



AGENDA ITEM: 7

SUMMARY

Report for:	Housing and Community Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting:	21st March 2012
PART:	1
If Part II, reason:	

Title of report:	Verge Hardening Project Update
Contact:	Cllr Neil Harden, Portfolio Holder for Resident and Regulatory Services Author/Responsible Officer, Julie Still, Group Manager – Resident Services
Purpose of report:	(1) To update Members of following the implementation of the first 2 stages of the prioritisation process as requested at the November meeting.
Recommendations	1) That Members note the areas identified with high priority prior to the next two stages of the process.
Corporate objectives:	Safe and Clean Environment Building Community Capacity Dacorum Delivers
Implications:	<u>Financial</u> There is £255,000 in the capital programme for this project.
'Value For Money Implications'	<u>Value for Money</u> None at this stage.
Risk Implications	The main risk relates to the Council's ability to meet the all the

	demand for additional parking in residential areas given the high demand.
Equalities Implications	Equality Impact considered as part of the prioritisation scheme and DDA considerations will be part of consultation and feasibility studies
Health And Safety Implications	None at this stage
Consultees:	Dacorum Borough Councillors, Hertfordshire Police, local residents, Housing Service, Neighbourhood Support Officers, Neighbourhood Action Steering Groups, Planning Department, Parking Service, Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service
Background papers:	Previous Overview and Scrutiny report November 2011

Background

This report is made at the request of this Committee following their consideration of, and recommendations on, the Verge Hardening Report and the prioritisation process in November 2011

Prioritisation

The amended prioritisation process as agreed with the committee (appendix A) was applied to the list of 152 areas which had been nominated from a wide range of sources.

Stage One comprised of applying the following questions:

1. Is the problem due to commuter use?
2. Is the problem due to business use?
3. Is demand due to school location in the area?
4. Would enforcement measures or CPZ resolve the problem?

All areas that had a positive response to these questions were removed from the listings. This was a total of 47 areas removed.

The remaining 105 areas moved to Stage Two of the process which comprised of consultation with stakeholders who were asked to rank the areas from 1 to 10 (1 being low priority and 10 being high priority) according to the impact on the services they provide or the concerns that had been raised. The following stakeholders were consulted: -

- Ward Councillors
- The Housing Service
- Clean Safe and Green
- Police
- Waste Services
- Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue
- Neighbourhood Support Officers
- Neighbourhood Action Groups
- Resident Lobbying

In order to take in to account that there are not Neighbourhood Action Groups, Housing Service responsibility or resident lobbying in all areas and that there was not 100% response to the consultation, an average score was used to prioritise areas. No less than 4 responses were received for any one area and many areas received a full response.

All of the 102 remaining areas have been rated and ranked according to the priority and the following areas are the top 26 which are ranked in order of priority: -

1. Marlins Turn, Gadebridge, Hemel Hempstead
2. Ritcroft Street, Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead
3. Cowper Road, Markyate.
4. Fennycroft Road, Gadebridge, Hemel Hempstead
5. Burns Drive, Woodhall Farm, Hemel Hempstead
6. Spring Lane, Warners End, Hemel Hempstead
7. Ritcroft Close, Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead
8. Butts End, Gadebridge, Hemel Hempstead
9. Brickmakers Lane, Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead
10. Plantation Walk, Gadebridge, Hemel Hempstead
11. Ritcroft Drive, Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead,
12. Hilldown Road, Gadebridge, Hemel Hempstead
13. Deimos Drive, Jupiter Drive, Martian Avenue, Mercury Walk, Highfield Hemel Hempstead
14. Everest Way, Adeyfield, Hemel Hempstead
15. Perry Green, Woodhall Farm, Hemel Hempstead
16. Homefield, Potten End.
17. Candlefield Road, Candlefield Walk, Candlefield Close, Bennetts End, Hemel Hempstead
18. Puller Road, Boxmoor, Hemel Hempstead
19. Bede Court/Chapel Close, Little Gaddesden.
20. Old Dean, Bovingdon.

21. Cuttsfield Terrace, Chaulden, Hemel Hempstead
22. Catlin Street, Apsley
23. Alexandra Road, Kings Langley
24. Chambersbury Lane, Nash Mills, Hemel Hempstead
25. Belsize Road, Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead
26. Jocketts Road, Chaulden, Hemel Hempstead.

There is one area outstanding where scores for prioritisation are still outstanding. This is due to an error in categorisation where Hanger Close was wrongly identified as being in a CPZ area. On receipt of the scoring Hanger Close will be added to the listing according to the priority given.

Where there is more than one road referred to in the list, it is because the area in general has the same issues and there is very little space to provide any additional parking. Any parking provided in any of these areas would benefit them all.

At the last Overview and Scrutiny meeting the committee asked that the order of the proposed prioritisation process was changed so that the scoring process moved forward to stage 2 and inspection of the areas moved back to stage 3. This has resulted in some areas receiving a high score but it has already been identified that there is little or no space to deliver additional parking or verge hardening.

The next stage is for the areas to be inspected for environmental considerations and suitability for additional parking which will further reduce the number of areas above.

Following the environmental assessment consideration will be given to planning standards and pre planning advice will be sought.

A return to stage 2 can be made at any time to include additional areas in order of priority should the need arise.