

# **NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **Scrutiny Panel 2 – Retail Experience**

### **CORE QUESTIONS**

How can Northampton Borough Council (NBC) further develop partnership working with the town centre business community?

**There are already good working links between Northampton CSP and the businesses in the town centre. Representatives from the Town Centre Partnership and the BID sit on the CSP Town Centre Task Group, which is made up of a range of agencies who look at a variety of issues around crime & disorder and community safety.**

**The town centre also benefits from a retail and pub link radio system that links in directly with the CCTV control room. This contributes towards a speedy response to real time issues relating to crime and disorder**

How can NBC support local businesses throughout the development period of any major building projects in and close by to the town centre

**NBC already link in closely with the Police Architectural Liaison Officer, who works from the Planning Department one day per week. This ensures that careful consideration is given to all plans, providing the opportunity to highlight any potential crime & disorder issues, and providing expert advice and guidance.**

How can Northampton's retail experience be supported and the impact of low inflation and the economic downturn be mitigated?

**N/A**

How can the independent retail sector and multiple/larger chains work in partnership to ensure work towards sustaining the viability of the retail sector?

**N/A**

What effective marketing and promotion would benefit the town's retail sector and how do you feel the profile of the town centre could be raised?

**Safer shopping, Safer car parks – promote positive aspects, promote Northampton retail crime initiative to shoppers as well as retailers.**

How can retailers, landlords, prospective developers and agents develop the town's retail sector?

**N/A**

How can regulations and advice regarding the retail sector be utilised and accessed more by retailers?

**N/A**

What other activities could have a more positive impact on retailers?

**Encourage membership of the Retail Crime Initiative and the NBC Retail and Pub Radio Link. Partnership working with the police to address issues around shop lifting, purse theft etc, and proactively address issues of crime and disorder. Strong regulation of charity collectors, promoters and street traders, who may cause harassment to shoppers and deter them from the town centre.**

How can independent retailers compete with both larger multiples and internet shopping?

**N/A**

What would you like the town centre will look like in 5 years time?

**N/A**

How good are the communication channels from the Borough Council regarding new town centre developments?

**N/A**

What do you feel would enhance the retail experience to attract new visitors / shoppers and increase the number of return visits to the town centre

**N/A**

Has there be any occasion where you have used the Internet to buy any item and why?

**N/A**

Any other comments

**Submitted by:  
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