors



- To those who come to our meetings

- To those who help us with ideas and suggestions

- To what do you think we should also be tackling?**