

Appendix C

Results of the Citizens panel questionnaire

368 people specifically responded to the maintenance of parks and open spaces questions, asking if they agreed or disagreed with the following proposed changes:

- Continue to give the same priority to cemeteries, memorials, park frontages and gateway and town centre sites.
- More use of shrubs and perennials instead of bedding plants.
- Vary the amount of maintenance in each park, with the changes to be agreed in consultation with local parks groups.
- Consider options for self-management for council maintained land, in consultation with local groups who use them.
- Remove some areas from the grass cutting schedule to support wildflowers and insects.
- Reduce the area cut on verges to 1-2m strips; and
- Reduce the number of formal flower displays.

62% agreed or strongly agreed with the recommended changes. Those most likely to agree were aged 50+.

20.5 % of respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed with the proposals. This level of disagreement is higher for those aged 60+ (24%)

16.1% neither agreed nor disagreed and the remaining 1.4% did not know.

27% felt that the parks and open spaces proposals would have a significant or moderate impact on them or their family. This is higher for those aged 40-49 (37%), those aged 60+ (33%) and those with a disability (33%).