

SUBJECT:	LTP GRASS VERGE SURVEY PROPOSAL
DIRECTORATE:	HOUSING AND INVESTMENT
REPORT AUTHOR:	MICK BARBER AND CAROLINE COYLE-FOX, LINCOLN TENANTS PANEL

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To present an initial proposal for a pilot survey to be carried out on grass verge parking on the Hartsholme Estate in Lincoln.

2. Background

- 2.1 All estates in Lincoln suffer from a lack of parking space available for cars, this causes a number of issues including blocked roads, junctions and parking on grass verges. It is this last point that LTP has received feedback from residents, who are concerned about the damage being done to the grass verges. Elected members have also had these concerns raised to them by residents and the issue was raised at Policy Scrutiny Committee.

- 2.2 The damage done to the grass verges can cause an area to look unsightly and lots of mud to form on the side of the road, particularly in the winter.

- 2.3 There are a number of different solutions to address the problem and these are:

- Installing barriers to stop cars being parked on grass verge
- Constructing parking bays
- Planting trees, bushes and wildflower meadows to act as a barrier
- Requesting County Council Highways install signage and road markings in specific hotspots, this could include double yellow lines close to junctions and one side of the road
- Setting up a residents parking scheme for the area. This would involve going through a consultation with residents and if a majority are in favour passes could be issued for residents. This would allow certain areas to be designated as no parking
- The final option is to look at working with stakeholders such as the local police and county council to increase the level of enforcement.

Before any solutions are decided on an equality and diversity impact assessment will be carried out as part of the options appraisal.

2.4 LTP would like to look into the matter further to gain a better understanding as to the scale of the problem and capture residents' views on possible solutions by conducting a survey on Hartsholme. This will be a pilot area and that can possibly be extended into other areas of the city if this is deemed a success.

3. What will the Survey Aim to Answer?

3.1 The survey will aim to answer the following questions:

- 1) What is the scale of parking on grass verges?
- 2) Do residents view tackling grass verge parking as a priority?
- 3) Is there a consensus among residents for one of the options described in 2.3?

4. Methodology and Target Audience

4.1 The consultation will be led by Lincoln Tenants Panel and will be carried out using three main methods:

- Online survey advertised through Facebook but conducted through the City of Lincoln Council's website
- Postal surveys sent out if a low response rate is received from the online surveys
- Zoom calls with residents conducted by LTP as part of a public meeting

The target audience for the consultation will be residents of the Hartsholme estate. However, LTP will also speak to other local stakeholders such as the local school and the police.

5. Next Steps

5.1 The next steps will be to conduct the survey in the Hartsholme area. The results will be reported back to Policy Scrutiny Committee once collated and analysed.

5.2 This is a pilot area for the surveys and if deemed successful consideration will be given to carry out the surveys in other areas.

6. Data Protection

6.1 The survey will be conducted through the council's website and the resident involvement team will process and store the results in line with DPA policies. The Lincoln Tenants' Panel will receive an anonymised set of results. Tenants will be made aware that results will be shared with the tenants' panel and asked to give affirmative confirmation. If the Zoom calls go ahead this will be as part of a public residents meeting and procedures will be put in place to ensure compliance with DPA.

7. Recommendation

7.1 That the Committee agree the approach proposed by the LTP and:-

- The area of the city in the initial survey
- The methodology of the survey

Is this a key decision? No

Do the exempt information categories apply? No

Does Rule 15 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules (call-in and urgency) apply? No

How many appendices does the report contain? No

List of Background Papers: None