

GEORGE STREET : CHUGGERS BULLET POINTS :

We want the people to have the choice to engage, NOT be forced to engage!

This not an uncharitable act of banning charities in raising money in George Street, just the way charities collect money.

We fully support charities, as we have so many charity shops in George Street, and even those charity shops dislike 'Chugging' as it gives charities a bad name by visitors that are pestered by 'Chuggers'.

1: We believe that this 'Chugging' ban should not be considered by the council from the outset as a 'City wide' issue. It would over complicate the issue and would lose focus to deal with the very real issues that George Street face.

2: The council should look and focus at the problem and the solution that the community of George Street have submitted that would solve the problem.

3: Once the problem has been solved in George Street, the council can approach other areas and communities for their feedback, and so instigate a ban in those areas if requested.

4: We believe that this can be made bespoke for George Street due to existing special circumstances (see below), and solve the problem for this community.

5: There is a precedence here in George Street, as other charities have led the way use marquee's and opt to give pedestrians the choice to engage. Charites such as Guide Dogs for the Blind, Sussex Wildlife, RSPB and Cats Protection.

6: Unlike other shopping areas in the city, George Street is long and tubular. Once you are in the street and it being so narrow there is really no escape, and this makes it intimidating to people in general, but more so to those considered vulnerable and those with special needs or mental health issues.

7: One of the aspects that make George Street different to other areas, within this tubular narrow street, is the amount of charity shops that are in the street. These charity shops have many volunteers with special needs and mental health issues. Such opportunities in the community help those persons socialise within the community and help gain self confidence.

8: These volunteers are intimidated and vulnerable by the presence of 'Chuggers'. Apart from 'not having the choice to engage' and the invasion of personal privacy, to safeguard any request of highly personal financial information from vulnerable people should be protected.

9: Another aspect that singles out George Street to have a bespoken arrangement is the proximity of so many care homes and hostels in the area. George Street have an incredible amount of visitors from these care homes that consider George Street the centre of their community. These persons have mental health issues and learning difficulties that require care.

10: All 'Chuggers' are national charities and not local charities. Local charities would also support our ban on 'Chugging' and would prefer that charities employ a marquee.

