



NEW MILTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

By the Community, For the Community

Discussion Group – February 2018 Meeting

One of the questions discussed was:

Should begging be banned in town/city centres?

Among the views expressed were:

Whilst begging in a public space is illegal, it is not always well-enforced

Some town/cities are concerned at the level of aggressive begging

Begging normally involves someone asking for money

Our group of 12 were split 50:50 on whether begging should be banned

It was felt that begging usually did not involve any verbal contact

Instead a sign was displayed asking for money and the beggar often had a dog to attract attention

It was agreed begging was part of a much bigger problem with many beggars also rough-sleeping

It was thought important to identify the root causes for rough-sleeping

There were many causes including alcohol & drug dependency

There was concern at the lack of accommodation and social services available to help turn lives around

We would love you to try one of our meetings as a free Taster.