



Overview and Scrutiny Committee Agenda

Wyre Borough Council
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**Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on Monday, 21 May 2018 at
6.00 pm
in the Civic Centre, Poulton-le-Fylde**

- 1. Election of Chairman**
- 2. Apologies for absence**
- 3. Election of Vice Chairman**
- 4. Declarations of interest**

Members will disclose any pecuniary and any other significant interests they may have in relation to the matters to be considered at this meeting.

- 5. Confirmation of minutes** (Pages 1 - 4)

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 16 April 2018.

- 6. Cleaner Green Wyre** (Pages 5 - 8)

The Service Director People and Places has submitted a report about a programme of initiatives that will be developed to create a cleaner greener Wyre.

- 7. Car parking - consultation report** (Pages 9 - 28)

The Head of Engineering Services has submitted a report on the consultation results from the Car Parking Survey 2017. The Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety Portfolio Holder and the Senior Engineer will present the findings from the report and invite comments from the committee about options.

- 8. Performance - the Council's Business Plan 2015 - 2019 (2018 update)** (Pages 29 - 32)

The Service Director Performance and Innovation has submitted a report, the 4th Quarter Performance Statement 2017/18, January – March 2018.

9. Draft report of the Engaging with Children and Young People task group (Pages 33 - 48)

The Chairman of the Engaging with Children and Young People task group will present the group's draft report to the committee.

10. O&S Work Programme 2018/19 - update (Pages 49 - 54)

The Service Director Performance and Innovation has submitted a report to update the committee about the Overview and Scrutiny Work programme 2018/19.



Overview and Scrutiny Committee Minutes

Notes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on Monday 16 April 2018 at the Civic Centre, Poulton-le-Fylde.

Committee members present:

Councillor I Amos
Councillor R Amos
Councillor Ballard
Councillor Ellison
Councillor Fail
Councillor Hodgkinson

Councillor Ibison (Chairman)
Councillor Jones (Vice Chairman)
Councillor Ormrod
Councillor Robinson
Councillor Smith
Councillor Matthew Vincent.

Officers present:

Marianne Hesketh, Service Director Performance and Innovation
Roy Saunders, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager

Others present:

None.

OS.64 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors E Anderton and C Birch.

OS.65 Declarations of interest

None.

OS.66 Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 12 March 2018 were agreed as a correct record.

OS.67 Asset Management Strategy and Action Plan 2018 - 2023

The Service Director Performance and Innovation submitted a report on a proposed updated Asset Management Strategy and an action plan for its implementation over a 5 year period. She invited the Committee to comment on the proposals prior to consideration of them by the Cabinet.

Members of the Committee welcomed the reference in paragraph 5.4 of the report to opportunities to generate additional revenue or capital receipts and asked that the long awaited report on the review of car parks be submitted to the next meeting of this committee.

Concern was also expressed about the potential loss of open space in the Borough and suggested that the wider value to local communities of such space should be considered, prior to a decision being made to sell any of the sites listed in the action plan

Marianne Hesketh confirmed that the options to be explored for Cleveleys Bus Station would focus on ways of generating more income at that location and would not include the possible sale of the site.

RESOLVED:

1. That the report be noted.
2. That the Service Director Performance and Innovation be requested to ensure that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be given an opportunity to comment on the options identified during the various reviews listed in the action plan before decisions were made, particularly on the areas of open space at the following locations (items 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 in the plan):
 - land off Eskdale Avenue Fleetwood;
 - land off Croasdale Avenue Thornton Cleveleys;
 - land off Tarnway Avenue, Thornton Cleveleys;
 - land off Hargreaves Street, Thornton Cleveleys;
 - land off School Lane, Out Rawcliffe.
3. That the Service Director Performance and Innovation be requested to amend the wording of item 13 in the action plan to refer more generally to the exploration of any opportunities to invest in new assets which would generate a good return for the council (not just to possible acquisitions for the creation of a portfolio of industrial units).

OS.68 Digital Transformation Plan – progress update

The Service Director Performance and Innovation, Marianne Hesketh, submitted a report providing information about the progress that had so far been made on digital transformation within the Council.

RESOLVED:

1. That the report be noted.
2. That the progress so far made on digital transformation be welcomed.
3. That, with regard to the implementation of the Modern.gov meetings management system:
 - (a) the progress made on the implementation of Phase 1 of the project to improve the efficiency of the agenda publication and minute production process be welcomed;
 - (b) the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be given an opportunity to consider and make recommendations on arrangements for funding the purchase of iPads for Councillors to enable the planned introduction, as Phase 2 of the Project, of paperless meetings from May 2019, to be achieved;
 - (c) the Overview and Scrutiny Committee also be involved in the trial of paperless meetings, prior to its full implementation across the Council.

OS.69 Overview and Scrutiny work programme 2017 18 and 1018/19

The Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager, Roy Saunders, referred to the Committee's work programme for 2017/18 and for 2018/19, which had been submitted with the agenda. He said that work on current task groups was progressing well and it would be helpful for the Committee to identify a topic for the next task group review.

The Service Director Performance and Innovation reported that the consultation exercise on the current choice based letting scheme for the allocation of social housing in Fylde and Wyre had just been completed. The Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety Portfolio Holder had suggested that it would be useful for scrutiny members to consider possible options for changes to the Scheme arising from the consultation, to help inform the decision making process.

RESOLVED

1. That the latest position with regard to current task groups be noted.
2. That a (probably fairly short) Task Group review on the responses to the recent consultation on the “My Home Choice” (Fylde Coast choice based social housing letting scheme) be included in the Committees work programme to consider and report to the Cabinet on possible options for changes to the Scheme.
3. That the possibility of appointing a Task Group on car parks be considered at the next meeting of the Committee, when the Committee was expecting a report of the Head of Engineering to be submitted on the outcome of the consultations on the Council’s car parks.
4. That an opportunity to consider funding options for the implementation of paperless meetings (referred to when considering the report on the digital transformation programme earlier in the meeting) be added to the work programme.

OS.70 Date and time of next meeting

RESOLVED that the next meeting of the committee be held at 6pm on Monday 21 May 2018 at the Civic Centre, Poulton-le-Fylde.

The meeting started at 6pm and finished at 6.40pm.

arm/o&s/mi/160418

Report of the Street Scene Manager to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Monday 21 May 2018

Cleaner Green Wyre

The Borough is in a fortunate position of being well supplied with green and open spaces. From the long expanse of attractive beach and coastline to the open countryside on the fringes and the parks, recreation grounds and green spaces within, Wyre can boast a pleasant environment. The importance of clean and green spaces cannot be underestimated. Many benefits derive from a pleasant environment:

- Economy / tourist investment
- Healthier lifestyles = physical and mental well being
- Safe places for children to play
- Visually pleasing = community pride
- Preserving habitats, wildlife and water quality

The Councils Life In Wyre Survey undertaken in 2016, shows that resident satisfaction with our front line services, such as refuse collection, recycling facilities, street cleansing, parks and open spaces, is generally high and that residents value the clean and green spaces of Wyre. However, residents indicated that they still feel improvements could be made to their local areas, and highlighted that the condition of roads, street cleanliness including dog fouling and litter/rubbish collection as being some of the highest priorities.

The Council is committed to addressing these issues and creating a better environment for people to enjoy. In order for us to be successful we will need to continue to work with our existing volunteers and recognised community groups that are active in keeping their local area clean and attractive e.g. North West in Bloom Groups, love my beach volunteers, countryside volunteers and Coastal Community Teams but also promote active citizenship and community pride amongst our residents.

We value the work and support from these groups but hope that more businesses, residents and visitors alike can start to have pride in their street, village, town, borough as together we can make a difference.

Programme Scope

A programme of initiatives will be developed to create a cleaner greener Wyre, this will range from engagement, education and targeted enforcement campaigns working with stakeholders to stimulate create community pride

Campaigns and increasing awareness

To support the delivery of projects the Council has signed up to the Keep Britain Tidy Network (KBT).

KBT are a national body promoting similar initiatives and can provide additional support and resources to assist in resident engagement through targeted campaigns following extensive research and the sharing of best practice amongst local authority members.

Priority campaigns for the coming year include:

Key stats from last Life in Wyre Survey (2016)

78% of respondents felt that clean streets were very important in making where you live a good place to live

31% of respondents felt that the cleanliness of streets could be improved. The fourth highest area, yet a decline on the previous survey

Like in the previous two Life in Wyre surveys, dog fouling and irresponsible dog owners are considered the biggest problem by residents in the borough (49%).

35% of respondents felt litter and fly tipping was a problem in their area

Car Litter - Following legislative changes due this year that will make it easier for LA's to take action against those littering from moving cars.

Dog Fouling & Any bin will do - Relaunch the any bin will do campaign to encourage the use of on street litter bins for litter and dog waste.

Cigarette Litter – Cigarette litter is abundant in town centres and outside public houses.

Waste Duty of Care – Raising awareness of the legislative requirements for those disposing of waste.

Cleaner neighbourhoods

A project officer is to be appointed to identify and work within pilot local neighbourhoods to improve the area with the support of local councillors and residents.

Enforcement

To support the delivery of the programme ongoing enforcement action will be required and officers are currently exploring proposals for increased enforcement activity.

Schools

To work with schools / community groups to discuss local environmental concerns, tasking them to design materials to be displayed locally in hot spot areas or engage wider audience. In effect using 'pester power' and the power of young people to spread the message to their grown-ups.

Britain in Bloom / Friends of Groups

Continue to work with the volunteer groups already established to support the cleaner greener agenda.

Challenges of delivering a cleaner greener Wyre

- Customers / businesses expect the Council to sort it e.g. , clean it , fix it, remove it, enforce
- Enforcement is complex. Officers cannot be everywhere all of the time, the support of communities is needed to:
 - speak out and report offenders, stand up and give a statement
 - provide intelligence to enable us to patrol the 'hot spot' areas and make the most of our time e.g. days / times and descriptions of individuals and / or dogs
 - challenge other people's behaviour e.g. offer a dog poop bag or advice on where collection day and when to present a bin
 - Undertake proper checks on anyone they pay to do work for them and take waste away. Householders and businesses have a legal Duty of Care. For example, if you pass waste from your home on to someone and they dump it – the householder would be liable as well.
- Environmental crime offences such as littering, fly tipping, not picking up after your dog are a criminal offence and therefore need the same level of evidence / proof as a police officer making a murder charge – the officers with enforcement powers have to follow the same process and this can take considerable time to undertake interview / make further enquiries etc
- Illegal dumping seems to be becoming facilitated by social media, whereby householders manage to engage and book waste clearance jobs through Facebook
- Behaviour is change required to make it considered unacceptable within society to drop litter, even a cigarette butt, or dump waste etc, the same as it is now considered totally unacceptable to drink and drive or not wear a seatbelt

The role of a Ward Councillor

We need Members to agree how they can support these initiatives, increase awareness and help change behaviours of their constituents to a 'can do' attitude with a feeling of pride for where they live and desire to take control and make a difference to where they live.

Ruth Hunter

Street Scene Manager

3 May 2018

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CAR PARKING SURVEY 2017

CONSULTATION RESULTS

Car Park Survey 2017

Consultation results

Introduction

The objective: To ensure the viability and vitality of town centres is facilitated through provision of attractive, safe, well maintained and easily located car parks.

From 13 November to 15 December 2017 Wyre Council undertook a public consultation regarding council owned town centre car parks. The majority of the car parks included are pay and display car parks.

The consultation was conducted to establish how people use the car parks and to ask what, if anything, could be done to improve their experience. The consultation also addressed non-users and what might attract them to use the car parks.

Approach

The agreed approach for this consultation was to:

1. Conduct face-to-face interviews on the car parks - Volunteers generously supported this activity working from Cleveleys and Poulton on various dates over the consultation period. Printed questionnaires were also made available at Garstang Tourist Information Centre.
2. Use an online questionnaire - This approach enabled appropriate access to non-users and those people who did not have chance to speak with the volunteers.

Promotion and communication

The consultation was promoted in the following ways:

- E-alerts, sent to subscribers of the council's email marketing service. These featured hyperlinks to further information about the consultation and the questionnaire itself.
- Information was provided to the media to help them cover the consultation. This resulted in coverage via Fleetwood Weekly News date: 22/11/2017 and Blackpool Gazette date: 20/11/2017
- A link to the car parking consultation was included on the council website home page under 'have your say' for the duration of the consultation and was included on the news banner on the home page for the second week of the consultation.
- Emails were sent to a range of support organisations and stakeholders.
- The council's Facebook and Twitter accounts were used to signpost people to the consultation information and questionnaire. Wyre Council also posted direct messages to local Facebook chat groups.
- The Parish and Town Councils were invited to respond through a news bulletin sent to their all clerks.

Consultation respondents

In total **558** responded to the car parking consultation, that is, 478 online representations via the council's consultation portal and 80 representations conducted by volunteers and copies returned from the Garstang Tourist Information Centre.

All the questionnaire submissions had a majority of questions completed and so were included in the analysis.

Consultation results

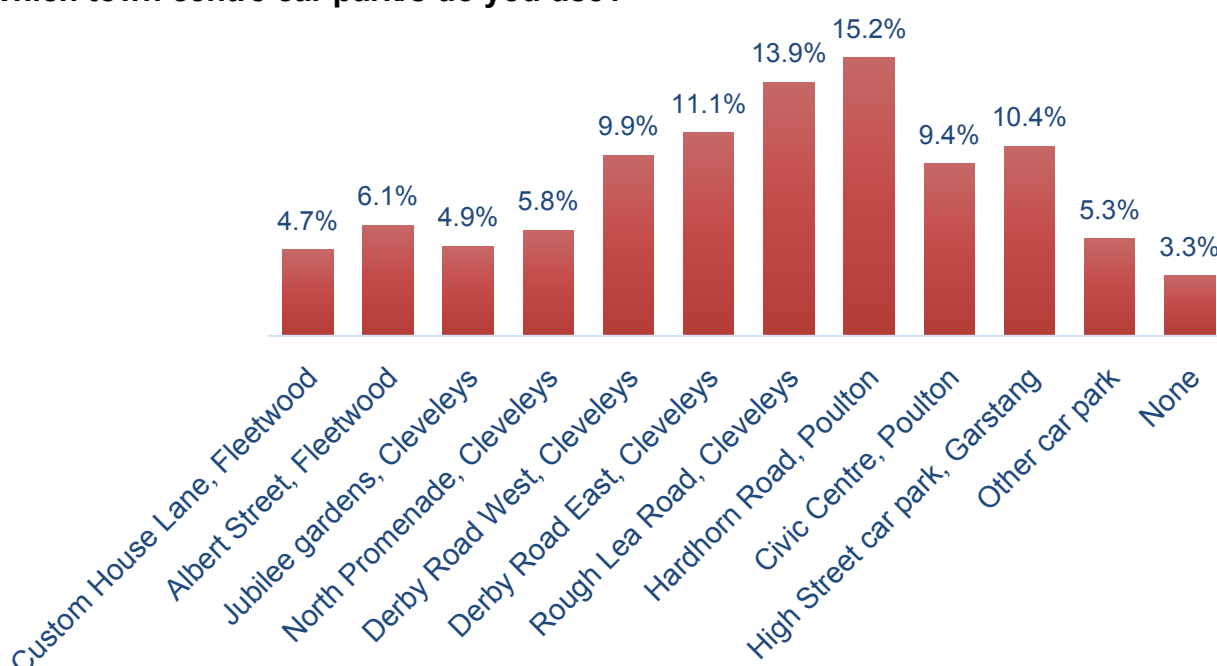
Respondents were asked details about their usage of the town centre car parks, what improvements they would like to see and if they would be prepared to pay more for further facilities. In this aspect the results will help the council understand the experiences and requirements of the general public and will be used as a consideration for future decisions.

As mentioned above the survey divided the respondents into two distinct user groups, those that utilise town centre car parks (users) and those that don't (non-user). The survey was also analysed according to the two groups.

Users Survey results

Respondents were asked...

Which town centre car park/s do you use?



The Hardhorn Road, Rough Lea Road, Derby Road East and High Street car parks accounted for just over 50% of respondents' usage. Only 3.3% of those responding said that they used none of the council owned car parks and they were then asked to complete the non-user section of the questionnaire which is referred to later in the analysis.

Respondents were also asked to name any other car park they use in Wyre and fifty eight replied. Of those fifty five specified that they used Booths car parks. Booths car park in Poulton (or Teanlowe car park as it was sometimes referred to) was used by thirty of the fifty five people and Booths car park in Garstang was used by eleven of the respondents. Ten people did not specify which Booths car park they used in their comments.

Other car parks used were along the Fleetwood waterfront for example, the Sunken car park, the Marine Hall and leisure centre car park. There was also Quail Home Road, Knott End and The Bull car park in Poulton.

Respondents were asked...

Type of vehicle (this should be the vehicle you use the most when parking in a local car park)?

Vehicle type	%
Petrol/Diesel Car	94.3%
Electric/Hybrid Car	2.2%
MPV/people carrier	2.2%
Transit van	0.4%
Motorhome/Camper van	0.2%
Motorbike	0.8%

Figures have been rounded

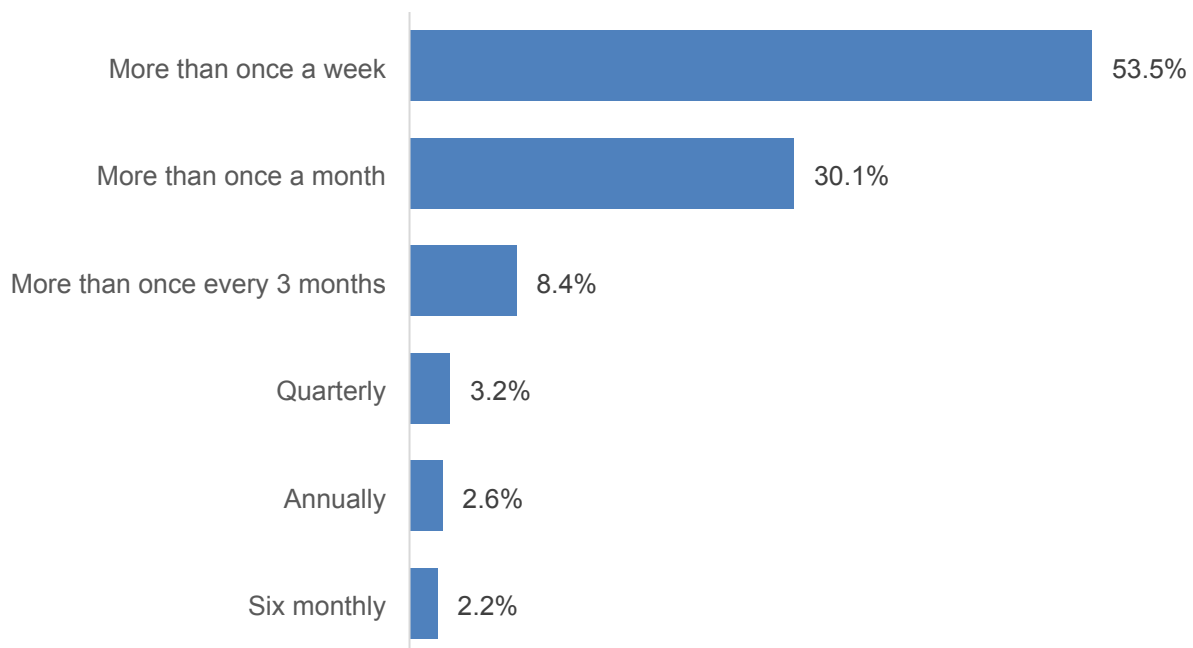
Respondents were asked...

Are you a resident, a visitor to Wyre, working in Wyre?

The majority of respondents are residents (96%/ n=486). A further 3% (n=15) are visitors and 1% (n=7) are people who work in Wyre.

Respondents were asked...

How often do you use the Council's pay & display car park/s on average?

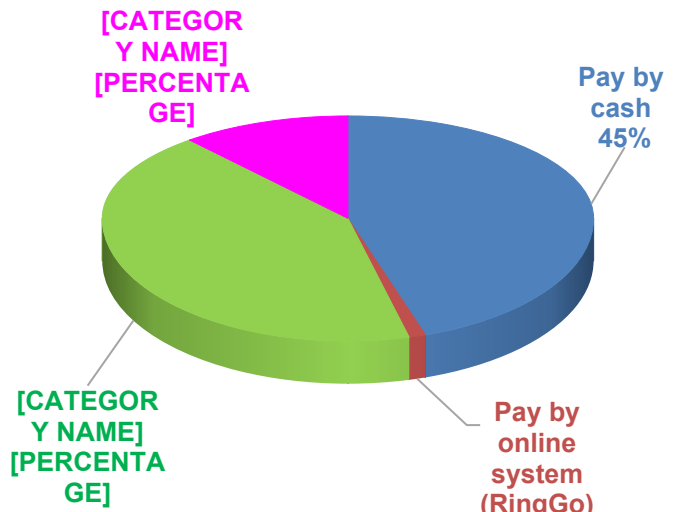


As can be seen from the above chart the majority of people i.e. 53.5% (n=268) use council car parks more than once a week. If people using the car parks more than once a month are included then that figure rises up to 83.6% (n=419).

Respondents were asked...

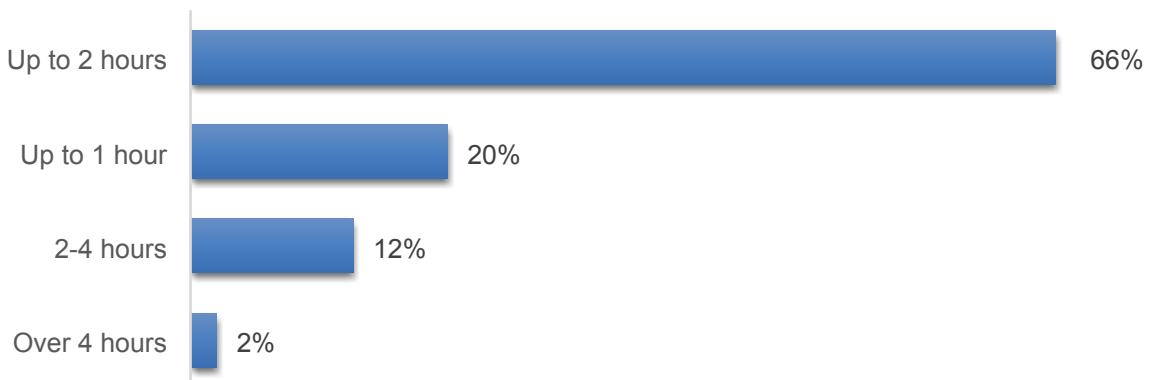
Do you use...a resident's permit, use a blue badge, use a season ticket, pay by cash, pay by online system?

The majority of people pay by cash (45%/n=246) or use their resident's permit (41%/n=227). A small number 13% (n=69) use their blue badge. Just one percent use the online payment system RingGo. None of the respondents use the season ticket permit.



Respondents were asked...

What is your average length of stay?



On average most people park for up to 2 hours, that is, 86% (n=428) with just under a quarter of these parking for up to one hour only. Only 2% (n=10) park over 4 hours.

Respondents were asked...

Which day/s do you generally use the car park?

The car parks are mainly used early weekend, that is, Saturdays (17.5%, n=297) and Fridays (16.5%, n=279) and curtail to the lowest usage of the week on Sundays (8.5%, n=144).

Of the weekdays Tuesdays and Wednesdays have the lowest usage rate.

Over half of the usage on Mondays (14.4%, n=244) is due to people parking in the Poulton car parks (n=131).

Figures have been rounded

Day	% used
Monday	14.4%
Tuesday	14.0%
Wednesday	14.0%
Thursday	15.0%
Friday	16.5%
Saturday	17.5%
Sunday	8.5%

Respondents were asked...

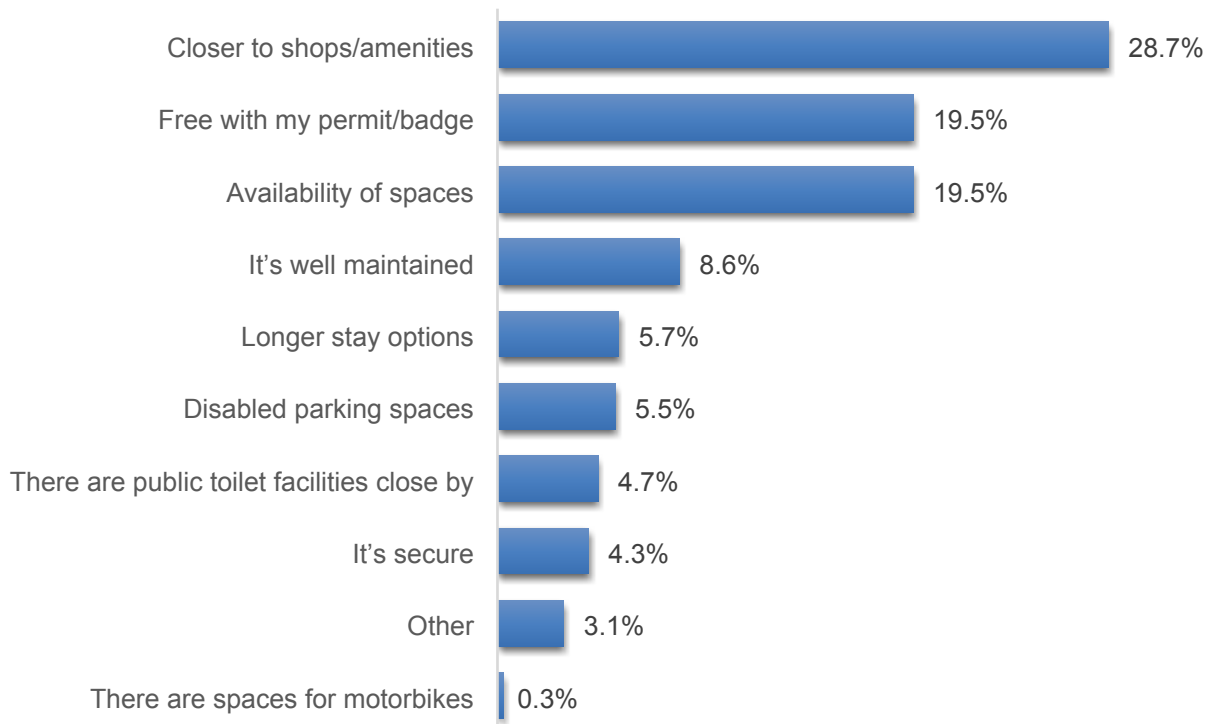
Have you ever used the car park overnight?

5% said they had used a car park overnight.

Respondents were asked...

Why do you use the council car park over other free parking areas/spaces?

Convenience is the main reason that people use the council car parks over other spaces to park (n=322). Free parking with a permit/badge and availability of spaces are the joint second highest reasons that people use the car parks.



Thirty one respondents selected the option 'Other' and thirty one of them gave further details as to why they use the council car parks over other spaces to park. The comments were clustered into general theme groups and are reflected below.

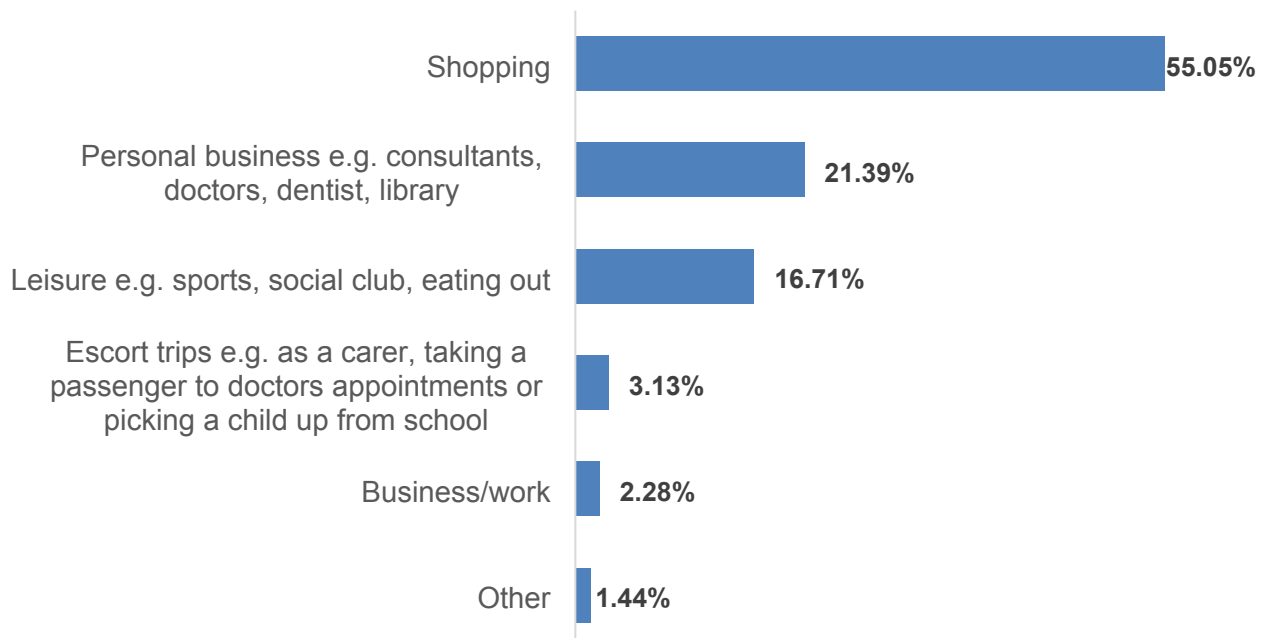
Theme	Comment Count
Unable to find alternative free options	18
Safety reasons e.g. fear of damage/accident	5
Use them for walks/recreation e.g. beach visits	2
To access the train station	2
Better availability and size of disabled spaces	2
Longer length of stay available	2
Closer to work	1

A variety of the comments are reflected below:

- The car parking spaces are a much better size than those in Booth's car park. The latter seems quite dangerous to me as so many cars are constantly driving round trying to find a space.
- I only use the council car parks if there are no spaces on the free street parking or I may be longer than 1hr.
- It is an excellent facility for everyone - it should ensure streets in our towns are safer keeping parked - often badly - vehicles off pavements and thoroughfares.
- Limited free parking in Garstang and on road parking near town is invariably full.

Respondents were asked...

What do you mainly use the car park for? Please consider the car park you use most often.

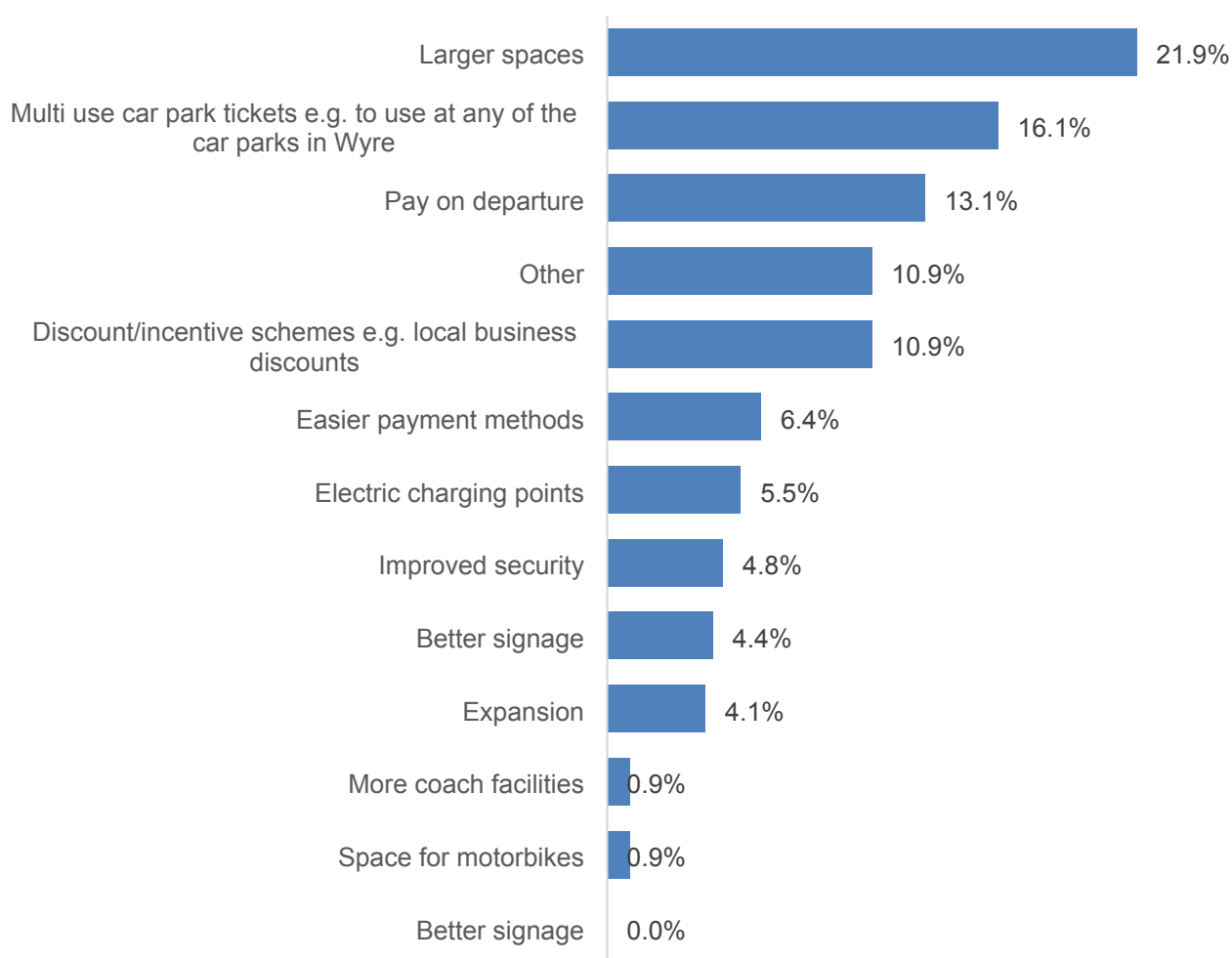


Twelve people selected 'Other' and eleven people went on to answer other ways they use the car park. The responses were clustered into general themed groups as follows.

Theme	Comment Count
Walking (with or without a dog)	7
Other recreation	2
Safety	1
Due to being a resident	1

Respondents were asked...

What improvements do you think the council could make to the car parks you use?



Larger spaces (21.9%, n=210) and multi-use car park tickets (16.1%, n=155) were the most popular improvement options followed by a pay on departure option (13.1%, n=126).

105 respondents selected discount incentive schemes e.g. local business discounts and the same amount of respondents picked 'Other'. The table below reflects a general list of themed responses clustered together from the 96 respondents that selected 'Other'. Please note four comments were discarded as they were not relevant to this particular question.

Theme	Comment Count
More time/pay options	26
Free parking for all	24
More disabled spaces	16
More resident options	14
Overall maintenance/layout/pay machines	10
More parent/child spaces	7
More enforcement of designated spaces	5
More spaces	4
Better signage	1
Motorhome /coach parking	2
Wider spaces	1
Booths car parks should charge non-customers	1

A variety of comments from the top three themes above are included below.

More time/pay options

- Add on to residents parking so you can park for 2 hours for free and top-up with an extra hour paid parking. 2 hours is NOT enough for most shopping.
- Free parking on all car parking for two hours for everybody including visitors to stimulate trade in the towns. A designated coach park.
- More variable charges for parking i.e. pay for half hour or hourly
- Longer stay options.
- Possibly have 'timed' zones for a quick visit - up to 5 hours and more for business/work and walking/cycling.
- An option to stay longer than the maximum two hours currently in place. It's never enough time to enjoy a relaxing time in Cleveleys where you can shop and visit a cafe. Instead you have to either not visit a cafe for food or if you do, you aren't able to shop properly.

Free Parking for all

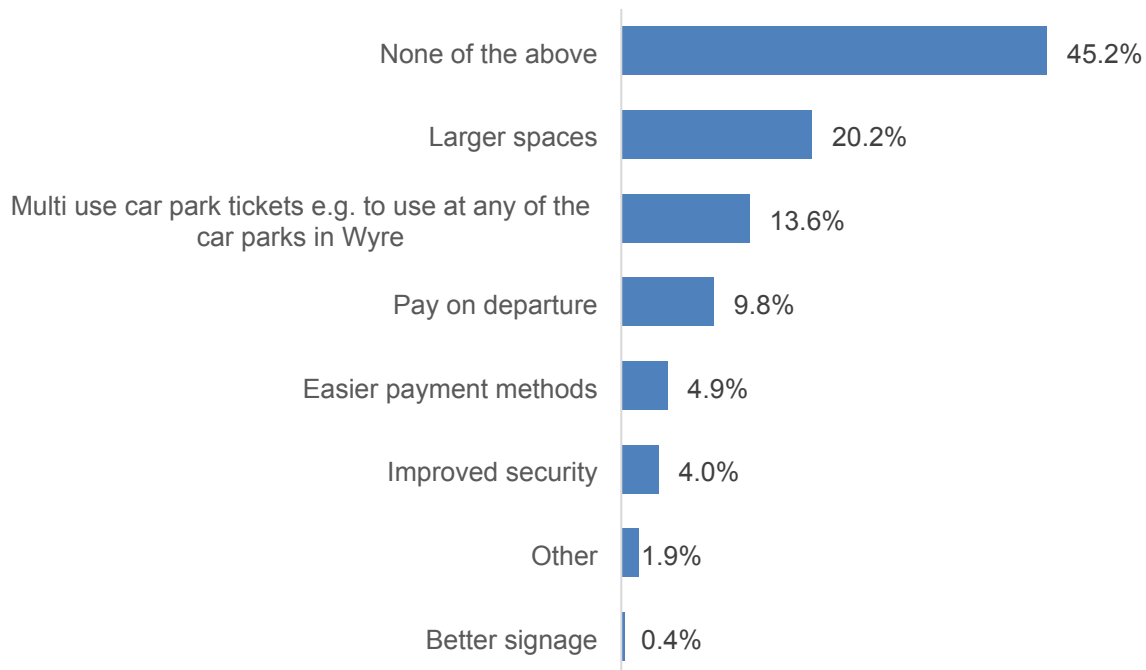
- Free to residents over 65's
- free parking to attract more family's to beach and businesses
- All car park should be FREE to encourage people to use shops. Why can you park on Fleetwood front for nothing and not elsewhere
- You should stop charging to encourage visitors and locals to shop in our town centres.

More disabled spaces

- My husband was awarded a blue disabled parking badge in April, we have only used it once, because every time we have been to Cleveleys or Poulton the disabled parking space are full. Please make more spaces available.
- It's almost impossible finding blue badge spaces, especially in summer & around lunch times. About half the spaces are occupied by men reading newspapers or elderly couples having lunch in their cars. As a wheelchair user, I struggle to find spaces wide enough & about 50% of the time, return home without finding a space.
- Better / more disabled parking near to shops (especially for those with limited mobility / limited ability to walk very far).

Respondents were asked...

Please tell us which facilities you would be prepared to pay more for if offered.



The majority response (n=239) was that people would not be prepared to pay for more for the facilities listed above if offered. Responses highlighted that a fifth (n=107) would be prepared to pay for larger spaces and close to 14% (n=72) answered that they would pay for multi-use car park tickets.

Of the 1.9% (n=9) answers that stated 'Other' the following is a sample of the comments:

- No increase of services would make me want to pay more
- Parent and child spaces
- Pay on departure would be a much better option. It would also raise more revenue because people would dally about for longer. Space sizes aren't too bad in Wyre, but I would pay more for a larger space. They could be offered in limited quantities like disabled bays, rather than a blanket space/cost increase. I don't see how payment could be easier other than having an app to pay online like the Blackpool Transport tickets. Signage definitely needs improving - to tell people where parking is as they approach Cleveleys and where alternatives are when they get to full car parks. Strangers wouldn't know there's a long stay car park at Jubilee Gardens!
- More parking spaces
- None they are all too expensive
- Park longer

Respondents were asked...

Do you have any other comments about the council's car parks?

There were 175 responses.

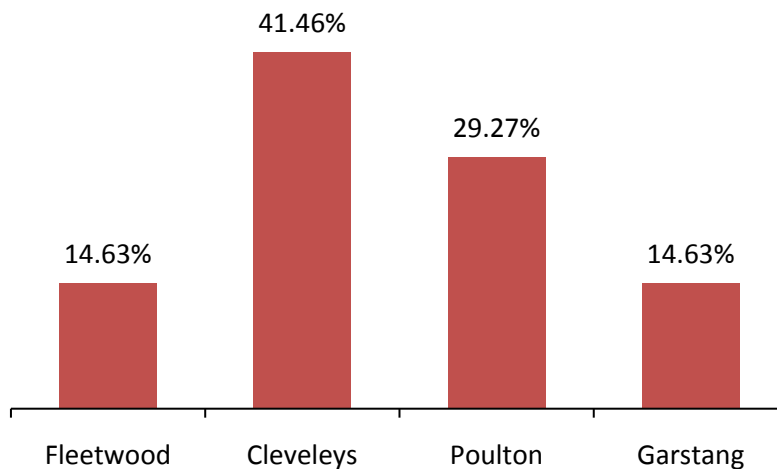
Non User Survey Results

Forty nine people said that they didn't use the council carparks and they were directed to answer the following set of questions.

Respondents were asked...

If you park in any of the towns listed below but don't use any of the Wyre Council pay and display car parks, please tick:

Forty one people responded the majority of whom park in Cleveleys and Poulton with 96% of them being residents. The other 4% (n=2) include a visitor and a person working in Wyre.



Respondents were asked...

Please tell us why you don't use the councils pay and display car parks over other parking.

Forty three people responded to this question and gave various comments. These comments were read individually and arranged into general themes which can be seen in the table below followed by a list of varied comments that reflect the more popular opinions.

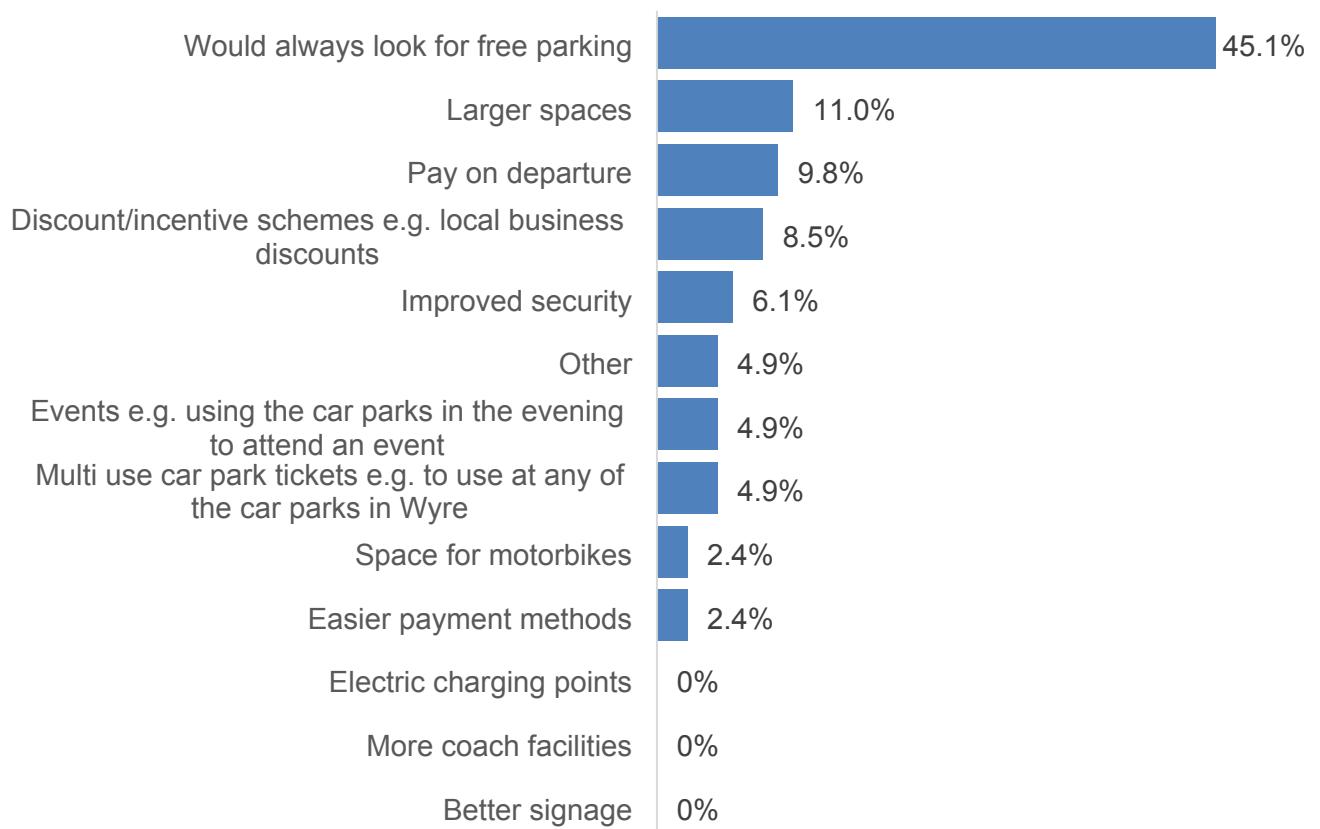
Theme	Comment Count
Issues with the cost of parking	31
Use alternative transport than the car	10
Parking duration options	8
Use Alternative free parking	4
Payment options	2

- Too expensive for the time allowed
- Object to paying for the short time I usually shop

- The car parks are too expensive - I park for free in Poulton, Cleveleys and Fleetwood or I don't bother. It's also very difficult to walk to the machine and back to the car to put the sticker inside with a toddler in tow who doesn't understand why we are turning around so quickly.
- Overpriced and easier to catch the bus,
- I believe some limited free parking should be allowed to access the town centre so I choose to park out of town and walk in. It is extremely expensive to park in Garstang in comparison to other places I visit in our area (Poulton as a prime example).
- I park outside centre and walk in.

Respondents were asked...

Please tell us what, if anything, would make you use the car parks.



- The majority of respondents 45% (n=37) would not be encouraged by any of the items listed to start using the car parks over free parking.
- Larger spaces (n=9) and pay on departure (n=8) were the next most popular selections respectively, although they were represented by small numbers. Interestingly larger spaces and pay on departure were also in the top four features that users of the council car parks were more likely pay more for.
- Four people selected 'Other' and they were invited to say what else would make them use the car park. Their responses are as follows:
- Nothing machines do not work half of the time

- Being able to stop for a short period at a lower cost. At one time you could park for up to an hour and it was 30p at that time, then the council raised it to two hours and it was over £1.
- More reason to use Lord Street shopping, better shops etc.
- If I thought council officials would stick to their words and stop treating people as fair game.

Respondents were asked...

If you have any specific comments please tell us below.

Twenty comments were returned the majority were suggesting free parking or more payment/time options to encourage tourism and support businesses.

- Pay on departure would encourage people to stay longer. Garstang needs more parking at the south end of town. Booths etc often almost full – Sainsbury’s time limited. North car park may lose spaces soon and increased new builds means more cars trying to get into the centre.
- I think you should charge at Stanah. Dog walking businesses are taking advantage. It’s getting too busy and not as pleasant for locals. Stanah Road is too busy also with people driving there.
- The area is run down enough with the amount of charity shops. The council should be doing more about the caravans that park for a free holiday on the seafront at Fleetwood

Respondents were asked...

Would you make use of a scheme which allowed residents to benefit from discounted pay & display fees?

There wasn’t much difference between the number of respondents that would make use of such a scheme (48%, n=22) and those that said they wouldn’t (52%, n=24).

Respondents were asked...

Please identify which of the following options, you prefer.

Twenty people answered this question. The options with the percentage of respondents that chose them are shown in the table below.

Options	Percentage
Annual charge allowing discounted car parking	25%
Annual charge with time limited car parking	35%
Other	40%

Of the eight respondents that selected ‘Other’, seven commented. The responses are as follows:

- Discounted used
- 24 hour resident parking
- No charge for discount
- Free parking for Wyre residents with time restriction
- Residents to get something to put in car to show that they pay their rates
- Free parking for residents

- Cheaper tariffs with longer stay 50p for two hours

One hundred and forty respondents signed up to the regular council e-newsletter and/or to receive news about consultations.

Respondents were thanked for their time.

Appendix A Recommendations Resulting From Car Parking Survey.

Wyre Council Parking Survey Nov-Dec 2017

1.0 Introduction:

- 1.1 This report follows on from the consultation and makes recommendations for changes to the Wyre Parking Strategy in order to provide parking spaces that meet the demands of users and maintain the viability and vitality of town centres, while at the same time ensuring that these demands are affordable.

2.0 Background:

- 2.1 Wyre Council is the Enforcement Authority responsible for enforcement on all of its off-street parking. Enforcement is carried out under the terms of the Traffic Management Act 2004 and is a civil enforcement policy rather than criminal. Civil Enforcement Officers (CEOs) issue Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) to any vehicle parking in contravention of car parking regulations. The Council currently use Lancashire Parking Services for enforcement and administration on car parks. LPS subcontract enforcement to NSL Ltd.
- 2.2 The provision of car parks is not a statutory function of the Council; there is no obligation on the Council to provide parking. However, like many other councils, Wyre provides parking spaces to support local businesses.
- 2.3 The Council currently provides 2,388 off street parking spaces, including 910 Pay & Display spaces in 9 car parks.

3.0 Review of the Parking Survey

- 3.2 The Survey produced a large number of responses, mostly on the following issues
 - Fees and Charges
 - Methods of payment
 - Discounts for residents
 - Length of stay allowed
 - Provision of specialised parking (disabled/parent and child)
 - Size of parking bay

These issues are considered below, and recommendations made for further consideration.

4.0 Recommendations.

4.1 Fees and Charges

By far the largest area of concern raised was parking charges. This revolved around two main points

- a) parking is too expensive
- b) there is no provision for short time usage (ie less than 2 hours)

Background:

Wyre Council charges for parking in its off-street car parks under section 35 of the Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The Act provides for payment to be made to a meter or

ticket machine, or indicated by a traffic device (which can be a card, disc, token or other similar device). It also provides for the issue of permits.

Parking charges were introduced into the Borough in 1997 to produce a turnover of parking spaces and to generate income to fund maintenance and improvement works on the Car Parks. Charging and parking enforcement apply during the daytime, Monday to Sunday inclusive; parking is free overnight until 8am.

The car parks are a source of revenue for the Council and the income generated is used to pay for the provision and maintenance of both Pay & Display and free car parks within the Borough. It is, however, essential that these tariffs are priced so that they remain competitive with charges in neighbouring authorities and maintain the attractiveness of the town centres as locations for shopping and other visits.

In addition to the Pay & Display car parks, Wyre Council has a large number of free car parks, located primarily at key public facilities such as sports centres or Council buildings, and there are large areas within the Borough offering free on street parking. These offer an attractive alternative to using the Pay & Display parking provision, reduce car park usage and consequently reduce income for the Council. A balance against convenience and cost is required so that car park usage is increased.

The Council does not currently charge for parking after 6pm. However as the night time economy grows there is a greater requirement for safe parking evening parking.

The majority of car park tickets purchased are for under 2 hours (82%). It is not clear whether such usage was for under an hour or in the range 1-2 hours although there is a clear demand for parking of less than 2 hours.

4.2 Fees and Charges Recommendations

A simplified charging structure to be introduced with tariffs as below

Long stay car parks

- Up to 1 hour
- Up to 3 hours
- All Day

Short stay car parks (Max stay 2 hrs)

- Up to 1 hour
- Up to 2 hours

In response to the parking survey, it is recommended that a simpler scale of charges is introduced. This new scale would provide a reduced stay tariff of up to an hour as well as the potential to reduce the cost of all day parking.

All Day Ticket:

To encourage users to visit other towns within the Borough, it is recommended that the All Day ticket be transferrable between all long stay car parks throughout the Borough.

Charging on other car parks:

It is recommended that a review be undertaken to investigate introducing charges to some car parks which are currently free to use.

Overnight charges:

It is recommended that consideration is given to nominal overnight charging from 6pm to 9am (allowing an hour for pick up after daytime charging commences).

4.3 [Methods of payment](#)

The Council currently operates a Pay & Display system whereby users pay in advance for parking and must return within the time purchased. While this is a common and easily understood process, there is no provision to allow users to overstay the paid for without returning to purchase an additional ticket or risk the issuing of a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN).

Previously Pay on Exit systems have historically required the installation of automated barriers and significant investment. However, the current payment machines are capable of being upgraded to allow payment to be made on exit. Currently three of the nine Council Pay & Display car parks have the necessary apparatus to operate the system (Rough Lea Road, Derby Road East and Hardhorn Road) while the remaining could be updated. Additional research is being undertaken to look at the feasibility of introducing Pay on Exit

Cashless payments:

Technological advancements allow for cost effective methods for cashless payment – (debit/credit card payments, payment by telephone, phone app or Near Field Communication ie Apple Pay. NFC). This can also provide improved flexibility to people wishing to extend their parking time remotely by mobile phone.

All of the Council Pay & Display car parks can take cashless payments through the RingGo phone system. Three of the car parks can already take payment by credit/debit card or mobile application.

4.4 [Method of Payment Recommendations](#)

It is recommended that a system that allows Pay on Exit and cashless payment be investigated for all current Pay and Display car parks.

4.5 [Discounts for Residents](#)**Resident Permit Scheme Background:**

Currently the Council operates a scheme, introduced in September 2002, which allows residents who purchase a Resident Permit to park for up to 2 hours once per day, free of charge, on the majority of the council's Pay & Display car parks. The permit is available to all permanent residents of Wyre. New permits cost £25.00, with renewal's costing £10.00. It is unknown how many permits are in circulation and still being regularly used.

The current loss of income to the Council from the use of Residents' Permits is difficult to quantify since there has been no specific study. Parking surveys have consistently shown that use of permits in the busiest of car parks is of the order of 50%.

Currently the £25.00 cost of a Resident Permit is a one-off charge for the life of the vehicle which does not accurately reflect the potential loss in income if the permit is used regularly. Comparisons with other resident permit schemes show that Wyre is the exception in terms of not applying an annual charge.

School Permits:

This scheme was introduced for parents dropping off and picking up children at schools close to public car parks to alleviate congestion on roads around schools. Currently only St Chads School, Poulton is included in the scheme. Permits allow 30 minutes free parking on Hardhorn Road car park Monday - Friday 8.45am-9.10am and 3.15pm- 3.45pm.

4.6 [Discount for Residents Recommendations](#)

It is recommended that additional work be undertaken to review the current system including a review of the parking time allowed and levels of charge. Other permit holder benefits including ability to upgrade to all day parking to be investigated.

It is further recommended to continue to work with St Chads school to allow safe dropping off of school children by parents.

4.7 [Length of stay allowed](#)

The Council currently operates five long stay car parks, two short stay car parks, and two with parking limited to 2 hours.

The majority of tickets bought in both long and short stay car parks are for two hours stay (82% of all tickets sold) while very few tickets are for all day parking.

Currently, all car park tickets are restricted to parking within the car park in which the ticket was purchased and do not allow users to transfer within other car parks or towns.

Recent surveys on car park usage have shown that occupancy levels vary significantly from full or near full to empty dependant on the location or day of the week.

- Car parks in Poulton and Cleveleys maintain medium to high levels of occupancy throughout the week, while Fleetwood relies heavily on the market to maintain occupancy levels.
- Peak occupancy levels are achieved on market days for Poulton, Fleetwood and Garstang.
- The seaside car parks see maximum occupancy at weekends and greater occupancy during summer than winter.
- Several car parks have little or no occupancy out of season (Jubilee Gardens, Cleveleys) or on non-market days (Custom House Lane and Albert Street, Fleetwood)

4.8 [Length of Stay Recommendations](#)

It is recommended that the short/long stay parking be rationalised such that the 2 hour limit car parks are designated as short stay and all others are designated long stay. By making all but two cars long stay would simplify tariffs and encourage parking for longer periods.

4.9 [Provision of specialised and oversized bays](#)

Disabled Parking:

One of the most complained about issues in the parking survey was the provision of disabled parking bays.

The Council has a legal obligation to provide specifically marked oversized parking bays for disabled drivers within its car parks. Although the Blue Badge Scheme does not apply to off-street parking, the Council currently permits Blue Badge holders to park free on Pay & Display car parks for up to three hours once per day, provided that they park within the specifically marked bays. Blue Badge holders who park in fee paying bays must pay the standard parking fee; this is clearly displayed on all tariff boards. There is no obligation to provide these spaces free of charge, although the Council always has done so.

BS 8300:2009 recommends a 6% of the total car park capacity should be reserved for disabled parking. All of the Council's Pay & Display car parks meet or exceed these recommendations.

Parent/Child Parking and Oversized Bays:

It has become common practice for car parks to offer oversized parking spaces for parents with young children to allow for improved access.

The Council provides parent and child parking on two free car parks but none in its Pay & Display car parks.

Motorcycles:

The Council recognises that motorcycle users require sufficient parking facilities close to town centres. Because of the specific difficulty associated with displaying a Pay & Display ticket on a motorcycle, parking for motorcycles in the Council's car parks is free.

4.10 [Specialised Bays Recommendations](#)

It is recommended that there be no changes to the current status for Blue Badge holders or for free provision of motorcycle parking.

It is recommended that the demand for parent and child and oversized bays on pay and display car parks is investigated.

Report of:	Meeting	Date	Item No.
Marianne Hesketh, Service Director Performance and Innovation	Overview & Scrutiny Committee	21 May 2018	

Council Business Plan – 4th Quarter Performance Statement 2017/18
January – March 2018

Summary

The dashboard style report (attached) gives a quick reference to quarterly progress against the council’s business plan projects and measures, along with commentary where issues have been identified.

During the period from January to March 2018 (quarter four), good progress has been made. All of the Business Plan projects are progressing well and the Commercial Strategy project has been delivered. Many of the projects have been rolled forward onto the Business Plan for 2018/19. The Healthier Lifestyles Project and Healthier Fleetwood initiatives are progressing well and further information about these can be found in the “Comments and Issues – Projects” section of the attached report.

Of the performance measures reported, six show improvements against the comparative period, three are broadly unchanged and three have worsened. Of those which have worsened, “Number of affordable dwellings built” is significantly lower than the figure from the previous year and it can be seen in the “Comments and Issues – Measures” section of the attached report that planning permission for many affordable homes has been granted but these homes are yet to be built. The delivery of this measure is outside of the control of the Council.

The “% of e-contacts as a total of contacts” has also reduced from the previous year, but this is due to a change in the way the measure is reported rather than less people accessing our services online. Work is underway to explore better ways of capturing this data in the future. “Annual efficiency savings delivered” is also down on the previous year, although still ahead of the target set as it was anticipated that this year’s figure would not be as high as the previous year.

Full progress information on the business plan projects and measures can be accessed online via the hyperlinks embedded within the report by clicking on the relevant project or measure title. *(Please note these links do not work for the general public, however information will be made available on request).*

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Key: G A R B i O X

G = On schedule/target; **i** = no target set
A = Minor issues; **O** = No Information
R = Major issues **X** = Not Started
B = Complete/Ended

Direction is based on previous year performance

G Improving
A No significant change or comparable data unavailable
R Worsening

Projects	
We will improve economic growth, housing and employment through delivery of:	G
• A Local Plan	G
• Local Economic Development Strategy	G
Restore the Mount and its Gardens in Fleetwood	G
Rossall Sea Defence Scheme	G
Enterprise Zone at Hillhouse International Business Park at Thornton	G
Develop and deliver a commercial strategy	B
Develop the Wyre Flood Forum and support local flood action group	G
We will develop a programme of work to promote healthy choices and healthier lifestyles to keep people well through better use of our leisure centres, recreational facilities, parks and open spaces	G
Healthier Fleetwood initiative	G
Neighbourhood health initiatives for Garstang and Over Wyre	G
Better Care Fund to better support older people and people with disabilities to stay in their own homes	G
Wyre Early Action project	G
Together We Make a Difference Network	G
Asset Management Plan	G
Facilitate a staff development programme to support our vision and goals	G
#DigitalWyre, our digital strategy to facilitate digital transformation of services	G

PLEASE NOTE: The [hyperlinks](#) give further information on each of the projects and measures (this is available with council intranet access only). Further Information on the projects and measures is available for members of the public by request via mailroom@wyre.gov.uk or the Engagement Team: 01253 891000

Comments and Issues - Projects

Healthier Lifestyles Project – There has been lots of activity over quarter four. A few of the highlights include:

- Just Reminiscing – A Dementia Reminiscence Programme. The Council has obtained a stock of artefacts and replicas to develop reminiscence activities across the Borough. The project will work with residents with dementia and their carers but will also engage with other older residents who may be isolated and lonely.
- The new Trysport programme brochure has now been launched and will be distributed to all schools. TrySport is a programme sponsored and promoted by Wyre Council, and is delivered by Fleetwood Town Community Trust and Fylde Coast YMCA.
- ‘Harmony and Health’ free singing sessions at Marine Hall continue to go from strength to strength with over 70 local people attending the weekly Tuesday afternoons on a regular basis. Since February the sessions have also been taking place at Thornton Little Theatre on Tuesday mornings. The feedback from these groups has been tremendous with several regular attenders reporting dramatic improvements to their physical health and emotional well-being.

Healthier Fleetwood Initiative – Council staff have been involved in a recent “Tea and Talk” event held at the Marine Hall. Over 25 partner organisations were involved in this event. The event was well attended and was a great way of engaging with the community on the health work underway in Fleetwood. There were 592 volunteer hours given over the quarter by 34 active volunteers in Fleetwood.

Restore the Mount and its Gardens in Fleetwood – The proposals were agreed and the grant application submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund on 1st March 2018, following the completion of the consultation. Plans for the restoration work have been agreed and a planning application submitted. A visit from the Heritage Lottery Fund is due on 1 May.

#DigitalWyre – A review of our IT service provision was completed by SOCITM consultancy in January 2018. The resulting action plan to address the recommendations is well underway. The Go Cardless system is now in place so customers can sign up for Green Waste subscriptions using direct debit payments. The digital hub at Fleetwood Market was formally launched on 9th February. It assists members of the public improve their digital skills.

Staff Development Programme - The General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), which supersedes the Data Protection regulations comes into force on 25 May 2018. A role out of information to make staff aware of these changes has taken place over the last few months. Training has been arranged for all staff (as data processors).

Measures	Actual	Target	Comparator year/period	Direction
Number of additional houses built (net cumulative)	436	479	453	A
Number of affordable dwellings built <small>**see comments and issues below</small>	36**	100	103	R
Number of businesses supported	427	410	409	G
Number of paid up businesses registered with Wyred Up	71	69	69	G
Out of work benefit claimant count (figures for March 2018)	1,090	No target set	1,130	G
Town centre vacancy rates (bi-annual measure)	7.22%	No target set	8.5%	G
Excess weight in adults (obesity and overweight measure)	65% (13/15)	No targets set	65.2% (12/14)	A
Excess weight –child 10-11 years (obesity and overweight measure) ANNUAL	29.1% (16/17)	No targets set	31.1% (15/16)	G
% clients enabled to remain living in their own home (Care & Repair) *estimated figure	98.5%*	95%	98.5%	A
Number of leisure centre customers visits (cumulative)	867,579	No target set	813,512	G
% of e-contacts as a % of total contacts	36.32%	40%	42.92%	R
Annual Efficiency Savings Delivered	£240,106	£197,798	£350,159	R

Comments and Issues – Measures

Number of affordable dwellings built (cumulative) – Three affordable dwellings were completed in quarter four, all on land east of Carr Lane, Hambleton, delivered as part of a larger market housing development. More affordable housing is expected to be delivered in the future. During September 2017 it was calculated that planning permission exists for 870 affordable dwellings, the majority of which will be delivered as part of larger market housing schemes and a further 640 dwellings are expected to be delivered on sites allocated for residential development in the Draft Wyre Local Plan. The Council has no control over the number of affordable homes actually built, only planning permission granted for such developments.

% of e-contacts as a % of total contacts – Performance is lower than predicated but this is related to a change to the system reports rather than less people using our e-contact channels. Work is underway to explore a better way to capture this data in the future.

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**Engaging with Children
and Young People
Task Group**

Draft Report

Chairman:

Councillor Andrea Kay

Task Group Members:

Councillor Lady Atkins
Councillor Peter Cartridge
Councillor Emma Ellison
Councillor Terry Lees
Councillor Phil Orme
Councillor Julie Robinson
Councillor Val Wilson
Jess Basquill (Co-opted member)
Shelley Birch (Co-opted member)
Nathan Halford (Co-opted member)

**Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Chairman: Councillor John Ibison**

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Introduction

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers quarterly performance reports about the delivery of the council's Business Plan. It had been noted by the committee that issues relevant to children and young people (hereafter referred to simply as 'young people') were not explicitly included in the Council's Business Plan,

A similar point had previously been made in the Local Government Association's Corporate Peer Challenge feedback report (the Peer Challenge having taken place in Wyre on 14-16 March 2017).

Paragraph 19, page 10, of the report refers specifically to children and young people:

“Consideration could also be given to identifying SMART objectives linked specifically to children and young people as part of the next business plan refresh. The current plan is skewed towards older people and adults given the understandable challenges faced by the borough with an ageing population. At the same time there are key health and wellbeing challenges for younger people, particularly alcohol-specific hospital admissions of under 18s; the council's community safety, parks, licensing and engagement teams will play an important role in tackling this issue.”

While Wyre Council is not a primary provider of services for young people, a role undertaken by Lancashire County Council, the committee took the view that the needs of young people should be more influential in decision-making and steps should be taken to ensure that the voice of young people is heard more loudly.

As a consequence, the committee commissioned a scrutiny review to make recommendations about how the council might engage more effectively with young people.

Aims of review

The aims of the review, as specified in the scoping document (see Appendix 1), were as follows:

- To review the engagement that currently takes place with children and young people
- To review and understand the barriers to effective engagement with children and young people
- To identify areas where the Council can work collaboratively with partners and the community to improve engagement with children and young people in Wyre
- To make recommendations for improvement to the Cabinet

The review process

The task group has interviewed a range of people who are in an informed position to advise about effective engagement with young people. This has included officers from Wyre Council and Lancashire County Council (LCC), LCC's Cabinet member for Children, Young People and Schools, Youth Mayors and representatives from other local organisations that focus on the needs of young people.

The task group took a very early decision to invite the following to attend and contribute to all task group meetings as co-opted members:

Wyre Council's Partnerships Coordinator
The Youth Mayor of Wyre
The Young Mayor of Garstang

The task group was made aware of a report, '*Local Development and Infrastructure*', prepared by Garstang Youth Council in October 2017.

The task group maintained a focus on "engagement with young people" throughout the review, despite the perhaps understandable temptation to question the provision of services for young people in Wyre, which was not within the group's remit.

Summary of evidence provided by Rosie Green (Policy and Performance Manager) and Shelley Birch (Partnerships Coordinator)

Rosie Green, Policy and Engagement Manager, referred to the Local Government Association's publication, *Partnership Approaches to Improving Health Outcomes for Young People*. She also reminded councillors that, at a recent briefing for members, there was evidence that many different methods of engagement with young people were already being used in the borough although, in Ms Green's opinion, it was something that Wyre Council could develop further.

The Local Government Association's corporate peer challenge (see page 3) identified that there was scope to better reflect young people's issues in the council's Business Plan.

The current Youth Mayor, Jess Basquill, has developed a version of the Life in Wyre resident survey for young people, which is likely to be used by the council in the near future.

Shelley Birch, Partnerships Coordinator, has been asked by Fleetwood Town Council to carry out a Youth Aspiration project which, if successful, could be rolled out across the borough.

In response to a comment about not unreasonably raising the expectations of young people which could not be delivered, Ms Green said that an asset-based approach would be taken, with the intention of working with young people to help make things happen – there would be no gifts. This reflects the reality that not all young people want the same things anyway.

Engaging with young people should be an integral part of the role of a councillor. Youth Councils and Youth Forums have potential if they are properly supported. A Youth Conference and the reintroduction of Young People's Question Time would be other options to consider.

Summary of evidence provided by Jess Basquill (Youth Mayor of Wyre) and Nathan Halford (Young Mayor of Garstang)

Jess Basquill expressed some concern that Lancashire County Council (LCC) appeared to be reducing their provision for young people and were considering terminating their support for the Youth Council.

Nathan Halford said that Garstang needed more consultation about the provision of recreational facilities for young people.

Jess Basquill has devised an equivalent Life in Wyre resident survey specifically for young people, which is entitled 'Your Life Your Survey'. It is hoped that the survey will be available online in early 2018.

The task group expressed their concern about the possible demise of the Youth Council.

Both Jess Basquill and Nathan Halford made it very clear that the various social media were the primary vehicles for effective engagement with young people. Age is relevant to the platform used, statistics showing that young people have a clear preference for Instagram and Snapchat. There would be significant benefits if the council were to develop a website page specifically for young people. This could be considered as a possible recommendation for the task group.

Summary of evidence provided by County Councillor Susie Charles (Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools) and Brendan Lee (Head of Service Special Educational Needs and Disability), Lancashire County Council

Lancashire County Council (LCC) has a number of different engagement strategies, some of which relate to the provision of services and some which do not.

It is important to be mindful of the reason for engagement. LCC tends to engage with particular cohorts of young people for a specific purpose, e.g. children in foster care. There is a myriad of different engagement initiatives and events run by LCC.

There are quarterly meetings between the Cabinet and the Youth Council, the latter setting the agenda. The Youth Council is invited to the Cabinet's budget meeting to present their own budget for the coming year.

During 2017 a group of young people made a video about their views and perceptions of social workers which would be used for social worker training in the future.

Mr Lee and CC Charles responded to a number of other questions from task group members about the youth service, wellbeing services, exclusions from school, apprenticeships and the future of the Youth Council.

Although LCC engages with many cohorts of young people very readily, there remain many young people who are not identified as part of a cohort who are much harder to reach. This is the real challenge of effective engagement.

Integrating young people more in the life and activity of local communities remains an objective for LCC. Within this context Mr Lee confirmed that LCC would be willing to allocate some staff time to the development of a library-based community hub.

Summary of evidence provided by Liesl Hadgraft, Head of Business Support

Wyre Council is engaged in the provision of employment opportunities for young people in several different ways.

Work experience is offered, unpaid, usually for a period of two weeks. It is facilitated via the Lancashire Education Business Partnership, who approach the council for work experience placements on behalf of local schools (including Rossall, Millfield and St Aidens, as examples). Individuals will have expressed an interest in a particular area of work – IT and office work are popular choices – and can then be offered a two-week placement to gain some introductory experience of working in an office-based environment.

Links have been established with Blackpool and Fylde College. The council has previously been involved in a mentoring programme and for the past three years has provided Internships to students for a four-week period during the summer holidays. The council identifies the areas of work, for which students will have to apply and go through a full recruitment process, including an interview, in order to gain experience. Internships are paid, funded by the council. In all cases work is specifically identified for the Interns so that it provides value both to the young person and to the council.

A volunteering programme has recently been set up within which the council works with students from Blackpool and Fylde College. The grounds maintenance team has also worked with the Prince's Trust to provide placements.

The experience gained by a young person coming to work at Wyre is inevitably very limited. They usually only get experience of one work area. The placement also needs to be of value to the council so a broader or more flexible placement primarily for the benefit of the young person cannot be provided.

Looking to the future, a more extensive audience of young people could be involved by councillors going out to schools and generating a discussion about the role and responsibilities of the council and what it does. PSHE lessons could also be encouraged to incorporate aspects of public service, rather than waiting for young people to express an interest in something that they know relatively little about. Young people who have worked at the council on placement might be invited to accompany councillors on visits to schools to deliver the message jointly, in order to make it easier for young people to receive and understand. Young people generally prefer to receive information and advice from other young people.

The council needs to consider three key questions:

- (i) How is the council informed about the views of young people?
- (ii) How can these views impact on what the council does?
- (iii) How can young people be better informed about and involved in the democratic processes of local government?

Summary of evidence provided by Debbie Nolan Plunkett (Children's Services Manager) Barnardo's

Barnardo's engages with young people in a variety of different ways. From the organisation's considerable experience of engagement, the following points were made:

- Young people often have very similar views to adults, perhaps surprisingly;
- Young people view subjects such as the environment, flooding and poverty as priorities;
- A section of the council's website that is specifically dedicated to young people would be beneficial;
- Engagement using social media should be maximised;
- Options for involving young people at Full Council meetings should be explored;
- Consideration should be given to setting up a Youth Council for Wyre;
- A Youth Council should have direct links to Full Council;
- Engagement with young people often focused on secondary school students; there is scope to improve links with primary schools, which they would welcome;
- Information provided to schools about democracy should be reviewed and developed

Summary of evidence provided by Nina Beavers (Operations Manager) and Chris Smith (Youth Worker) UR Potential

A Youth Volunteering Project for 10 – 25 year olds has been run by UR Potential for three years, which has recently been extended by a further three years following a successful bid for Lottery funding. 60% of young people referred to the project have additional needs, many of which are linked to mental health.

UR Potential coordinate the Blackpool Youth Council, which has been very successful.

The 'Getting Wyred into Health' consultation (October 2017), which was commissioned by Wyre Council, sought to identify the issues and challenges that young people face in relation to their health and wellbeing. It was coordinated through schools and youth groups and attracted responses from 2,454 young people. The top nine issues/challenges identified, in order, were:

1. Improving mental health and relieving stress (727 votes)
2. Eradicating bullying and exploring internet safety (372)
3. Stop smoking (333)
4. Good sexual health education (251)
5. Physical health and weight management (246)
6. Other (ranging from eating disorders to accidental injury (245)
7. Substance misuse (186)
8. Reducing drinking (51)
9. Oral health (43)

The following recommendations were made:

- i. Improve communication between services and young people
- ii. Improve access to information
- iii. Make information about services easier to find on the internet
- iv. Make clearer what services there already are
- v. Develop more peer to peer schemes
- vi. Provide more opportunities for young people to listen to each other rather than to adults
- vii. Give young people ownership of projects
- viii. Involve young people in the training of staff

Specific recommendations were made for the top three issues identified (mental health, bullying and stopping smoking):

Three additional points, specific to local authorities, were made:

- 1 Councils typically do not respond to issues quickly enough; they need to be more agile/nimble
- 2 Young people need to be involved in discussing and deciding what needs to change
- 3 It is important to ensure that all council services are accessible to people with mental health issues

Conclusions

- 1) Although the council does its best to engage effectively with young people there is clearly room for further development, as highlighted by the LGA's Corporate Peer Review report (2017).
- 2) There are a number of different ways in which the voice of young people could be heard including, a Youth Council, Youth Forums, Young People's Question Time and a Youth Conference.
- 3) It would be desirable to involve young people directly in meetings of the Full Council.
- 4) There is scope for the council to work more closely with other organisations to improve the way in which the council engages with young people.
- 5) The use of social media is the primary way in which effective engagement with young people can be facilitated.
- 6) The council's website does not attract young people to look at it and has no dedicated page(s) for young people.
- 7) Young people generally prefer to receive information and advice from other young people rather than from adults.
- 8) There is scope for councillors to further develop their relationships with schools, including primary schools.

Recommendations

The task group values the role played by the Youth Council, currently supported and coordinated by Lancashire County Council (LCC), and is concerned that, with continuing pressure on council budgets, the current arrangement might not be sustained. In the event of the withdrawal of funding for the Youth Council, the task group would like an alternative to be put in place which would ensure that the voice and involvement of young people in Wyre is continued.

RECOMMENDATION ONE

That, in the case of the demise of the current LCC Youth Council, options be explored in relation to the setting up of a Wyre Youth Council. All High Schools in Wyre should be invited to take part and arrangements should be made to ensure the inclusion of the members of the current Youth Council.

RECOMMENDATION TWO

That options, including digital options, be explored by any future Wyre Youth Council, for other mechanisms by which Wyre Council can engage directly with children and young people (e.g. Youth Forums, Young People's Question Time, Youth Conference).

RECOMMENDATION THREE

That the Council continues to develop closer working relationships with other organisations to facilitate the Council's engagement with young people.

RECOMMENDATION FOUR

That a section dedicated to children and young people be set up on the Council's website.

Task Group Members' attendances

There were five meetings of the task group.

Name	Meetings attended (maximum 5)
Councillor Lady Atkins	2
Councillor Cartridge	1
Councillor Ellison	2
Councillor Kay	5
Councillor Lees	2
Councillor Orme	5
Councillor Robinson	3
Councillor Wilson	3
Jess Basquill (co-opted)	3
Shelley Birch (co-opted)	5
Nathan Halford (co-opted)	2

List of Appendices

Appendix 1 Engaging with Children and Young People Task Group –
Scoping Document – FINAL

DRAFT

Task Group – Engaging with children and young people

Scoping Document - FINAL

Review Topic	Engaging more effectively with children and young people in Wyre	
Chairman	Councillor Andrea Kay	
Group Membership	Councillors Lady Atkins, Emma Ellison, Kerry Jones, Terry Lees (Vice Chairman), Lesley McKay, Phil Orme, Julie Robinson and Val Wilson	
Officer Support	Peter Foulsham, Scrutiny Officer	
Purpose of the Review	To identify the ways in which the council can engage more effectively with children and young people in the future	
Role of Overview and Scrutiny in this Review (mark all that apply)	Holding Executive to account – decisions <input type="checkbox"/> Existing budget and policy framework <input type="checkbox"/> Contribution to policy development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Holding Executive to account – performance <input type="checkbox"/> Community champion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statutory duties / compliance with codes of practice <input type="checkbox"/>	
Aims of Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To review the engagement that currently takes place with children and young people ○ To review and understand the barriers to effective engagement with children and young people ○ To identify areas where the Council can work collaboratively with partners and the community to improve engagement with children and young people in Wyre ○ To make recommendations for improvement to the Cabinet 	
Methodology	Consideration of documents, reports and performance statistics Interviewing witnesses at task group meetings Reviewing and comparing the methods for engagement with children and young people used by other local authorities	

Scope of Review	The review is limited to consideration of how the council might make its engagement with children and young people more effective.
Potential Witnesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Health and Engagement Portfolio Holder ○ Lead Member for Children and Young People ○ Service Director Health and Wellbeing ○ Service Director Performance and Innovation ○ Partnerships and Engagement Officer ○ Youth Mayor – Wyre Council ○ Fylde Coast YMCA ○ Locality Manager Wellbeing Prevention and Early Help, LCC ○ Locality Manager LCC Children’s Services ○ Commissioning Managers, NHS Fylde and Wyre CCG ○ Public Health, LCC ○ Regenda Housing Group
Documents to be considered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Wyre Council Business Plan (2017 Update) ○ Lancashire Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Transformation Plan ○ Lancashire Children and Young People Plan 2014-2017 ○ Wyre Health Profile ○ Lancashire (Wyre) Joint Strategic Needs Assessment ○ LGA Peer Challenge Report (2017)
Risks	
Level of Publicity	Low
Indicators of a Successful Review	The implementation and delivery of appropriate, new and collaborative children’s and young people’s activity on the Business Plan
Intended Outcomes	Better outcomes for children and young people in Wyre (as reflected in statistics for, amongst other indicators, health and wellbeing, infant mortality, obesity, mental health, abuse, self-harm, education and employment).
Approximate Timeframe	3 months
Projected Start Date	October 2017

Revised 3 April 2018



Report of:	Meeting	Date	Item No.
Marianne Hesketh, Service Director Performance and Innovation	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	21 May 2018	10

Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2018/19 – update report

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 That a task group reviewing responses to the recent consultation on My Home Choice Fylde Coast be set up.
- 1.2 That the report be noted.

2. Current and completed work

2.1 Engaging with Young People task group

The task group has completed its review and the report will be considered under a separate item on the current agenda. Subject to the views of the Committee, the report and recommendations will be considered by the Cabinet on 13 June 2018.

2.2 Flooding task group

This task group has met twice to date. The Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety Portfolio Holder and senior officers have provided information about the current role of elected members in flooding events. It is anticipated that contributions from residents representing Flood Action Groups will be invited at the next stage of the review.

3. Future task group work

- 3.1 On 16 April 2018 the committee agreed that a short task group be established to review the implications of and options arising from the recent My Home Choice Fylde Coast public consultation. A draft scoping document is attached at Appendix 1.
- 3.2 On 16 April 2018 the Committee also requested future scrutiny

involvement in the implementation of phase 2 of the Modern.gov meetings management system (minute 68). It is currently envisaged that some, although possibly not all Members of the Committee, will be asked to trial the use of tablet devices to access reports at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 10 September 2018. Their initial experiences and comments will be considered by the Committee and will inform the implementation process for paperless meetings across the Council. Scrutiny members will also be given the opportunity, either in a short task group or at the Committee meeting in June or July, to comment on options for the funding of tablet devices for all Councillors, including the implications for Councillors if the Independent Remuneration Panel recommends that the current IT Allowance of £186 per annum paid to each Councillor is withdrawn when tablet devices are provided to them in 2019/20.

- 3.3** Further proposals for committee agenda items or for task group review topics are invited from councillors at any time. The current Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2018/19 is attached as Appendix 2.

Report Author	Telephone No.	Email	Date
Peter Foulsham, Scrutiny Officer	01253 887606	peter.foulsham@wyre.gov.uk	10 May 2018

APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 My Home Choice Fylde Coast – task group - draft scoping document
 Appendix 2 Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2018/19

'My Homes Choice' Task Group – Draft Scoping Document

Review Topic	Arrangements for the allocation and letting of social housing via My Home Choice Fylde Coast
Chairman	To be confirmed
Group Membership	To be confirmed
Officer Support	Peter Foulsham, Scrutiny Officer
<u>Purpose of the Review</u>	To review proposed changes to the arrangements for the allocation and letting of social housing in Wyre via My Home Choice Fylde Coast
<u>Role of Overview and Scrutiny in this Review (mark all that apply)</u>	Holding Executive to account – decisions <input type="checkbox"/> Existing budget and policy framework <input type="checkbox"/> Contribution to policy development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Holding Executive to account – performance <input type="checkbox"/> Community champion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statutory duties / compliance with codes of practice <input type="checkbox"/>
Aims of Review	To make a difference to the way in which social housing is allocated To review the current policy for My Home Choice Fylde Coast and the reason for change To make the process of applying for social housing easier and fairer. To review the public consultation responses To evaluate the options for improving the system and policy
Methodology	Consideration of documents Interviewing witnesses
Scope of Review	The review is limited to the My Home Choice Fylde Coast public consultation and the proposed changes to the Consistent Assessment Policy.

Potential Witnesses	Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety Portfolio Holder Service Director Health & Wellbeing Private Sector Housing & Housing Options Manager Housing Options Team Leader Regenda Housing Group
Documents to be considered	My Home Choice Fylde Coast Consistent Assessment Policy Summary of Public Consultation Responses, January 2018
Risks	
Level of Publicity	Low
Indicators of a Successful Review	The completion of a review of the findings of the public consultation exercise and the production of recommendations regarding the proposed changes to the My Home Choice Fylde Coast Consistent Assessment Policy.
Intended Outcomes	Simplifying the process to register and bid for properties on My Home Choice Fylde Coast Encouraging and enabling more people to apply for social housing
Approximate Timeframe	2 months
Projected Start Date	June 2018

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19

Committee Meetings

(All meetings are held on Mondays starting at 6pm)

Date	Planned Committee agenda items
2018	
21 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Election of Chairman ii. Election of Vice Chairman iii. Draft report of the Engaging with Children and Young People task group iv. Business Plan – Quarterly Performance Statement v. Environmental crime vi. Car parking consultation report vii. O&S Work Programme 2018/19 - update
25 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Review of task group recommendations – Food hygiene ii. Review of task group recommendations – Domestic abuse iii. Modern.gov implementation, Phase 2 iv. O&S Work Programme 2018/19 - update
30 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. O&S Work Programme 2018/19 - update
10 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Business Plan – Quarterly Performance Statement ii. Outcomes from LGA Peer Review – review of actions taken iii. O&S Work Programme 2018/19 - update
22 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. O&S Work Programme 2018/19 - update
26 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. Business Plan – Quarterly Performance Statement iii. O&S Work Programme 2018/19 – update iv. Fees and charges v. Cost profiles – benchmarking results vi. Treasury management
2019	
7 January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Business Plan 2019/20 – Leader and Chief Executive ii. O&S Work Programme 2018/19 - update

Date	Planned Committee agenda items
11 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Business Plan – Quarterly Performance Statement ii. O&S Work Programme 2018/19 - update
18 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Wyre Community Safety Partnership – annual scrutiny review ii. O&S Work Programme 2018/19 - update
29 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. O&S Work Programme 2018/19 - update

Scrutiny task group reviews

Date	Format	Topic
October 2017 to May 2018	Task group - ongoing	Engaging with children and young people
Started 25 April 2018	Task group	Flooding – the role of councillors.
To start June/July 2018	Possible task group	Environmental crime – enforcement and members’ role
To start June/July 2018	Scoping document for consideration by the O&SC on 21 May	‘My Home Choice’ consultation
		Digital transformation – options for funding Modern.gov (phase 2)
		Maximising the return from our assets
		Car parking consultation
		Support a sustainable future for the fish processing industry
		Better Care Fund

Updated 8 May 2018