



666 surveys returned

<u>Environment</u>	No.	%
The A 31 splitting the town in two and creating traffic noise & congestion; signs dominating the skyline	105	16
Aircraft noise	2	
The litter and vandalism in and on the outskirts of the town and dog mess outside town (near Scout HQ, Eastfield Lane, Castleman Trail), chewing gum, dirty underpass in Gravel Lane (anti social behaviour too); not enough litter bins; abandoned shopping trolleys	90	13
Outsourcing of grass cuttings & poor results	1	
Unightly buildings and areas – back of the Furlong, back entrance to Woolworth's, Tourist Centre 'like a shed', ugly buildings, old cinema 'eyesore' & site at the back, Pedlars Walk precinct, entrance to town, bus depot & surrounding area, 'slightly seedy, dismal look in places,' no centrepiece to town', view of the town from the car park; very ugly local authority retirement/nursing home facing the Bickerley, Southampton Road shopping area, entrance make 'town look cheap with low Standards; advertisement hoardings; untidiness of old railway bridge near the mill stream	60	9
Lack of access to the River Avon & no riverside walks apart from 150m at Bickerley; lack of seats generally & on the riverbank, lack of cafes (look at Wimborne)	16	2
Lack of green & open spaces in the town, no quiet, pleasant small park to sit in & enjoy, lack of flowers at bus stops & car park, sponsor's sign on roundabout more noticeable than the flowers	16	3
Overhanging trees, bushes & brambles allowed to grow across pathways in town & on Castleman trailway; unkempt verges	22	3
Not being included in the National Park – excluded from the New Forest	7	
Flooding between Greyfriars & Bickerley and Eastfield Lane/Old Barn Close in winter, & in car park	7	
Council hacking down shrubs leaving a stunted mess and not clearing up afterwards	4	
<u>Development</u>		
Possibility of mass development (especially at Hightown Gardens) & overdevelopment – upheaval & uncertainty resulting from this; development that is not in sympathy with history and character of town or done in what seems to be an underhand way; over development; infilling; large ugly housing		

estates; threat of development encroaching on surrounding green spaces & green belt; development without appropriate infrastructure, inc. overworked doctors' surgeries; development increasing risk of flooding; tiny flats; ugly development since 1960s	77	11
The price of starter homes & other housing – lack of housing solutions for 1 st time buyers, cost of housing; 2 nd homes raising price of local housing	39	6
Too much development in the Furlong and not enough in Market Square; Furlong Centre & inappropriate development; Christchurch Road shops being disadvantaged	5	
Increase in industrial development and industrial estates attracting heavy traffic into the town, not well screened enough and encroaching into residential space; too many industrial estates scattered amongst the housing	20	2
Business being given planning permission to operate in premises that are too small and so adding portacabins, thus reducing carparking	1	
Ringwood playing fields becoming larger than town's needs	2	
Housing associations bringing trouble makers Into Ringwood from other areas	2	
The idea of the Town Council building on the car park	1	
Destruction of shop windows, bus shelters & greenery (e.g. field next to Forestside Gardens)	1	
<u>Transport & Accessibility</u>		
Traffic & congestion in the town, esp. in High Street & Christchurch Road, Bickerley & noise, speed & pollution (inc. Gorley Road & Tescos) & HGVs using High Street, & on town centre roundabout - lack of traffic management, closure of the Quomp created rat run through Woodstock Lane, buses allowed down High Street; lorries	148	23
Difficult & dangerous access from/to A31 into/out of town both north and south, congestion inc. bank holiday, at Fish Inn too, road between Waitrose & car park used as a rat run, interruption of nearside lane between Texaco & Matchams Lane (gantry signs in the wrong place); 'being trapped at home on weekends because we can't get out onto the' A31.	54	8
Lack of public transport & local bus services, (esp. to the schools/hospitals) & expensive & unreliable – e.g. no bus to Verwood at lunchtime; lack of public transport to sports facility; Possibility of reduction in bus services; congestion at bus stop when buses & coaches arrive together; extortionate taxi charges, lack of taxis; lack of transport information – location for timetable; lack of shelter at taxi rank	46	7
Traffic being allowed through market place on market day (& stalls facing the wrong way)	33	5

Poorly maintained roads, pavements and footpaths; big hole in middle of roundabout on Southampton Road; potholes at Tesco Express, Poulner; narrow pavements	48	7
Speeding; lack of enforcing limits, lack of speed bumps; lack of speed restriction Ringwood/St. Leonards/bottom of Poulner Hill, speeding along Christchurch Road	37	6
Lack of safe places to cross roads to & from school	4	
Speed bumps, red paint & sleeping policeman on Southampton Road – still speeding, traffic management schemes esp. on Southampton Road	15	
Furlong to be more pedestrian friendly with public transport having an area further back from the existing road to avoid current congestion; lack of dropped kerb from Waitrose to Furlong car park	3	
Lack of one way system	2	
A338 to Salisbury – should be dual carriageway	2	
Cyclists using pavements when they have cycleways; the fact that cycle ways stop at the most dangerous bits of road; poorly marked cycle ways	8	
Lack of railway	3	
No pedestrian crossing from car park to Furlong; lack of pedestrian Facilities/crossings	3	
Absence of footpath at North end of Bickerley Road	1	
Street signs should be at eye level	1	
Poor signage and road markings	1	
Lack of new roads planned to service industrial and housing estates on Christchurch Road	1	
Location of bus station	5	
Unnecessary expenditure on roads to change junctions & build Footpaths	2	
<u>Car Parking</u>		
Car parking in the High Street	140	21
Inadequate car parking for locals, inc. problems with long stay and providing car parking for Bournemouth employees (“want to attract people to the town”) – lack of multi storey & cars parking on verges on Sopley to Ringwood road and Salisbury Road, cars parked on verges; inadequate parking in holiday season; indiscriminate parking and cars for sale on verges	90	13
Poorly designed car parks (main problem seems to be people stopping		

to wait for a space when they first go into the car park rather than moving on through to where there are plenty of spaces further in – needs a ‘header’) – congestion getting in and out of car parks	78	12
Charging for car parks, both charging at all and cost of short term compared with long term	36	6
Difficulties with parking in specific places – disabled spaces occupied illegally; walking/cycling past parked vehicles, eg.in Furlong; on the Quomp; outside one’s own house because businesses advise staff to park in residential areas rather than pay long stay parking clock fees; cars parked around schools at collection & drop off times; ‘People parking at Bickerley end of Coxstone Lane – cannot get in our own road’, school	26	4
Vehicles ignoring parking restrictions & lack of enforcement of parking restrictions;	11	2
No parent & toddler parking; lack of cycle parking; no motor home spaces in car park; no car parking at new doctors’ surgery; not allowed to park on Market Square	10	2
The idea of a multi storey & making Ringwood a clone town	2	
Bad drivers & car parkers	1	

Security and Anti Social behaviour

Increase in slightly yobbish behaviour in the evening and bad behaviour of children coming out of school (esp. Poulner) – disturbance & noise at night - parents not taking enough responsibility for their young; number of young and unruly teens hanging about town at night & near church, back of Victoria Gardens – burgeoning drug culture; excessive drinking, drugs and mindless vandalism – in Rec too, boy racers	50	8
People sitting drinking in the car park & bus station (very intimidating) & adjacent to Lower Gravel Lane; ‘raucous’ busking in Meeting House Shopping Centre, beggars	38	6
Lack of police on the beat and 24 hour police station	17	3
Spy eyes in the sky	1	
CCTV (4 outside Sainsbury makes it look like a prison compound!)	1	
Hordes of school children eating their food in the town at lunchtime giving town a bad look	6	
Noise from pubs with loud music	1	

Shopping

The new multiple shops in the Furlong taking away the character of the town & driving local traders out of business becoming elitist	77	12
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Disappearance of individual shops, i.e. too many florists, card shops, hairdressers, up-market dress shops, women's clothes shops, expensive shops, charity shops, estate agents, banks	47	7
Lack of more individual shops, eg. for older people, bookshop, music shop, reasonably priced supermarket, food shops,	13	2
Too many betting shops	10	2
Lack of shopping for teenagers & young people – 'shops are small and boring'	7	
Unattractive shop fronts not in keeping with market town ambience	6	
Problems for smaller shops struggling to pay rent and council tax and stay in business; empty shops	8	
No shops open on Sundays – makes the town centre dead	3	
Local traders who don't want farmers' markets	2	
Lack of a shopping complex such as Castle Point	4	
Lack of High Street shops such as M & S	3	
Wooden shop fronts in the Furlong & altering the shop fronts	4	
Attempts to build more shops on car park which would destroy ambience of town	1	
Lack of open link between Furlong and High Street	3	
Supermarkets taking business from small local shops	2	
Trashy & dangerous market	1	
<u>Services</u>		
The public toilets (disgusting, disgraceful)	70	10
Insufficient public toilets	7	
Too many estate agents, banks and offices	22	4
Lack of NHS Dentists	4	
Lack of hospital	1	
Primary school classes too big	2	
Waiting at the doctor	1	
'Chaos' of out of hours medical care	2	
Lack of Post Office	3	

Poor postal collection service	1	
Recycling - confusion over scheme and lack of convenient recycling facilities for small objects such as plastic bags and batteries, inaccessible facilities	5	
Lack of wheelie bins	4	
Threat of wheelie bins	2	
Pink refuse sacks look unsightly & encourage rats	3	
Rubbish bags in the streets on collection day	3	
Having to pay to have garden waste collected	2	
Loss of cattle market	3	
<u>Amenities and Leisure</u>		
Not enough for younger people to do	33	5
Lack of entertainment, sport, leisure and cinema facilities	32	5
Ringwood Leisure Centre – waiting in reception, inefficiency, lack of access to swimming pool during term time school hours, too expensive	5	
Too many pubs & restaurants in a small area (at the cost of shops and housing)	6	
Lack of a community hall	3	
Doesn't cater enough for old people	3	
Too many local events being staged in the Furlong Centre instead of in the Market Place which should be the heart of Ringwood – Market Place & High Street losing their roles and locals stay away because there is not enough parking with influx of visitors	8	
Lack of quality, community pubs	2	
Town dies at 5.00 p.m.	2	
Nightclub	1	
Misuse of Carvers Field – return it to how it was	1	
Plans for Rugby Club in Parsonage Barn Lane	1	
Library too far out	1	
<u>General</u>		
Inability & unwillingness of long-term residents to change with the times (rose tinted spectacles), and 'who don't want the town to improve but would rather have poundsaver shops'	9	

Complaints about the Town Council – councillors who put party politics & their own interests before the welfare of the town; having a mayor – Ringwood is not a borough; failure to tell residents about events; ‘done deal’ culture; ‘lack of recognition of true feelings of residents, not just the few who profit from decisions,’ excessive expenditure when money could be used for schools or elderly; ‘council which acts as a dictatorship.’	13	2
Lack of provision for tourists on a Sunday – tourists wandering around looking for something to do	1	
Council tax is too high	3	
Letters in the papers which say you have to be born in Ringwood to have a say or care	2	
Locals being encouraged to participate in major issues and being asked about their feelings privately	2	
Insufficient involvement of future generations in the planning for the future of Ringwood; idea it might become an ‘old people’s’ town	3	
Increase in tourism	2	
Ambition to make the town bigger	1	
Lack of community spirit & civic pride	3	
Newcomers who try to change Ringwood Town Council	1	
Ringwood free paper which airs the bigoted views of a few – demeaning to educated people	2	
The way the Christmas tree is decorated	1	
Venice	1	
Zizzis	1	