

Public Questions

From: Darren Saunders – Resident

- 1) Where there is known over - subscribed parking in immediate area, restricted parking and severe congestion problems on surrounding arterial A roads, under what circumstances would a parking survey be expected to be undertaken?*

A highway officer has discretion over when and where to ask for parking surveys. The Highway Officer being aware of the locality and environment can conclude that the proposal meets policy (therefore there no need for additional information) along with current practice (which indicates that an application of this size does not warrant the requirement for a parking survey) will mean that a survey is not pursued. Any application is assessed and examined several times sometimes not just by the Highway Officer but their senior officer utilising their good local knowledge of the situation, site and wider environment, such knowledge then informing the decision.

- 2) Where an area is subject to severe parking / congestion, does a Heritage issue override all other identified issues even if it will significantly increase the existing problems?*

The Council seeks to ensure that heritage assets have viable uses that can ensure that they remain in good repair as such the heritage aspect can be seen to add weight to the decision-making process. There are often other reasons in the Highway Authority's statement which outline why a reduction in standards is acceptable; the Heritage input is just one of those. It is with the individual planning /highway officer to use their expertise and knowledge of the area to assess the possible (or not) impact on the surrounding area balanced against ensuring a heritage asset is not lost.