



**SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL**

STAMFORD CAR PARKS PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER CONSULTATION REPORT



**JUNE
2026**

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Renewal of Public Spaces Protection Order

Stamford Car Parks

JUNE 2026

Introduction

1. The Council has been asked to consider a proposal to amend and renew a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) which currently covers council-run car parks in Stamford. It includes the Station Road Car Park (also known as the Cattle Market Car Park), The Meadows Car Park and Bath Row Car Park and has been in place since October 2023. The purpose of the PSPO is to give the Council powers to deal with vehicle related nuisance and anti-social behaviour.
2. Guidelines set out in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act stipulate that Public Spaces Protection Orders can last up to three years and that consultation must be undertaken prior to approval.
3. The purpose of this report is to update members of South Kesteven District Council's joint meeting of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Rural and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with the results of the consultation undertaken to fulfil this requirement.

Purpose of consultation

4. The purpose of the consultation was to inform a decision which is due to be taken by SKDC before the current Public Spaces Protection Order expires.

Scope of consultation

5. The scope of the consultation was determined prior to the process commencing. It had to:
 - Allow for the renewal of the existing order in its current form with a slight variation. This is due to boundary changes, as one of the car parks in Stamford - the Cattle Market Car Park - has been extended.
 - Ensure that the views of those who may be affected by the proposed restrictions are reflected in the responses, as well as those who would like to see the PSPO renewed

Objectives of consultation

6. The objectives of the consultation were to:
 - Demonstrate SKDC have met the requirements as set out in section 72 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime, Policing Act 2014 to carry out the necessary consultation, publicity, and notification before making, extending, varying or discharging a PSPO
 - Inform a decision that will be taken by the council in respect of the proposal to renew the PSPO currently in situ for vehicle related nuisance and anti-social behaviour (with a slight variation due to boundary changes) covering the following areas within Stamford: The Station Road Car Park (also known as the Cattle Market Car Park), The Meadows and Bath Row Car Park
 - Measure the degree of support or otherwise for the proposal
 - Understand and be aware of the impact taking this decision may have on specific stakeholders
 - Assess any potential impact of the PSPO on the community including demonstrating that council has had due regard to compliance with the Equality Act 2010

Timescales

7. The consultation was launched on 6th May for four weeks, closing on 3rd June 2026. The results were then analysed and a report prepared. This will be discussed at the joint meeting of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Rural and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 20th August and Cabinet on 8th September 2026.

Stakeholders

8. The stakeholders were identified as follows:
 - Any individual or body from those who live or work near the areas who wishes to make representation. Those who used any of the car parks in question were also invited to take part.
 - The Police; this included Stamford Neighbourhood Policing Team and the Lincolnshire Police and Crime Commissioner
 - Town, District and County Councillors who represent Stamford
 - Other community representatives. These include resident associations, local businesses, any commissioned service providers, charities and other relevant interest groups

Methodology

9. The table below identifies the methods thought to be the most appropriate for each of the different stakeholder types:

Stakeholders	Methods	Details
Members of the public – those who live or work near either the Cattlemarket, the Meadows or the Bath Row Car Parks in Stamford, or use them when visiting the town	Members of the public made aware of the consultation through the following channels: SKDC web site Posters Printed copies of the survey	Potential respondents referred to survey monkey to participate in the consultation. Webpage contained the information needed as part of the consultation including maps detailing the areas covered by the order – to include maps of the Station Road Car Park (also known as the Cattle Market Car Park), The Meadows and Bath Row Car Park in Stamford. Links to relevant pages of website included in the survey. Posters displayed at each of the car parks. These included a weblink to the survey, QR code and how to take part if no access to the internet. Posters displayed by the Neighbourhoods team. Printed copies of the survey made available at Stamford Arts Centre, 27 St Mary's Street, Stamford PE9 2DL
The Police – Lincolnshire Police and the Lincolnshire Police and Crime Commissioner	Neighbourhoods Team for Lincolnshire Police and the Police and Crime Commissioner contacted	SKDC 's Neighbourhoods Team contacted Stamford Neighbourhood Policing Team (Lincolnshire Police) and also the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire Police and Crime Commissioner Marc Jones mailto:lincolnshire-pcc@lincs.pnn.police.uk
Town, District and County Councillors representing Stamford	Contacted by email	Neighbourhoods Team contacted the following: Stamford Town Council: Clerk Mrs Sarah Dorson townclerk@stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk

		District Council Councillors: Cllr Habib Rahman habib.rahman@southkesteven.gov.uk Cllr Max Sawyer max.sawyer@southkesteven.gov.uk Cllr Gloria Johnson gloria.johnson@southkesteven.gov.uk Cllr Rhea Rayside rhea.rayside@southkesteven.gov.uk Cllr Richard Cleaver richard.cleaver@southkesteven.gov.uk Cllr Susan Sandall susan.sandall@southkesteven.gov.uk Cllr Harrish Bisnauthsing harrish.bisnauthsing@southkesteven.gov.uk Cllr Jane Kingman jane.kingman@southkesteven.gov.uk Lincolnshire County Council Councillors: Cllr Kelham Cooke cllrk.cooke@lincolnshire.gov.uk Cllr Richard Cleaver (see above)
Lincolnshire County Council		Neighbourhoods Team contacted LCC. This done by email: cschighways@lincolnshire.gov.uk
Those representing community groups/ other organisations	Email community groups with a link to the survey	The following community groups contacted by KC: Street Pastors stamford@streetpastors.org.uk

Details

10. The survey included the following sections:

- An introduction to the consultation, why their help is needed and how their feedback will be used to inform the decision(s) that will be taken in respect of renewing a PSPO for vehicle nuisance and ASB in car parks in Stamford.
- Details of the proposal including the draft Order and associated map of restricted areas. Map to make clear that the Cattle Market Car Park has been extended

- A question to identify the type of user (individual, community group or town/parish council)
- A question to establish the degree of support for the proposal to renew the PSPO in respect of vehicle nuisance and ASB which covers the Station Road Car Park (also known as the Cattle Market Car Park), The Meadows Car Park and Bath Row Car Park in Stamford
- Respondents to be made aware that the renewal of the PSPO will incorporate the extension to the Cattle Market Car Park
- A space for them to suggest any amendments to the existing PSPO
- A space for them to detail any negative impacts approving the renewal of the PSPO may have
- An option for them to ask questions or make further observations about the proposal
- An opportunity for them to supply their details so that they can be contacted in relation to their query
- A statement on how any personal data they supply will be treated
- A question to identify their gender, age, and postcode
- A thank you and closing date

11. The webpage included an introduction to the consultation, why their help was needed and how their feedback will be used to inform any decision that might be taken in respect of a decision to implement a Public Space Protection Order.

12. Because the consultation was focused on specific locations in Stamford, the opportunity to participate was promoted at a local level, rather than district wide. No press release was issued, and the survey was not promoted on the Council's social media channels. Efforts were made to engage with the local community – posters promoting the consultation were displayed in each of the car parks in Stamford and the councillors representing Stamford (town, district and county) were contacted directly by email.

The email included:

- An introduction to the consultation
- A link to the survey and the QR code
- What to do if they wanted a printed copy of the survey
- Next steps

The poster included:

- Information on the proposal
- How those seeing the poster could help

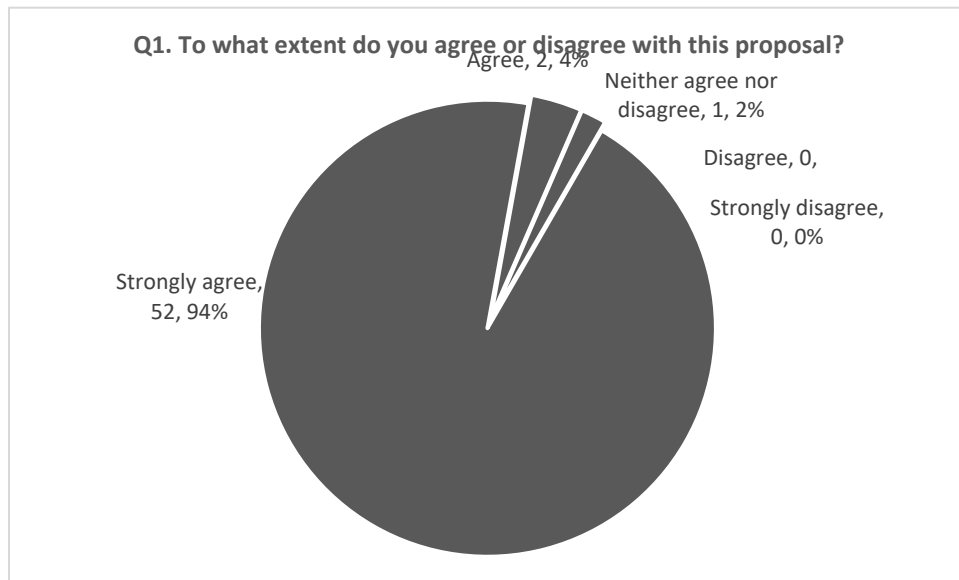
- Next steps

The results

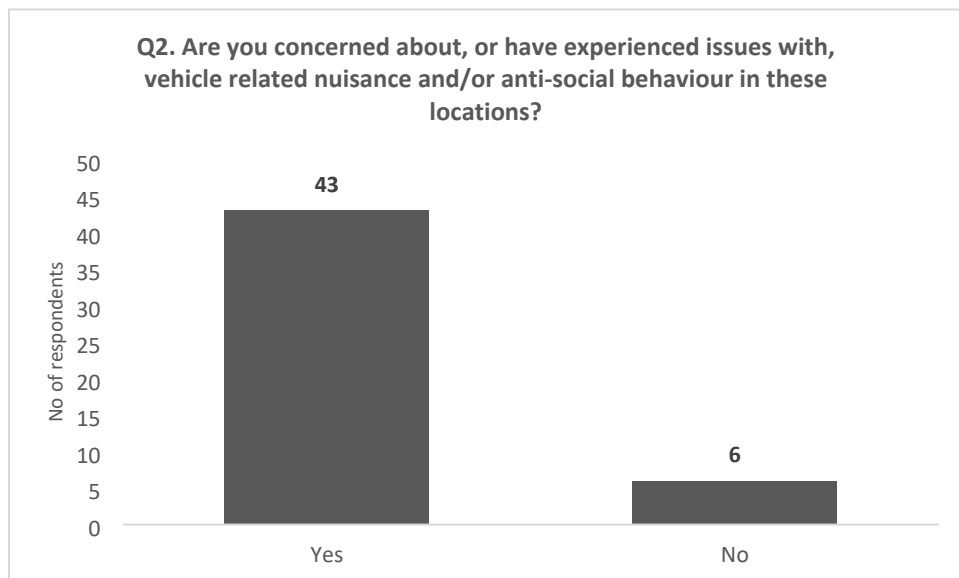
13. The introduction to the survey included some information on Public Spaces Protection Orders, set out in a question-and-answer format. Those taking part were told what public spaces protection orders are, what types of PSPO the Council currently has in place, and what they are for, which public spaces protection order this consultation is focused on, and why they are being asked about it. Respondents were also provided with a link to the PSPOs currently in place and maps of the areas they cover.
14. Respondents were informed that SKDC is proposing to renew the Vehicle Nuisance and Anti-Social Behaviour Public Spaces Protection Order, currently in place for car parks in Stamford, with a slight variation. This is because Stamford Cattle Market Car Park has been extended – with work to provide an additional 146 spaces completed in June last year. This means the boundary of the area which will be covered by the order, if it is renewed, has changed.
15. If approved, the purpose of the order will continue to be to prohibit vehicles being used to cause a nuisance and anti-social behaviour in Station Road Car Park (also known as the Cattle Market Car Park), The Meadows and Bath Row Car Park, Stamford. The activities to be controlled under the terms of the order, if renewed, will be:
 - Revving of engines as to cause a public nuisance
 - Sudden and/or rapid acceleration as to cause a public nuisance
 - Repeated sudden and/or rapid acceleration as to cause a public nuisance
 - Racing by two or more vehicles
 - Performing stunts as to cause a public nuisance
 - Sounding horns as to cause a public nuisance
 - Playing music from a vehicle as to cause a public nuisance

Under the terms of the order, individuals will also be required to stop

- Acting in a manner that causes or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress
16. When asked the extent to which they agreed or disagreed with this proposal, all respondents, except one, answered either “strongly agree” or “agree”. This is illustrated in the pie chart overleaf:



17. To collect more information on the extent of the issue, respondents were asked if they were concerned about, or had experienced issues with, vehicle related nuisance and/or anti-social behaviour in these locations. Nine out of ten (43 or 87.8%) said that they were either concerned about or had experienced issues, as illustrated here:



18. Respondents were prompted to give further details. Their comments could be grouped into one of four interrelated themes. These were:

- Dangerous or anti-social vehicle use
- Noise and loud music – disturbing sleep
- Drugs, alcohol and intimidation
- Public safety concerns

Quotes illustrating each of these themes are detailed below:

“Cattle Market Car Park is consistently being used as a racetrack. Cars regularly perform “doughnuts” etc....”

“On occasions, mostly in the evenings, car radios are played excessively loudly, cars are revved up unnecessarily and cars go too quickly - in Bath Row - and in the past there has been 'racing' in the station car park with all the noise that can create.”

“.....Drug dealing near Bath Row car park on private property...”

“Safety to the public is paramount”

19. The fourth question on the survey asked respondents “Do you think there are any other options the council could consider?” Given the support for the renewal of the existing Public Spaces Protection Order, it is perhaps not surprising that this question was interpreted by respondents as meaning in addition to or as well as, rather than as a substitute for, a PSPO. Their comments could be grouped into the following:

Policing, enforcement and penalties

“I welcome the extension of the PSPO but more active and visible policing in these areas at evening/nights would be even better”

Surveillance, CCTV and ANPR

“...ANPR cameras for all when arriving and departing....”

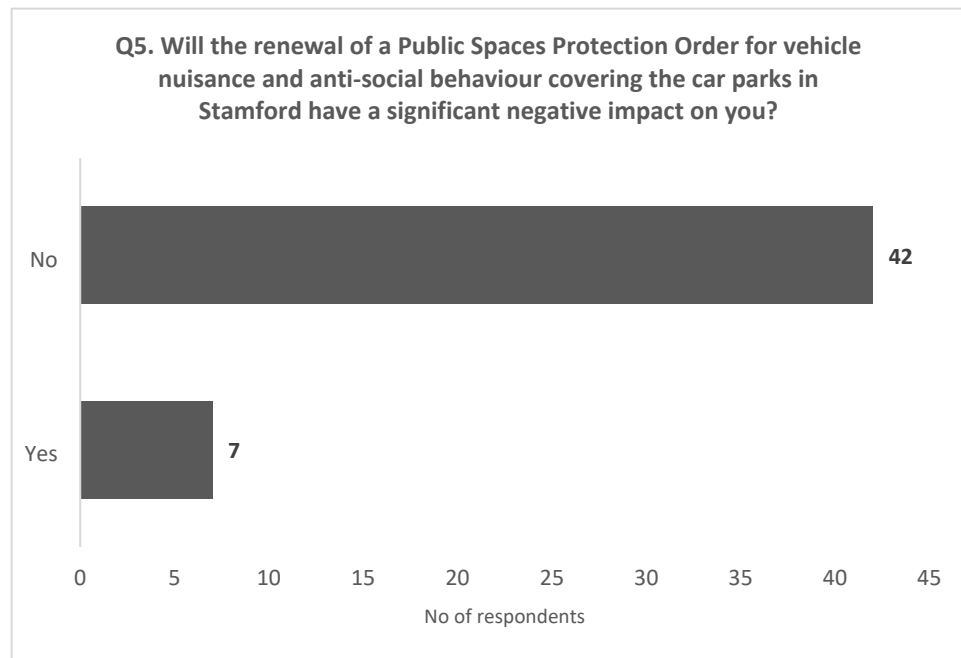
Restricting access and site design changes

“.... Sunken bollards that could be raised. Close off far car park after 21:00 hours....”

Traffic Calming and speed reduction

“I believe that speed bumps installed on the main approach road would also assist with slowing vehicles as they enter and exit the car park.”

20. When asked if the renewal of a Public Spaces Protection Order for vehicle nuisance and anti-social behaviour covering Station Road Car Park (also known as the Cattle Market Car Park), The Meadows and Bath Row Car Park, Stamford would have a significant negative impact on them, most respondents (42 or 85.7%) said that it wouldn't. This is illustrated on the graph below:

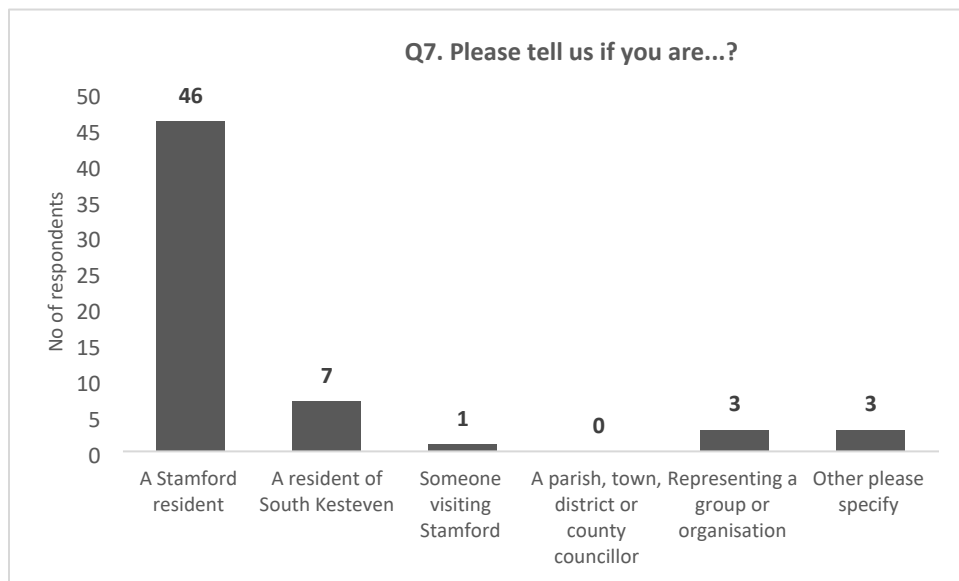


21. Those answering yes were then given the opportunity to explain why they had chosen to answer in this way. An analysis of their responses revealed that they did so because they wanted the opportunity to state why the Public Spaces Protection Order currently in place should be renewed, not to state a case for why it shouldn't. Their reasons included sleep deprivation, noise levels and anti-social drinking, as illustrated in the quotes below:

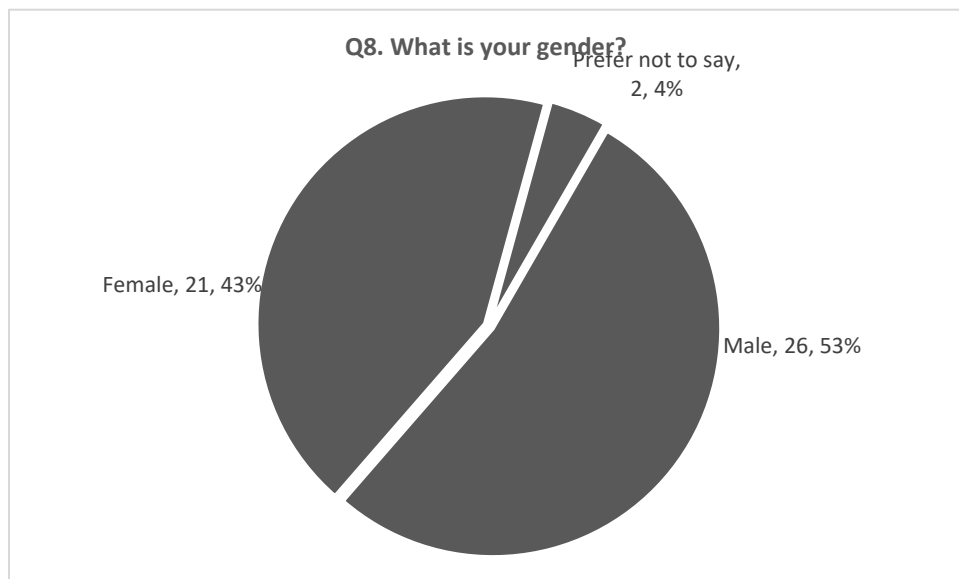
“Noise, sleep deprivation”

“Very noisy also empty bottles of vodka dumped around”

22. When asked if they lived in Stamford, represented the area or were visiting, most of those taking part in the survey were local. 46 out of 50 responses received (92.0%) were from Stamford residents. One response was received from a visitor (2.0%) and three from individuals representing groups or organisations (6.0%). Also describing themselves as “other”, responses were received from Stamford’s Neighbourhood Policing Team, a landlord from a local pub and the Stamford Street Pastors. The distribution of responses is illustrated overleaf:



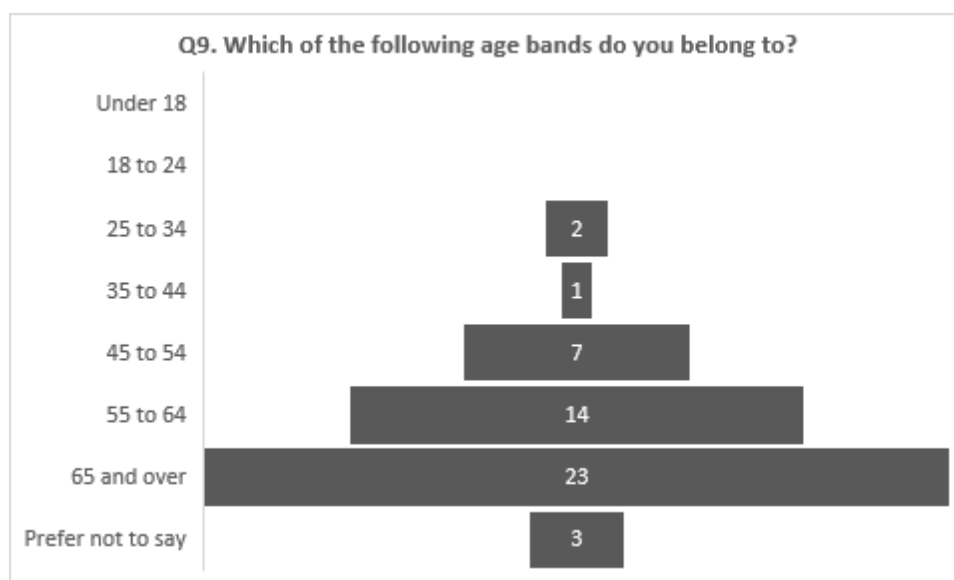
23. Respondents were asked to provide some demographic information. Just over half (26 or 53.1%) of those taking part were male. Around two fifths (21 or 42.9%) were female, as illustrated in the chart below:



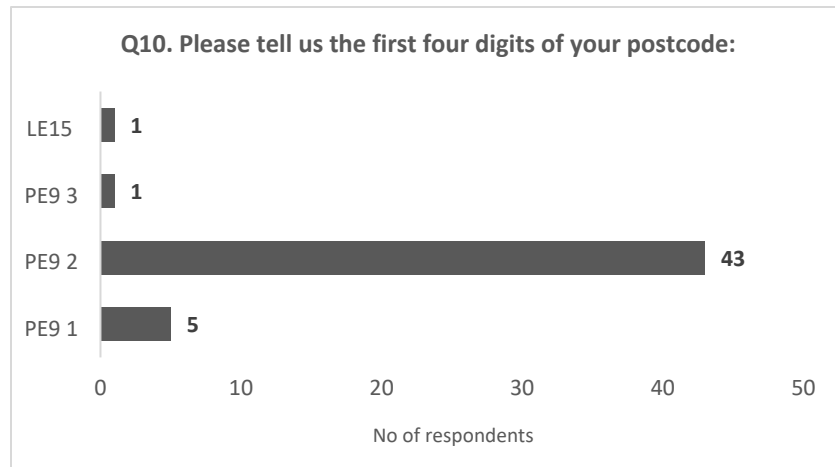
24. Comparing these demographics to those of South Kesteven revealed the sample is representative of gender, as illustrated in the table overleaf:

Gender	ONS % (B)	Sample % (C)	B/C
Male	47.2	53.1	0.9
Female	52.8	42.9	1.2

25. The sample was not representative across age bands. No responses were received from those under the age of 25, and three from those aged between 25 and 44. Three quarters of responses (37 or 74.0%) were from people aged 55 or over, as shown in the funnel chart below:



26. An analysis of postcodes revealed all responses (apart from one) were received from people living locally in either PE9 1 or PE9 2. This is perhaps not surprising given the subject matter of the consultation but should be acknowledged as it illustrates the importance of the issue to people in these areas of Stamford. The distribution of responses is shown on the graph overleaf:



27. The final question in this consultation asked respondents if they had any questions or would like to comment on anything included in the survey. The comments made by respondents centred on the lack of police and enforcement – particularly at night, anti-social behaviour linked to driving and the danger this poses to those who live near these locations. A selection of comments received are listed below:

“There never seems to be any police in town late at night. A police car or two parked in the right places should reduce the dangerous driving....”

“... I have witnessed, the lights shining through into the apartments from the car park, noise, music and spinning cars....”

A couple of respondents were worried that the survey hadn’t been promoted widely enough, as illustrated in the quote below:

“Very few people were aware of this survey, so any response will be very limited. I live in one of the crucial areas (Bath Row) but only heard about it v recently....”

Conclusion

28. Undertaking this consultation has been an important and interesting exercise. The feedback received has been strongly in favour of renewing the Public Spaces Protection Order currently in place across all council run car parks in Stamford. 54 respondents (98.2%) supported the proposal. Only one respondent chose to answer “neither agree nor disagree”.

29. Members of South Kesteven District Council's joint meeting of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Rural and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and Cabinet are asked to note the results of this consultation and in particular, the extent of support from the local community to renew the Public Spaces Protection Order currently in place.

30. The quote below expresses the strength of feeling respondents have towards this issue

"Please, please, please address this dangerous and anti-social issue properly once and for all. It has been allowed to go on too long and I believe lives are at risk with the way they drive, including to themselves...."

Prepared by Deb Wyles
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