

**From:** DAVE.J.Hodges

**Sent:** 09 March 2018 11:14

**To:** Planning

**Cc:** terencedoyle; Vincent, Sue (Councillor); Harrison, Adam (Councillor); david.fereday;

Lydia.Clarkson

**Subject:** PHONE BOX APPLICATIONS

Hello,

I am the ward Sgts for Holborn and Covent garden, Bloomsbury and the Camden sector team.

To be clear, my stance on phone boxes, new and old is the same, they are a magnet for drug dealing, drug taking, anti-social behaviour, prostitute carding and urinating to name a few.

The new systems by 'Inlink' outside Euston station, which allows free calls, although they look great, they are now being used by drug users to call their drug dealers. You now have a huge problem of drug users congregating around them, which is yet another problem for police to deal with. This is an example of no matter how much innovation you put into new boxes, the result is the same, drugs and crime.

I have many phone boxes across my wards on Tottenham court road, Seven dials and Cambridge circus that attract so many drug users and dealers, that I am bombarded by residents and businesses alike, demanding that I take action against the boxes in general and the crime associated with it. BT's response, categorically WILL NOT remove the boxes as in their words, create too much revenue for the company.

Essentially, once they are in, you will never get rid of them!

I could go on for pages regarding the crimes and issues these boxes cause local residents and businesses, but I won't as hopefully this email is clear enough.

I will go on tackling crime on my wards as that is my job. All I am asking the council for is to not put more of these crime generators into these wards that already suffer from drug misuse.

Kind regards

**Sgt Dave Hodges 375CN**

Neighbourhood Policing Team

Bloomsbury

Holborn & Covent garden

Sector team