

It has been brought to our attention that youths are congregating outside local shops begging for money, they are blocking the doorway in an intimidating manner and if refused can become verbally aggressive.

It is not acceptable that you should be put off using public amenities because you feel intimidated or threatened by groups of youths or 'gangs' hanging around public spaces, in the road, around shops or parks for example.

If property or money is taken from you by force or against your will or you are fearful of the repercussions by refusing to give money/property to someone begging, this is classed as 'robbery' and should be reported to the police.

Individuals who aggressively beg can be subject to Antisocial Behaviour Orders banning them from specific areas.

If you are aware of an on-going problem in your area, the following information would be helpful in order to assist us in gathering evidence to prove the offences:

- . names and addresses of the individuals involved, including descriptions where possible
- . location of where the offence is being committed, times and frequency that it is occurring
- . whether the beggar is being verbally and/or physically aggressive

We are committed to dispersing intimidating groups, with your help we can identify particular problem areas where there is persistent antisocial behaviour and disperse and exclude such groups from a designated area.

Your first port of call should always be to contact Cambridgeshire Constabulary on 0845 456 456 4, in an emergency ring 999.

Please forward any information that you have to myself on the above number or alternatively email me as follows:

[amanda.butler@cambs.pnn.police.uk](mailto:amanda.butler@cambs.pnn.police.uk)