

**CABINET**  
**17 July 2014 at 7.00 pm**

Further to the recent despatch of agenda and papers for the above meeting, please find the following item(s) which were marked as 'to follow':

13. **Buckhurst 2 Car Park Proposal - Project Update and Consultation Results**  
(Pages 1 - 56)

To assist in the speedy and efficient despatch of business, Members wishing to obtain factual information on items included on the Agenda are asked to enquire of the appropriate Director or Contact Officer named on a report prior to the day of the meeting.

Should you require a copy of this agenda or any of the reports listed on it in another format please do not hesitate to contact the Democratic Services Team as set out below.

For any other queries concerning this agenda or the meeting please contact:

**The Democratic Services Team (01732 227241)**

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**BUCKHURST 2 CAR PARK PROPOSAL – PROJECT UPDATE & CONSULTATION RESULTS**

**Cabinet – 17 July 2014**

Report of Chief Officer Environmental & Operational Services

Status: For Consideration

Key Decision: No

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**Executive Summary:** At their meeting of 6 March Cabinet considered a report entitled Sevenoaks Town Centre Parking Review which provided Members with an evaluation of parking demand within Sevenoaks Town and set out a proposal to provide additional car parking capacity by installing decking at the existing Buckhurst 2 car park.

Cabinet resolved that “a planning application be submitted to provide an additional 300 car park spaces on the existing Buckhurst 2 car park by providing a two storey elevated car deck”.

To assist the Council in preparing its planning application a public consultation was carried out between 5 June and 26 June to find out the public’s views on the proposed additional parking.

A questionnaire was available online and from Sevenoaks Leisure Centre throughout the period, which received 278 responses. More than 250 people attended public consultation exhibitions held between 5 and 7 June and 16 letters were also received during the consultation period.

The report provides Members with an update on progress made in taking forward the resolution of Cabinet at their meeting on 6 March and sets out for Members consideration the results of the public consultation.

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**This report supports the Council Promise to support and develop the local economy.**

**Portfolio Holder** Cllr. Roddy Hogarth

**Contact Officer(s)** Richard Wilson, Ext. 7067  
Lee Banks, Ext.7161

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**Recommendations to Cabinet:**

- (a) Note the progress made in seeking to deliver additional car parking capacity at Buckhurst 2 car park in Sevenoaks Town;
  - (b) Consider the views gathered through the consultation and provide guidance to Officers on any matters that should be incorporated in a future planning application; and
  - (c) Consider and comment on the Equality Impacts set out at Appendix D to this report.
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**Reason for recommendations:** To ensure that the opinions of the public are taken in to account, in so far as possible, in the design of the proposed additional car parking provision at Buckhurst 2 car park in Sevenoaks Town.

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### **Introduction and Background**

- 1 An independent study has demonstrated that there is insufficient long stay parking in Sevenoaks town. This is due to a number of factors including the recent loss of both private and public long stay spaces, the rise in the number of residential properties in the town centre and business growth.
- 2 At their meeting of 6 March Cabinet considered a report entitled Sevenoaks Town Centre Parking Review which provided Members with an evaluation of parking demand within Sevenoaks Town and included a proposal to provide additional car parking capacity by installing decking at the existing Buckhurst 2 car park.
- 3 Cabinet resolved that “a planning application be submitted to provide an additional 300 car park spaces on the existing Buckhurst 2 car park by providing a two storey elevated car deck”.
- 4 Since that time Portfolio Holders and Officers have been working to implement the Cabinet resolution and this report provides an update on progress made and summarises the results of a consultation which has provided local residents and businesses an opportunity to view initial plans and provide their views on the proposed two story elevated car deck designs prior to planning application stage.

### **Project Update**

- 5 Since the Cabinet resolution in March Officers have been working with a Project Manager to take forward the Buckhurst 2 decked car park proposal. To date architects, consultant engineers and planning consultants have been engaged to prepare for submitting a planning application. This preparation has included commissioning a range of studies and surveys including those for transport, environment, heritage, arboriculture, ecology and a statement of community engagement.
- 6 It is anticipated that a planning application will be submitted in August. The Council’s planning consultants have been requested to take into account, wherever possible, the views gathered from the public consultation which is set out in this report.
- 7 Subject to planning consent, construction works could commence on site in January 2015. The completion date is targeted for April 2015. Officers are currently exploring a range of options to ensure that adequate temporary parking is available throughout the construction period.

### **Public Consultation**

- 8 A public consultation was conducted between 5 June and 26 June to find out the public’s views on the proposed additional parking at Buckhurst 2 car park in

Sevenoaks Town. During this time local residents, businesses, workers and visitors could:

- View artists impressions and drawings and complete an online copy of the consultation survey from the Council's website;
- View artists and impressions of the proposed car park at the Sevenoaks Leisure Centre, together with an opportunity to complete a paper copy of the consultation survey; or
- Attend a series of public exhibitions which took place between 5 and 7 June.

9 To raise awareness of the consultation exercise, the following measures were taken:

- Approximately 1,200 letters and flyers giving information about how to give views and the public exhibition dates were sent to residents and businesses in a wide area around the Buckhurst 2 car park.
- The home page of the Council website promoted the consultation throughout the period and provided a direct link to supporting information and the online questionnaire.
- Local media organisations provided coverage of Council press releases.
- Social media posts from the Council's Twitter accounts and Facebook pages provided links to the consultation page on the Council website and encouraged people to give their views.
- The web address for the online questionnaire was publicised on all written documentation, including posters in all Sevenoaks District Council car parks, and posters distributed to businesses in Sevenoaks Town.
- Real Business, the Council's Email bulletin to local businesses featured the car park consultation in its June edition.

### **Consultation Responses**

- 10 Appendix A provides a copy of the questionnaire that was available online, at the public consultation events and at Sevenoaks Leisure Centre.
- 11 A total of 278 responses to the Council's questionnaire were received. The results of which are provided at Appendix B to this report and summarised from paragraph 13 of this report.
- 12 Appendix C to this report provides a comprehensive review of the public exhibition events and the comments provided from those that attended. Appendix C also summarises feedback from letters and Emails received during the consultation period. More than 250 people attended the public exhibitions, providing more than 140 comments and a total of 16 letters and Emails were received.

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## **Summary of Results**

13 Set out below is a summary of the headline results from the 278 responses to the Buckhurst 2 consultation questionnaire. Members should note that full detail of these results is provided at Appendix B to this report.

### 14 **Experience of parking**

- 63% of respondents usually travel to Sevenoaks town centre by car
- 82% of respondents use the car parks in Sevenoaks town. 48% of respondents use the car parks at least once a week, with Saturday being the most popular day (76%)
- The main reasons given for visiting Sevenoaks town were shopping (70%), recreation (53%) and work (31%).
- 52% of respondents normally use short stay car parking. Long stay car parks are used by 17% of respondents.

### 15 **Car Park proposal**

- 35% of respondents said they find it either difficult or very difficult to park in Sevenoaks town.
- 65% of respondents agree that more parking spaces are needed in Sevenoaks town centre
- 57% of respondents said that extra long stay parking was needed. The same proportion said that extra short term spaces were required.
- 26% of people would be prepared to pay more for a reserved space.

### 16 **Finish & Cladding**

- 92% of respondents agreed that the new car park should be clad with materials that help it to fit in with its surroundings.
- 39% of people said that red brick cladding should be used on the side facing the leisure centre with the remaining cladding being in cedar.
- Respondents were offered the opportunity to suggest alternative forms of cladding. The most popular suggestion was for a living wall (17 responses). 24 respondents used the comments box for this question to say they do not want the new car park.

### 17 **Landscaping**

- Protecting existing trees and greenery and seeking to plant more trees to reduce visual impact were supported by 99% and 92% of respondents respectively.

- Respondents were offered the opportunity to provide their own comments on the landscaping around the car park site. The most popular suggestions were for a living wall (10 responses) and lots of planting (10 responses). 11 respondents used the comments box for this question to say they do not want the new car park.

### 18 **Other comments**

- The final question relating to the car park within the survey provided an open text space for respondent's suggestions and comments. 151 of the 278 respondents provided additional comments, with the most popular comments summarised as:
  - Do not want the car park (32 responses)
  - Car park spaces should be wider than normal (31 responses)
  - Concerns about impact of traffic (19 responses)

### **Supporting the Local Economy**

- 19 In taking forward plans to increase car parking capacity in Sevenoaks town Members have expressed, amongst other things, a desire to support local workers and businesses which have highlighted their concerns on the need for adequate parking provision for their staff.
- 20 A summary of the headline results from those respondents that stated their main reasons for visiting Sevenoaks is for work or for business is set out below. The percentages in brackets are the results of all respondents for comparison.
- 47.4% live outside of Sevenoaks District (19.6%)
  - 80.8% usually travel to Sevenoaks town by car (63.5%)
  - 41.3% Sevenoaks town every day (20.9%)
  - 39.5% usually use long stay car parking (17.1%)
  - 51.1% say finding a parking space is difficult (34.7%)
  - 81.4% say more parking is needed (65.5%)
  - 76.8% believe that more long stay parking is needed (56.8%)

### **Concerns and Issues arising**

- 21 Throughout the questionnaire and during the public exhibition events respondents were able to provide open text comments to provide comments and suggestions. Details on the number of responses on each issue are provided in the Appendices. In summary form the main concerns and issues raised by respondents are as follows.

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- i. Do not want the car park
  - ii. Traffic concerns
  - iii. Do not like the design
  - iv. Impact on neighbours including Knole Park
  - v. Consider other solutions e.g. another location, park and ride, improving / promoting other forms of transport
- 22 As highlighted at paragraph 5 of this report Members may wish to note that in preparing to submit a planning application as resolved at the Cabinet meeting in March, Officers have instructed a number of studies which will be required at planning application stage. This includes those for transport, environment, heritage, arboriculture, ecology and a statement of community engagement.
- 23 The results of these studies will be considered alongside the outcomes of this consultation and the guidance of Members resulting from this report before a planning application is submitted. All of these sources of information will inform the final design of the car park which will be submitted within the planning application.

### **Other Options Considered and/or Rejected**

- 24 None. This report reports back on the results of the public consultation on the Buckhurst 2 car park proposal and it is appropriate that the results are reported to Members for their consideration.

### **Key Implications**

25 Financial

There are no financial impacts arising from the consideration of the consultation results.

26 Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement

There are no legal implications arising from the consideration of the consultation results.

Undertaking and public consultation and responding in an appropriate manner to the results is supportive of reducing the risk of a planning application being submitted that is not in keeping with public opinion.

27 Equality Impacts

Consideration of impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty:		
Question	Answer	Explanation / Evidence
a. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have potential to disadvantage or discriminate against different	No	In carrying out the public consultation data was gathered and assessed in relation to protected characteristics. These related to age, disability, ethnicity and gender.



Consideration of impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty:		
Question	Answer	Explanation / Evidence
groups in the community?		A full profile of the respondents the accompanying analysis and conclusions is provided as Appendix D to this report.
b. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have the potential to promote equality of opportunity?	Yes	
c. What steps can be taken to mitigate, reduce, avoid or minimise the impacts identified above?		Recommendations for action that could be taken to mitigate or reduce the impacts identified are set out at Appendix D to this report.

### Conclusions

- 28 This report sets out the outcomes of the public consultation on the proposal to provide additional parking capacity at the site of Buckhurst 2 car park in Sevenoaks.
- 29 Of the 278 responses received to the Council’s survey 65% of respondents agree that more parking spaces are required in the town, with 57% of respondents in support of more long stay and short stay parking. When considering the design and landscaping 92% of respondents said that the car park should fit in with its surroundings and would advise additional planting.
- 30 The consultation has identified areas where the decision being considered has the potential to promote equality of opportunity.
- 31 The consultation highlighted a number of areas where the public have concerns, ranging from people saying they do not want the proposed car park, to comments on considering a different location or design and concerns about the traffic levels that may be generated.
- 32 Members are requested to consider the outcome of the public consultation and provide guidance to Officers on any matters that should be considered in developing a future planning application for the expansion of parking capacity at Buckhurst 2 car park.

### Appendices

- Appendix A – Consultation questionnaire
- Appendix B – Consultation survey results
- Appendix C – Public exhibition results
- Appendix D – Equality Impacts

### Background Papers:

None

**Richard Wilson**  
**Chief Officer Environmental & Operational Services**

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## Proposed Additional Car Parking at Buckhurst 2 Sevenoaks



We want to ensure that Sevenoaks town is an attractive place to live, work, shop and do business. We believe that it is essential to ensure the town has enough parking spaces to meet current and future needs.

We would also like to move a number of permit holders out of short stay shopper car parks and reduce the need for long stay business parking in residential streets. Our solution to this would be to install two storey decking on the Buckhurst 2 car park which will provide approximately 300 additional spaces.

This is of course subject to the usual planning process. We are consulting you before submitting the planning application. This means that the comments that you make during this early stage of consultation will inform the planning application.

There will be a further opportunity to comment on the final car park proposal as part of the planning application process later this summer.

**Proposed Buckhurst 2 Car Park - Aerial View**

**Visiting Sevenoaks town centre**

**1. How do you usually travel to Sevenoaks town centre?**

- On foot
- Bicycle
- By car
- By motorbike
- By bus
- By train
- Other (please specify)

**2. Do you use the car parks in Sevenoaks town centre?**

- Yes
- No

**3. If yes, which of the following best describes how often you use the car parks in Sevenoaks town centre?**

- Every day
- At least once a week
- At least once a month
- Less than once a month
- Not applicable

## Proposed Additional Car Parking at Buckhurst 2 Sevenoaks

**4. What are your main reasons for visiting Sevenoaks town centre? Tick all that apply**

- Work
- Commuting
- Shopping
- Business
- Recreational
- Other (please specify)

**5. What days do you generally visit? Tick all that apply**

- Monday
- Tuesday
- Wednesday
- Thursday
- Friday
- Saturday
- Sunday

**6. What time of day do you generally visit? Tick all that apply**

- All day
- Morning
- Afternoon
- Evening
- Varies

**Parking in Sevenoaks town centre**

**7. When driving to Sevenoaks town centre, what type of car parking do you normally use?**

- Disabled Parking
- Short stay car parks (up to 4 hours)
- Long stay car parks (using Pay & Display)
- Long stay car parks (season ticket / permit holder)
- Other (please specify)

**8. Using the following scale, how easy do you find it to park in Sevenoaks town centre**

- Very Easy
- Easy
- Neither Easy nor Difficult
- Difficult
- Very Difficult

**9. Are more parking spaces needed in Sevenoaks town centre?**

- Yes
- No

Please give comments

**10. If yes, what type of extra car parking do you think is needed (Tick all that apply)**

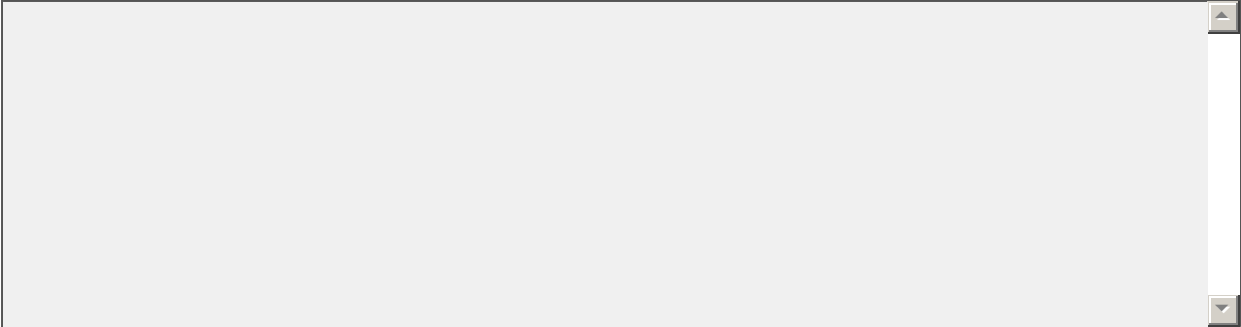
- Disabled Parking
- Short stay (up to 4 hours)
- Long stay (over 4 hours)
- Season ticket / permit holder spaces
- Reserved or allocated spaces
- Other (please specify)

Proposed Additional Car Parking at Buckhurst 2 Sevenoaks

**11. If you use long stay parking, would you be prepared to pay more for a reserved space?**

- Yes
- No

Please give comments



**Proposed Materials**

We intend to clad the sides of the car park with materials that reflect the location. The adjacent Leisure Centre uses cedar cladding at a high level with brickwork below to the ground level.

We propose to clad three sides of the new car park with cedar cladding matching the Leisure Centre. The cladding will be of a sufficient height to ensure that the glare from car headlights will not impact on nearby properties.

The remaining elevation (facing the Leisure Centre) could be clad in matching red brick for continuity of appearance.

It is our view that use of these cladding materials will enhance the appearance of the car park and reduce the impact on the local surroundings.

**12. Do you agree that the new car park should be clad with materials that help it to fit in with its surroundings?**

- Yes
- No

The current proposal is for cedar panels and red brick to clad the new car park.

**Cedar cladding**





Proposed Additional Car Parking at Buckhurst 2 Sevenoaks

Red brick



**13. Which of the following options do you think would most help the new car park to fit in with its surroundings?**

- I do not agree with the use of cedar and red brick
- Cedar on all four sides of the new car park
- Cedar on three sides and red brick on one side (facing the leisure centre)
- I would prefer the following mix of cedar and red brick

**14. If you do not agree with the use of cedar and red brick please tell us in the space below if you have any other suggestions for cladding the new car park**

**Landscaping**

We intend to retain the trees and greenery that surround the existing Buckhurst 2 car park, taking care to avoid any detrimental impact to the existing trees during construction.

Further tree planting may be possible to enhance the screening to neighbouring housing.

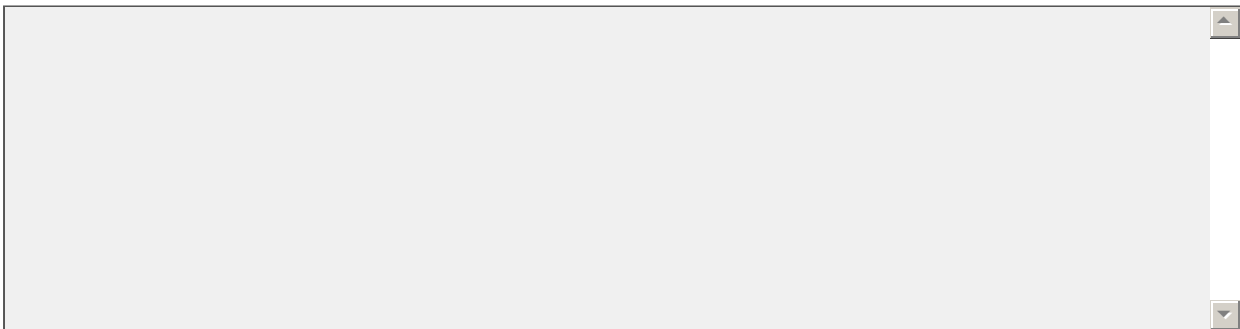
**15. Do you agree that retaining the trees and greenery around the existing site is the correct approach?**

- Yes
- No

**16. Do you agree that we should seek to plant more trees to reduce the visual impact of the new car park on neighbouring housing?**

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

**17. Please use the space below if you have any further comments or suggestions about landscaping around the site of the proposed new car park**



Proposed Additional Car Parking at Buckhurst 2 Sevenoaks

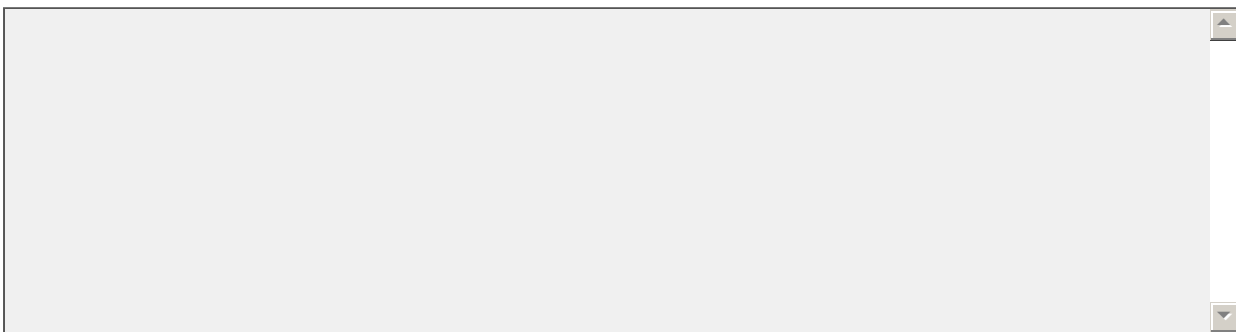
**Car Parking Spaces**

**18. Do you think the size of the proposed new car parking spaces should be wider than the standard 2.4 metres?\***

**\*Please note: wider spaces would result in fewer overall new spaces**

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

**19. Do you have any other comments you would like us to consider regarding the proposed additional car park spaces in Buckhurst 2 car park?**



**About You**

**20. Your age category**

- Under 18
- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-50
- 51-60
- Over 60
- Prefer not to say

**21. Your gender**

- Male
- Female
- Prefer not to say

**22. Under the Equality Act 2010, a person has a disability if they have a physical or mental impairment which has a long-term and substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.**

**Are your day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months?**

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Proposed Additional Car Parking at Buckhurst 2 Sevenoaks

**23. Please describe your race/ethnicity.**

- English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British
- Irish
- Gypsy or Irish Traveller
- White and Black Caribbean
- White and Black African
- White and Asian
- Indian
- Pakistani
- Bangladeshi
- Chinese
- African
- Caribbean
- Arab
- Prefer not to say
- Other (please specify)

**24. Which of the following areas do you live in?**

- |   |   |                                       |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Ash and New Ash Green | <input type="radio"/> Fawkham                     | <input type="radio"/> Penshurst       |
| <input type="radio"/> Badgers Mount         | <input type="radio"/> Fordcombe                   | <input type="radio"/> Riverhead       |
| <input type="radio"/> Brasted               | <input type="radio"/> Halstead                    | <input type="radio"/> Seal            |
| <input type="radio"/> Chevening             | <input type="radio"/> Hartley                     | <input type="radio"/> Sevenoaks Town  |
| <input type="radio"/> Chiddingstone         | <input type="radio"/> Hever                       | <input type="radio"/> Sevenoaks Weald |
| <input type="radio"/> Cowden                | <input type="radio"/> Hextable                    | <input type="radio"/> Shoreham        |
| <input type="radio"/> Crockenhill           | <input type="radio"/> Horton Kirby & South Darent | <input type="radio"/> Sundridge       |
| <input type="radio"/> Crockham Hill         | <input type="radio"/> Ide Hill                    | <input type="radio"/> Swanley         |
| <input type="radio"/> Dunton Green          | <input type="radio"/> Kemsing                     | <input type="radio"/> Swanley Village |
| <input type="radio"/> Edenbridge            | <input type="radio"/> Knockholt                   | <input type="radio"/> West Kingsdown  |
| <input type="radio"/> Eynsford              | <input type="radio"/> Leigh                       | <input type="radio"/> Westerham       |
| <input type="radio"/> Farningham            | <input type="radio"/> Otford                      |                                       |
- If you live outside Sevenoaks District, please state where you live.

Proposed Additional Car Parking at Buckhurst 2 Sevenoaks

**25. If you would like to receive information about the formal planning consultation please provide your details:**

Name:

Email:

Thank you for taking the time to complete our questionnaire.

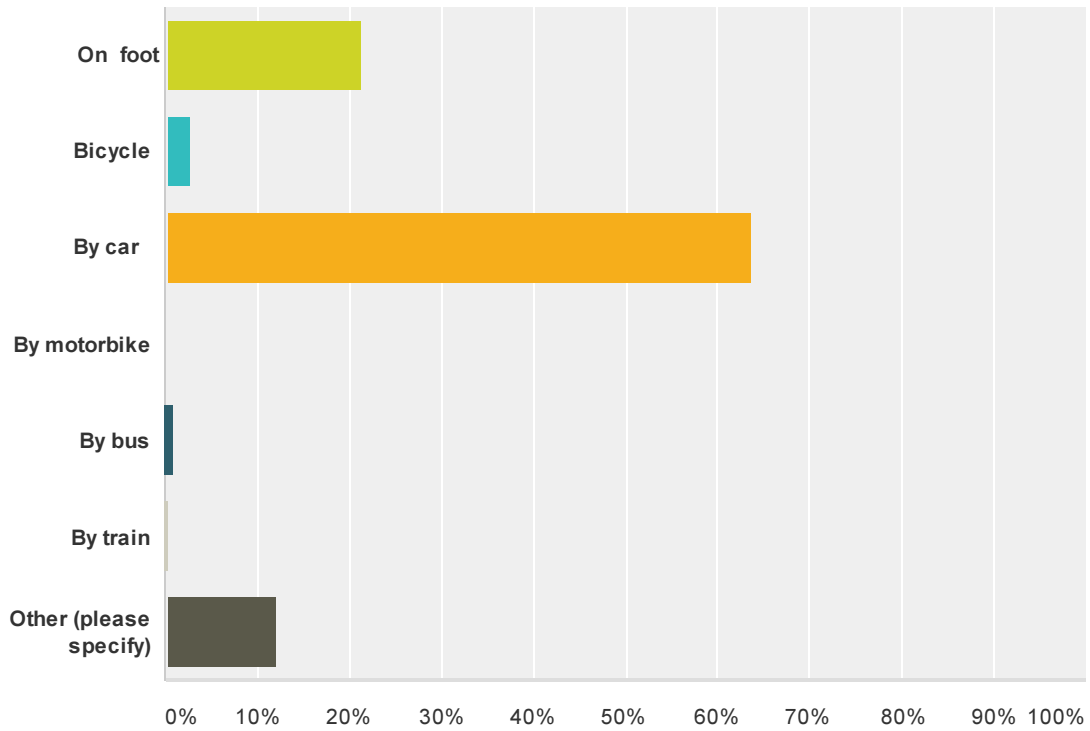
For further information about our proposals for Buckhurst 2 car park and to see a summary of the results once the consultation period has ended please visit

[www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/buckhurst2](http://www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/buckhurst2)



### Q1 How do you usually travel to Sevenoaks town centre?

Answered: 271 Skipped: 7



Answer Choices	Responses
On foot	21.03% 57
Bicycle	2.58% 7
<b>By car</b>	<b>63.47% 172</b>
By motorbike	0.00% 0
By bus	0.74% 2
By train	0.37% 1
Other (please specify)	11.81% 32
<b>Total</b>	<b>271</b>

#### Summary of 'Other' Responses

32 respondents provided options that suggested they do not predominantly travel to Sevenoaks by any one form of transport.

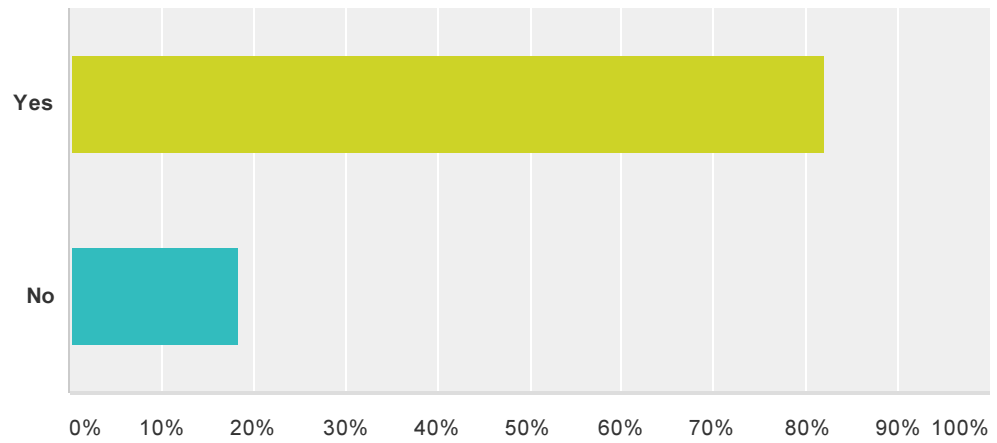
Examples include:

- By car and by bus
- By car and on foot
- On foot and bicycle

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**Q2 Do you use the car parks in Sevenoaks town centre?**

Answered: 270 Skipped: 8

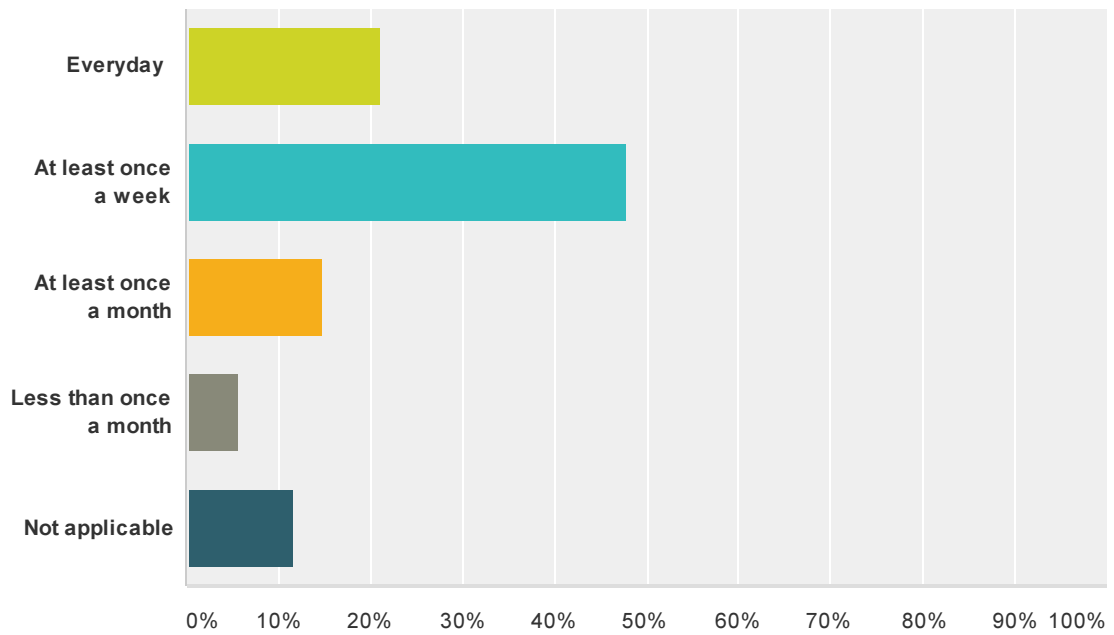


Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	<b>81.85%</b>	<b>221</b>
No	<b>18.15%</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>270</b>



**Q3 If yes, which of the following best describes how often you use the car parks in Sevenoaks town centre?**

Answered: 254 Skipped: 24

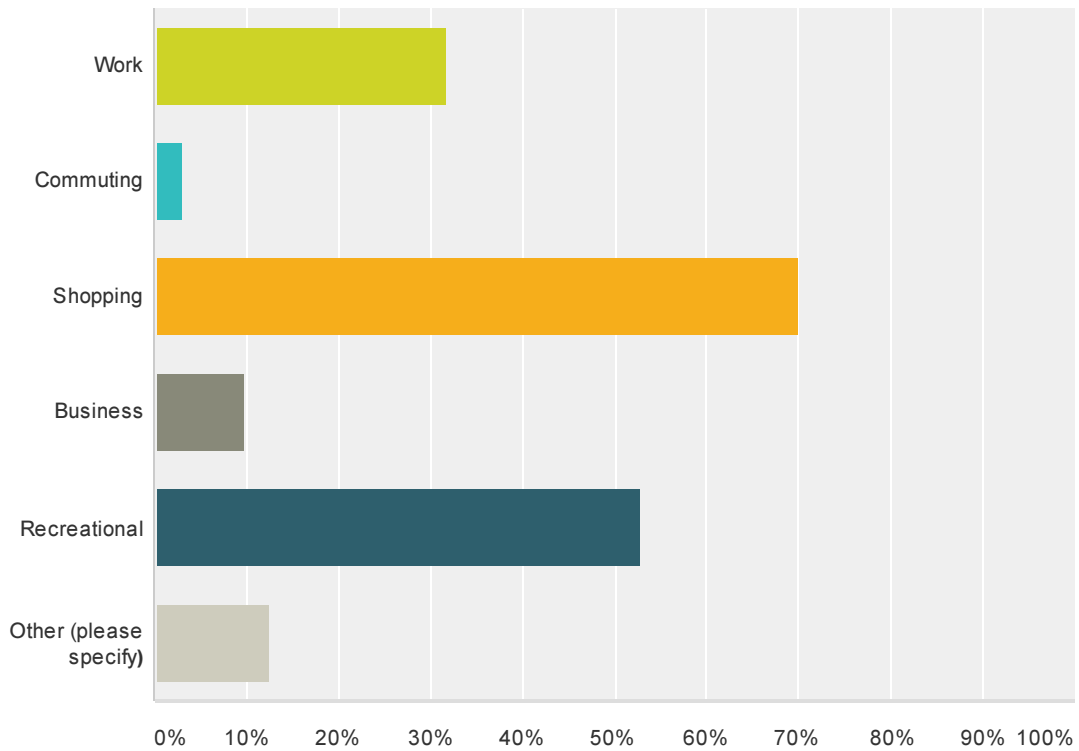


Answer Choices	Responses	
Everyday	20.87%	53
<b>At least once a week</b>	<b>47.64%</b>	<b>121</b>
At least once a month	14.57%	37
Less than once a month	5.51%	14
Not applicable	11.42%	29
<b>Total</b>		<b>254</b>

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**Q4 What are your main reasons for visiting Sevenoaks town centre? Tick all that apply**

Answered: 270 Skipped: 8



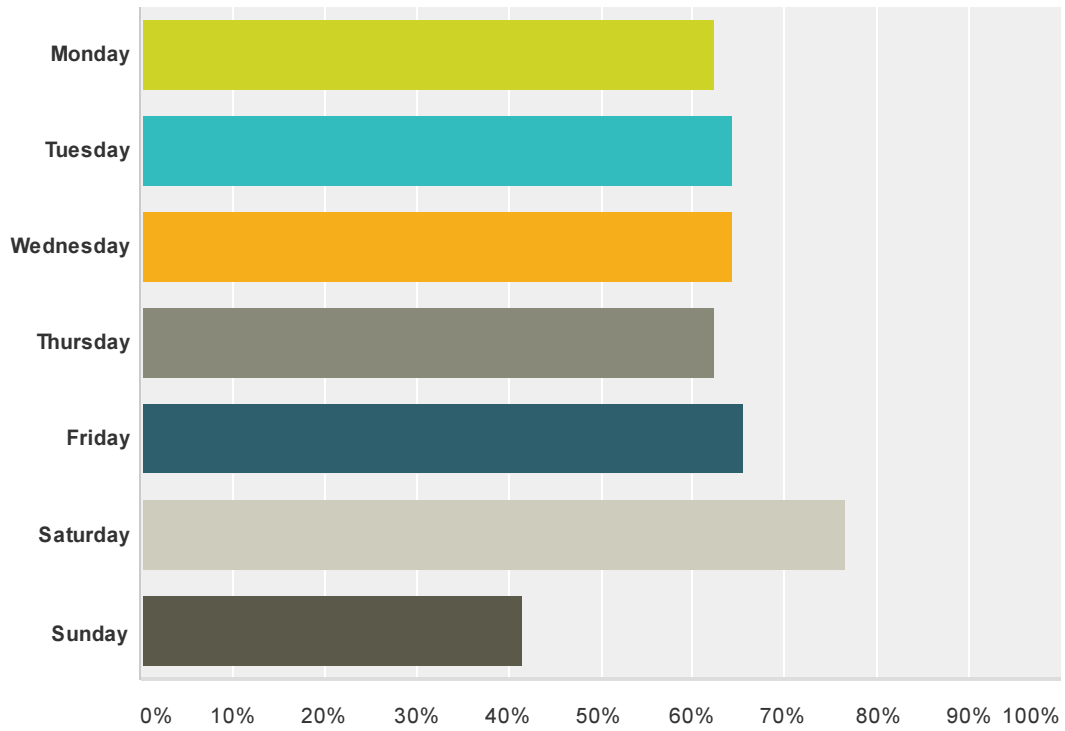
Answer Choices	Responses	
Work	31.48%	85
Commuting	2.96%	8
<b>Shopping</b>	<b>69.63%</b>	<b>188</b>
Business	9.63%	26
Recreational	52.59%	142
Other (please specify)	12.22%	33
<b>Total Respondents: 270</b>		

**Summary of 'Other' Responses**

I live in the town	11
School / Children's Clubs	8
Volunteering	3
Appointments	2
Leisure	3
No reason given	2
Recreation	1
Shopping	1
Visiting Family	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>33</b>

**Q5 What days do you generally visit? Tick all that apply**

Answered: 268 Skipped: 10

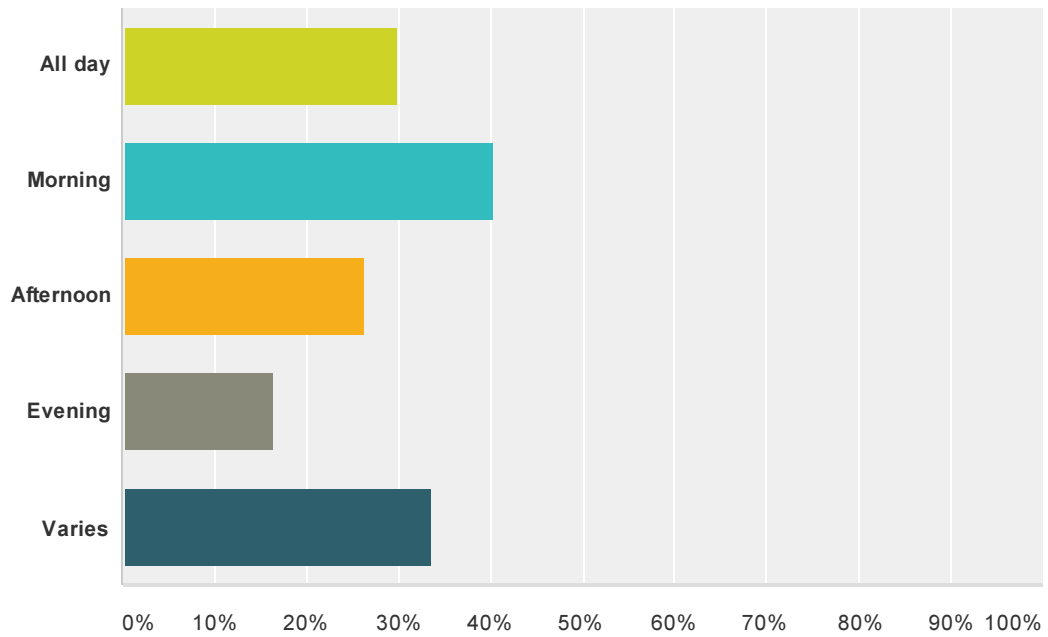


Answer Choices	Responses	
Monday	62.31%	167
Tuesday	64.18%	172
Wednesday	64.18%	172
Thursday	62.31%	167
Friday	65.30%	175
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>76.49%</b>	<b>205</b>
Sunday	41.42%	111
<b>Total Respondents:</b>		<b>268</b>

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**Q6 What time of day do you generally visit? Tick all that apply**

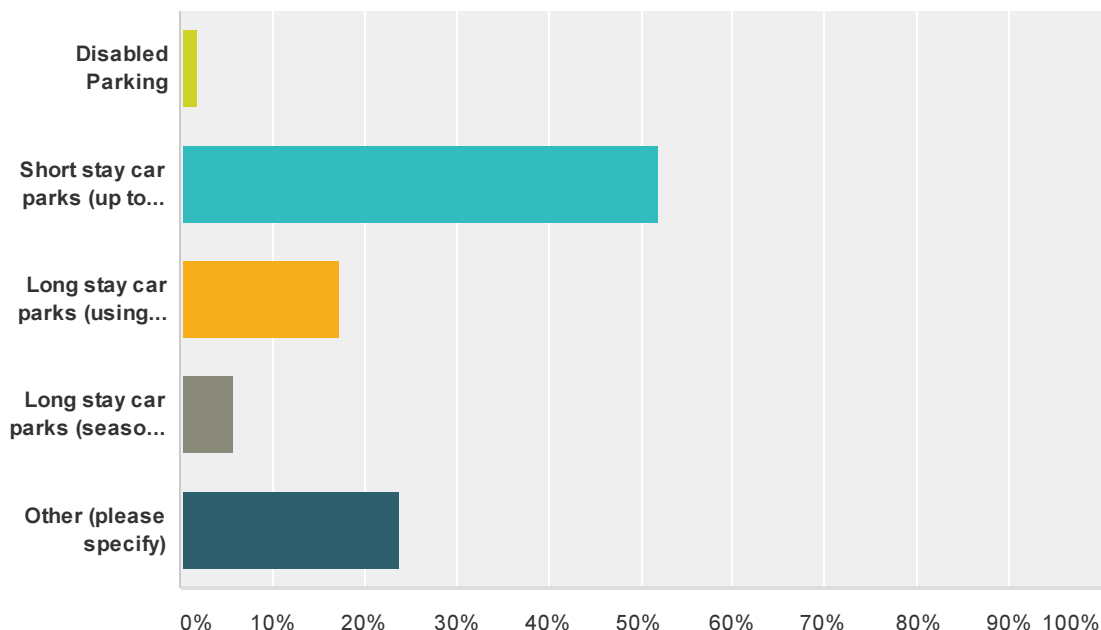
Answered: 269 Skipped: 9



Answer Choices	Responses
All day	<b>29.74%</b> <b>80</b>
<b>Morning</b>	<b>40.15%</b> <b>108</b>
Afternoon	<b>26.02%</b> <b>70</b>
Evening	<b>16.36%</b> <b>44</b>
Varies	<b>33.46%</b> <b>90</b>
<b>Total Respondents:</b>	<b>269</b>

**Q7 When driving to Sevenoaks town centre, what type of car parking do you normally use?**

Answered: 245 Skipped: 33



Answer Choices	Responses	
Disabled Parking	1.63%	4
<b>Short stay car parks (up to 4 hours)</b>	<b>51.84%</b>	<b>127</b>
Long stay car parks (using Pay & Display)	17.14%	42
Long stay car parks (season ticket / permit holder)	5.71%	14
Other (please specify)	23.67%	58
<b>Total</b>		<b>245</b>

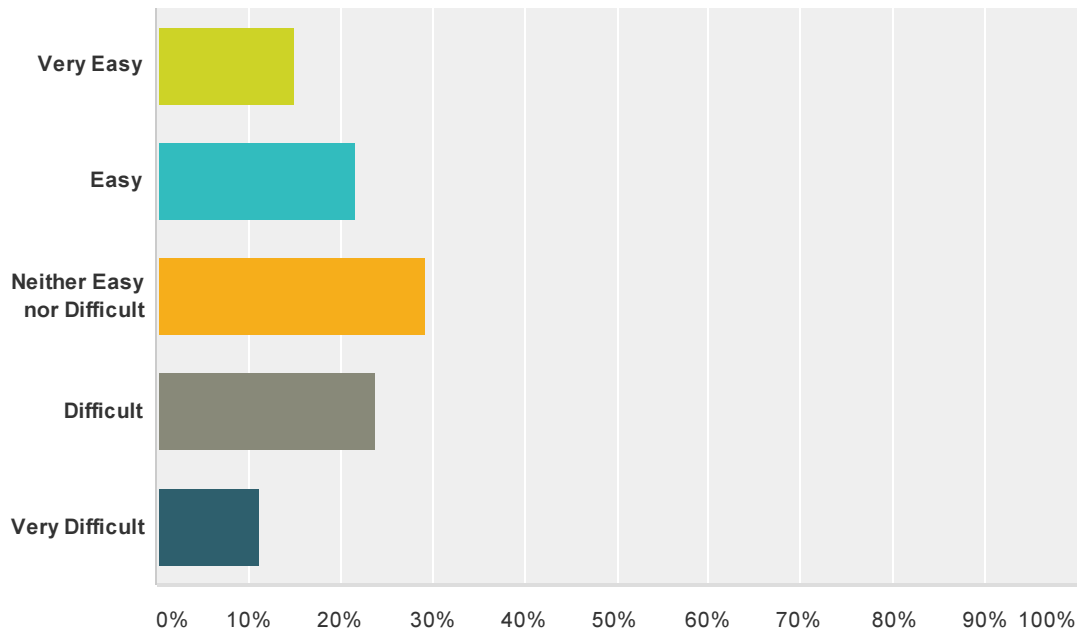
**Summary of 'Other' Responses**

Side Streets	9
Waitrose	9
None / Do not drive	7
Private Parking	10
Long & Short Stay	6
On street short stay	5
On street permit	3
Residential street	3
Short stay	3
Permit Holder	2
Leisure Centre	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>58</b>

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**Q8 Using the following scale, how easy do you find it to park in Sevenoaks town centre**

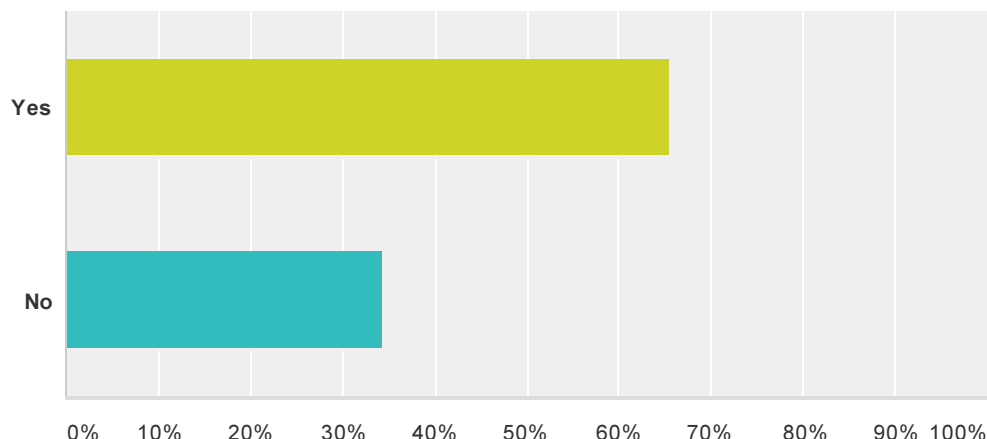
Answered: 242 Skipped: 36



Answer Choices	Responses	
Very Easy	<b>14.88%</b>	<b>36</b>
Easy	<b>21.49%</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Neither Easy nor Difficult</b>	<b>28.93%</b>	<b>70</b>
Difficult	<b>23.55%</b>	<b>57</b>
Very Difficult	<b>11.16%</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>242</b>

### Q9 Are more parking spaces needed in Sevenoaks town centre?

Answered: 252 Skipped: 26



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	65.48% 165
No	34.52% 87
<b>Total</b>	<b>252</b>

Respondents were invited to give their comments in addition to their Yes / No response. Those comments are summarised as follows:

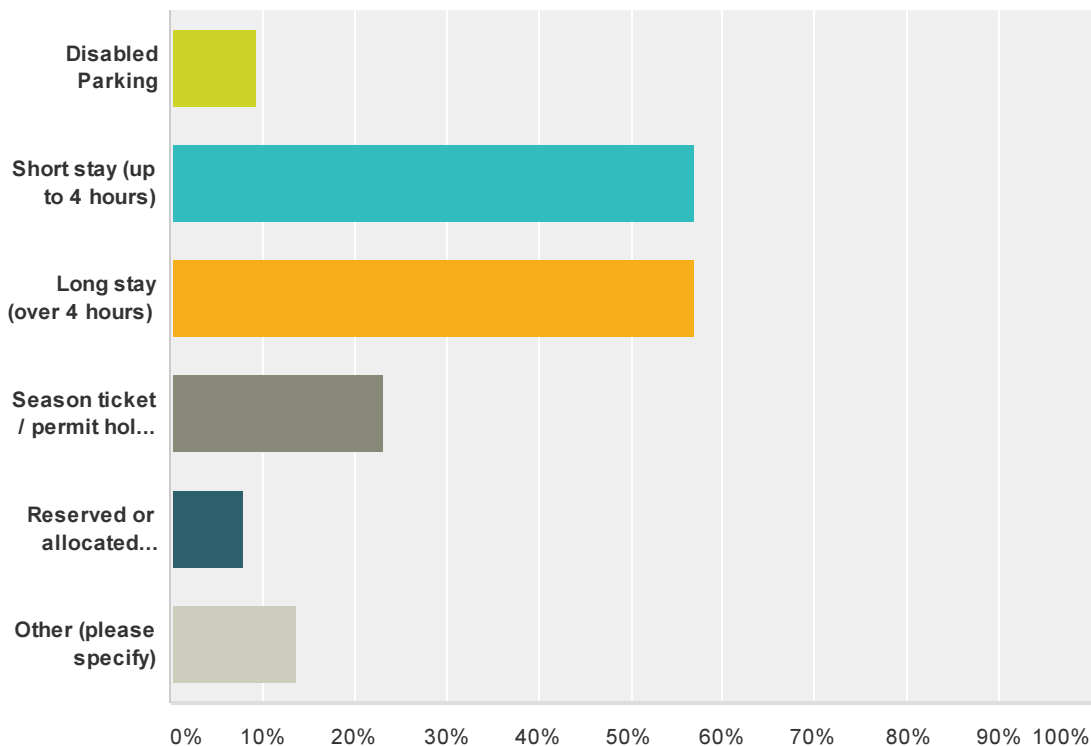
#### Summary of Comments

From those answering <b>Yes</b> to more parking spaces	From those answering <b>No</b> to more parking spaces
In support of the project 27	Enough spaces already 14
More long stay spaces needed 19	Traffic concerns 11
Review / reduce parking charges 10	Detrimental to feel/environment of the town 6
Parking issues in residential roads 5	Improve public transport/walking/cycling/park & ride 6
Location not suitable 4	Do not support the scheme 5
Design concerns 3	Invest in park & ride 5
Traffic Concerns 3	Location not suitable 4
Improve public transport 2	Better public transport 3
High street should be Disabled parking only 1	Impact on Knole Park 1
There are parking problems at the weekend 1	Improve cycling routes 1
Improve on street parking enforcement 1	Make better use of existing parking 1
Improve signage 1	Meet need at the new M&S Development 1
More disabled spaces needed 1	Need long term sustainable solution to traffic & parking 1
More pedestrianised areas as well 1	Don't know 1
More short stay spaces needed 1	Parking study should have evaluated all sites 1
Need will be met by M&S Development 1	Puts cars before people 1
Not in favour of proposed design 1	Review / reduce parking charges 1
Introduced pay on exit parking 1	Wait until M&S is complete and reassess 1
Reduce the number of new spaces 1	
<b>TOTAL 84</b>	<b>TOTAL 64</b>

Agenda Item 13

**Q10 If yes, what type of extra car parking do you think is needed (Tick all that apply)**

Answered: 183 Skipped: 95



Answer Choices	Responses
Disabled Parking	9.29% 17
<b>Short stay (up to 4 hours)</b>	<b>56.83% 104</b>
<b>Long stay (over 4 hours)</b>	<b>56.83% 104</b>
Season ticket / permit holder spaces	22.95% 42
Reserved or allocated spaces	7.65% 14
Other (please specify)	13.66% 25
<b>Total Respondents:</b>	<b>183</b>

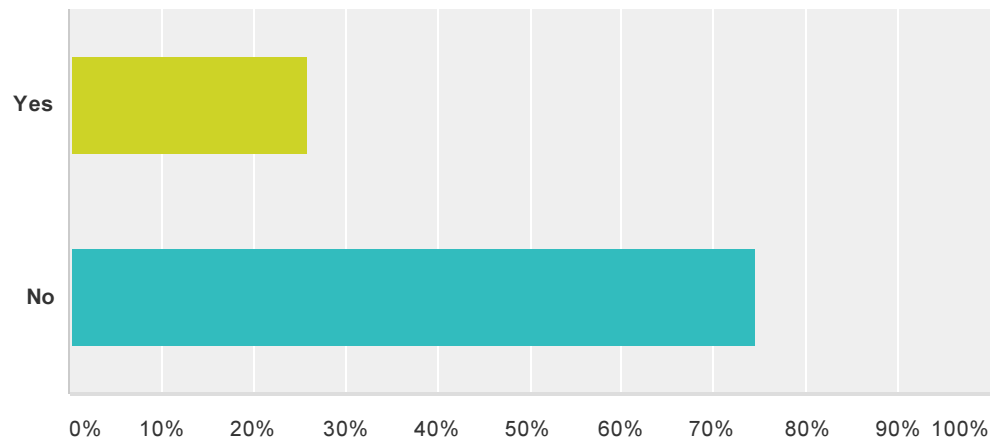
**Summary of 'Other' Comments**

Free parking	5
No additional parking needed	5
Residential	4
Leisure Centre	3
Parent & Child	3
Bike racks	1
Lower cost parking	1
N/a	1
Short stay up to 30 minutes	1
Parking for workers	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25</b>



**Q11 If you use long stay parking, would you be prepared to pay more for a reserved space?**

Answered: 136 Skipped: 142



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	25.74% 35
<b>No</b>	<b>74.26% 101</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>136</b>

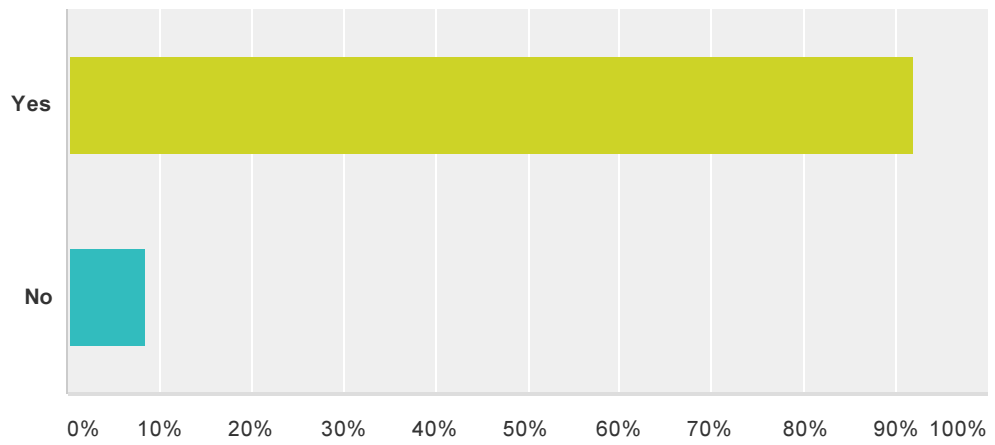
**Summary of Comments**

Current charges are high enough	19
No comment to add	10
Would lead to empty spaces	6
Agree with the proposal	5
Would not benefit me	5
Do not support the proposal	3
If the space was guaranteed	3
Need more detail	3
Enough spaces already	2
Favours those that can afford to pay more	2
Allocated spaces per shop	1
Already hold a business permit	1
Commuters should pay more	1
Free parking for workers	1
I cannot afford to pay more	1
Question is badly worded	1
Reduce charges	1
Same as a permit	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>66</b>

Agenda Item 13

**Q12 Do you agree that the new car park should be clad with materials that help it to fit in with its surroundings?**

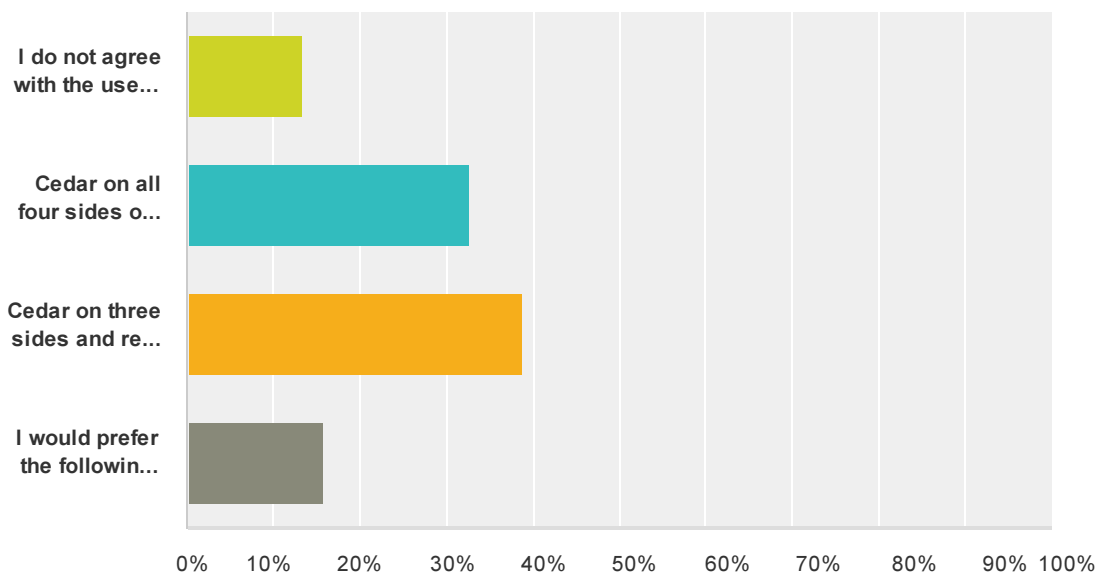
Answered: 226 Skipped: 52



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	91.59%	207
No	8.41%	19
<b>Total</b>		<b>226</b>

### Q13 Which of the following options do you think would most help the new car park to fit in with its surroundings?

Answered: 197 Skipped: 81



Answer Choices	Responses
I do not agree with the use of cedar and red brick	13.20% 26
Cedar on all four sides of the new car park	32.49% 64
<b>Cedar on three sides and red brick on one side (facing the leisure centre)</b>	<b>38.58% 76</b>
I would prefer the following mix of cedar and red brick	15.74% 31
<b>Total</b>	<b>197</b>

#### Other suggestions put forward were...

Do not like car park design	5
Living wall to Knole Park	4
Avoid using one material only	2
Do not want a new car park	2
Blend with surrounding buildings	1
Climbing plants	1
More consultation with neighbours	1
Dislike question	1
Ensure cladding is well maintained	1
Half brick, half cedar	1
Increased trees and shrubs to enhance screening on Knole side and to break roof line	1
Is the image provided cedar?	1
Kentish stone	1
Mirror finish to one side	1
Need more information	1
No comment to add	1
No preference	1
Painted in the Kentish weather boarded style	1
Reduce impact on neighbours	1
Sevenoaks yellow brick	1
Should be a blend of brick and cedar	1
Undecided	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31</b>

## Agenda Item 13

**Q14 If you do not agree with the use of cedar and red brick please tell us in the space below if you have any other suggestions for cladding the new car park**

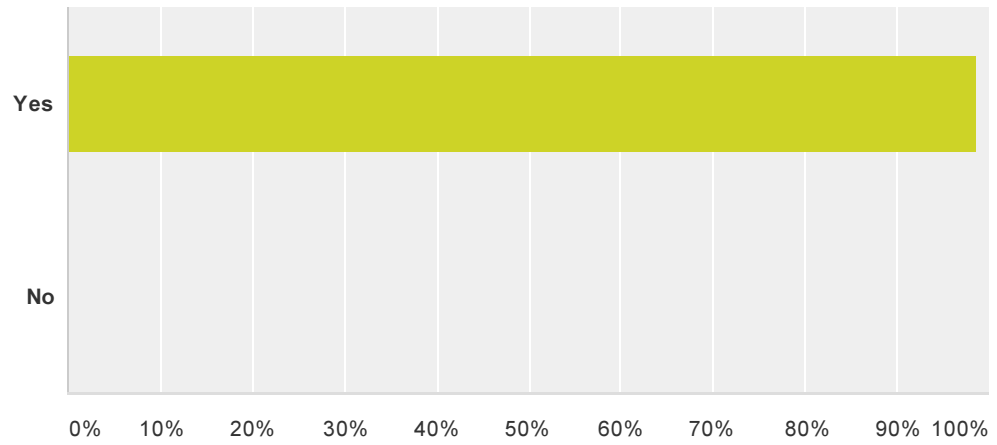
Answered: 81 Skipped: 197

**Other suggestions put forward are...**

Do not want the new car park	24
Living wall	17
Whole design should be more in keeping with the landscape	7
Kentish Stone	5
Lots of greenery	5
Something that is easy to maintain and repair	3
Brick	2
Different car park design altogether	2
Support proposed arrangements	2
Materials that help the car park to blend in	2
No further comments to add	2
Build the car park in another location	1
Fake wood to all sides	1
Include nesting areas for birds	1
Light colours	1
Make it look like it's not a car park	1
Mirrored finish to Knole Park	1
Design must ensure people feel safe using it	1
Not concerned by appearance	1
Reduce impact on neighbours	1
Underground car park	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>81</b>

**Q15 Do you agree that retaining the trees and greenery around the existing site is the correct approach?**

Answered: 241 Skipped: 37

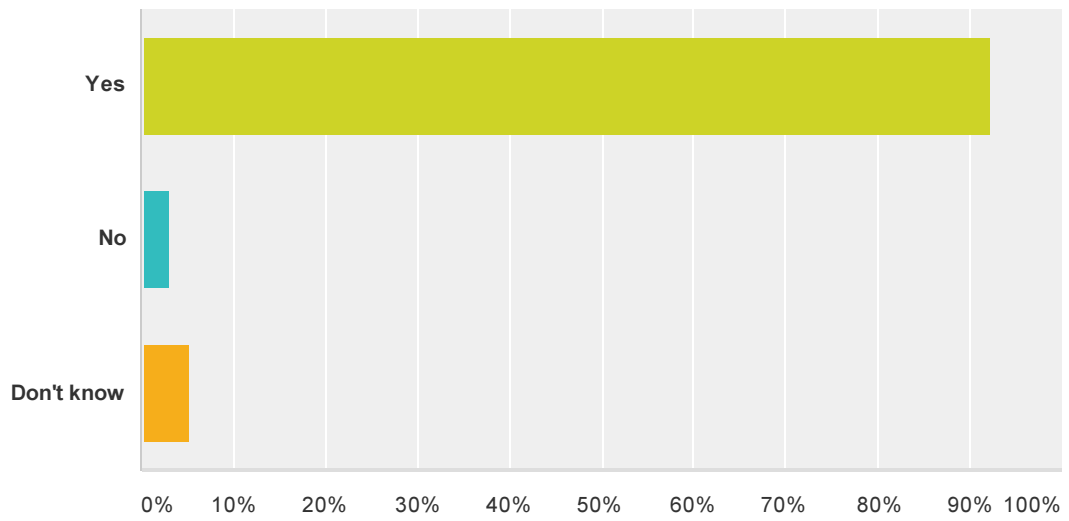


Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	98.76% 238
No	1.24% 3
<b>Total</b>	<b>241</b>

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**Q16 Do you agree that we should seek to plant more trees to reduce the visual impact of the new car park on neighbouring housing?**

Answered: 241 Skipped: 37



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	92.12%	222
No	2.90%	7
Don't know	4.98%	12
<b>Total</b>		<b>241</b>

**Q17 Please use the space below if you have any  
further comments or suggestions about  
landscaping around the site of the proposed  
new car park**

Answered: 94 Skipped: 184

**Other suggestions put forward are...**

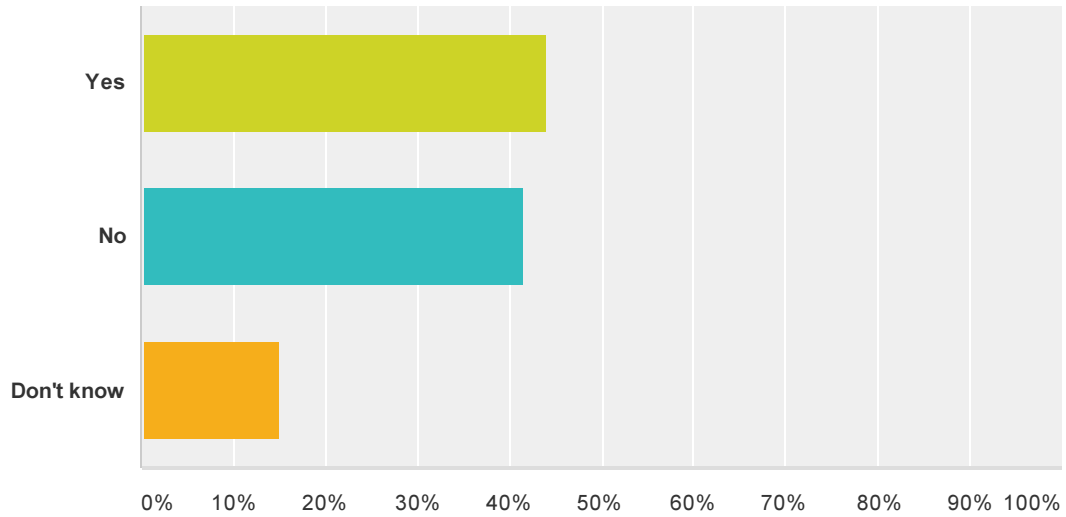
Do not want car park	11
Living Wall	9
Lots of planting	9
Reduce visual impact on Knole Park side	9
Lower site to reduce overall height	8
Reduce impact on neighbours	5
Put in place Community Safety measures	4
Underground car park	4
Car park maintenance must be a priority	2
Consultation too narrow	2
Develop a landscape masterplan	2
Mature, evergreen planting	2
Reduce size and improve design	2
Stagger floor levels to reduce impact on Knole Park	2
Also consider pedestrianised area in front of new M&S	1
Also consider pedestrianised High Street and ways to reduce car park charges	1
Avoid trees that will drop their seeds and leaves on cars	1
Broader design idea for library/leisure centre/car park is required	1
Build in a different location	1
Clad in only red brick	1
Consider noise impact on Knole Park	1
Consider where the car park should be positioned within the identified site	1
Dislikes question 15	1
Incorporate pond / water feature	1
Landscape alternative exits from car park	1
Maintain walk way to Knole Park	1
More information should have been available for this consultation	1
More parking spaces are essential	1
Plants and trees should be properly maintained	1
Reduce number of straight lines in the design	1
Reduce scale of design and increase greenery	1
Take more time to reconsider and improve the design	1
Trees should be protected	1
Use planting to link the car park to the town centre	1
Use shrubs on roof edges to break the profile	1
Whole design should be more in keeping with the landscape	1
Will always look like a car park	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>94</b>

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**Q18 Do you think the size of the proposed new car parking spaces should be wider than the standard 2.4 metres?\***

**\*Please note: wider spaces would result in fewer overall new spaces**

Answered: 235 Skipped: 43



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	<b>43.83%</b>	<b>103</b>
No	<b>41.28%</b>	<b>97</b>
Don't know	<b>14.89%</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>235</b>



**Q19 Do you have any other comments you would like us to consider regarding the proposed additional car park spaces in Buckhurst 2 car park?**

Answered: 151 Skipped: 127

**Other comments put forward are...**

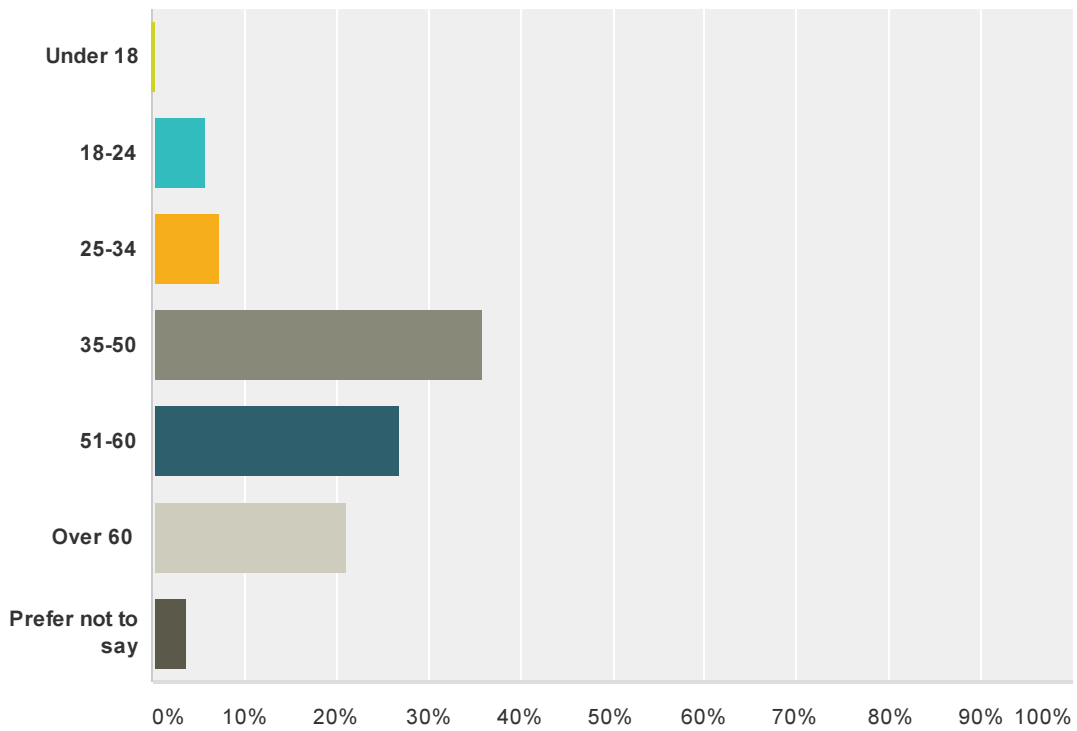
Do not want car park	32
Wider spaces needed	31
Traffic concerns	19
Extra charge for wider spaces	10
Design concerns	8
Review / reduce parking spaces	7
Lower site to reduce overall height	5
Safety concerns	5
More information needed about the proposal	4
No to wider spaces	4
Park and ride	4
Build in a different location	3
Consider needs of Leisure Centre users	2
Consultation should have been broader	2
More consultation needed	2
Nothing more to add	2
Review residential parking	2
Better publicity of long term parking	1
Dedicated spaces for workers	1
Detrimental to feel of the town	1
Free parking for electric vehicles	1
Impact on Knole Park	1
Impact on local residents	1
Long stay only	1
Maintenance concerns	1
More greenery	1
More spaces that proposed is required	1
Not too many disabled spaces	1
Preserve on street permits for workers	1
Provide bicycle racks	1
Provide less spaces	1
Reduce size of the car park	1
Support the proposal	1
Underground parking	1
Use parking fees to repay loan	1

**TOTAL**

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Q20 Your age category

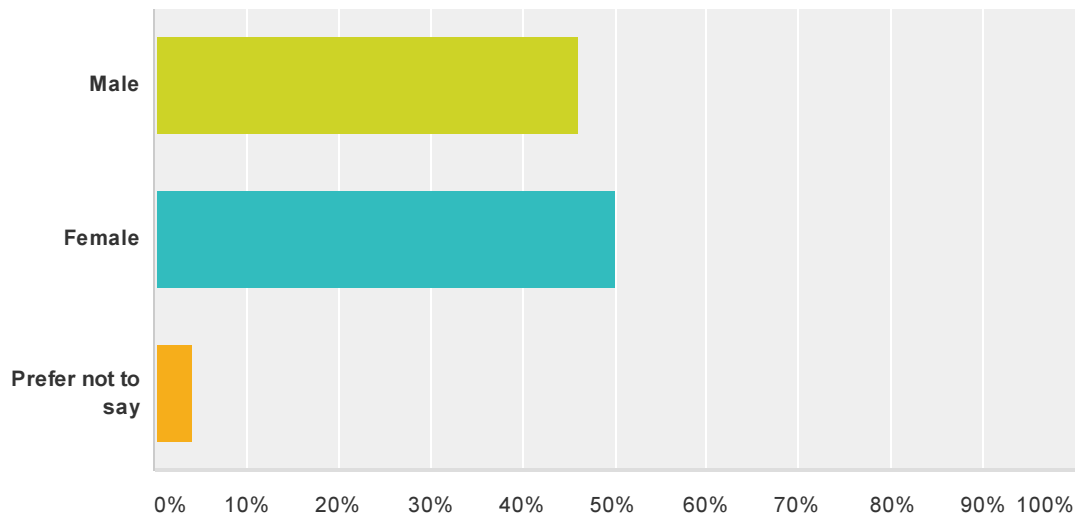
Answered: 250 Skipped: 28



Answer Choices	Responses	
Under 18	<b>0.40%</b>	<b>1</b>
18-24	<b>5.60%</b>	<b>14</b>
25-34	<b>7.20%</b>	<b>18</b>
35-50	<b>35.60%</b>	<b>89</b>
51-60	<b>26.80%</b>	<b>67</b>
Over 60	<b>20.80%</b>	<b>52</b>
Prefer not to say	<b>3.60%</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>250</b>

### Q21 Your gender

Answered: 248 Skipped: 30

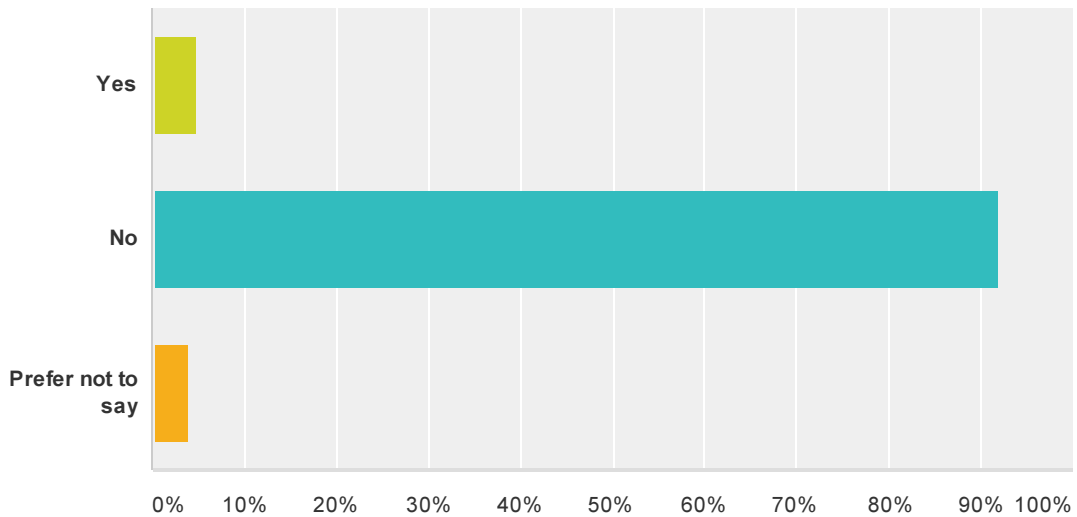


Answer Choices	Responses	
Male	45.97%	114
Female	50.00%	124
Prefer not to say	4.03%	10
<b>Total</b>		<b>248</b>

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**Q22 Under the Equality Act 2010, a person has a disability if they have a physical or mental impairment which has a long-term and substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. Are your day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months?**

Answered: 238 Skipped: 40



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	4.62% 11
No	91.60% 218
Prefer not to say	3.78% 9
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>

**Q23 Please describe your race / ethnicity.**

Answered: 245 Skipped: 33

<b>Answer Choices</b>	<b>Responses</b>	
English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British	<b>83.67%</b>	<b>205</b>
Irish	<b>0.41%</b>	<b>1</b>
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0</b>
White and Black Caribbean	<b>0.82%</b>	<b>2</b>
White and Black African	<b>0.82%</b>	<b>2</b>
White and Asian	<b>0.41%</b>	<b>1</b>
Indian	<b>0.82%</b>	<b>2</b>
Pakistani	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0</b>
Bangladeshi	<b>0.41%</b>	<b>1</b>
Chinese	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0</b>
African	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0</b>
Caribbean	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0</b>
Arab	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0</b>
Prefer not to say	<b>6.94%</b>	<b>17</b>
Other (please specify)	<b>5.71%</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>245</b>

**Summary of 'Others'**

British / Irish	1
Dutch	1
English	1
English and European	1
German	1
Martian and venitian heritage	1
Spanish	1
White African	1
White European	1
Do not see the relevance in asking	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14</b>

## Agenda Item 13

## Q24 Which of the following areas do you live in?

Answered: 250 Skipped: 28

Answer Choices	Responses	
Ash and New Ash Green	0.40%	1
Badgers Mount	0.40%	1
Brasted	0.80%	2
Chevening	2.00%	5
Chiddingstone	0.00%	0
Cowden	0.00%	0
Crockenhill	0.00%	0
Crockham Hill	0.00%	0
Dunton Green	2.40%	6
Edenbridge	0.00%	0
Eynsford	0.80%	2
Farningham	0.00%	0
Fawkham	0.00%	0
Fordcombe	0.00%	0
Halstead	0.00%	0
Hartley	0.00%	0
Hever	0.00%	0
Hextable	0.00%	0
Horton Kirby & South Darent	0.00%	0
Ide Hill	0.40%	1
Kemsing	3.60%	9
Knockholt	1.20%	3
Leigh	0.40%	1
Otford	4.00%	10
Penshurst	0.00%	0
Riverhead	8.40%	21
Seal	3.60%	9
Sevenoaks Town	48.00%	120
Sevenoaks Weald	2.40%	6
Shoreham	0.40%	1

Continued on next page

Answer Choices	Responses
Sundridge	0.00% 0
Swanley	0.00% 0
Swanley Village	0.00% 0
West Kingsdown	1.20% 3
Westerham	0.00% 0
If you live outside Sevenoaks District, please state where you live.	19.60% 49
<b>Total</b>	<b>250</b>

**Summary of 'Others'**

Bessels Green	1
Borough Green & Wrotham	2
Bromley	2
Caterham	1
Cranbrook	1
Crowborough	1
Culverstone Green	1
Dartford/Wilmington	1
East Sussex	1
Fairseat	1
Gravesend	1
Greenhithe	1
Hildenborough	2
Kingston (Surrey)	1
Leatherhead	1
Limpsfield	1
Maidstone	1
Mayfield (East Sussex)	1
Meopham	1
Northiam	1
Orpington	2
Pembury	1
Petts Wood	1
Sidcup	1
South Tonbridge	1
Tandridge	1
Ticehurst (East Sussex)	1
Tonbridge	9
Tunbridge Wells	4
West Malling	2
West Peckham	2
West Wickham	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>49</b>

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## Summary of public exhibition results and feedback arising from letter and email correspondence



### Executive Summary

#### The Consultation

Sevenoaks District Council conducted a public consultation between 5 June and 26 June to find out the public's views on the proposed additional parking at Buckhurst 2 car park in Sevenoaks Town. During this time:

- Residents could view artists' impressions and drawings and comment using an online survey on the Council's website
- Residents could attend a series of public exhibitions in place between 5 and 7 June
- In addition, from Monday 9 June to Thursday 26 June, the concept drawings of the proposed car park were on display at the Sevenoaks Leisure Centre, together with an opportunity to complete a paper copy of the consultation survey.

This report summarises the results of the public exhibition results and highlights the feedback arising from letter and email correspondence during the consultation period.

**Response**

More than 250 people attended the public consultation exhibitions and 16 letters or emails were received. A further 278 responses were gathered from the formal questionnaire.

**Summary of findings**

The key themes that have come through the public exhibition stage of the consultation are set out below. It should be noted that the majority of people who attended the public exhibitions identified themselves as residents rather than people who worked in Sevenoaks Town.

**• Landscaping**

- Of the 29 people who commented about landscaping 20 wanted to maintain the current level of landscaping and tree screening.
- 5 people wanted to see some form of 'living wall' featuring as part of the design and to soften cladding.

**• Cladding**

- People were generally supportive of the materials proposed. 5 of the 12 people who commented about cladding wished to see a brick cladding finish, with 4 people wishing to see some form of 'living wall'.

**• Traffic**

- Of the 17 people who commented about traffic issues 12 were concerned about congestion and traffic management that related to the Suffolk Way junction.

**• Other comments**

Of the 85 responses within this category:

- 16 people raised issues over the design of the car park.
- 10 people felt that the Council should seek alternative solutions to the car park, for example park and ride.
- 10 people expressed community safety related issues and concerns
- 7 people expressed a desire to see the car park levelled to lower the height of the car park.

**Letter and emails**

- The key themes arising in the letters from members of the public were in line with those raised in the public exhibition:
  - Concerns expressed by residents of surrounding properties and their representatives.
  - Comments made relating to design, construction and planning issues.
  - Concerns relating to increase traffic and congestion with particular reference to the Suffolk Way junction.

## Public Exhibitions

Three public exhibitions were arranged, designed and hosted by the Council's Communities and Business team and to encourage as many people as possible to give their views about the proposed additional parking at the Buckhurst 2 car park.

The locations and times of the exhibitions were designed to enable the widest possible attendance by people who live, work and travel to Sevenoaks town.

Members of the public were able to attend a series of public exhibitions which took place as follows:

- Thursday 5 June from 10am – 9pm at the Sevenoaks Leisure Centre
- Friday 6 June from 10am – 7pm at the District Council Offices
- Saturday 7 June from 10am – 3pm at Bligh's Meadow, near to Marks and Spencer

In addition, from Monday 9 June to Thursday 26 June, the concept drawings of the proposed car park were on display at the Sevenoaks Leisure Centre together with an opportunity to complete a paper copy of the consultation survey.

Consultation responses were accepted up to Monday 30 June to ensure that any postal responses were included.

All contributions received by the Council have been included in this analysis.

## How people expressed their views

The public were able to take part in person by visiting one of the staffed public exhibitions, or in their own time, returning contributions by post, internet or by visiting the unstaffed display set up in the Sevenoaks Leisure Centre from 9 to 26 June.

All participants were invited to complete a questionnaire and contribute additional comments, ideas and suggestions.

People who attended the public exhibitions stopped by to collect paper copies of the consultation survey for themselves, friends and family to complete at home and return to the Council.

Paper copies of the consultation questionnaires were distributed to staff who worked in the Sevenoaks Town during the public exhibition days. This was to enable staff that could not leave busy businesses to complete the survey and return it in their own time.



Visitors to the Public Exhibition were invited to contribute their ideas on 'post it' notes and stick them on the boards for everyone to see, creating an instant dialogue for sharing views on the proposed additional parking on the site of the Buckhurst 2 car park, Sevenoaks. The concept drawings available were as follows:

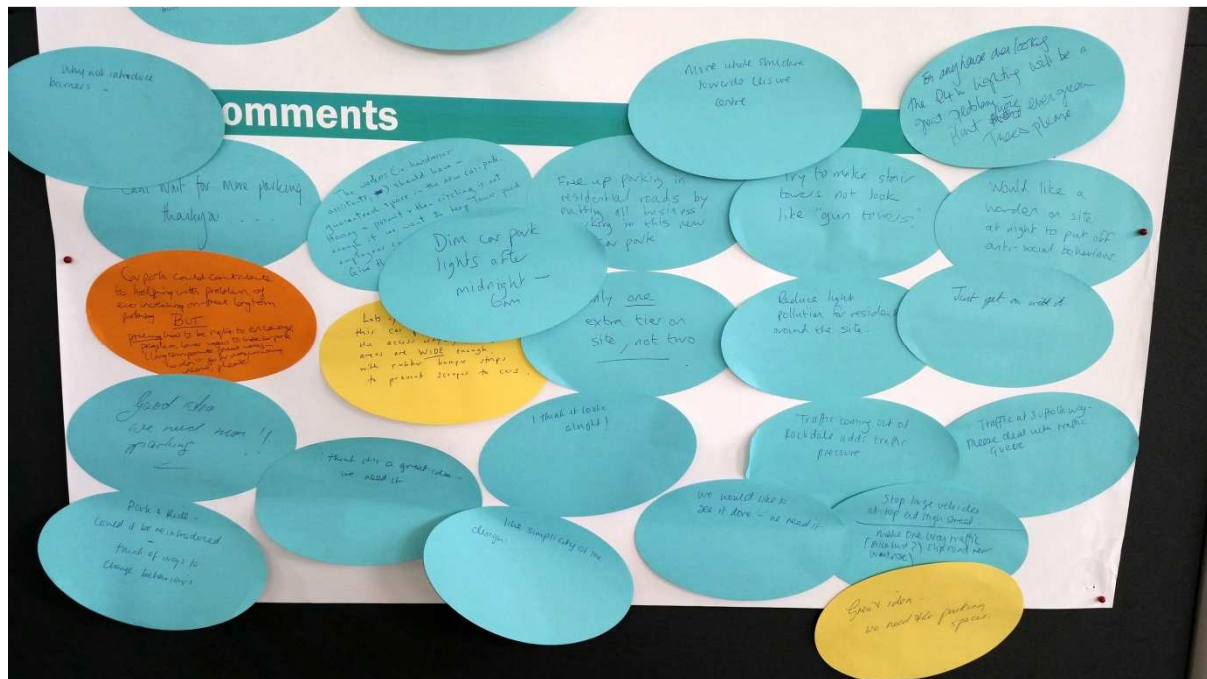
- Existing location and views
- Proposed plans and sections
- Proposed design views
- Proposed materials
- Current landscape
- Landscape precedents

Members of the public had an opportunity to use a 'post it' note to comment on any aspect of the proposals for additional parking at the site of the Buckhurst 2 car park and stick them within the following broad sections:

- Cladding
- Landscaping
- Other

In addition, members of the public were able to take away a paper copy of the survey and return it using a pre-paid envelope or return it to a secure drop box area at the Sevenoaks Leisure Centre between 9 and 26 June.

## Analysis of comments received during the Public Exhibition



The post it notes were used spontaneously by the public. In addition, members of staff were on hand to transcribe people's views. Below is a summary of issues raised.

### Summary of Comments at Public Exhibition events

#### Landscaping – 29 comments made

- Maintain existing trees/screening – don't cut down any trees (20 comments)
- Living walls to soften car park (5 comments)
- Soften impact of Knole Park elevation (3 comments)
- Use permeable surfaces to prevent flooding (1 comment)

#### Cladding – 12 comments made

- In favour of brick cladding (5 comments)
- In favour of living walls (4 comments)
- In favour of cedar cladding (2 comments)
- Prefer using birch to clad car park (1 comment)

#### Traffic – 17 comments made

- Issues over timing of Suffolk Way traffic lights (12 comments)
- Additional pollution from car fumes (2 comments)
- Alternative solutions for traffic management suggested (One way Akehurst Lane, use of Bus Station to exit) (2 comments)
- Additional traffic noise (1 comment)

**Other** – 85 comments made

- Issues over the design of the car park (16 comments)
- In support of the project (13 comments)
- Alternatives solutions to the car park should be sought (10 comments)
- Community safety issues (e.g. anti-social behaviour) (10 comments)
- Site should be levelled to reduce height of car park (7 comments)
- Move car park to another site (6 comments)
- Cost of car parking is too expensive/don't raise price (6 comments)
- Local residents' parking issues around Buckhurst 2 (5 comments)
- Impact of additional traffic in town (4 comments)
- Light spill from car park will impact residents (3 comments)
- Make sure car park is properly lit (2 comments)
- Access issues for people with disabilities (2 comments)
- Impact of the development on local residents (2 comments)
- Impact of construction of car park on adjacent properties (1 comment)
- Does the car park need to be operational 24 hours? (1 comment)

**Analysis of Comments received by letter and email**

A total of 16 letters was received during the consultation period. The views expressed are summarised below.

**In Support of Proposal**

- In support of additional parking in the town - 5 comments

**Impact on Adjacent Properties**

- Car park will increase pollution - 4 comments
- Car park will be intrusive in views from Knole Park - 4 comments
- Car park will result in loss of light for adjacent properties - 3 comments
- Light spill from car park will affect adjacent properties - 3 comments
- Car park will impact residents of Akehurst Lane - 3 comments
- Car park affects privacy of adjacent properties - 2 comments
- Car park will affect resale values of adjacent properties - 2 comments
- Noise from a steel structure will affect adjacent properties - 2 comments
- Car park will impact on Buckhurst Avenue residents - 2 comments
- Development will lead to loss of view for adjacent properties - 1 comment
- Car park will be detrimental to different groups in the community - 1 comment
- Car park will impact on residents of Buckhurst Lane - 1 comment

**Design, Construction & Planning Issues**

- Size and scale of car park is detrimental to the town - 5 comments
- Car park is of poor design - 3 comments
- There is no natural light into proposed car park - 2 comments
- Car park should be levelled to reduce height of car park - 2 comments
- Proposed structure will deteriorate quickly - 2 comments
- Clad south wall in white to reflect light - 1 comment

- Car park needs an Environmental Assessment - 1 comment
- Car park needs a Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment - 1 comment
- Car park needs an Heritage Assessment - 1 comment
- Full range of mitigations to impact need considering - 1 comment
- Proposal takes no account of land levels - 1 comment
- Need to consider Kent Design Standards - 1 comment
- Car park should have living walls - 1 comment
- There will be a serious effect to parking during construction - 1 comment
- Recent planning applications agreed have reduced parking provision in the town - 1 comment
- Information about wider choice of claddings available should be provided - 1 comment
- Information on how architects, consulting engineer have been appointed should be provided - 1 comment

### **Community Safety**

- Community safety issues raised re anti-social behaviour - 6 comments

### **Traffic & Congestion**

- Car park will exacerbate congestion at Suffolk Way traffic lights - 7 comments
- Over-development of Sevenoaks is overheating car parks - 1 comment
- Need to retain parking permits for school parents - 1 comment
- Road layout Akehurst Lane/bus station be altered to relieve congestion - 1 comment

### **Alternatives**

- Park and ride scheme should be considered instead - 4 comments
- Alternatives sites in the town should be sought - 3 comments
- Bus services should be improved instead - 1 comment
- Car sharing schemes should be considered instead - 1 comment
- Car park should be sited nearer leisure centre - 1 comment

### **Screening**

- Existing trees/screening should be retained - 2 comments
- Deciduous trees will be bare in winter and will not screen car park - 2 comments

### **Other**

- Does the car park really need to be open 24 hours - 2 comments
- Project is being rushed - 2 comments
- A secure gate is needed between the car park and Akehurst Lane - 1 comment
- Consultation is only on look of car park; cannot dissent to project - 1 comment
- Lack of joined up thinking with Town Council's Neighbourhood Plan - 1 comment
- No DDA compliance - 1 comment
- No prior consultation with residents - 1 comment
- Scope of feasibility study excluded Waitrose car park and disabled spaces - 1 comment

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**Equality Impacts**

In carrying out the public consultation data was gathered and assessed in relation to protected characteristics. These related to age, disability, ethnicity and gender.

**Profile of Respondents**

The age profile of respondents was:

Under 24	6%
25-34	7.2%
35-50	35.6%
51-60	26.8%
Over 60	20.8%

\* 3.6% preferred not to say

The gender profile of respondents was:

Male	46%
Female	50%

\*4% preferred not to say

4.6% of respondents said they had a disability

84% of respondents said that they were British. Representation from other ethnic groups was low.

**Analysis and Conclusions:**

A greater proportion of female respondents (39.5%) found finding a parking space more difficult when compared to male respondents (30.6%). Data suggests that this is because more female respondents visited Sevenoaks town for work (44.7% (males – 19.5%)) and were more likely to be seeking a long stay parking space (26.7% (males – 8.49%)). Resultantly 72.3% of female respondents agreed more car parking is needed (males – 60.4%).

85.7% of people with a disability stated that more parking for disabled people was required. The response from all respondents records 9.3% stating more parking for disabled people is required. 60% of people with a disability expressed a need for wider spaces, compared to an all respondents total of 43.8%.

77.8% of ethnic minority respondents to the survey believe more parking spaces are required. Respondents saying they were White British were 65.2% in favour of more spaces. Data suggests that this is because more ethnic minority respondents visited Sevenoaks town for work (66.7%). The same proportion of ethnic minority respondents (66.7%) found finding a parking space difficult.

People under the age of 24 stated similar experiences. A high proportion (66.7%) come to Sevenoaks town for work, with 61.5% saying parking is difficult to find and 86.7% saying more parking spaces are needed. 71.4% of people under the age of 24 say that more long term parking is needed.

People aged between 25-34 most strongly suggested they used long stay season ticket spaces at 16.7%. 30.8% of the same age range suggested additional long stay season ticket spaces were needed.

### **Recommendations**

It is recommended that the following steps could be taken to mitigate, reduce, avoid or minimise the impacts identified above.

Consideration is given to the availability of parking spaces for people with a disability. Providing additional spaces could mitigate the need respondents to the consultation have set out. People with a disability also highlight the need for wider spaces.

Provision of additional long stay car parking could mitigate the increased propensity for females, people aged under 24 and ethnic minority respondents to have difficulty in finding a parking space. Each of these characteristics of respondents had a higher propensity to travel to Sevenoaks town for work and are more strongly in favour of additional parking.