When carrying out a neighbourhood assessment, observations of the area under assessment can help practitioners to get a better understanding of how the area is used, what is happening there, any potential guardians and changes that might make the area safer. Neighbourhood observations involve visiting the area of concern and observing what is happening there and who is using the space. It is also useful to collate information about the context that might already be known or recorded. Use this document to capture evidence of your neighbourhood observation; it may be useful to ask more than one agency to complete the observation if they have a relationship to that area; adding in any relevant information observed or told. Once the document is completed it should be saved locally either on E-CINS (if there is a relevant case or profile) or in your Peer Group Conference folder.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Peer Group Conference:** |  | | **Assessment**  **Date & Time:** |  |
| **Location / Context:** | *Name / locality of the location or context….* | | | |
| **Description of the location:** | *Use this space to describe the location or context….* | | | |
| **Current Usage:** | *Use this space to describe how the location or context is currently being used (this can include legitimate and illegitimate use of the space by groups and individuals)….* | | | |
| **General Observations:** | *Use this space to note down any general observations….* | | | |
| * Secure doors/ entryways * CCTV * Street lighting * Location – close to roads, or isolated? * Bushes/ trees blocking visibility | * Secluded areas * Community activities/ opportunities (e.g. community centres, parks in use) * General maintenance of area * Accessibility of entry and exit routes * Opportunities to access help | | |

Is there any evidence of…

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Drug use *(drug litter, including gas cannisters?)* | * Yes | * No | Young people fighting / arguing | * Yes | * No |
| Drug dealing | * Yes | * No | Adults fighting / arguing | * Yes | * No |
| Alcohol use | * Yes | * No |  | * Yes | * No |
| Evidence of sexual activity | * Yes | * No | Positive use of Space | * Yes | * No |
| Sexualised behaviour | * Yes | * No | *If yes, what/how?* | | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Known or recurring incidents** | *Use this space to record anything already known to be happening about the area….* | | |
| **Are Police / Other agencies aware / already working in the area** | * Yes | * No | * Don’t Know |
| *If yes, who and in what capacity?* | | |
| **Businesses in the area** | *Use this space to capture information about Businesses operating in the area ….* | | |
| **Community Resources** | *Use this space to capture information about any community resources in the area ….* | | |
| **Environmental Factors** | *Use this space to note down any environmental factors you notice about the area (ie, empty shops, units or houses, overgrown vegetation, lighting issues etc)* | | |
| **Positive Protective Factors:** | *Use this space to note down any potential protective factors (ie CCTV, shops or houses overlooking the area, patrols etc)….* | | |
| **Guardianship:** | *Use this space to note down any known community guardians….* | | |