

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.