

HAPPY TO CHAT BENCH



## **Criteria**

Happy to Chat is an initiative organised by Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council to combat loneliness.

The aim is to provide a safe space where people can come and sit and potentially have a conversation.

Having trialled the scheme in a local café, we are keen to extend this trial to a bench or outdoor space.

In this instance we have elected to find an appropriate bench

To ensure the trial is secure, the location should be in a reasonably busy area with good visibility. It is felt a town centre or seafront location is preferable and ideally, the bench should not be the sole one in the location as other users may not be happy to chat.

## **Potential Locations.**

5 benches have been earmarked initially.

They are in the following areas:

1. Devonshire Square.
2. Marina (at the southern end of Devonshire Rd).
3. Marina Court Ave (Southwest end of the De La Warr car park).
4. Western Rd (At the junction of Devonshire Rd.
5. Western Rd (located near the town council office.



## Location 1: Devonshire Square

### Advantages:

- Busy, town centre location
- Two benches in the location
- Good visibility

### Disadvantages

- Traffic noise



## Location 2: Marina

### Advantages:

- Busy, town centre location
- Three benches in the location
- Good visibility

### Disadvantages

- Can be cold/windy down near seafront



### Location 3: Marina Court Avenue

#### Advantages:

- Two benches in the location
- Good visibility

#### Disadvantages

- A little isolated (especially in Winter)
- Can be cold/windy down near seafront



### Location 4: Western Rd

#### Advantages:

- Busy, town centre location
- Good visibility
- Near to council office

#### Disadvantages

- Potentially too busy
- Only a single bench
- Traffic noise



## Location 5: Western Rd (centre)

### Advantages:

- Busy, town centre location
- Two benches in the location
- Good visibility
- Near to council office

### Disadvantages

- Potentially too busy
- Traffic noise





## Bench sticker design





Shop window poster




THIS IS A

# *HAPPY TO CHAT*

VENUE

*An initiative by Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council.*



A full list of terms and conditions can be found on  
<https://www.bexhilltowncouncil.gov.uk/community/bexhill-on-sea-19921/happy-to-chat/>  
or by scanning the QR code with your device

THIS VENUE HAS A TABLE RESERVED FOR:

## *'Friendships about to happen'*

Come in and sit at the table if you are happy to  
have a conversation with a stranger!