

Liverpool Grove Transformation Scheme - Consultation Summary December 2021

Summary

We ran this consultation between 1st and 28th November 2021. This was a follow-up to the previous consultation in Spring 2021, which received 209 responses.

In the earlier consultation, respondents supported the proposals but identified a number of concerns about the proposed design for Liverpool Grove. In response, we produced a new design.

In the recent consultation, we presented the revised design and asked a very similar set of questions, in order to test whether we had adequately addressed the earlier concerns.

The consultation was promoted by flyer to all affected addresses, as well as on-street signage and emails to previous participants. We held a drop-in meeting at St Peter's Church on 10th November and an online meeting on 22nd November. We also carried out door-knocking on Liverpool Grove on 20th November, and attended at St Peter's C of E Primary School to distribute flyers and interview parents at school closing time on 25th November.

We received a total of 92 responses to this consultation.

What people told us

We asked people to tell us what street they live or work on – this is because, although responses are welcomed from anyone with an interest in the area, we are particularly concerned to hear the views of people on Liverpool Grove and adjacent streets.

What street do you live/work on?

Burton Grove	2
Liverpool Grove	40
Merrow Street	3
Portland Street	2
Walworth Road	5
Wooler Street	1
Other (please specify)	33
(blank)	
Grand Total	86

Of the people who said ‘other’, 5 were from Aylesbury Road and 6 were from Sutherland Square, while most of the others were from nearby streets.

We also asked people about their vehicle ownership – this is because people who own motor vehicles may be affected differently by the proposals compared to those who do not.

	Car, van or motorbike		Bicycle	
None	35	42%	33	42%
One	41	49%	20	26%
More than one	7	8%	25	32%
Grand Total	83		78	

The core question of the consultation asked the following:-

Do you agree that the proposal achieves the following objectives?

Responses have been broken down according to street of origin for clarity.

a. Liverpool Grove will be a more attractive and pleasant place to enjoy							
	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Grand Total
Burton Grove	2	100%		0%		0%	2
Liverpool Grove	25	63%	8	20%	7	18%	40
Merrow Street	3	100%		0%		0%	3

Portland Street	2	100%		0%		0%	2
Walworth Road	5	100%		0%		0%	5
Wooler Street	1	100%		0%		0%	1
Other (please specify)	30	91%	1	3%	2	6%	33
N.answered	5	83%	1	17%		0%	6
Grand Total	73	79%	10	11%	9	10%	92

b. The street will be greener, safer and quieter

	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Grand Total
Burton Grove	2	100%		0%		0%	2
Liverpool Grove	20	50%	13	33%	7	18%	40
Merrow Street	3	100%		0%		0%	3
Portland Street	1	50%	1	50%		0%	2
Walworth Road	5	100%		0%		0%	5
Wooler Street	1	100%		0%		0%	1
Other (please specify)	28	88%	2	6%	2	6%	32
N.answered	5	83%	1	17%		0%	6
Grand Total	65	71%	17	19%	9	10%	91

c. The view of St Peter's Church will be enhanced by the proposed designs

	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Grand Total
Burton Grove	2	100%		0%		0%	2
Liverpool Grove	28	70%	9	23%	3	8%	40
Merrow Street	3	100%		0%		0%	3
Portland Street	2	100%		0%		0%	2
Walworth Road	5	100%		0%		0%	5
Wooler Street	1	100%		0%		0%	1
Other (please specify)	30	91%	2	6%	1	3%	33
N.answered	5	83%	1	17%		0%	6
Grand Total	76	83%	12	13%	4	4%	92

d. The new environment that is created will support local businesses

	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Grand Total
Burton Grove	2	100%		0%		0%	2
Liverpool Grove	20	50%	13	33%	7	18%	40
Merrow Street	3	100%		0%		0%	3
Portland Street	2	100%		0%		0%	2

Walworth Road	4	80%		0%	1	20%	5
Wooler Street	1	100%		0%		0%	1
Other (please specify)	24	73%	3	9%	6	18%	33
N.answered	4	67%	1	17%	1	17%	6
Grand Total	60	65%	17	18%	15	16%	92

e. Makes walking safer

	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Grand Total
Burton Grove	1	50%		0%	1	50%	2
Liverpool Grove	23	59%	10	26%	6	15%	39
Merrow Street	3	100%		0%		0%	3
Portland Street	1	50%	1	50%		0%	2
Walworth Road	5	100%		0%		0%	5
Wooler Street		0%		0%	1	100%	1
Other (please specify)	27	82%	2	6%	4	12%	33
N.answered	5	83%	1	17%		0%	6
Grand Total	65	71%	14	15%	12	13%	91

f. Benefits local residents

	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Grand Total
Burton Grove	2	100%		0%		0%	2
Liverpool Grove	21	53%	15	38%	4	10%	40
Merrow Street	2	67%		0%	1	33%	3
Portland Street	1	50%		0%	1	50%	2
Walworth Road	4	80%		0%	1	20%	5
Wooler Street	1	100%		0%		0%	1
Other (please specify)	27	82%	1	3%	5	15%	33
N.answered	4	67%	2	33%		0%	6
Grand Total	62	67%	18	20%	12	13%	92

As can be seen above, there was agreement in all cases that the proposals achieve the objectives – this is true also for residents of Liverpool Grove itself, though the margin of approval was much lower.

There was also a free text element to this question, where people could describe their reasons for not agreeing.

The principle comments are shown below:

Theme	No of comments
Antisocial behaviour could increase	18
bad for businesses	11
loss of parking is bad	10
CCTV needed	7
how will you stop mopeds passing through?	5
Only benefits Louie Louie	5
Need to separate cyclists and pedestrians	5
larger planting areas needed	4
more pedestrian noise will disturb residents	4
more cycle parking needed	3
more street lighting needed	3
need to maintain the planting	3
needs physical barrier to stop cut-through traffic	3
will increase congestion on back streets	3
need access for dial-a-ride etc	2
compliments the church	1
Consider acoustics of the church bells	1
May lead to increased rents	1
more bins needed	1
need access for tradesmen	1
need electric charging point	1
need to limit cafe seating on the pavement	1
no need for more green space – parks nearby	1
pavement surface must not be damaging to cycles/wheelchairs	1
use native vegetation	1
visitor parking will be lost	1

As can be seen, the biggest single concern was that, by providing seating and spaces to spend time, the scheme could encourage antisocial behaviour. There was also concern that loss of parking could cause difficulty for local businesses (though some of the comments on this theme were prompted by this being a specific identified objective, when many people could only see the local café benefitting, rather than businesses in general)

We asked a further question:

Do you support the parking changes and change to motor vehicle access to accommodate the improvement to Liverpool Grove?

Do you support the parking changes and change to motor vehicle access to accommodate the improvement to Liverpool Grove?							
	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Grand Total
Burton Grove	1	50%		0%	1	50%	2

Liverpool Grove	15	38%	19	48%	6	15%	40
Merrow Street	1	33%	2	67%		0%	3
Portland Street		0%	1	50%	1	50%	2
Walworth Road	3	60%	1	20%	1	20%	5
Wooler Street	1	100%		0%		0%	1
Other (please specify)	28	85%	3	9%	2	6%	33
N.answered	3	50%	2	33%	1	17%	6
Grand Total	52	57%	28	30%	12	13%	92

As can be seen, although overall there was support for the parking and access proposals, there was a small margin of opposition to this aspect of the scheme from residents on Liverpool Grove itself – obviously significant as these are the people most likely to need to change their parking arrangements and how they access their homes by car.

We cross referenced the responses to this question with people's vehicle ownership:-

Do you support the parking changes and change to motor vehicle access to accommodate the improvement to Liverpool Grove?							
Cars/Vans/Motorbikes	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Grand Total
None	20	57%	7	20%	8	23%	35
One	22	54%	16	39%	3	7%	41
More than one	2	29%	4	57%	1	14%	7
N.answered	8	89%	1	11%		0%	9
Grand Total	52	57%	28	30%	12	13%	92

Bicycles	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Grand Total
None	6	30%	10	50%	4	20%	20
One	19	76%	3	12%	3	12%	25
More than one	20	61%	10	30%	3	9%	33
N.answered	7	50%	5	36%	2	14%	14
Grand Total	52	57%	28	30%	12	13%	92

Unsurprisingly there was some correlation here, with car owners much more likely to disagree with this element of the scheme – though still with a majority in favour.

There was also a text element to this question, and the most frequent comments were as follows:-

Theme	No. of comments
not enough parking for residents	7
Congested turning circle at east end of Liverpool Grove	6
Creates congestion on back streets	4
need to discourage cars more	4
Will cause parking displacement	4
remove all parking bays	4
bad for elderly and disabled people who need cars	3
bad for businesses	2
need to keep barrier to prevent cut through traffic	2
Maintain access routes	1
Will lead to traffic in front of school	1
more cycle parking needed	1
need access for care home staff	1
need access for taxis	1
need electric charging point	1
Should be parking for residents and churchgoers only	1
visitor parking lost	1

Equalities questions

Age:

Under 16	0	0.00%
16 - 17	0	0.00%
18 - 24	6	6.52%
25 - 34	18	19.57%
35 - 44	20	21.74%
45 - 54	21	22.83%
55 - 64	8	8.70%
65 - 74	5	5.43%
75 - 84	1	1.09%
85 - 94	2	2.17%
95+	0	0.00%

Not Answered	11	11.96%
---------------------	----	--------

Ethnic background

White British	49	53.26%
White Irish	0	0.00%
White English	4	4.35%
White Scottish	0	0.00%
White Welsh	0	0.00%
White Northern Irish	0	0.00%
Other European	8	8.70%
Other White (please specify if you wish)	2	2.17%
Black British	2	2.17%
Black Caribbean	1	1.09%
Nigerian	1	1.09%
Ghanaian	0	0.00%
Sierra Leonean	0	0.00%
Somali	0	0.00%
Other African	2	2.17%
Other Black (please specify if you wish)	0	0.00%
Asian British	1	1.09%
Indian	0	0.00%
Bengali	0	0.00%
Chinese	1	1.09%
Pakistani	0	0.00%
Vietnamese	0	0.00%
Filipino	0	0.00%
Any other Asian (please specify if you wish)	2	2.17%
Mixed white/Black Caribbean	0	0.00%

Mixed White Black African	0	0.00%
Mixed White/Asian	1	1.09%
Other Mixed background (please specify if you wish)	1	1.09%
Latin American	1	1.09%
Gypsy, Roma or Irish Traveller	0	0.00%
Other ethnic background (please specify if you wish)	0	0.00%
Not Answered	16	17.39%

Are you disabled?

Yes	10	10.87%
No	68	73.91%
Prefer not to say	4	4.35%
Not Answered	10	10.87%

Sex

Male	45	48.91%
Female	31	33.70%
Other (please specify if you wish)	1	1.09%
Prefer not to say	3	3.26%
Not Answered	12	13.04%

Is your Gender Identity the same as the sex you were recorded at birth?

Yes	72	78.26%
No	1	1.09%
Prefer not to say	4	4.35%
Not Answered	15	16.30%

Sexual orientation

Heterosexual/straight	23	25.00%
Lesbian/Gay woman	1	1.09%
Gay man	11	11.96%
Bi-sexual	2	2.17%
Other (please specify if you wish)	0	0.00%
Prefer not to say	6	6.52%
Not Answered	49	53.26%

Religion or belief

Christian	11	11.96%
Sikh	0	0.00%
Hindu	0	0.00%
Muslim	0	0.00%
Jewish	0	0.00%
Buddhist	1	1.09%
No religion	28	30.43%
Other (please specify if you wish)	2	2.17%
Not Answered	50	54.35%

Conclusion and recommendations

The majority of respondents, both from Liverpool Grove itself and surrounding streets, are broadly in favour of the proposals and agree that they will bring many of the benefits identified.

However, significant concerns remain, particularly for Liverpool Grove residents themselves, and these should be considered carefully in developing the detailed design:-

- Several residents were concerned that antisocial behaviour and/or noise from people relaxing, eating and drinking on the street could be a problem for residents.
- A few respondents were concerned that, by removing the existing barrier on Liverpool Grove, this would in fact create a new route for through traffic, and particularly scooters/mopeds.
- Businesses, and people supporting local businesses, were concerned that the loss of parking and/or loading would be an issue.
- A few respondents were concerned that, with the loss of access at the Walworth Road end, the end near the church might become a turning circle for cars looking for parking, which would also bring congestion on the eastern section of Liverpool Grove.
- Residents with cars or dependent on motor vehicle access were concerned that there would not be enough parking available.
- A few respondents noted that existing planting on Liverpool Grove was not well maintained, and were concerned that the same would be true of any new planting.