

**Summary of Free text responses to Sevenoaks Town Neighbourhood Development Plan
Questionnaire**

Numbers in brackets denote number of responses, this may be substantially higher for some questions where multiple responses were welcomed, and the percentage this represents of the total respondents.

6. Age group (889 = 100%)

0-15	<1%
16-25	1%
26-35	6%
36-45	17%
46-55	21%
56-65	19%
66-75	20%
76+	15%

9. Employment Status (855 = 99.5%)

Retired	42%
Full Time	31%
Part Time	17%
Parent	5%
Unemployed	1%
Student	1%
Carer	<1%
Other	3%

**10. 11. 12. What do you consider to be the three most important buildings in the Town and why?
(2697= 88.4%)**

1	Knole (House/Park)	17%
2	The Stag	13%
3	St Nicholas Church	10%
4	Sevenoaks School	9%
5	The Vine	5%
6	Library	5%
7	Leisure Centre	5%
8	Knocker & Foskett	4%
9	Sevenoaks Train Station	2%
10	Chequers	2%
11	Southern end of the High street	2%
12	Old Market Building/ Toni and Guys	2%
13	The Shambles	2%
14	Sevenoaks Hospital	1%
15	Loch Fyne	1%
16	All listed buildings	1%
17	Other buildings	18%

1st Knole House/ Park (338) Why?

Historical value	49%
Tourist attraction	22%
Represents and defines Sevenoaks character	9%
Visually attractive/ beautiful	8%
Provides/Promotes Recreation/ Sport/ Health	7%
Architecturally significant	3%
Source of learning/ education/ information	1%
Characterful building	<1%

2nd The Stag (210) Why?

Community/cultural hub/resource	57%
Centre for entertainment and leisure	30%
Historical value	7%
Represents and defines Sevenoaks character	3%
Architecturally significant	2%
Characterful building	1%
Tourist attraction	<1%

3rd St. Nicholas Church (161) Why?

Historical value	48%
Community/cultural hub/resource	14%
Visually attractive/ beautiful	11%
Place of worship	10%
Architecturally significant	7%
Represents and defines Sevenoaks character	7%
Characterful building	2%

13. How important is it to preserve buildings of historical significance within the town? (883 = 99%)

High Priority	
5	79%
4	15%
3	4%
2	1%
1	1%
Low Priority	

14. If a building of historical importance is no longer used should it be converted rather than being demolished? (691 = 78%)

Yes	91%
No	2%
Other	7%

15. Should additional car parking be provided in the Town Centre? (867 = 97.5%)

Yes	54%
No	46%

16. Does the need for additional car parking in the Town Centre outweigh the impact additional car parking provision may have on the character of the Town? (858 = 96.5%)

Yes	24%
No	65%
Other	11%

17. If additional car parking is to be provided in the Town Centre what should be the two most important concerns? (437 = 49%)

Design Character	38%
Reducing visual impact on Knole	31%
Cost Effectiveness	17%
Landscaping	7%
Speed of delivery	5%
Other	2%

18. 19. 20. Within the town what 3 areas contribute to the character of Sevenoaks and should be preserved? (2505 = 94%)

Town Centre	31%
The Vine area	25%
Southern High Street	19%
Knole house/park	15%
Green space (various) and other green areas	6%
Various Other Buildings/areas	5%
Hollybush/Hartsland/St Johns	2%
Dorton/Wilderness estate/house	1%

21. 22. 23. Within the town what three areas/ sites do NOT contribute to the character of Sevenoaks and should be improved? (2188 = 82%)

Town centre	43%
Train station	33%
Lower St Johns/ Bat & Ball/ Gas works	10%
Leisure centre	6%
Other sites/ areas	5%
Council offices/ Lower London Road	3%

24. 25. 26. In your local neighbourhood, what three areas/sites contribute to the character of Sevenoaks and should be preserved?

Top 10

Green spaces (various throughout Sevenoaks)	9%
The Vine (Buildings, cricket pitch)	7%
Bradbourne lakes	7%
Knole (House, Park)	6%
Hollybush Park	6%
Local various architecture/buildings (specified and unspecified)	5%
Local street (specified)	5%
Wildlife reserve	4%
Local amenity (specified)	4%
Hollybush area	3%

27. 28. 29. In your local neighbourhood, what 3 areas/ sites do not contribute to the character of Sevenoaks and should be improved? (1573 = 59%)

Local unattractive amenities/ shops *	12%
Bat & Ball area/ station	10%
Local streets/ areas in need of maintenance and traffic calming *	9%
Local streets/lanes/footpaths (specified) *	8%
The Farmers Pub site	8%
Train station area	8%
St Johns Hill/ Lower St Johns area	7%
Empty/ derelict shops	5%
Local various parks/playgrounds/greenery *	4%
Tubs Hill	3%
Other miscellaneous mentions	3%
Edwards Electrical shop former	3%
BT Building	3%
Car parks/ parking	2%
New Builds/Developments	2%
Lidl	2%
Bradbourne Lakes	2%
Wilderness site	2%
Bus station area	1%
Local area specified *	1%
Gas Works area	1%
Council office area	1%
Shops opposite train station	1%
All fine, no change needed	1%
M&S	1%

30. 31. 32. What three words would you use to describe Sevenoaks? (2298 = 86%)

Friendly	12%
Green	10%
Historical	9%
Tranquil	9%
Beautiful	8%
Community	7%
Accessible	7%
Prosperous	7%
Vibrant	6%
Characterful	5%
Conservative	4%
Classy	3%
Other Positive	3%
Other Neutral	3%
Neglected	2%
Traffic	2%
Expensive	1%
Snobbish	1%
Overcrowded	1%
Other Negative	1%

33. Should there be a greater focus on work to improve the pedestrian access routes joining key leisure sites within the Town? (858 = 96.5%)

Yes	47%
No	48%
Other	5%

34. What method would you prefer to see implemented to improve pedestrian access around Sevenoaks Mainline Station? (850 = 95.5%)

No opinion	25%
Underpass	19%
Shared Space	18%
Bridge	17%
Other	21%

35. Do you think there should be an additional secondary school in Sevenoaks? (875 = 98.5%)

Yes	67%
No	14%
No Opinion	18%

36. Do you want a grammar school in Sevenoaks? (881 = 99%)

Yes	77%
No	9%
No Opinion	14%

37a. Are adult educational facilities something which you use/ plan to use now? (664 = 74.5%)

Yes	25%
No	75%

37b. Are adult educational facilities something which you use/ plan to use in the future? (738 = 83%)

Yes	64%
No	36%

38. Are adult educational facilities something which should be retained within the town? (886 = 99.8%)

Yes	87%
No	2%
No Opinion	10%

39. Do you have access to childcare facilities? (197 = 22%)

Yes	68%
No	27%
Other	5%

40. Do you have a young person living with you with special educational needs? (879 = 99%)

Yes	2%
No	98%

41. If you have young people in secondary education living in your household what are they currently aiming to do when they leave school? (150 = 16.8%)

University	90%
Work	3%
College	1%
Apprenticeship	1%
Don't know	5%

42. If you have children in primary school education living in your household how far do they have to travel to reach school? (160 = 18%)

<1 mile	48%
1-2 miles	38%
3-5 miles	10%
5 + miles	4%

43. How do they travel to school? (159 = 18%)

Car	51%
Walk	43%
Cycle	3%
Train	1%
Bus	1%
Taxi	0
N/A	1%
Other	1%

44. What sporting facilities do you use? (1205)

Swimming	18%
None	16%
Tennis	14%
Unspecified activity	12%
Gym	6%
Golf	4%
Exercise (yoga/dancing/boxing/pilates)	3%
Walking	3%
Rugby	3%
Football	3%
Badminton	3%
Running	3%
Cricket	2%
Bowls	2%
Hockey	2%
Squash	2%
Other activity	2%
Cycling	1%
Sailing	<1%

45. Are there any sports which you travel outside of Sevenoaks to take part in? (641 = 72%)

Swimming	11%
Golf	7%
Unspecified Sport	6%
Cycling	6%
Gym	5%
Tennis	3%
Cricket	2%
Sailing	2%
Football	2%
Other sports	14%
No	42%

And where?

Tonbridge	7%
Nizels	7%
Unspecified location	7%
Hildenborough	3%
London	3%
Tunbridge Wells	3%
Hever	2%
Bedgebury	2%
Chipstead	2%
Otford	2%
Larkfield	1%
St Julians	1%
Other	20%

46. What additional sports facilities would you like to see in the town? (499 = 56%)

None	26%
Other sports	11%
Gym/ spa, pool	11%
Cycle paths	10%
Ice rink	4%
Tennis indoors	3%
Tennis	3%
Playground	3%
Squash	3%
Outdoor pool	3%
Football	2%
Exercise facility	2%
Bowling	2%
Climbing wall	2%
Basketball	2%
Teenager facilities	2%
Running track	2%
Hockey	2%
Skate park	2%
Snooker Club	2%
Athletics	2%

47. What existing facilities would you like to see improved? (458 = 51.5%)

Swimming Pool	26%
Leisure Centre	36%
Cycle paths	4%
Gym	4%
Wilderness	3%
Squash	3%
Hollybush	3%
Tennis	2%
Playgrounds	2%
Other existing facilities	17%

48. What leisure and community facilities do you use?

The Stag	32%
Library	25%
Local churches	14%
Sevenoaks Leisure centre	8%
Allotments	3%
Other	3%
Community centre	3%
Coffee shops	2%
Hollybush Park	2%
Knole Park	2%
Park	2%
Pub	1%
Restaurants	1%
None	1%
Sevenoaks school	1%

49. Are there any leisure or community facilities which you travel outside of Sevenoaks Town to take part in? Where is the facility located? (555 = 62.4%)

London	22%
Tunbridge Wells	22%
Tonbridge	12%
Other villages outside Sevenoaks	8%
Where unspecified	6%
Hildenborough	6%
Other villages near Sevenoaks	5%
Bluewater Dartford	4%
Otford	3%
Larkfield	2%
Underriver	2%
Maidstone	2%
Bromley	1%
Kemsing	1%
Edenbridge	1%
Hever	1%
Penshurst	1%

Top 5 Facilities

Theatres	21%
Cinema	12%
Parks	8%
Community centre	7%
Swimming	7%

50. What additional leisure or community facilities would you like to see in the Town? (275 = 42%)

Social/ Arts centre	14%
Playground	14%
Other	12%
Park/ Town Centre	11%
Teen park/ centre	10%
Modern Leisure Centre	10%
Cycle paths	10%
Vareity of Shops	5%
Bigger Cinema	5%
Bowling	3%
Dance studio	3%
Winter park	3%

52. Are you a member of your local residents' association or representative group? (870 = 98%)

Yes	51%
No	35%
Unaware	14%

53. Do you know your immediate neighbours? (888 = 99.9%)

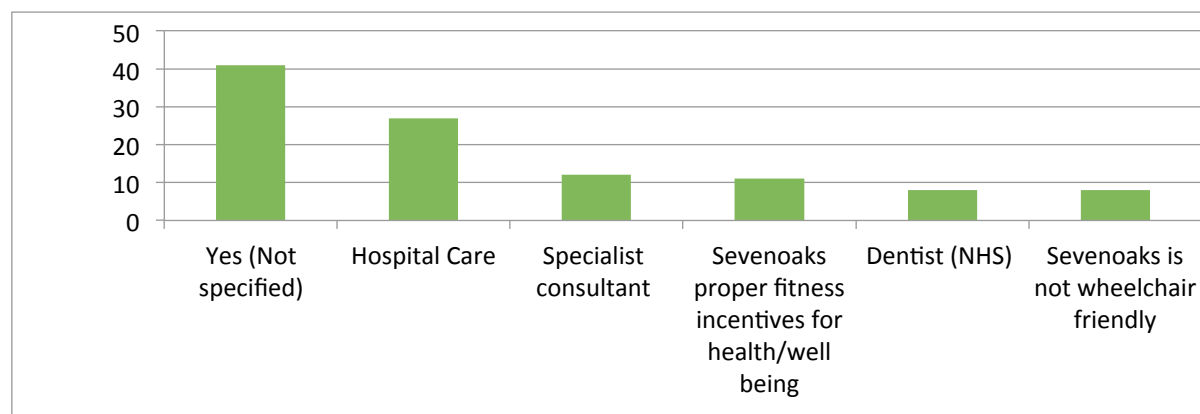
Yes	98%
No	2%

54. Do you carry out any voluntary work? If so, roughly how many hours per month? (813 = 92%)

None	62%
1 - 5 hours	11%
6 - 10 hours	11%
11 + hours	17%

56. Do you have any health related needs which are not met within the Town?

No	89%
Yes	11%



57a. How often do you use: Sevenoaks Hospital? (859 = 97%)

1-5 p.a.	81%
6-10 p.a.	7%
10-20 p.a.	2%
20+ p.a.	1%
Never	10%

57b. How often do you use: The Tunbridge Wells Hospital (at Pembury)? (809 = 91%)

1-5 p.a.	62%
6-10 p.a.	3%
10-20 p.a.	1%
20+ p.a.	1%
Never	33%

57c. How often do you use: Maidstone Hospital? (691 = 78%)

1-5 p.a.	25%
6-10 p.a.	<1%
10-20 p.a.	1%
20+ p.a.	1%
Never	73%

59. Dentistry; are you...? (874 = 98%)

Privately registered	69%
NHS registered	25%
On NHS waiting list	1%
Other	5%

62. How important do you believe the trees and woodlands are to the character of the town and the preservation of the environment? (889 = 100%)

High		
	5	92%
	4	6%
	3	1%
	2	<1%
	1	<1%
Low		

64. What type of property do you currently live in? (887 = 99.8%)

House	92%
Flat	6%
Assisted living	1%
Parents	1%
Bedsit	<1%

65. How many bedrooms does your property have? (882 = 99%)

1	3%
2	12%
3	29%
4	32%
5+	23%

66. Do you plan to move in the next 10 years? (885 = 99.7%)

Yes	25%
No	48%
Don't Know	26%

67. If so, will you remain in Sevenoaks? (548 = 61.5%)

Yes	44%
No	12%
Don't Know	43%

69. What sort of property are you planning to move to? (380 = 43%)

House	76%
Flat	14%
Assisted living	10%
Parents	0
Bedsit	<1%

70. How many bedrooms will the property need? (391 = 44%)

1	5%
2	24%
3	40%
4	25%
5+	7%

71. Should Green belt land be considered for development, where appropriate, to meet the need for housing in the South East? (872 = 98%)

Yes	13%
No	75%
Undecided	10%
No Opinion	1%

72. Is there a need for more care homes/ assisted living facilities in the Town? (875 = 98.5%)

Yes	39%
No	15%
No Opinion	46%

74. Should the development of multigenerational homes be actively promoted? (865 = 97.5%)

Yes	48%
No	15%
No Opinion	37%

75. Should 3-4 storey homes become the default in new development schemes to make best use of available land supply? (863 = 97%)

Yes	24%
No	51%
No Opinion	24%

76. Would you welcome the establishment of a 20mph limit in..?

A, your own road (859 = 96.7%)

Yes	64%
No	24%
No Opinion	12%

B, all residential roads in Sevenoaks (871 = 98%)

Yes	50%
No	33%
No Opinion	17%

C, the High Street (872 = 98%)

Yes	67%
No	22%
No Opinion	10%

77. Do you experience parking issues in the following locations?

A, railway station (481 = 54%)

No issue		
	1	14%
	2	10%
	3	21%
	4	21%
	5	33%
Very difficult		

B, shopping in town centre (726 = 82%)

No issue		
	1	17%
	2	18%
	3	29%
	4	23%
	5	5%
Very difficult		

C, working in town centre (89 = 10%)

No issue		
	1	29%
	2	6%
	3	12%
	4	10%
	5	43%
Very difficult		

D, leisure in town centre (600 = 67.5%)

No issue		
	1	25%
	2	20%
	3	28%
	4	18%
	5	9%
Very difficult		

E, shopping in St Johns (414 = 46.6%)

No issue		
	1	25%
	2	17%
	3	17%
	4	17%
	5	25%
Very difficult		

F, medical facilities in town (555 = 62.4%)

No issue	
1	19%
2	15%
3	25%
4	19%
5	21%
Very difficult	

G, in your street (519 = 58.4%)

No issue	
1	50%
2	11%
3	13%
4	9%
5	16%
Very difficult	

79. If you are put off parking in the Town Centre because of issues what are they? (690 = 77.6%)

Daytime charges	40%
Evening Charges	28%
Finding Space	28%
Other	4%

80. Do you believe there is a need for additional car parking facilities in the town? (856 = 96.3%)

Yes	57%
No	43%

81. If you answered yes to the above, where should these new facilities be located? (434 = 48%)

Multi-storey parking	17%
Leisure centre area (Behind Tescos/Library)	13%
Buckhurst and Buckhurst 2	12%
Other parking various mentions	11%
Underground parking	11%
Existing car parks (BT Building/Council offices/ Suffolk way)	7%
Park and Ride	7%
Central (Within town centre)	6%
Sevenoaks train station	5%
Behind the Stag	4%
Blighs car park	4%
Edwards Electrical former	4%

82. What methods do you believe would be most effective in relieving strain on Town Centre car parking? (741 = 83.3%)

Park and Ride	42%
Increase capacity	39%
Cycle route improvements	27%
Reduce charges	26%
Bus service	10%
Walking	5%
Parking charge schemes	5%
Increase charges	2%
Other	1%

83. On average, how often do you use the following methods of public transport per month?

A, taxi (868 = 97.6%)

<1	52%
1 to 5	22%
5 to 10	4%
10 to 15	2%
20+	<1
Never	19%

B, bus (865 = 97.3%)

<1	28%
1 to 5	10%
5 to 10	3%
10 to 15	2%
20+	2%
Never	56%

C, train/ Sevenoaks (882 = 99.2%)

<1	24%
1 to 5	36%
5 to 10	10%
10 to 15	5%
20+	22%
Never	2%

D, train/ Bat & Ball (824 = 92.7%)

<1	17%
1 to 5	5%
5 to 10	1%
10 to 15	1%
20+	2%
Never	74%

84. If you have any particular reasons for not using one of the above forms of public transport what are they? (534 = 60%)

Bus: Limited Schedule/ Route	26%
Prefer car	16%
Prefer to walk	11%
Public Transport not required	6%
Inconvenient	6%
Taxi: too expensive	6%
Bat & Ball Station: run down	4%
Bat & Ball Station: remote	4%
Bus: no route near home	4%
Bat & Ball Station: limited/slow service	3%
Access issues	3%
Bus: too expensive	3%
Public transport: too expensive	2%
Other	2%
Commute (To and from London)	2%
Train: too expensive	2%
Prefer to cycle	1%

85. If you have needed to visit Tunbridge Wells/ Pembury Hospital how did you travel there? (778 = 87.5%)

Car	94%
Bus	2%
Train	2%
Taxi	1%
Other	1%

86. In the future, if you needed to visit Tunbridge Wells/ Pembury Hospital how would you prefer to travel there? (861 = 96.9%)

Car	77%
Bus	15%
Train	6%
Taxi	1%
Other	1%

87. Would you like to see either of the following roads converted to shared use/ fully pedestrianised?

A, London Road – shared (765 = 86.1%)

Yes	44%
No	43%
No Opinion	13%

B, London Road – fully pedestrianised (697 = 78.4%)

Yes	11%
No	78%
No Opinion	11%

C, High Street – shared (723 = 81.3%)

Yes	40%
No	47%
No Opinion	12%

D, High Street – fully pedestrianised (769 = 86.5%)

Yes	45%
No	46%
No Opinion	8%

88. In 10 – 15 years how do you expect your household car usage/ ownership to have changed? (798 – Multiple responses)

No Change	32%
Don't Know	2%
Reduce	19%
Electric	16%
More	13%
Hybrid	3%
Smaller	2%
Other	1%
Old Age	5%
Less Usage	4%
No Car	3%

89a. What was your primary work location 5 years ago? (634 = 71.3%)

Home	10%
Sevenoaks	20%
<10 miles	9%
10+ miles	13%
London	47%

89b. What is your current primary work location? (485 = 54.6%)

Home	19%
Sevenoaks	22%
<10 miles	8%
10+ miles	10%
London	41%

89c. What will be your primary work location in 5 years time? (441 = 49.6%)

Home	16%
Sevenoaks	21%
<10 miles	12%
10+ miles	9%
London	42%

A, Weekday- daytime (881 = 99.1%)

Never	8%
1 - 2 x	18%
2 - 5 x	25%
5 -10 x	17%
10 - 20 x	16%
20 + x	16%

B, Weekday- evening (841 = 94.6%)

Never	16%
1 - 2 x	47%
2 - 5 x	22%
5 -10 x	11%
10 - 20 x	3%
20 + x	2%

C, Weekend- daytime (870 = 97.9%)

Never	3%
1 - 2 x	30%
2 - 5 x	40%
5 -10 x	21%
10 - 20 x	3%
20 + x	3%

D, Weekend- evening (837 = 94.2%)

Never	17%
1 - 2 x	53%
2 - 5 x	22%
5 -10 x	6%
10 - 20 x	2%
20 + x	1%

92. What brings you into the town centre in the evening? (791 = 88%)

Restaurants	39%
Stag	33%
Pub	9%
Social	8%
Shopping	4%
Leisure centre	3%
Church	2%
Work	1%
Need to	1%

93. If you are put off coming into the town centre during the day time why is this? (381 = 42%)

Parking Difficulty	37%
Parking Charges	27%
Congestion	21%
Shops	5%
No need	3%
Prefer walking	3%
Public Transport	2%
Weather	2%
Pavements	<1%

94. If you are put off coming into the Town centre during the evening, why is this? (290 = 32.6%)

Parking Charges	50%
Entertainment	19%
Safety	10%
Public Transport	8%
Parking Difficulties	6%
No desire	5%
Family	3%

95. What sort of markets would you like to see in the Town and where should they be located? (981)

Farmers/ local produce market	45%
Continental market	12%
General market	12%
Current markets (leave as is)	11%
Crafts/ Artisan market	5%
All the market types	5%
Food/Butchers/Fish market	3%
Flower/Garden market	2%
Boot fair/Antiques market	1%
Other speciality market	1%