



DUSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Duston Parish Council
Duston Community Centre
Pendle Road
Duston
Northampton
NN5 6DT

Environment Committee

Clrs Enright-King, Ennis-Clark, Ingram, Liddon, Craven, Dickinson

14th June 2024

Dear Councillor,

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Environment Committee to be held at Duston Community Centre on Thursday 20th June 2024 commencing at 7.00pm for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Issued by:

Gary Youens
Parish Clerk, Duston Parish Council

AGENDA

EC01/24. To elect the Chair of the Environment Committee

EC02/24. To elect the Vice-Chair of the Environment Committee

EC03/24. To receive apologies for absence

EC04/24. To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 18th April 2024 (APPENDIX A)

EC05/24. To receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda (*Members should disclose any interests in the business to be discussed and are reminded that the disclosure of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest will require that the member withdraws from the meeting room during the transaction of that item of business*).

EC06/24. Public Participation Session (*Persons wishing to address the committee on an agenda item may register their intention to do so by telephone or email by 12 noon on the day of the meeting and may speak for a maximum of 3 minutes*).

EC07/24. Terms of Reference

- To note the Terms of Reference for the Environment Committee (APPENDIX B)

EC08/24. Speed Activation Signs

- To note the latest speed sign data (APPENDIX C)

EC09/24. Encroachment of Parks / Public Open Space

- To photograph and collect evidence of all existing DPC Parks and Open Space against future encroachment / "land grabbing".

EC10/24. QR Code Stickers

- To discuss and agree QR code stickers for reporting overflowing bins (APPENDIX D)

EC11/24. DPC Corporate Objectives

- Discuss 7 Corporate Objectives and what DPC should look to achieve over the next 3 - 4 years (APPENDIX E)

EC12/24. Benches

- To agree to refurbish four DPC Benches. (2 Hardlands Road, Main Road and Duston Cemetery) Using CIL. (APPENDIX F)

EC13/24. New Signage

- a) To discuss whether a sign on St Luke's Field / Sussex Close about polite parking (APPENDIX G)
- b) Whether to replace the existing signs with bigger signs (APPENDIX H)

EC14/24. Junior Goal Post at St Luke's Field

- To agree a junior goal post at St Luke's Field using CIL.

EC15/24. Junior Turnstile Roundabout

- To agree to purchase a junior turnstile roundabout for Westbury Close Play Area using CIL (APPENDIX I)

EC16/24. Clerk Report on Environment Committee Issues

- To receive an update from the Clerk on the following
 - Goal Posts for Errington Park
 - Three New Litterbins
 - Rewilding at Errington Park
 - Mendip Park Entrance
 - 30 mph Stickers
 - Parking near junction signs
 - Play Equipment Items in Haydown Green and Grafton Way Meadow



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Environment Committee Minutes
Thursday 18th April 2024

Chair: Cllr P Enright-King

Councillors Present:

Cllrs Craven, Dickenson, Ennis-Clark, Ingram,

IN ATTENDANCE:

Gary Youens – Clerk

Ryan Ikavnieks – Assistant Clerk

EC99/24. To receive apologies for absence

- Apologies were received from Cllr Liddon.

EC100/24. To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 21st March 2024 (APPENDIX A)

- **RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 21st March 2024 were approved as a true record and duly signed by the Chair.

EC101/24. To receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda

- Members were reminded of the need to declare any interests in the items on this agenda, whether pecuniary or otherwise. There were no interests declared.

EC102/24. Public Participation Session

- Three members of the public present – three members of the local policing unit and a Designing Out Crime Officer
- Two members of the spoke upon Bants Lane Allotment

EC103/24. EV Charging Points

- **RESOLVED:** That the Clerk researches and creates a report detailing the installation / ongoing costs / income and planning requirements associated with Electrical Vehicle charging points, identifying appropriate locations.

EC104/24. Community Speed Watch

- **RESOLVED:** That the committee supports the Police suggestion of establishing local Community Speedwatch Groups and will share any relevant information via social media.

EC105/24. Partnership working with Police

- The Designing Out Crime Officer said she has been to Limehurst Square and looked at the local crime data. She said the data showed there was a stronger case for CCTV in other neighbours in the local area. CCTV at Limehurst Square would not necessarily prevent crime and anti-social behaviour. The representatives of the Police also spoke about break in of sheds at Bants Lane allotments.
- **RESOLVED:**
 - a) Not to pursue CCTV at Limehurst Square for the time being.
 - b) It is welcomed that the Police attended this meeting and it was hoped they would attend further meetings of the Parish Council in future.

EC106/24. Play Equipment Inspection

- **RESOLVED:**
 - a) That the play areas and gym equipment which Duston Parish Council get independently inspected (Errington Park, Mendip Park, Grafton Way Meadow, St Luke's Field, Quarry / Duston Wildes, and Haydown Green) was noted.

- b) That the Council includes Triumph Gardens and Westbury Close to the independent inspection rota.
- c) That Triumph Gardens and Westbury Close are included in routine inspections by the Council.

EC107/24. Tree Inspection for 2024/25

- The Clerk conducts tree surveys on a staggered schedule to spread survey and associated remedial cost over three years to ensure budget stability. However, many of the land transfers have not yet taken place.
- **RESOLVED:** Not to conduct tree surveys in 2024/25 until the land transfers have taken place.

EC108/24. Speeding In Alsace Close

- **RESOLVED:**
 - a) That the correspondence from a resident in Alsace Close (APPENDIX B) was received, discussed and noted.
 - b) That the Clerk obtains relevant permissions to install a Speed Activated Sign in Alsace Close and adds the location to the current speed activated sign location rota.

EC109/24. Tree to the Rear of Ashwood Road

- **RESOLVED:**
 - a) That the verbal update on a trees to the rear of Ashwood Road (APPENDIX C *note: the land does not belong to Duston Parish Council nor West Northamptonshire Council*) was received, discussed and noted.
 - b) That the Environment Committee recommends that Duston Parish Council does not continue in any further involvement in the dispute over ownership of the trees to the rear of Ashwood Road.
 - c) That the Environment Committee recommends not to conduct or fund any remedial works on the trees to the rear of Ashwood Road. It is noted that the tree is in private ownership in an area which is not used by the general public.

EC110/24. Tree of Hope Planting

- **RESOLVED:**

- a) That the discussion of the situation of planting around the Tree of Hope was noted.
- b) To purchase and plant established plants to create an informal barrier as opposed to any structures.

EC111/24. Tree Planting at Mendip Park

- As requested the Clerk has ordered some young trees from the Woodland Trust.
- Previously it was suggested Willow Trees could be purchased to help soak up some of the excess water.
- **RESOLVED:**
 - a) The roots of any trees planted do not cause any damage to the recently installed Soakaway and Anglian Water Drains.
 - b) To get small copse pack (x30 trees) from the Woodland Trust.

EC112/24. Limehurst Square

- **RESOLVED:** That the following ideas to improve Limehurst Square be investigated and communicated to the Community Services Committee:
 - The Bins be blocked on the North East openings to stop litter being blown out due to the design of the Square creating an artificial wind tunnel.
 - To research 'stick your gum / vape stickers here' poster to install around the Square with the aim of reducing the amount of gum and vape stickers scattered around.
 - Stick QR codes to the bins on the Square linking to the report function to ensure that the bins are being reported when full.
 - The cost and implications of installing something to block off the fly tipping hotspot from the public footpath.
 - The cost and staffing implications of installing hanging basket upon the lampposts around the square.

Environment Committee

Membership: A maximum of 5 councillors. Councillors are elected and removed by Council. Chair of Council will be a member with voting rights.

Quorum: No less than 3 councillors.

Chair & Vice-Chair: To be elected at the first meeting of the Committee for the municipal year. The Chair or Vice-Chair will report back to Council.

Voting: Decisions taken by a majority vote. In the case of an equal vote the Chair shall have a second or casting vote.

Meetings:

- a) Determined by Council.
- b) As considered necessary by the Chair and/or Clerk.

The Committee has the following responsibilities:

1. The Environmental Committee will review, monitor and make recommendations to Full Council on the following:

- a) The overall management of DPC owned trees, green spaces, playgrounds, streetlights and parks (but not including allotments).
- b) Matters relating to non-DPC owned trees, green spaces, playgrounds and parks within the Parish including St Lukes Churchyard and Duston cemetery.
- c) Street furniture such as seating, public art, litter bins & bus shelters. This includes the purchase of additional or replacement street furniture.
- d) Maintenance and upkeep of the war Memorial.
- e) Maintenance and upkeep of Timken Artwork.
- f) Maintenance and upkeep of Timken Gates and Rosevilla Hut and adjoining wall.
- g) Maintenance of Alfred Knight / Main Road / Timken South footpath and the 3 streetlights
- h) Reducing litter and fly-tipping in Duston.
- i) Actions and initiatives to help reduce crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour.
- j) How DPC and the wider Parish can help play its part in confronting climate change. Also advising Council and other Committees on Climate Change issues.
- k) Improving and maintaining biodiversity in Duston.

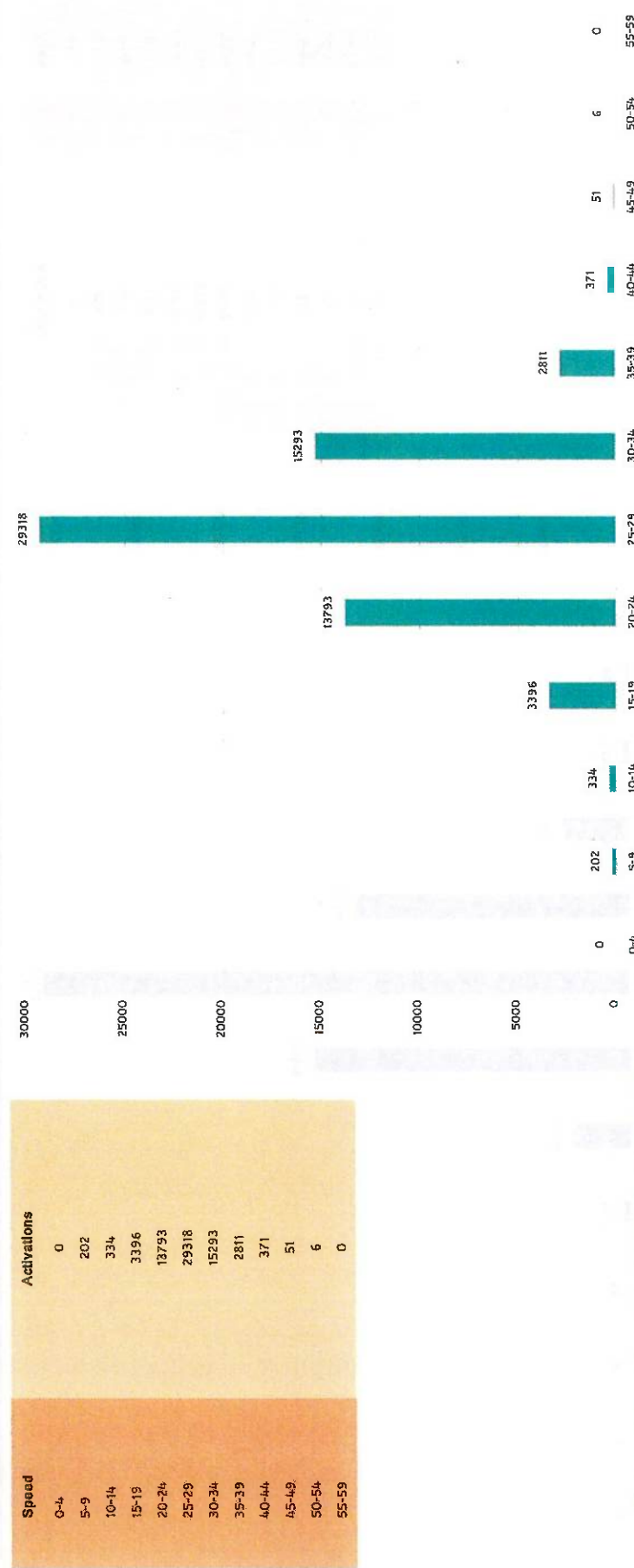
Specific Delegated Responsibilities:

2. This Committee has annual spending cap of £6000 per year.

3. Minor improvements to DPC owned Parks and Open Spaces.
4. Liaising directly with other local stakeholders in respect of reducing crime, anti-social behaviour, littering, flytipping and climate change.
5. Oversee the usage and operation of the Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) within Duston.
6. Oversee general signage use relating to the Environment (such as anti - littering, dog fouling, pollution, crime and speeding).
7. The power to establish working parties within its terms of reference. Must seek permission of Council to set up a Sub-Committee.
8. Any issue referred to it by Council.

Main Road - February 2024

L23 DII



(Data collected from 17 / 2 / 2024 - 4 / 3 / 2024)

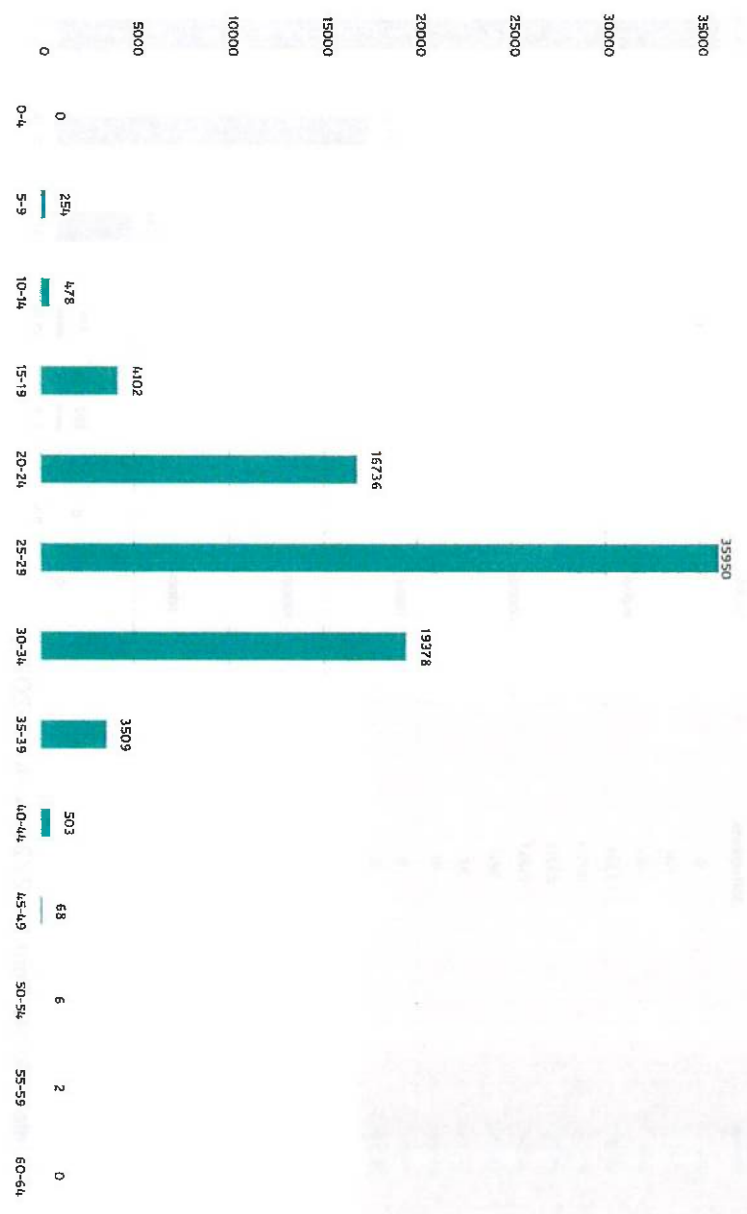
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Main Road - March 2024

L23 D11

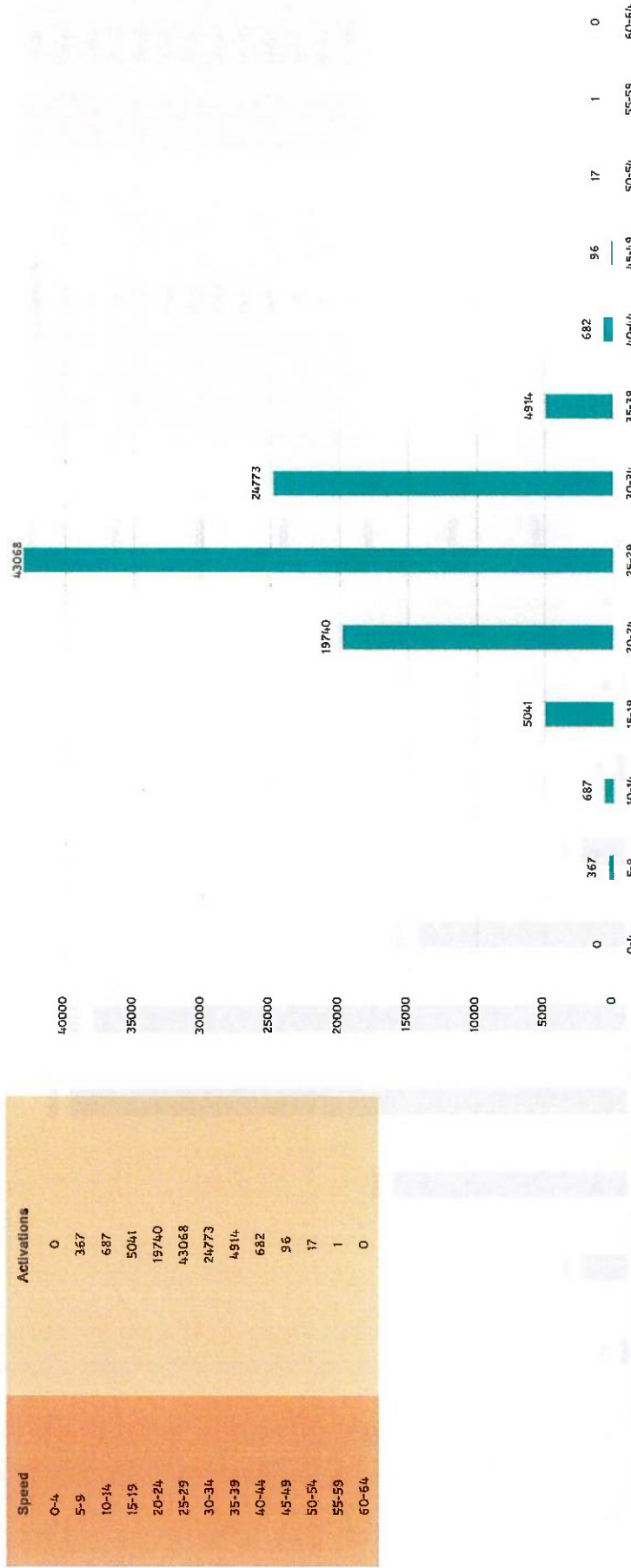
Speed	Activations
0-4	0
5-9	254
10-14	478
15-19	4,102
20-24	16,736
25-29	35,950
30-34	19,378
35-39	3,509
40-44	503
45-49	68
50-54	6
55-59	2
60-64	0

(Data collected from 1/3/2024 - 31/3/2024)



Main Road - April 2024

L23 DII

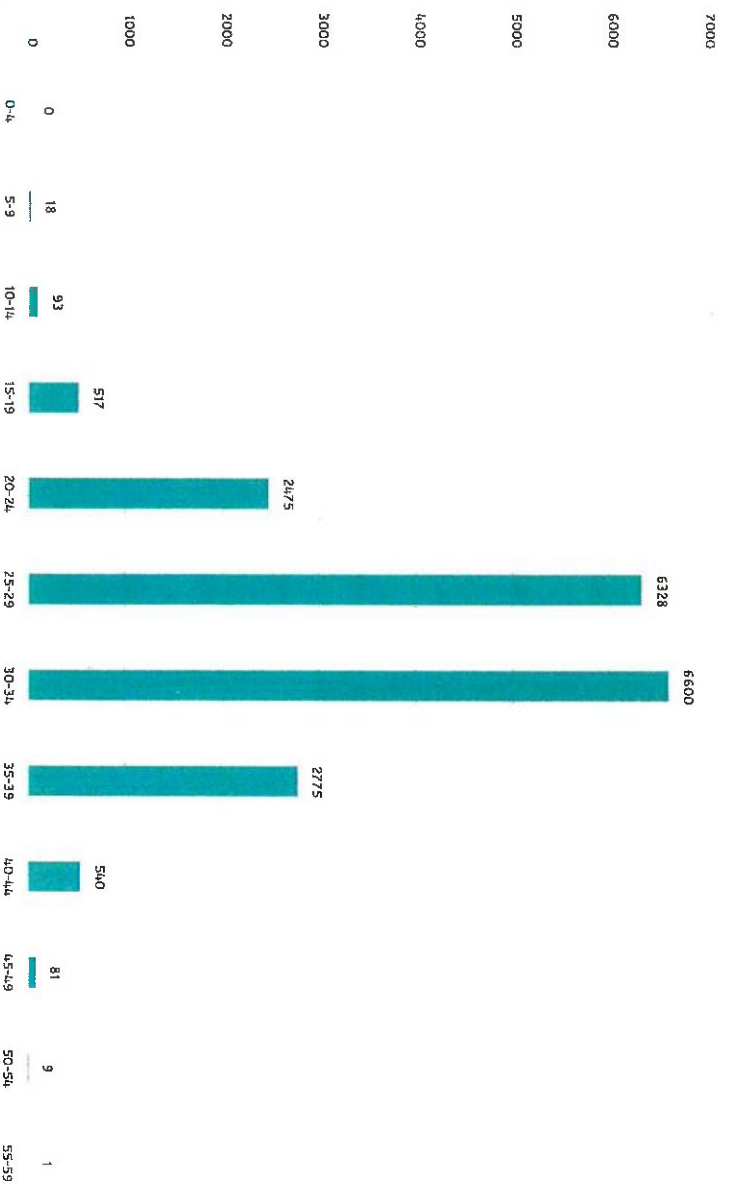


(Data collected from 1/4/2024 - 30/4/2024)

Old Sandy Lane - February 2024

L6 DJW

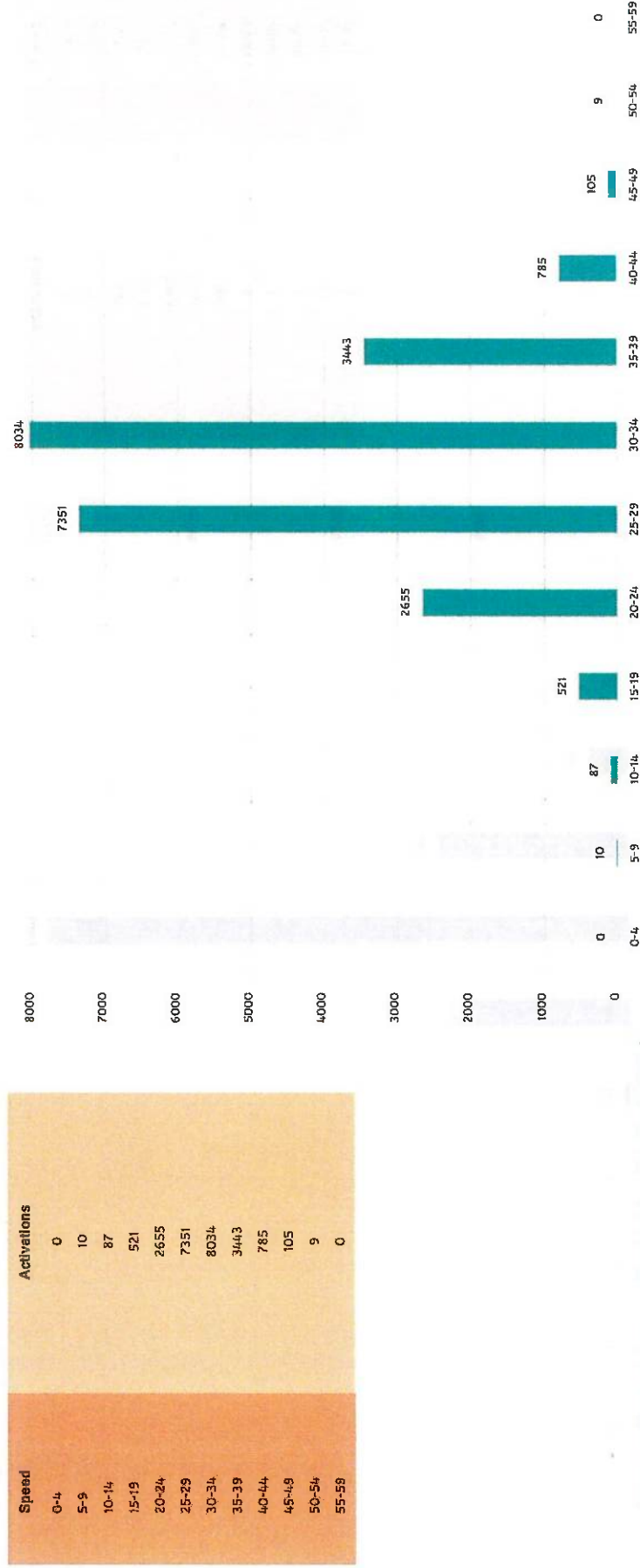
Speed	Activations
0-4	0
5-9	18
10-14	93
15-19	517
20-24	2475
25-29	6328
30-34	6600
35-39	2775
40-44	540
45-49	81
50-54	9
55-59	1



(Data collected from 7/2/2024 - 6/3/2024)

Old Sandy Lane - March 2024

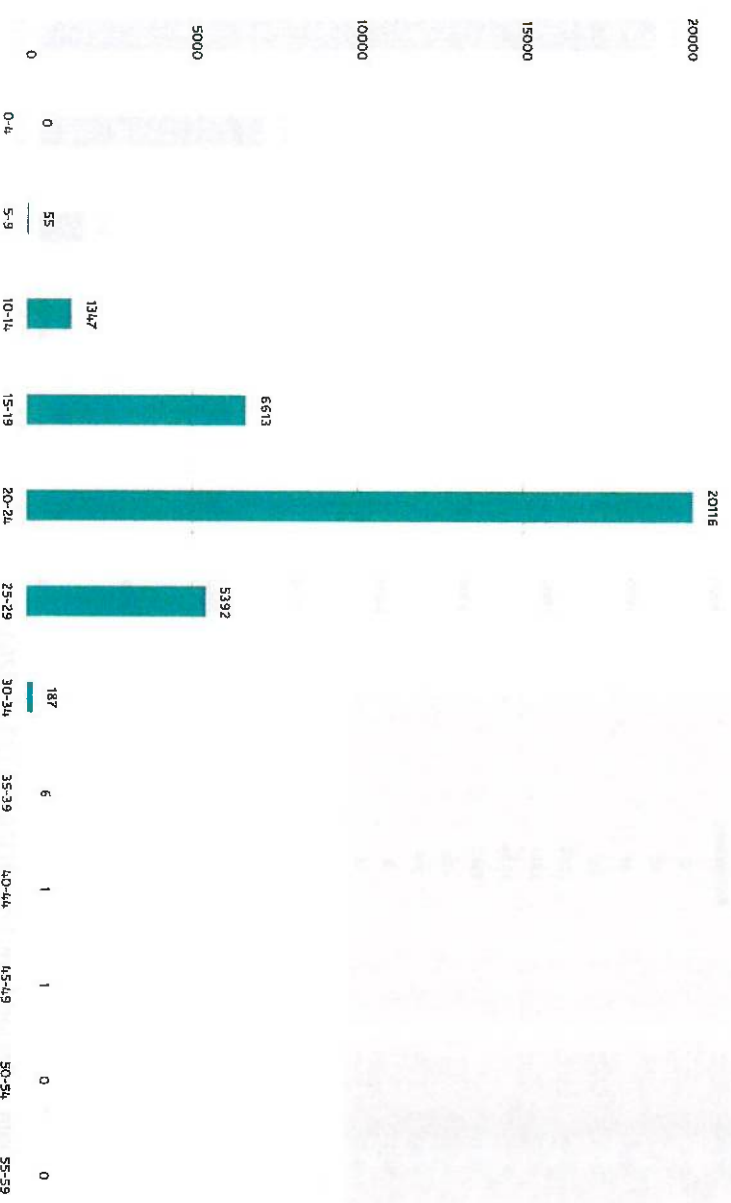
L6 DJW



(Data collected from 1/3/2024 - 31/3/2024)

Weggs Farm Road - February 2024 L12 DII

Speed	Activations
0-4	0
5-9	55
10-14	1347
15-19	6613
20-24	20116
25-29	5392
30-34	187
35-39	6
40-44	1
45-49	1
50-54	0
55-59	0

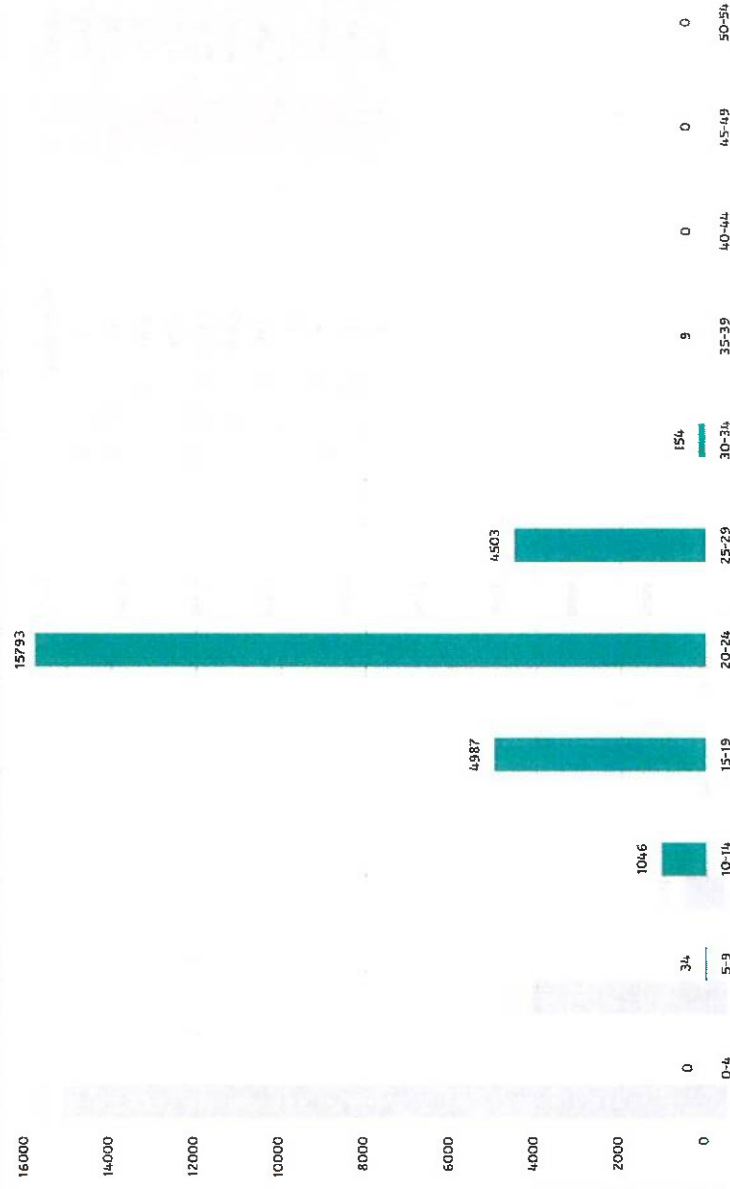


(Data collected from 3/2/2024 -3/3/2024)

Weggs Farm Road - March 2024

L12 DII

Speed	Activations
0-4	0
5-9	34
10-14	1046
15-19	4987
20-24	15793
25-29	4503
30-34	154
35-39	9
40-44	0
45-49	0
50-54	0



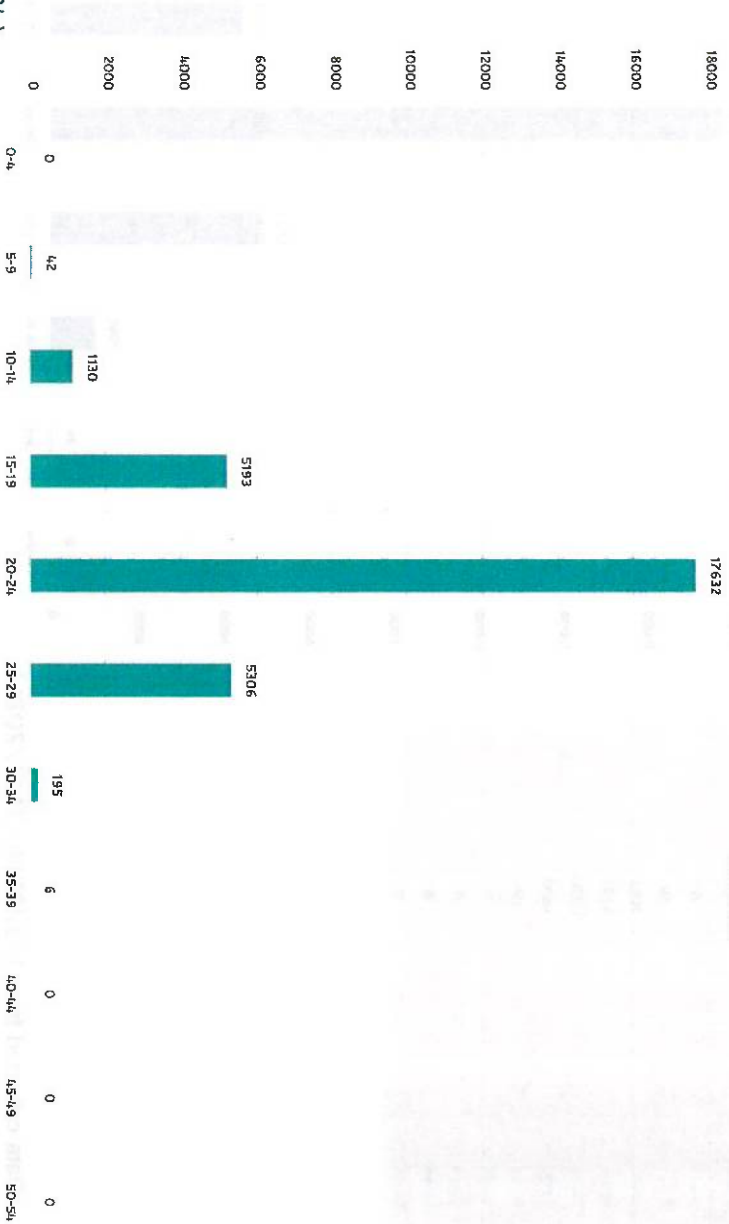
(Data collected from 1/3/2024 -31/3/2024)

Weggs Farm Road - April 2024

L12 D11

Speed	Activations
0-4	0
5-9	42
10-14	1130
15-19	5193
20-24	17632
25-29	5306
30-34	195
35-39	6
40-44	0
45-49	0
50-54	0

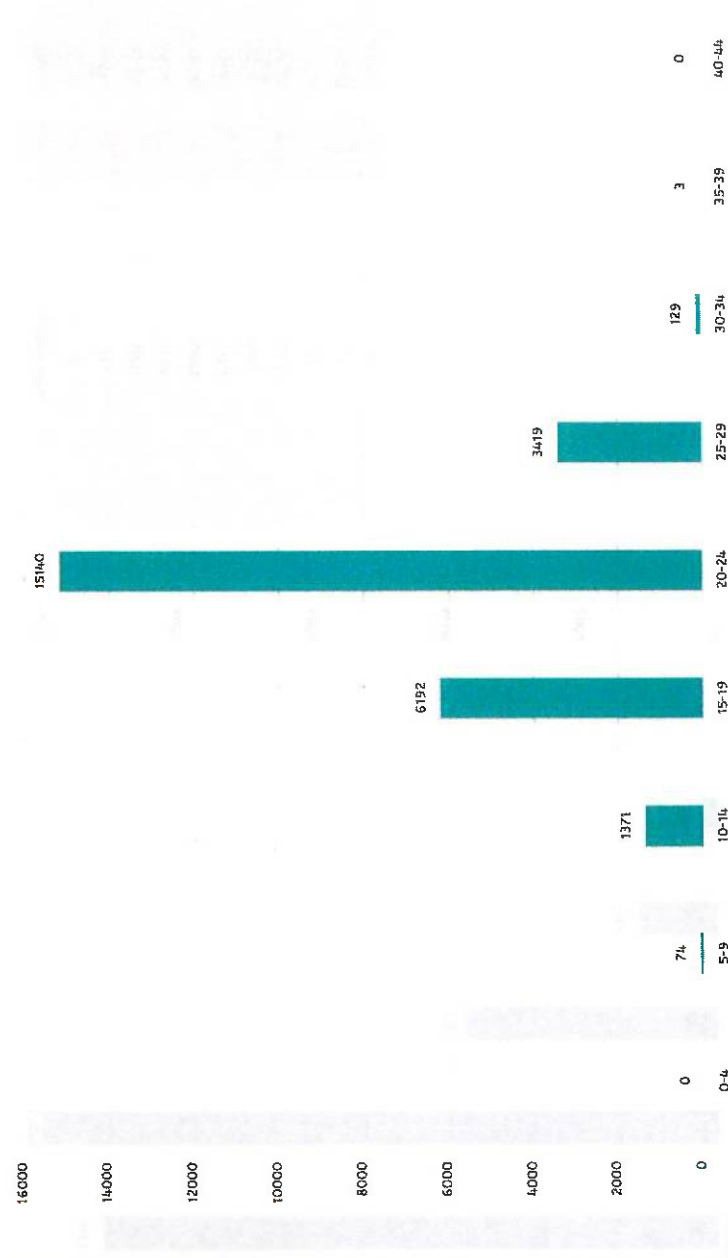
(Data collected from 1/4/2024 - 28/4/2024)



Weggs Farm Road - May 2024

L12 DII

Speed	Activations
0-4	0
5-9	74
10-14	1371
15-19	6192
20-24	15140
25-29	3419
30-34	129
35-39	3
40-44	0

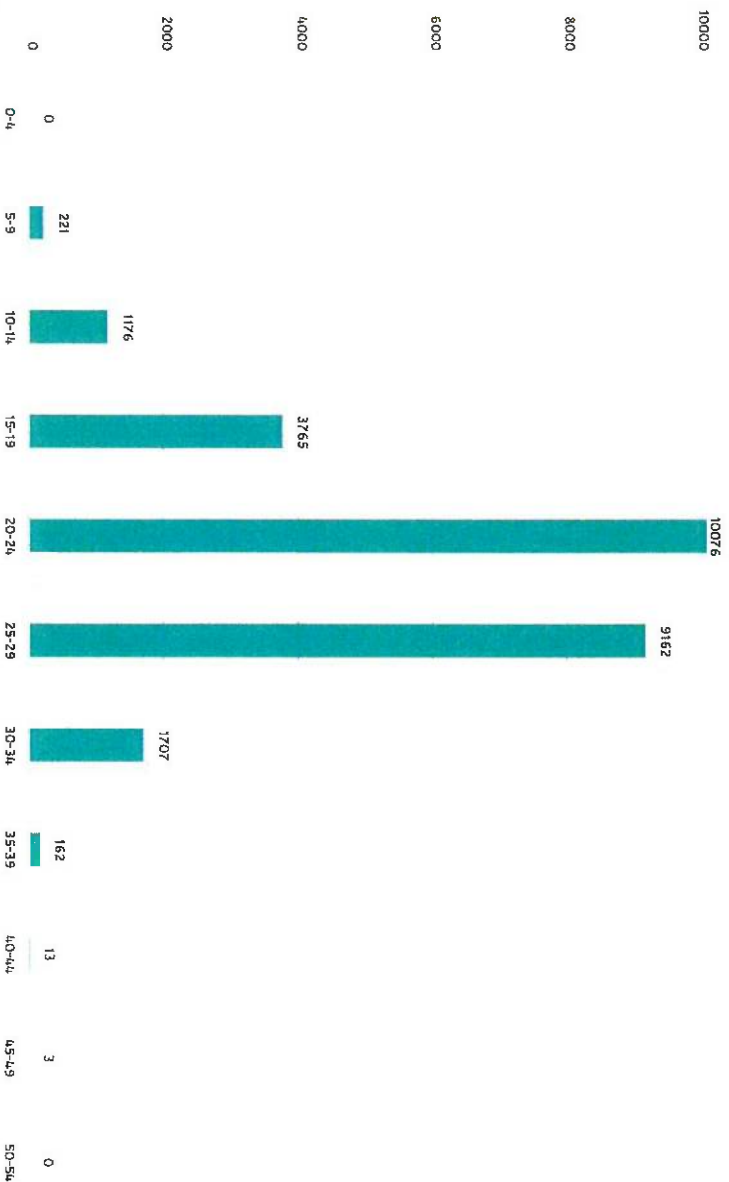


(Data collected from 1/5/2024 - 31/5/2024)

Firstview Drive - February 2024

L5 DGA

Speed	Activations
0-4	0
5-9	221
10-14	1176
15-19	3765
20-24	10076
25-29	9162
30-34	1707
35-39	162
40-44	13
45-49	3
50-54	0

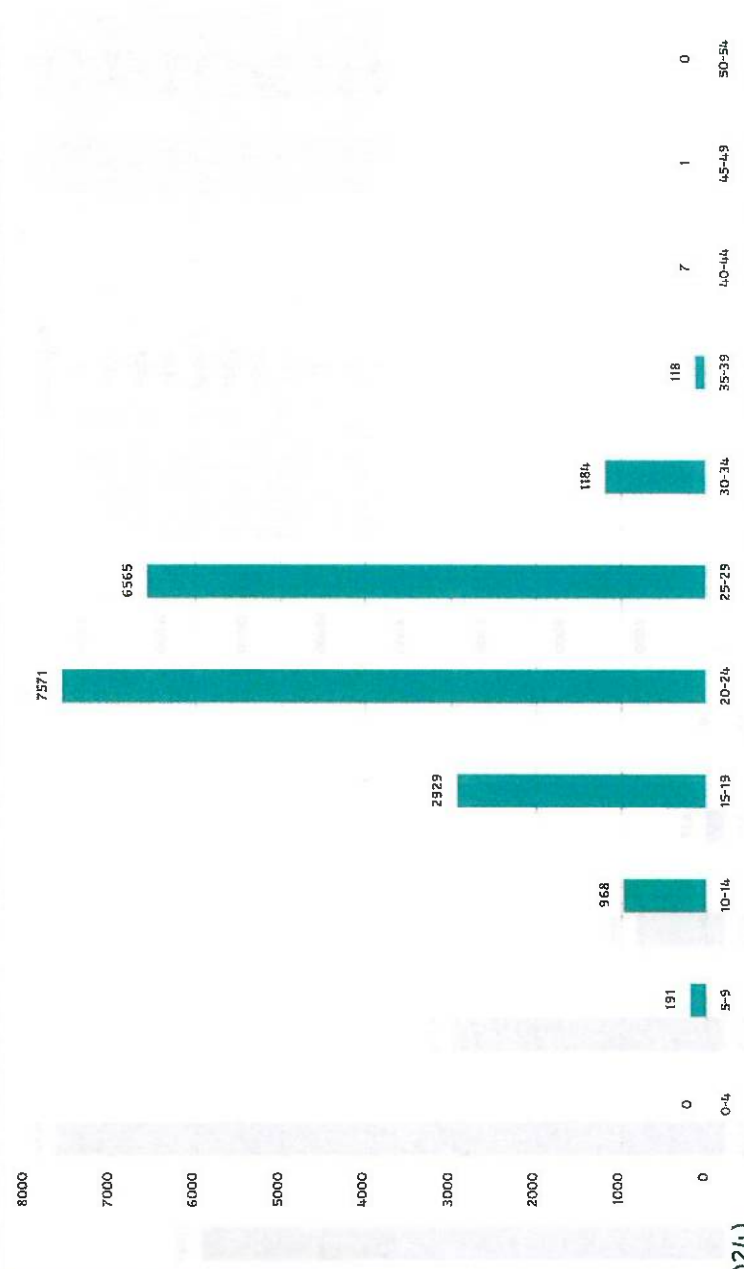


(Data collected from 17/2/2024 - 6/3/2024)

Firview Drive - March 2024

L5 DGA

Speed	Activations
0-4	0
5-9	191
10-14	968
15-19	2929
20-24	7571
25-29	6565
30-34	1184
35-39	118
40-44	7
45-49	1
50-54	0

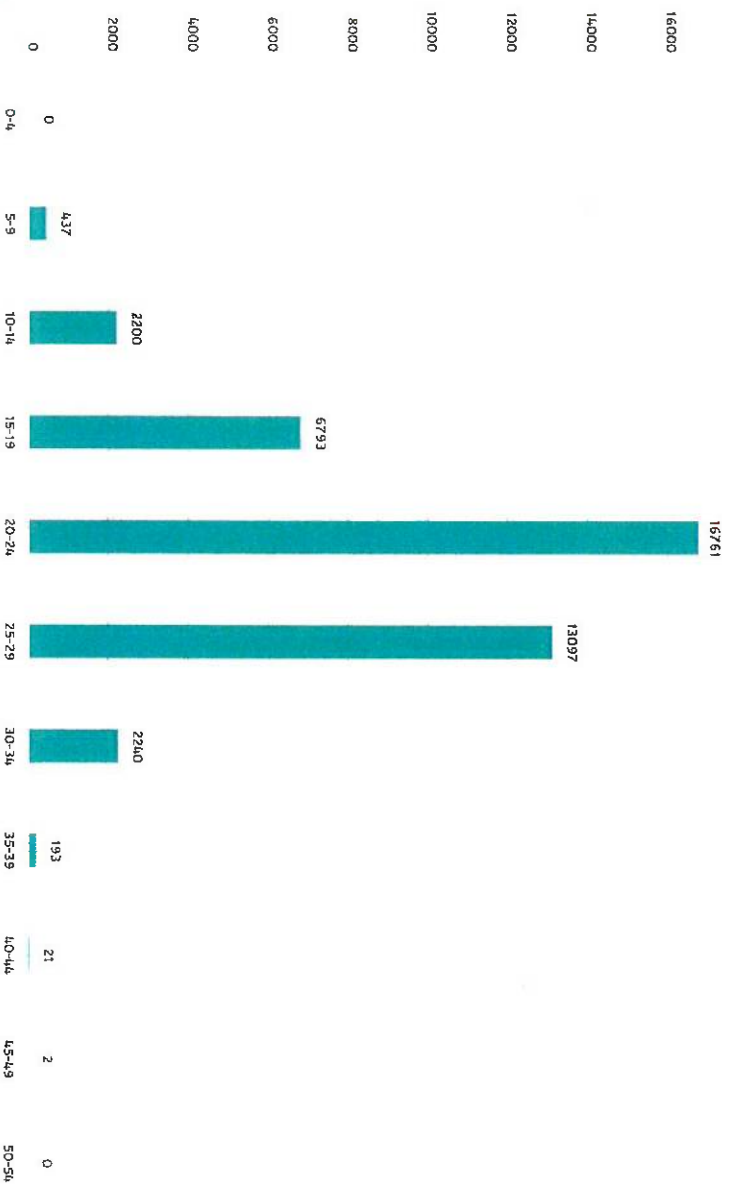


(Data collected from 11/3/2024 -31/3/2024)

Firsvew Drive - April 2024

L5 DGA

Speed	Activations
0-4	0
5-9	437
10-14	2200
15-19	6793
20-24	16761
25-29	13097
30-34	2240
35-39	193
40-44	21
45-49	2
50-54	0



(Data collected from 1/4/2024 - 30/4/2024)

Firsviw Drive - May 2024

L5 DGA



(Data collected from 1/5/2024 - 5/6/2024)



50x50 mm



75x75mm



90x90mm DPC website

£27 + VAT for 100 stickers



100x100 mm WNC Street Cleaner form

£57.5 + VAT for 50 stickers

Report QR code to DPC website function	Report QR code to WNC form
<p>Pros</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DPC can track and monitor issues. ▪ DPC can create a log. ▪ Generic form – people can report various issues. <p>Cons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased workload – A member of staff will have to manually input each report from our system to WNCs ▪ Staff member will potentially have to interpret issues ▪ Possible reputational damage – members of the public may assume that we are the responsible party who are meant to sort the issue as opposed to WNC ▪ People abuse the reporting system / report non-issues. 	<p>Pros</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No increase in workload ▪ Issue gets reported directly to the responsible party. ▪ No potential reputational damage if the issue is not resolved. <p>Cons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DPC cannot create a log. ▪ DPC cannot track and monitor issues. ▪ Specific forms – e.g. different QR code required for FixMyStreet ▪ Website URL could change, breaking the QR code – possibility of a 'Live' QR code, however, they redirect you from a host website – may be viewed as a virus / scam.

7 CORPORATE OBJECTIVES



DUSTON PARISH COUNCIL

1. HAVING EXCELLENT COMMUNITY CENTRES

Description

The Council has now for a decade provided three Centres that have served the community of Duston. Duston Sports Centre is managed on behalf of the Council by Trilogy Active. The Council directly manages St Luke's Centre and Duston Community Centre which offer quality room hire at very competitive rates. The objective is to continue to provide facilities that are managed to a good standard, in an efficient, effective and responsive way, at an affordable cost.

2. DELIVER HIGH QUALITY GREEN SPACES

Description

The Council is in the process of taking on more public open space and has also agreed with West Northamptonshire Council to have the freehold of the two allotment sites. It is in the process of building up capacity and expertise when it comes to the management of Parks and Open Spaces. The Council will eventually take on full maintenance of Parks, Open Space and Allotments. The

Council aims to deliver high quality parks & green open spaces in Duston for residents to use and enjoy.

3. A MORE SAFER, SUSTAINABLE AND PLEASANT ENVIRONMENT

Description

The Council has made numerous improvements to the public realm in recent years and is beginning to do this as part of the core services it offers to residents. The Council maintains hanging baskets, planters, monuments (Timken Artwork, Timken Gates & War Memorial) and various street furniture. It also seeks to improve the environment by reducing crime and anti-social behaviour. Within its remit the Council will strive to enhance and protect local biodiversity. The Council encourages and promotes a more safer, sustainable and pleasant in every part of the Parish.

4. PRODUCES AN EVENTS PROGRAMME WHETHER ON ITS OWN OR IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OTHERS

Description

For a long time the Council has delivered community events which has provided local entertainment and information to residents. Most notably the Council has had a summer event which is currently titled "Duston Fun Day" and more recently the Council has put on a "Community Info & Wellness Fair". The Council also does regular Indoor Car Boot Sales and a Christmas Market. This year the Council is doing a Christmas Tree Festival.

5. ADVANCING HEALTH & WELLBEING

Description

The Council aims to maximise community wellbeing in the broadest sense such as playing a role in reducing social isolation and creating opportunities for young people. It is important that the Council works with residents, West Northamptonshire Council and other service providers, businesses and community organisations with the aim of achieving a healthy, prosperous and caring community. As a Parish Council we look beyond the medical models of health care to look at how the community can be energised and supported to tackle the social determinants of health and get involved in improving the wellbeing of their community. The Council has recently adopted a Health & Wellbeing Strategy.

6. ADVOCATING AND PROMOTING DUSTON

Description

The scope of the Parish Council is broader than just the services it directly provides. The Council is there to do what it can to promote all businesses, establishments, services and amenities within the Parish. Celebrate what Duston has to offer. The Council supports local initiatives and organisations that improve the quality of life for its residents in a fair and even handed way. An example of this the Parish Council using its social media platforms to promote Duston Market and has a Grants Application Process. The Council advocates the interests of Duston to others such as Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner and West Northamptonshire Council.

7. BEING A PROFESSIONAL AND COMPETENT COUNCIL

Description

A prudent Council that is responsible with public money and has a strong financial base to meet future and unexpected challenges. With strong financial reserves the Council is less likely to need to borrow in the future. Duston Parish Council is open and transparent with most information published

on the website www.duston-pc.gov.uk Across all aspects area of its working it aims to provide an effective service to residents and strives for improvement. A Council that has good governance in place and meets all the necessary statutory requirements. Delivers good customer service.



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