

## 9i – Lets Chat Benches

Cllr Lloyd has received some suggested locations for the Lets Chat Benches and would like to trial a few (subject to Parish ownership and conditions that apply). We can see how these three go and look at rolling a few more locations if it is positive:

1. Bench on Market Street, Eckington – either next to the disused bank by Eckington Business Centre/Community Pantry – or opposite by the Civic Centre building.
2. Bench on Main Road, Marsh Lane – near the junction with Warren Walk (and next to a bus stop)
3. Bench on Castle Hill, Eckington – near the pedestrian crossing on the Main Road.

We could then use Social Media to raise awareness and see if residents in the community want to make suggestions about introducing them into other areas.

Cllr Lloyd is mindful that benches in our of the way areas might make vulnerable people or lone women especially feel a bit unsafe – so we must get the balance right.

For background:

These signs are to encourage conversations, encourage people to get out and about visiting new locations, as well as providing information around Mental Health Support and isolation.

Derbyshire County Council have been working in partnership with local councils, communities and partners including Chatsworth right across Derbyshire to get the signs up and map them across the Country.