



Neighbourhood Area: North

**Community & Neighbourhood
Manager:** Lenny Stamp

Walkabout Area: Sleaford Green
Area

Feedback to residents

In August residents, the police, council officers and councillors were in the area to discuss any ongoing local issues. We would like to thank everyone who was able to come along and take part.

Whether you were able to come along or not, we think it is important to give you some feedback about the issues raised, as well as what we are doing to try and resolve them. Below is a summary of the general neighbourhood issues raised. Individual or personal issues are not included.

Summary of neighbourhood issues:

Issue One:

You asked us for an update on the proposal for door entry security locks being fitted on communal flat entrances

The city council response:

Our housing department have submitted a funding application in hope that they can secure some financial support to enable them to implement some of the improvements you have asked for. Once they have an update of the submission, they will ensure you are advised of the outcome.

Issue Two:

You asked what could be done to stop stray cats coming into houses

RSPCA advises:

Problems can arise when cats are attracted to neighbours gardens. However it's important to remember that cats are free to roam. It is an offence to harm or terrify a cat or to steal one. It is also an offence to put down snares, poison or an unlicensed deterrent.

If you want to stop cats entering your garden, it is important to make sure that any deterrent you use is not harmful and doesn't cause pain, suffering or distress. Some suggestions which could help you are:

- *prickly plants or ground cover plants in your flowerbeds*

- *keeping flowerbeds watered as cats don't like wet earth*

*There are also a variety of approved chemical repellent products on the market but if you do decide to use one please make sure it's a licensed product and read the instructions carefully. **Please note:** When trying to deter cats, it's illegal to use creosote, anti-freeze, bleaching or cleaning agents, diesel oil, coal tar soap, peppermint oil, citrus oil or eucalyptus oil.*

Finally, ultrasonic deterrents have been developed to keep cats out of gardens, however there's no evidence to suggest they are effective.

Issue Three:

You asked us when the garages are due to be repainted in Sleaford Green

The city council response:

The garages doors were painted recently in 2013/14 by our contractor Mitie and therefore will not be painted again for some considerable time.

Issue Four:

You reported concerns regarding a dangerous wall in Sleaford Green being pushed out by a nearby tree

The city council response:

We have passed details of your concerns to Norwich Property Services for investigation. They have inspected the wall and have now written to the resident concerned.

Issue Five:

You raised concerns of the large tree growing very close to block of flats 9 - 12 Sleaford Green and concerns about the trees next to flats 43-49

The city council response:

We have inspected these trees and as a result ordered the removal of the ash near No. 9-12, and some pruning of the tree near No. 49. They're not considered a priority in terms of safety; therefore it may be at least six months before work commences to remove the trees.

Issue Six:

You reported your concerns relating to the size of and close proximity of the tree near 71 Philadelphia Lane

The city council response:

The council will deal with dead, dying or diseased trees; having inspected the trees, whilst they are large, they are healthy and in our opinion not causing a problem to nearby properties. They are inspected regularly and would only be trimmed if they were touching properties or any if any safety concerns were identified.



Issue Seven:

You raised concerns relating to cars speeding in and out of the estate.

The city council response:

Speeding vehicles are a police issue and we would encourage you to report this directly to them when problems occur. We have passed information onto the police on your behalf; in addition we have also contacted local businesses in the area to raise their awareness of the problem.

Issue Eight:

You told us fly tipping was a problem around the communal bins and alleys near Sleaford Green

The city council response:

Fly tipping is a costly problem across the city, but we are working hard to raise awareness of the problem across your neighbourhood, for example, by home visits, campaigns, and recently, hand delivering letters to all residents of Sleaford Green.

To help us crack down on fly-tipping and to clean up your neighbourhood please report incidents to the council on 0344 980 3333 or email info@norwich.gov.uk. Alternatively you can complete the online reporting form on our website www.norwich.gov.uk If possible, please record the following information: date, time, place, description of people seen, vehicle details including make, model, colour and registration and the type of waste. We will take legal action if there is sufficient evidence and it is appropriate to do so.

Issue Nine:

You reported residents were unhappy with the general state of the area and the amount of weeds

The city council response:

We are pleased to advise that the weeds in Sleaford Green have been sprayed with environmentally friendly weed killer. Weed spraying in remainder of the north neighbourhood should be completed by the end of September.



Issue Ten:

You also told us you are unhappy with the council policy regarding removing washing lines in the communal landing areas

The city council response:

Following your comments, your neighbourhood housing officer held a patch panel in Sleaford Green on the 4th and 5th September to give residents the opportunity to discuss this matter in more depth.

We hope you found this report helpful.

To see the programme of when and where we will be for the next three months please visit our website www.norwich.gov.uk and look up walkabouts on the A to Z.

If you would like more information or if you wish to report a problem; you can contact Norwich City Council via telephone: 0344 980 3333, online via www.norwich.gov.uk/tellusaboutit or by email on: info@norwich.gov.uk