



Community
Planning
Aberdeen

Your Place, Your Plans, Your Future –

North Locality results report 2025



Contents

WHY DID WE DO THIS?	2
WHAT DID WE ASK?	3
HOW AND WHO DID WE ASK?	3
WHO PARTICIPATED?.....	4
WHAT WE FOUND.....	4
WHAT THE NORTH LOCALITY SCORED HIGHEST AND LOWEST.....	4
WHAT HAS CHANGED IN NORTH SINCE 2023	5
WHAT SCORED HIGHEST AND LOWEST IN NORTH PRIORITY NEIGHBOURHOODS	5
WHAT PEOPLE IN NORTH SAID	7
TOP THINGS THAT THE NORTH LOCALITY THINK ARE 'GOOD NOW' AND THINGS THAT 'COULD MAKE ABERDEEN BETTER'	8
WHAT OUR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SAID.....	27
Scoring for in person children and young people's.....	27
Scoring for online children and young people's survey	28
WHAT PEOPLE FROM NORTH LOCALITY said about our proposals?	30
Work and Local Economy.....	31
Social interaction	31
Influence and Sense of Control	31
Housing and Community.....	31
WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?.....	32
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.....	32

WHY DID WE DO THIS?

Over 2025 and years ahead, Community Planning Aberdeen partners were engaging on a number of plans and strategies aimed at improving our city.

The way our city, our neighbourhoods, look, function and feel can influence everything from our health and wellbeing to the opportunities we can access. Improving the quality of places can help to tackle inequalities and improve outcomes for our communities. Understanding the existing and potential strengths of Aberdeen directly from the people of Aberdeen can inform good decision-making.

To support people to participate, Community Planning Aberdeen partners joined up to hold one engagement to inform the various strategic plans. By integrating the engagement, we aimed to reduce the ask on communities and streamline the engagement process.

The plans and strategies included the Local Housing Strategy, Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan, Community Learning and Development (CLD) Plan, the Local Development Plan (LDP), the Visitor Levy Proposal, the Children's Services Plan, and the Local Outcome Improvement Plan and Locality Plans.

WHAT DID WE ASK?

We asked you to score (1 to 7) for each of the 14 themes below each focussed on one aspect of life in Aberdeen (1 means there is a lot of room for improvement and 7 means there is very little improvement needed).

To help us identify potential areas for improvement we asked you to share your view for each theme on:

- What is working well?
- What could be improved?



We also asked you tell us if you agreed, or not, with the priorities and actions in our current draft Strategies (Local Housing Strategy, Community Learning and Development, Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan, Local Development Plan Play Sufficiency Assessment, Visitor Levy Proposal) aligned to the following themes:

- Work and Economy
- Facilities and Services
- Social Interaction
- Influence and Sense of Control
- Play and Recreation
- Housing and Community

HOW AND WHO DID WE ASK?

The engagement ran from 24th March to 18th May and was a combination of the following:

- online survey for adults
- online survey designed for children and young people
- 6 locality events, with specific activities designed by the Aberdeen Youth Movement and Aberdeen Ambassadors for children and young people
- outreach programme where we went to 98 groups/schools/locations across Aberdeen and facilitated participation to meet people's needs.

We reached out to you, through the services you connect with, the people you know, the community and third sector group you are involved with, your friends and family. We also used our networks and social media platforms; we issued press releases and got stories in newsletters. Your contribution has been a valuable part of this exercise.

Your Place, Your Plans, Your Future
It's time to have your say Aberdeen

We would like all Aberdeen residents to share your views!
Tell us what you think is good now and what could be better. Your views will help shape Aberdeen's plans for improvement.
The engagement is open between **24 March and 18 May 2025**

How to participate:
Share your views by scanning the QR code, or visiting:
<http://yourplaceyourplans.commonplace.is>
or attend a drop in event in your locality:

Engagement Events	When	Where
ABERDEEN NORTH		
North Priority Neighbourhood Partnership	Saturday 10th May 2025 2pm - 4pm	Get Active at Northfield Kesteven Crescent, AB15 5TL
North Locality Engagement Group	Saturday 10th May 2025 10am - 12pm	King's Church, King's Way Bridge of Don, AB23 3BS
ABERDEEN CENTRAL		
Central Priority Neighbourhood Partnership	Saturday 26th April 2025 10am - 12pm	Aberdeen Sports Village Lincolnton Road, AB24 5AU
Central Locality Engagement Group	Thursday 27th March 2025 2pm - 4pm	Brownhead Community Centre, Belgrave Terrace, AB25 2NS
ABERDEEN SOUTH		
Tony Partnership	Thursday 27th March 2025 10am - 12pm	Greyhope Community Hub Tulloch Centre, Tony, AB18 8SL
South Locality Engagement Group	Saturday 26th April 2025 2pm - 4pm	Anyhills Library, Springfield Road AB15 7WP

Community Planning Aberdeen

Information and consultation available:
Aberdeen City Council, 01224 083906
Aberdeen City Council, 01224 083906
Aberdeen City Council, 01224 083906
Aberdeen City Council, 01224 083906

Your Place, Your Plans, Your Future
It's time to have your say Aberdeen

Completed

Your Place, Your Plans, Your Future.
Help shape our plans. Tell us what would make your neighbourhoods

600

Your Place, Your Plans, Your Future
It's time to have your say Aberdeen

Active

Children and Young People Survey
Children and Young People help shape our plans. Tell us what would make your neighbourhoods better.

Your Place, Your Plans, Your Future
It's time to have your say Aberdeen

Active

Locality Events and Outreach Programme
Explore the ways to participate in the engagement - our our events in your

Get informed

WHO PARTICIPATED?

2,087 people took part in engagement process – up from 470 participants in the last engagement in 2023.

We asked people to share where they lived, but this was not mandatory. 327 people who completed the survey (online and paper copies and locality events/facilitated outreach session) told us that they lived in the North Locality. Of those, 99 were from priority neighbourhoods. 187 children and young people from schools within the North Locality participated.

WHAT WE FOUND

Based on scores allocated by participants from the North Locality, average (mean) scores were calculated for each of the themes. The lower the score, the more participants thought improvement was required. Scores ranged from a **low** of 3.4 (**Influence and sense of control**) to a high of 5.0 (**Natural Space**) out of a maximum of 7.

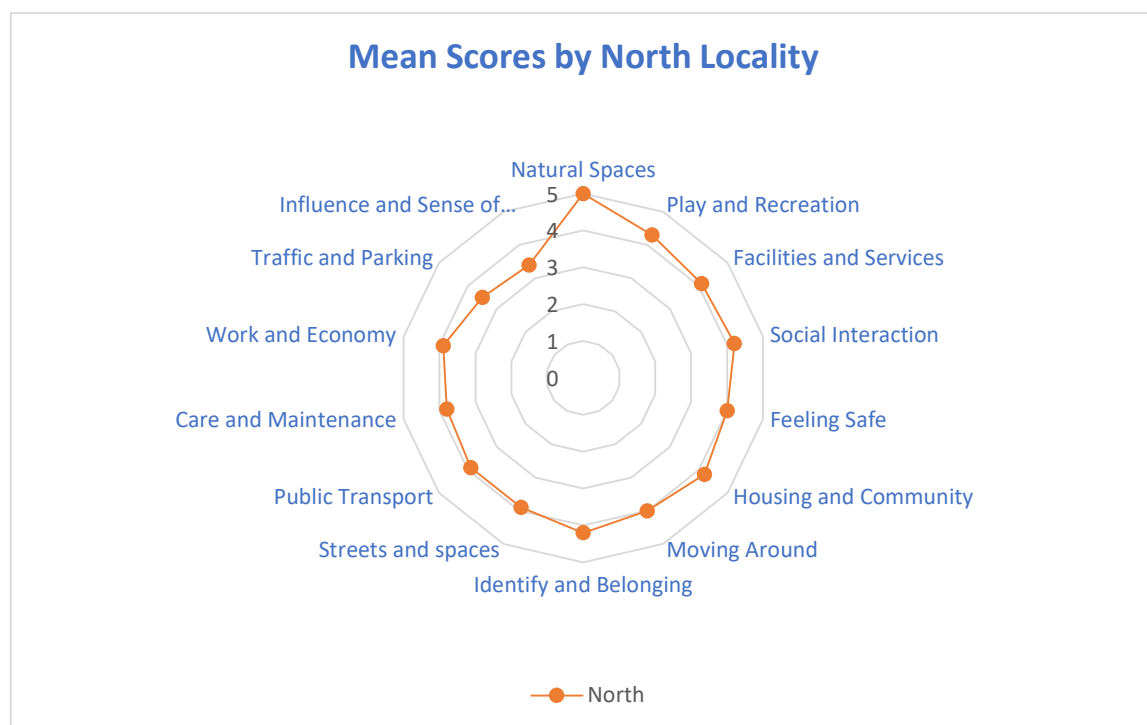
WHAT THE NORTH LOCALITY SCORED HIGHEST AND LOWEST

The **five highest** ranking themes were:

1. Natural space (5)
2. Play and recreation (4.3)
3. Housing and Community (4.2)
4. Social interaction (4.2)
5. Identity and Belonging (4.2)

The **five lowest** ranking themes were:

1. Influence and sense of control (3.4)
2. Traffic and parking (3.5)
3. Care and Maintenance (3.8)
4. Work and Economy (3.9)
5. Public Transport (3.9)



WHAT HAS CHANGED IN NORTH SINCE 2023

Since we last asked in 2023, in **North** there has been an improvement for 6 of the themes, with scores for 4 themes remaining the same and a lower score for 4 themes (**streets and spaces, work and local economy, feeling safe** and **care and maintenance**).

Table xx: Comparison of locality mean scores with 2023.

	North		
	2023	2025	Change
Moving Around	3.8	4	0.2
Public Transport	3.9	3.9	0.0
Traffic and Parking	3.6	3.5	0.0
Streets and Spaces	4.2	3.9	-0.3
Natural Space	4.9	5	0.1
Play and Recreation	4.0	4.3	0.3
Facilities and Services	3.7	4.1	0.4
Work and Local Economy	4.0	3.9	-0.1
Housing and Community	4.2	4.2	0.0
Social Interaction	3.9	4.2	0.3
Identity and Belonging	4.2	4.2	0.0
Feeling Safe	4.1	4	-0.1
Care and Maintenance	3.9	3.8	-0.1
Influence and Sense of Control	3.3	3.4	0.1

WHAT SCORED HIGHEST AND LOWEST IN NORTH PRIORITY NEIGHBOURHOODS

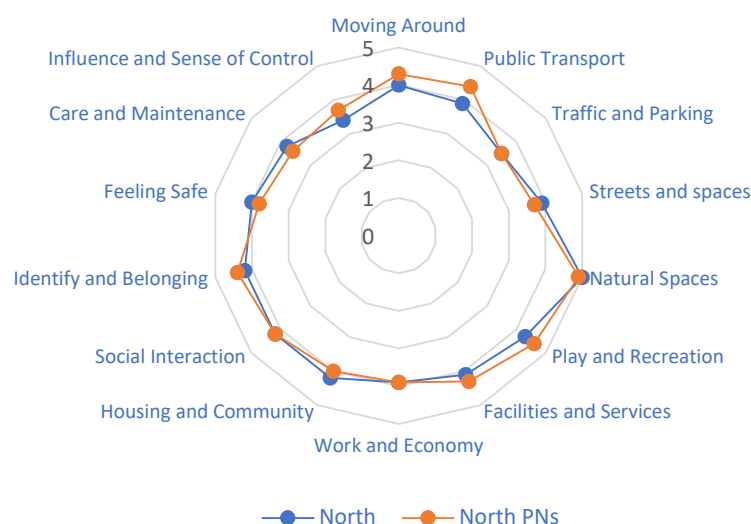
The table below shows the 5 lowest and highest ranking themes for Priority Neighbourhoods within the North locality. The pattern is broadly similar for our three priority neighbourhood (PNs) with the most noticeable differences being for **Public Transport** and **Moving Around** (lower in Central PNs than either North or South PNs) and **Natural Spaces** (lower in South PNs than North PNs).

The **five highest** ranking themes were:

1. Natural Spaces (4.9)
2. Play and Recreation (4.6)
3. Identify and Belonging (4.4)
4. Public Transport (4.4)
5. Facilities and Services (4.3)

The **five lowest** ranking themes were:

1. Traffic and Parking (3.5)
2. Care and Maintenance (3.6)
3. Influence and Sense of Control (3.7)
4. Streets and spaces (3.7)
5. Feeling Safe (3.8)



Mean scores, North and Priority neighbourhoods

Since we last asked in 2023, in North Priority neighbourhoods there has been improvements for all 14 themes.

	North Priority Neighbourhoods		
	2023	2025	Change
Moving Around	3.5	4.3	0.8
Public Transport	4.0	4.4	0.4
Traffic and Parking	3.3	3.5	0.2
Streets and Spaces	3.6	3.7	0.1
Natural Space	4.1	4.9	0.8
Play and Recreation	4.0	4.6	0.6
Facilities and Services	3.4	4.3	0.9
Work and Local Economy	3.7	3.9	0.3
Housing and Community	3.4	4	0.6
Social Interaction	3.9	4.2	0.3
Identity and Belonging	3.9	4.4	0.5
Feeling Safe	3.5	3.8	0.4
Care and Maintenance	3.5	3.6	0.1
Influence and Sense of Control	3.0	3.7	0.7

The table below show highest and lowest ranking for North locality as a whole compared to the North Priority Neighbourhoods. For the most part, the themes ranked highest and lowest are similar in PNs and the locality as a whole. However, there are some differences. The themes in the highest or lowest rankings which appear in one group but not the other have been highlighted

	North		North PNs	
	Theme	Mean	Theme	Mean
Lowest	Influence and Sense of Control	3.4	Traffic and Parking	3.5
	Traffic and Parking	3.5	Care and Maintenance	3.6
	Care and Maintenance	3.8	Influence and Sense of Control	3.7
	Streets and spaces	3.9	Streets and spaces	3.7
	Public Transport	3.9	Feeling Safe	3.8
Highest	Natural Spaces	5	Natural Spaces	4.9
	Play and Recreation	4.3	Play and Recreation	4.6
	Housing and Community	4.2	Identify and Belonging	4.4
	Social Interaction	4.2	Public Transport	4.4
	Identify and Belonging	4.2	Facilities and Services	4.3

WHAT PEOPLE IN NORTH SAID

A total of **3,932** comments were received across each of the 14 themes, combining all 'good' now comments, and all 'improve' comments received by participants from the North Locality who completed the survey or attended an in person event.

The number of comments for 'improve' are greater than the number for 'good' in all themes except Natural Space, Facilities and Services and Identity and Belonging. There was a wide variety and range of comments provided for each theme suggesting improvements.

Below is a summary taken from participants' comments of both the 'good' aspects about Aberdeen and their places, as well as the suggestions for improvement. The summarised comments from North Locality participants are presented and grouped by theme.



TOP THINGS THAT THE NORTH LOCALITY THINK ARE 'GOOD NOW' AND THINGS THAT 'COULD MAKE ABERDEEN BETTER'

Here are the summarised top areas participants from the North Locality felt are 'Good now' and 'Could Make Aberdeen Better' in the future. There are a number of cross cutting areas arising across themes.

Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future
Moving Around	Active Travel and Green Spaces: Participants appreciate wide pavements, clear signage and availability of paths and lanes for both cyclists and pedestrians. Well maintained pavements and green spaces enhance the experience. "Good green space and cycling lanes leading from major parks within the city." Buses: Participants noted good and regular bus routes. "Buses are frequent with helpful drivers." Traffic and Congestion: The bypass has relieved congestion and improved traffic flow. "Traffic flows well at peak times of day on routes I use." Safety Measures: Participants noted the importance of lighting, speed bumps, well maintained and dedicated cycle and pedestrian paths as beneficial for active travel safety. "The integrated walking paths in Bridge of Don are excellent. I can almost walk to the Diamond Bridge from Ashwood without going onto main roads."	Infrastructure and Accessibility: Participants raised issues with road conditions (potholes), road closures, poor signage and diversions making it difficult to navigate the city. Also raised was the impact of road closures in the city centre on ease of access for less able bodied participants. "All the roads you are not allowed to go down in the city centre makes it really difficult to get into town." And "Uneven pavements, road surfaces, all roads need resurfaced" Public Transport: Participants would like to see improved routes, reliability, frequency and lower bus fare costs. "It's not possible to get everywhere on one bus" and "Public transport is too expensive compared to other cities like Edinburgh", "Buses are often infrequent" Cycling Infrastructure: Participants would like to see improved connectivity between existing cycling routes and more dedicated well maintained cycling lanes. "Most roads are not suitable for cycle lanes and bus lanes combined" and "If dedicated cycling lanes are built they should be dedicated to cyclists with no access to pedestrian and cars." Pedestrian Infrastructure/Safety: Improve condition of pavements and increase pedestrian crossings on busy roads. The condition impacts upon the ability for less mobile people to safely cross. "No zebra crossing beside schools" and "The condition of some pavements could be better"

		Bus Gates and Low Emission Zones (LEZ): Participants raised concerns about the effectiveness of bus gates and the Low Emission Zone noting that navigating the city in a car has become more complicated due to closure of roads and introduction of bus gates. <i>“LEZ preventing access to most of the city” and “Bus gates, lez restrictions should be lifted”</i> Street Lighting and Cleaning: Participants would like to see improved cleanliness and appearance of streets in addition to better street lighting measures to improve safety at night. <i>“Some paths could be better lit.” and “No lighting so it isn’t safe after dark”</i>
Theme	‘Good’ now	‘Improve’ for the future
Public Transport	Availability and Frequency: Participants appreciate the availability and frequency of bus services, during the working week and weekends, which are reliable and have minimal wait times. <i>“Frequency is good (up to 4x/hour) during the day”</i> <i>“Plenty of bus services”</i> Convenience of Routes Bus routes are convenient and cover most areas of the city. Direct routes to key destinations such as the city centre and train station is appreciated. <i>“Bus routes in and out of town are good.”</i> <i>And</i> <i>“Different bus routes that lead to different parts of town”</i> Modern and Eco-Friendly Options: Participants appreciate the introduction of newer and eco-friendly buses. <i>“New eco buses introduced”</i> Bus Passes: Participants raise that free bus passes provided to seniors and school aged children provides inclusivity and are valued. <i>“Free tickets for seniors and school kids”</i>	Routes, Frequency and Reliability of Bus Services: Participants felt bus services are unreliable “Buses are not often reliable”, and there should be “More frequent services” (particularly outwith peak travel times). There are a lack of direct routes to various parts of the city (including hospitals and suburbs) <i>“Cannot take a bus from Bridge of Don to Dyce or hospital directly”</i>. This results in needing to take multiple bus routes which requires additional time and results in inconvenience. <i>“Buses only going into and out of town – more difficult to get to other parts of Aberdeen”</i> Safety and Cleanliness: Participants would like to see cleaner buses and bus shelters with some safety concerns raised due to the behaviour of other passengers. <i>“Clean transport. Buses are so dirty”, “You don’t really want to be inside the shelter due to rubbish, graffiti and vandalism” and “Don’t feel safe in public transport. Too many people misbehaving”</i> Affordability: Participants comment that bus fares are too expensive. <i>“Tickets are too expensive. It is cheaper to take the car” and “Bus fares too expensive and need lowered”</i>

		Suggestions for Improvement Participants have raised multiple improvements such as adding additional bus shelters <i>"More bus shelters at key stops needed"</i> , introduction of express routes to the city centre, integration with rail services and more accessible travel options. <i>"Increased space on buses for wheelchairs"</i> <i>"All public transport leads to the city centre, but most workplaces are outside the city centre. Having routes from BOD to Kingswells, Westhill, Dyce" and "A live tracking system would be really useful"</i>
Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future
Traffic and Parking	Parking Convenience: Participants consider that there is "Good availability of parking facilities" in the city centre and residential areas. It is convenient to have parking options at key locations such as Bon Accord Centre and Union Square. <i>"Shopping centre has ample parking"</i> It is convenient to be able to pay for parking both at parking meters and via phone. Park and Ride services are appreciated by participants. Traffic Flow: Participants note the impact that new roads, such as the bypass, has had on reducing traffic in certain areas. Traffic flow is manageable with few significant delays. <i>"Traffic is manageable"</i> Safety: Parking is perceived as safe. <i>"Parking is safe enough"</i> Affordability: Mixed views about the cost of parking. <i>"Plenty of parking in city centre (is getting a bit expensive though)"</i> <i>"Parking is relatively affordable"</i>	Parking Availability: Lack of parking spaces in residential areas, around schools and city centre. <i>"School has no designated drop-off/pick up point for driving parents"</i>, <i>"Not enough parking outside people's houses so streets are clogged up"</i> Car Park Maintenance: Participants request better maintenance and resurfacing of car parks. Specific car parks such as Denburn and West North Street were highlighted as being in poor condition and requiring upgrades to match standard at Chapel Street. <i>"The Denburn and West North Street car parks are in a poor state of repair and should be brought up to the same standard as Chapel Street carpark" and "Denburn feels unsafe at any time of day"</i>, Parking Costs: High parking fees discourage visits to the city centre. <i>"Parking charges should be reduced"</i>, <i>"Free parking at weekends to encourage more shoppers and visitors in the city centre"</i> Participants suggest free parking spaces and reduced parking charges in evenings and weekends to attract shoppers and visitors. <i>"Lower price of parking"</i>, <i>"Free parking at weekends to encourage more shoppers and visitors in the city centre" and "To encourage people back into the city, lift restrictions and lower car parking payments"</i>

		Anti-social Driving and Enforcement: Dangerous parking was raised by participants around schools in addition to late-night anti-social driving and vehicles parking on double yellows and pavements. <i>“People are parking on pavements”, “More traffic wardens”, “Anti-social driving late at night” and “Double yellow lines not policed”</i> Participants suggest increasing traffic wardens and improve policing of parking regulations to improve safety and accessibility. <i>“Reinstalling traffic wardens or community police”</i> Bus Gates and Low Emission Zones (LEZ) Participants had negative opinions of the implementation of bus gates and LEZs. Participants considered that they complicate navigation and harm local businesses. <i>“Do not see the need for the new bus gates/LEZs in centre of town”, “Bus gates and poor signage makes it harder to negotiate the town centre”, “Bus gates are hindering access to certain places”</i>
Theme	‘Good’ now	‘Improve’ for the future
Streets and Spaces	Green Spaces and Natural Scenery: Participants appreciate green spaces, parks and the natural environment. Mention of Union Terrace Gardens and other public parks are noted as well maintained and enjoyable. <i>“Plenty of green spaces”, “There is a good amount of green space across the city”, “Union Terrace Gardens is a fantastic example of how to enhance a city centre space” and “Good spaces for walks”</i> Architectural Beauty: The city centre is noted to be well kept and be of architectural merit. <i>“Lots of interesting buildings”, and “The buildings in the city centre are architecturally stunning and seem well kept”</i> Accessibility and Transportation: Participants value good signposting and public transportation options noting that the city	Increased Green Spaces and Maintenance: Improved upkeep of wooded areas and need for more green space and better maintenance of existing green space was suggested. <i>“Parks often messy. Parks don’t have a lot of places to sit” and “More community gardens”</i> Street Maintenance and Cleanliness: Regular cleaning and additional bins (dog waste) is needed due to problem of dog mess, litter and graffiti in public spaces and around schools. <i>“Litter needs to be picked up. Graffiti removed”, “Cleaner streets, tidy and well-maintained public spaces is very much needed” and “More bins and more regular bin collections. The dog waste bins are overflowing”</i> Roads and Pavements and Parking: Participants raised concern about poor road conditions and potholes with suggestions raised to improve pavement maintenance. Lack of parking in residential areas in addition to cars parked on pavements obstructing pedestrian access. <i>“Cars parked on</i>

	is accessible and easy to navigate. <i>"Easy to find way around Aberdeen" and "Main landmarks are signed well"</i> Importance of Community Facilities: Participants note that libraries and community centres provide essential services and spaces for residents. <i>"Community centre and Library are my lifeline" and "Community centre is brilliant"</i> Cleanliness: Streets and public spaces are noted for their cleanliness. <i>"Clean streets, buildings" and "Bin Collection good."</i>	<i>pavements so you cant get passed unless going on the road", "Potholes everywhere. Patching ineffective", and "Parking in some streets is not sufficient for resident numbers"</i> Safety: The city centre was raised as being unsafe at night due to poor lighting and individuals under the influence of alcohol. <i>"City centre at night often feels unsafe" and "The street lighting at night is not good; it is very dark in places"</i> Suggestions for increased police patrols and better street lighting. <i>"The behaviour of drunk people in public places could be improved and the Police need to deal with it soon" and "More lighting, police presence"</i> Facilities and Accessibility: A number of additional facilities/amenities were requested including benches, playgrounds, community gardens, public toilets and improved access to public spaces for people with disabilities. <i>"More benches to sit around the city, more playgrounds for kids", "Current state of kids parks could be improved" and "Wheelchair users can use the paths but cannot access the park or grass"</i> City Centre: Aesthetic improvements were suggested to enhance the city centres appearance. <i>"Union Street needs a facelift. It is an eyesore" and "Better uses could be made of the arches in Union Terrace Gardens"</i>
Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future
Natural Spaces	Accessibility: Participants noted that there was easy access (public transport and private car) for residents to green spaces, parks and natural areas. <i>"Lots of access to natural space in my area" and "Located in a good location with generous green space. Access to a car to access places further. Accessible to public transportation"</i>	Green Spaces and Natural Areas within the City Centre: Participants would like to see <i>"More localised small green spaces within the city centre to attract wildlife" and "More nature areas in the city centre"</i> Enhancement of biodiversity by increasing the variety of wildlife in green spaces was suggested, as was preservation of wildlife and rural land by

	Recent Upgrades and Appreciation: Participants welcomed recent upgrades to parks and woodlands including refurbishment of equipment, facilities and planting of wildflowers. <i>“Recent improvements to green spaces and parks is great” and “Parks are well maintained”</i> Participants expressed appreciation for the natural spaces in the city and efforts to improve them. <i>“Lots of effort is taken to plant wildflowers”</i> Diversity of Natural Space: Participants noted that there is a diversity in types of park, river, beaches and woodlands. <i>“Presence of beautiful parks all across the city, well maintained, with lots of activities and play areas for children” and “Lots of green space, nature and wooded areas which encourage wildlife to the area”</i> Health and Well-Being, Wildlife and Nature: participants expressed that Natural spaces provide a sense of escape, relaxation and fresher environment compared to the city centre. Participants noted the positive impact these areas have on mental health and fitness activities. Wildlife enriches the experience of natural spaces. <i>“Feels so much better than the city centre, fresher air too”, “Nice space for fitness activity” and “These places benefit my mental health as I love wildlife”</i> Popular Locations Participants highlighted. <i>“Seaton & Hazlehead Parks, nature reserves and Donmouth beach”</i> as popular locations.	halting construction on green spaces in addition to stopping excessive tree cutting. <i>“Stop building on natural spaces”</i> Increase Use of Natural Spaces: investment should be made in natural spaces to enhance their appeal and useability, with more local events using parks and natural spaces. Participations would like to see the creation of <i>“More micro allotments opened up”</i>, outdoor workout areas, <i>“More seating and bins would be beneficial”</i>, <i>“More cafes in green spaces”</i> and indoor play areas. <i>“We don’t have any of the outdoor workout like other areas”</i>, Cleanliness and Maintenance: Participants requested increased frequency and better maintenance of existing spaces including regular grass cutting, litter collection, voluntary litter picking and number of dog bins. <i>“Increase number of dog bins and improve litter picking”</i>, <i>“More voluntary litter picking should be encouraged”</i> and <i>“Litter, broken glass, dog mess on football pitches and play areas”</i> Accessibility and Connectivity: Some Participants would like to see better public transport options to access green spaces, improved paths and routes to create a connected network and signposting walking routes for easier navigation. <i>“Better connectivity to green spaces”</i> and <i>“Natural spaces should be better signposted”</i> Safety and Security: Participants raised concerns about the use of motorbikes and electric bikes in parks and green spaces and suggested that there should be efforts to prevent this. <i>“Nothing to stop motorbikes speeding through”</i> and <i>“Stop electric bikes/motorbikes using the area”</i>
Theme	‘Good’ now	‘Improve’ for the future
Play and Recreation	Green Spaces and Parks (incl Children’s Play Areas)	Maintenance and Cleanliness: Participants would like to see more regular maintenance, quicker repairs, more rubbish bins and dog waste bins to

	Participants noted that green spaces and public parks are numerous throughout the city, are well maintained and accessible. Maintenance of outdoor gyms, community gardens and local parks was also commended. It is considered that there are lovely spaces and play areas for children of all ages. <i>"There are lots of parks and fields in the city" and "A lot of open space for activities and a lot of variety"</i> Sports and Recreational Facilities: Participants considered that swimming pools and community centres are good for all ages providing opportunities for a range of activities both sporting and recreational. <i>"Community centres and sports halls are readily available" and "Good sports facilities", "Outdoor gym and community garden are excellent"</i> Community Facilities and Activities: Participants noted that different buildings are used for community activities across the area including churches, community centres, sports halls <i>"Community centres and sports halls are readily available" "Plenty of activities available in community centres"</i> The variety of outdoor and indoor activities contributes to a positive community experience. <i>"Spaces seems to be well used – there is a gym, men's shed, community buildings including churches e.g youth club"</i>	address issues of disrepair, vandalism and litter. There is a feeling there should be greater investment in recreational facilities. <i>"Facilities at parks either run down or have lots of broken equipment", "Mess and vandalism" and "Existing parks need more regular facilities checks and maintenance"</i> Spaces and Activities for Children and Teenagers: Participants raised that there is a lack of play areas for children and teenagers. Concern raised about inappropriate gathering of teenagers in children's parks. <i>"Not enough places for teenagers and young adults to enjoy and play sports for free outside" and "Not enough places for teenagers to do as they hang around in groups and can be a nuisance in some areas"</i> It was suggested that dedicated spaces for older teenagers should be provided to reduce anti-social behaviour and vandalism. <i>"Facilities need to work for everyone especially families with age gaps" and "Youth clubs in the evenings with pool tables and food served"</i> Public Transport and Accessibility: Participants suggest that improved bus routes and better signposting to parks and recreational facilities are required. <i>"Transport links and signage would be a good way of improving access" and "Bus travel to the places should be improved"</i> Affordable Play Areas and General Recreational Facilities: Participants would like to see a wider range of affordable facilities on offer including outdoor gym equipment, ball courts, cycle tracks and skate parks. <i>"There needs to be more versatile play areas", "Outdoor gym equipment, tennis, basketball or cycle track", "An adventure park and skate/bike pump track to cover all ages of children", "Cost to access some facilities or sporting venues are expensive" and "Children are getting priced out of sport"</i>
--	--	--

		Facilities for Children with Disabilities/Additional Needs: Participants would like to see facilities which cater to children with disabilities/additional needs to create a supportive environment for all. <i>“Disabled children need to be focused on more” and “Not much to do for kids with special needs”</i> Community Events and Youth Engagement: Participants would like to see more community events and youth clubs to provide safe engaging spaces for young people. <i>“More youth workers in community centres in evenings throughout the city” and “Open community buildings at night, staffed by youth workers and adult education classes”</i>
Where do children and young people play in your area?	Private Spaces: Children play in their own gardens. <i>“Mostly play in their own gardens”</i> Public Parks and Green Spaces: “Local park” and “Green spaces and playpark” Hazlehead Park, Bankhead Park, Westfield Park, Seaton Park, Duthie Park. Natural and Shared Spaces: participants feel there are plenty of parks and green spaces available. Children play in the woods and communal gardens. <i>“In the woods and parks”</i> Street Play and Social Gatherings: Children and older youth gather in the streets or around shops. <i>“Older children just gather in the streets”</i> <i>“In the woods, at the parks, on the streets and in the shops”</i> School and Community Spaces: Children play on school grounds or at football pitches and community centres. <i>“Local school grounds”</i> <i>“School playpark”</i>	
Please tell us your thoughts on the quality, quantity and accessibility of play spaces in your area?	Quality and Accessibility: Participants raise mixed views noting that parks are well maintained “Quality and accessibility of play spaces are great” and offer a diverse range of activities. However others raise concerns about accessibility issues, particularly for wheelchair users. “Brilliant quality. Lacking accessible swings for wheelchair users”, “Inaccessible” and “More accessibility options” “Quality varies depending on what play space you go to, some are better maintained than others” Maintenance and Investment: Participants express that there are not enough play spaces in their area and believe additional investment is needed to resolve this. <i>“I think they are greatly lacking and underfunded”, “The local area can be developed” and “General refurbishment is what is expected”</i> “Main parks across the city have had loads of money invested in play parks, but some of the local ones just need a spruce-up yearly instead of leaving them to rot”.	

	Vandalism and Litter: Participants note that vandalism and litter is an issue and that regular maintenance is required to ensure spaces remain pleasant and functional. <i>"Cleanliness could be better", "All get vandalised by teenagers cos there's nothing for them to do"</i> Facilities for Teenagers: Participants raise a gap in the availability of facilities specifically for teenagers. <i>"Need better facilities for teenagers" "Small park available for younger age groups. Nothing for teenagers" and "Suitable for younger children up to age of 8, no larger parks for older kids" and "Plenty parks for young kids but not enough for teenagers which results in parks getting vandalised or older kids hanging about buildings"</i> Weather Protection: Participants feel that there is a need to provide more covered areas in period of bad weather. <i>"All weather floodlit pitch should be installed", "No shelter if there is heavy sudden rain", "There are no indoor spaces for young people to hang around when the weather is not so good" and "Some covered play areas would be good for children in bad weather"</i>	
Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future
Facilities and Services	Community Services: Participants appreciate local community services run by volunteers. <i>"Always food in the foodbank", "The hub community centre does lots of good work in the community" and "Great community services/projects. Council and third sector work well"</i> Education and Recreational Facilities: Participants note that there are good local schools and other facilities such as libraries, swimming pool and community centres which provide a quality service and range of activities. <i>"Lucky to have good schools in our area", "Good access to school and community centres" "School is very well located and easy to access", "I'm truly thankful for the family learning sessions online for children with ASN. This is a wonderful resource"</i> Local Businesses and Essential Services Availability of local businesses/shops provides convenience and accessibility. Other important amenities include supermarkets and gyms. <i>"Good range of local shops, buildings done lie empty"</i> <i>"Lots of shops available 24/7"</i> <i>"Shops are within walking distance"</i>	Health Services: Participants would like to see an increased number of doctors and dentists, improved GP availability and action to address overwhelmed medical facilities to meet population demands. <i>"Doctors, dentists and schools very oversubscribed – more family houses being built in area without any plans for increasing services"</i> <i>"Loss of library and GP service has made things more difficult" and "GP catchment areas are increasing from housing developments and the doctors are overstretched"</i> Education Capacity: participants raise need for more schools to accommodate growing student numbers and action to resolve overcrowded primary and secondary schools. <i>"The new development in my local area will put significant pressure on health and education services, decreasing the quality of already struggling performance, and "Our local secondary school is old and too small. It doesn't meet the children's needs"</i> Educational Support: improved support for children with additional needs is called for. <i>"Need more support in schools with children with additional support needs" and more support to gain life skills "Better schools and curriculum. So much focus is on grades. Schools should be encouraging more life skill education"</i>

	Healthcare and Support Services Participants note the positive aspects of being close to essential healthcare services such as GP surgeries, pharmacies and dentists. Community hubs offer valuable support services such as nurse practitioner service and addiction support. "Doctor, library, school and community centre all within walking distance" "Community hub has lots going on" "There is a lot of support for people with addictions" "Community centre, Doctor's Surgery, Tesco store nearby"	Local Amenities: Participants note the lack of amenities and services, and raise a desire to reopen or replace closed facilities such as library and swimming pools. The impact of new housing developments also raised. <i>"Have to go into the centre of town to access most services", "There is no community hub for kids to hang out and learn", "Too many new housing estates but no facilities" and "Stop building new estates with zero facilities"</i> A need for more shops, restaurants and leisure facilities within walking distance is also raised. <i>"No shops or leisure facilities within walking distance", "More restaurants, more shops in housing areas. More everything" and "Apart from the library which has limited opening times, we don't have facilities. Our swimming pool was closed down"</i> Public Transport and Infrastructure: Participants believe there is a lack of convenient public transport options, that more parking is required and improved maintenance of roads and pavements. <i>"Better transport links for Doctors, hospital and dental surgeries", and "Roads and pavements need maintenance"</i> More Support Services: participants express there needs to be more support for low-income families and the elderly, improved availability and accessibility of social care services and generally more community groups and activities (specifically for young people). <i>"Need more council support", "Community groups for kids can be better", "Social housing is not meeting needs of my family", "Social work funding is being cut, and there is less funding for SDS (self directed support)."</i>
--	--	--

Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future
Housing and Community	Variety and Availability: Participants feel that the housing market caters to diverse needs and preferences due to the wide variety and availability of housing options (both new builds and second hand homes). "Quieter area with a mix of house types.", "Good mix of private and social housing." "Plenty houses being built. Not enough council housing." And "There is a wide choice of housing in our area which is a good thing." Residential Appeal: participants express that residential areas are attractive and well-maintained. A mix of housing type and community spaces contributes to the livability of the neighbourhoods. <i>"The homes being built are lovely."</i> <i>"Attractive new residential areas."</i>, <i>"Good mix of housing types, community spaces and services keep people feeling connected."</i> Green Spaces and Gardens: Participants appreciate the presence of green spaces and environmental quality of their surroundings. <i>"Residential areas are attractive and there is a decent amount of green space."</i> Community: Participants note that a strong sense of community makes the city an appealing place to live. <i>"Good mix of house types and community spirit."</i> <i>"It's a good area to live in."</i> Modern Design and Energy Efficiency: New build housing offers modern design and energy efficiency. <i>"Lots of new build energy efficient properties."</i> And <i>"The homes in my area are well built and benefit the people living in them."</i>	Infrastructure and Essential Services: Participants express that there are limited facilities to support the growing population with an absence of essential services such as doctors, dentists, schools and shops within new developments. The express that the strain on existing services makes it difficult for new communities to thrive. "There aren't facilities for the increased population. Doctors, dentists, school places.", "Too many new housing in the Bridge of Don with no facilities available. Not close to schools, no Dr Surgery, Pharmacy, local shops." And "There needs to be better facilities in place; it seems to just be a huge influx of new housing in Bucksburn and Stoneywood with more being built however there are no supporting facilities." Housing Quality and Maintenance: Participants raise issues with dampness, poor insulation, outdated heating systems and general disrepair in both council and private housing. "A lot of older buildings have fallen into disrepair, there's mould, windows let the cold in, old pipe installations." Investment in Green Technology: They call for more energy efficient measures/improved maintenance programmes to ensure homes are safe and comfortable. Community Integration/Cohesion: Participants express concern about the current approach to integrating affordable and social housing within new developments leads to a lack of community cohesion. There is a desire for more community spaces and facilities to support social cohesion. There is also a perceived lack of priority for local residents. "Mixing affordable housing with new housing schemes isn't great as the resident demographic aren't on the same page." "Housing allocation - our own are put to the end of the list." "There are not a lot of places to meet as a local neighbourhood (like village halls you'd have in smaller areas)."

		Transport and Accessibility: Participants raise a need for better roads maintenance and poor bus services and parking facilities. "Bad bus service", "The roads could be so much better here to accommodate the volume of new housing estates" and "More transport to the city." Safety: Concern is raised about anti-social behaviour, drug use and crime with a call for improved policing for resident safety. "Keep one block for troublemakers and drug users; many people have had terrible experiences in new housing flats.", "Police should take action to minimise e-bike or motorbike gangs." And "Boarded-up buildings bring down the look of the area (church and library)."
Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future
Work and Local Economy	Employment Opportunities in specific sectors: Participants stated that there are ample job opportunities in the energy sector, public sector and health services. Employment and economic stability is supported by the presence of large chain stores and industrial estates. <i>"There are many job opportunities within my city and always have been since the start of the oil industry. That said, there are many opportunities within the public sector and health services." And "I feel there is plenty of work in the local area."</i> Education and Development: Participants expressed that there are opportunities for training and development. <i>"Plenty of opportunities for training and development, paid courses and 2 days allowance for volunteering each year."</i> Community and Social Infrastructure: participants highlight that community centres offer space for meetings, classes and volunteer work. Well organised community groups support a variety of activities. <i>"There is a lot of good work goes on in our</i>	Employment Diversification: Participants raise that there is job scarcity due to closure of local industries such as papermills. "All the paper mills are closed and oil companies have closed or relocated. There is no local work." Feeling that businesses are deterred from setting up locally due to high rates and vacancies and that there is a need for better training and retraining opportunities especially to transition from oil and gas to green energy. "Better understanding of what opportunities there will be in the transition from oil and gas to green energy." And "Retraining for offshore workers." Jobs for School Leavers: participants feel there is a lack of appealing job opportunities for school leavers and young people. "Not a lot of opportunities for the young/inexperienced." Connectivity and Public Transport: Participants felt that poor connectivity between residential areas and employment areas and lack of public transport options makes accessing employment opportunities difficult. "Everything else, poor public transport means job opportunities are out of

	<i>local community." And "Activities like men's shed and active groups."</i> Volunteer Opportunities: participants raise that there is a diverse range of volunteer opportunities via community hubs, sports clubs and nature-related activities. <i>"Lots of volunteer opportunities with community: Scouts, Girl Guiding, community centre association, community council, men's shed, sports clubs, etc." and "Some workplaces offer volunteer work."</i>	reach for people, no proper connectivity for the airport + rail." And "Bus services poor. No reliable connectivity between Dyce residential area and Kirkhill Industrial Estate as the airport is in between the two." Economic Decline: Participants raise that some sectors are having difficulty in attracting staff and that this highlights the economic challenges. In addition, an increase in charity shops are considered signs of economic decline. "The city shows clear signs of financial decline over the years: increased number of pawn and charity shops over local food shops, restaurants, and cafes; closure of many local businesses; struggle to find workers." Volunteer Opportunities Advertising and Response: participants raise that volunteer "options are rare and there is sometimes a lack of interest and response from the local organisations so offers of support are ignored."
Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future
Social Interaction	Community Centres and Hubs: Participants expressed the importance of local venues for social interactions including Community Centres, Hubs and Halls. These venues host a variety of activities such as coffee mornings, youth work and men's sheds. Participants noted that volunteers and local groups play a significant role in advertising available events and enable social engagement. <i>"The Beacon Centre is a life line to many in my community.", "The Hub is good and so is Byron Community.", "Community centre has good activities. Needs more social events for 65+ year olds.", "Excellent for older people, run by the church groups and local community centre.", "Community centre volunteers do a great job."</i> Outdoor Spaces and Physical Activities: Participants raise that spaces for physical activity and social engagement come from a	Leisure and Social Spaces: Participants oppose closure of facilities such as libraries and sports centres which are considered to be vital for community interaction. They call for pop up cafes and drop in centres catering for all age groups following concern raised over lack of venues to meet up for social gatherings. Participants also feel there should be more activities and spaces for teenagers and that there should be more community centres with full programmes and utilising existing spaces more efficiently. <i>"More activities and improved facilities for teenagers.", "Community centres/schools should be better used.", "Keep libraries open longer and improve community centres by modernising and keeping open longer."</i> Accessibility to facilities and services: participants feel that there needs to be a reliable, well planned public transport. Comments raise impact of a poor bus service with poor routes and limited.

variety of locations such as parks, walking routes, sports complexes and bowling clubs. <i>"Parks, community centres, cafes.", "Parks and walking routes good."</i> Educational and Religious Venues: Participants recognised that schools contribute to support social connections between residents and that local churches are important for community gatherings. <i>"Schools are good and support socialising." And "Excellent for older people, run by the church groups and local community centre."</i> Friendly and Welcoming Atmosphere: Participants characterise Aberdeen as welcoming with friendly people. <i>"Aberdeen is a friendly city." And "Aberdeen people are really friendly and it is easy to talk to people."</i> Opportunities for Meeting People: Participants raise that online and physical spaces for meeting people are available from community centres, social clubs, cafes, and local events such as egg hunts and food sales, and all contribute to a vibrant community atmosphere. <i>"There are many opportunities in Aberdeen, if you want to mix with people.", "There are plenty of places to go socialise and meet people.", "Many events like local food sales, egg hunts for Easter or similar types of gatherings all year around.", "Lots of groups both online and in person around my area."</i>	<i>"The accessibility to some if not most of these places." "Mostly depends if someone in the group has a car or not." "Bus times extended." "If I'm able to get out again, GOOD PUBLIC TRANSPORT system is ESSENTIAL."</i> <i>"Community spaces and activities should be accessible to those digitally excluded and with mobility issues. "</i> Increase Support and impact of no support on socialising: Participants consider that there needs to be more support for parents, children with additional needs, neurodiverse needs, new residents and for life moments such as bereavement. View that lack of support causes isolation. <i>"More work to support people through isolation bereavement etc.", "Elderly people can feel lonely." And "Increase support for foreigners and parents.", "Lack of funding for neurodiverse support restricts social opportunity."</i> Variety of activities: Participants feel that there should be more creative and flexible activities for all age groups and abilities during the day and outwith working hours. <i>"Events for people, like beer festivals, events for families etc.", "More for older kids/teens." And "More flexible around working parents."</i> Youth Engagement and Anti-Social Behaviour: participants raise concern about anti-social behaviour in some areas and suggest to engage young people through constructive activities. Community Engagement and Council Responsiveness: Participants expressed frustration with a perceived council neglect and lack of follow up on community issues. Participants expressed desire for reintroduction of a human element to community engagement and ensure their voices are heard. <i>"The council is neglecting these issues, removing the human element." And "We feel unheard and lack control. Engage and follow up with the public."</i>
---	---

		Communication and Information Sharing: Participants expressed a need for local community newsletters to ensure everyone is informed <i>"Need some local community newsletters freely distributed around homes."</i> <i>Feeling that there is "Too much reliance on social media as a way of finding out what's available."</i> <i>There is also a request for better advertising and signpost about local groups and activities.</i> <i>"Not everyone knows where to find this information."</i> <i>"Could a monthly email be shared via schools (advising on both activities for children, and adults too)?"</i>
Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future
Identity and Belonging	Sense of Belonging: Participants appreciate sense of community in their area noting that good neighbours contribute to a friendly and welcoming environment. Community efforts keep the area looking nice. <i>"I feel a huge sense of belonging in Aberdeen and I am proud to be from here."</i> <i>And "I enjoy belonging / being part of community with my neighbours."</i> Natural and Scenic Beauty: Participants highlight the natural spaces, coastal location and beautiful scenery as significant positives. <i>"The coastal location and peaceful surroundings."</i> Diversity and Culture: Participants welcome diversity in the city with people from different backgrounds coming together. <i>"Aberdeen diversity is growing and its fantastic to see."</i> The Art across the city's buildings is raised as a positive <i>"Loving the new paintings on the side of the buildings in the city centre. Gives a nice Identity to the city."</i> History and Architecture: Participants have pride in the history and feel a strong connection to the architecture which adds to the unique identity. Efforts to maintain local landmarks are	Community Spirit and Identity: Participants expressed a lack of community spirit and identity feeling disconnected from their neighbours and suggested organisation of community events such as summer fairs and promotion of local success stories. <i>"We don't have an identity."</i>, <i>"Promote local success stories showing community achievements boost areas reputation."</i>, <i>"Bridge of Don is just a housing estate with no history."</i> <i>"Neighbourhood seems very separated, people don't speak to each other."</i>, <i>"Maybe some Summer fayres like there used to be about 20 years ago."</i> Physical Appearance: Participants expressed concern over neglected buildings, run down areas, a suggest need for regular cleaning and better maintenance of housing. Suggestions included addressing weeds, fly-tipping and graffiti to improve the image of the city. <i>"It looks a bit run down, plus too many people fly tipping their rubbish everywhere."</i>, <i>Landing cleaning more regularly."</i> And <i>"Empty and abandoned buildings need filling, negative graffiti around is discouraging."</i> Safety: participants raise concern for safety, particularly women at night due to perceived high crime rates. They call for increased police presence and community wardens to strengthen the community and reduce crime.

	appreciated. "Sense of pride in areas, history, local landmarks are well cared for." And "Aberdeen has quite a few interesting buildings & places to visit." Education: Participants raise that it is positive to have a universities that " attracts lots of students from across the World." Visitor Experience and Facilities: participants appreciate facilities in the city and efforts to improve the visitor experiences is valued. "Lots of work being done to beach boulevard to help improve."	"Crime rate not feeling safe at night (as a woman).", "Youngsters acting out as expected with vandalism and anti-social behaviour." " More police/warden presence." And "Evening Policing." Transport and Infrastructure: Participants raise the need for more infrastructure to support the growing population including shops, schools and leisure facilities. "More infrastructure for the area as building more and more houses but not enough shops, schools, leisure facilities to meet the new demand of more people coming to area." Integration, Diversity and Culture: Participants raised a desire for increased opportunity to interact with different cultures to creative inclusive communities. Suggestions included promoting awareness of different faiths and beliefs in addition to providing more information about local events outwith social media. "Knowledge, awareness of each other faith and belief. Creating more opportunities to integrate with different cultures. Creates inclusion.", "Encourage inclusion of those from the city. A lot of emphasis is on those who are not culturally native to the city and those who are neglected." And "Inclusive information available for all re local activities/events not just on social media."
Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future
Feeling Safe	Community Safety: Participants expressed a feeling of safety in their neighbourhoods due to viewed low crime rates, knowing their neighbours, police presence and CCTV. "Good neighbours, mostly a family-friendly area.", "Low crime." Lighting: Participants value well-lit streets and paths which are seen to contribute significantly to the sense of safety. "Paths are very well lit at night." And "Street lights recently updated."	Street Lighting: Participants expressed that inadequate street lighting has a significant contribution to a sense of insecurity (especially at night). Examples include at Westfield Park and the city centre. Improved lighting is considered crucial to enhance safety and make these areas feel more secure. "Street lights are very low light and only on one side of the street." And "Better street lighting, if there was more for kids to do they may not hang around the streets at night." Drug Use/Dealing: Participants express concern about drug dealing/consumption and the impact this has on feeling safe. <i>Drugs were being sold in our street and it took months to get action.</i>"

	Neighbourhood Characteristics: Participants value the quietness and positivity of their area. "Very quiet area." Neighbourhood Watch and Response: Participants welcome the existence of neighbourhood watch schemes which is seen as reassuring as is the quick response times to emergencies. "Neighbourhood Watch." And "The pull chord and alarm system are reassuring."	Anti-Social Behaviour: Participants also raise that large groups of youths are seen as intimidating and that streets feel unsafe due to e-bikes, dirt bikes and e-scooters being used recklessly. <i>"Too much anti-social behaviour from people on e-bikes, dirt bikes and e-scooters can make it feel unsafe, especially late at night."</i>, <i>"Anti-social behaviour is an issue. Big groups are intimidating."</i> <i>Lots of people won't report because of backlash."</i> Policing and Law Enforcement: Participants raised concern about the lack of a visible police presence. Feeling that more officers patrolling on foot would help address anti-social behaviour and crime. There is also support to increase the number of community wardens to manage issues such as illegal parking and smoking in bus shelters. <i>"More police/community warden presence."</i>, <i>Never see a police officer in the neighbourhood."</i> <i>"Police response time. More police patrols."</i> Dangerous Dog and Violence: Participants also raised concern about dangerous dogs and called for enhanced security measures in certain areas. Incidents of violence are seen to exacerbate feelings of insecurity in the community. <i>"People with banned dog breeds which walk them without being muzzled in public walks"</i>, and <i>"Older people feel they are not safe going out in evenings unless accompanied."</i>
Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future
Care and Maintenance	Cleanliness and Maintenance: Participants appreciate cleanliness of streets and well maintained public areas in addition to effective bin collection and street lighting. "Nice clean environment where I live." and "Public areas are well maintained." Green Spaces and Environmental Care: Participants value efforts in maintenance of green spaces highlighting that regular grass cutting and flower planting enhances the environment.	Maintenance: Participants raise concerns with potholes, poor road and pavement surfaces, neglected buildings and request increased frequency of grass cutting and street cleaning. It is further suggested that there is better upkeep of public areas and renovations undertaken. <i>"Potholes everywhere; bus stops are old and dirty."</i> And <i>"Overgrown spaces need more frequent trimming and attentive care."</i> Safety: Participants raise the need for more police presence and better street lighting. There are requests for additional dog waste bins and enforcement of littering and dog fouling laws.

	Community groups like Friends of Westfield Park and Community CleanUp are also highlighted as playing a key role. "Aberdeen City Council maintain the green spaces within my area extremely well." and "Friends of Westfield Park do a great job." Community Contribution: Participants highlight that well maintained roads, paths and public areas reflect community efforts and that well maintained properties contributes to overall cleanliness. <i>"Residents maintain their properties in good condition."</i> And <i>"There is a lot of private housing, which is also well kept."</i> Collaborative Spirit: participants raise that Community spirit is pivotal in maintaining the perception of an area. Collaborative efforts between residents and the council sustain a pleasant environment in the city. "It is refreshing to see a well looked after area and surroundings." And "Good community spirit."	"More visible policing on the streets to deter bad behaviour and anti-social activities." And "Improved street lighting to address dark, unsafe areas." Response times and Communication: Participants raise frustration with poor response times to reported issues in addition to quality of repairs and a lack of support and communication from the council. "slow response times to reported issues." "Lack of maintenance over many years and poor communication with the council." "Fly-tipping left for weeks creates unsightly messes; streets need proactive cleaning."
Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future
Influence and Sense of Control	Transparency and Accessibility: Participants appreciate the publishing of Community Council minutes online and raise that online reporting provides a proactive and empowering system of reporting. <i>"Reporting through the website is fantastic. It empowers the public to stop moaning and take action. An opportunity to be proactive."</i> Public Consultation: Participants raise that opportunities for consultation and feedback contributed to a sense of inclusivity. <i>"Good public consultations."</i> <i>"Consultation such as this is very positive."</i> <i>"Opportunities to feed back like this."</i>	Lack of Responsiveness to Community Feedback: Participants express frustration that they feel that their concerns and suggestions are ignored. Comments suggest that consultations are a formality rather than representing a genuine effort to engage with the public. A lack of follow through on promises made during consultations is also raised. <i>"You ask, people answer but nothing changes. There is an increasing apathy towards ACC engagement activities."</i>, <i>"Actually listening to what people want."</i> And <i>"If you are going to consult with communities, provide them with updates as to what you have done or are going to do."</i> Communication and Transparency Issues: There is a desire for better communication and transparency from the council. There is a call for more accessible and timely information as well as more opportunities for

	Voices Heard: A number of participants expressed that their voices were acknowledged through local groups who advocate on behalf of the wider community. <i>"There are local groups who speak on behalf of the community."</i> <i>"Good that people have a voice."</i> <i>"The community council seems to be quite vibrant. They were active in preventing the closure of the swimming pool."</i>	residents to be involved in decision-making processes. It is expressed that there is a sense of being uninformed about local issues and proposed changes, often finding out about decisions too late to have any meaningful input. <i>"Often we do not know what is going on until it's too late.", "More open lines of communication about proposed changes and developments." And "More communication about meetings with councillors, MPs for town hall events, where and when other than just leaflets, more online presence and announcements."</i> Inclusivity and Diversity in Engagement: Participants express a need for more inclusive and diverse engagement opportunities. Expression that there should be more effort to involve underrepresented groups such as those with disabilities or visual impairments to ensure that all voices are heard and considered. <i>"More opportunities like this. Having the chance to do it online during the day is fantastic." And "Perhaps you should listen to the public, who are Disabled and/or Visually Impaired, in order to make this city better and safer."</i> Recognition: Participants feel that more recognition and support should be had for local volunteers who contribute their time and effort to community initiatives. <i>"The local volunteers who give up their time need to be recognised and congratulated."</i>
--	--	---

WHAT OUR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SAID

587 children and young people who took part in a children and young people designed versions (**533 in person and 54 online**). 187 children and young people from schools within the North Locality participated.

Scoring for in person children and young people's

Youth participation groups, Aberdeen Youth Movement and the Young Ambassadors took a leading role in designing and delivering engagement approaches for children and young people to have their say in Your Place, Your Plans, Your Future. The Young Ambassadors created activities focused on under 12s for locality events and Aberdeen Youth Movement hosted lunchtime roadshows at 5 of our secondary schools.

Aberdeen Youth Movement (AYM) created an engagement activity for young people to participate in during their lunchtime. The interactions were designed to be quick, clear, and fun. To keep things simple, AYM reviewed the 14 themes and, based on their experience with youth participation, selected 6 key themes for young people in the city. These themes were used for scoring and providing opportunities for discussion and sharing ideas and comments on other matters. The shared comments were assigned across the 14 place standard themes. Similar to the main survey – scored 1-7.



Category	Mean Score	Base
Streets, squares and buildings	4.7	429
Play, hang out, games and hobbies	4.9	435
School, libraries, shops and services	4.8	429
Meeting and talking with people	4.9	425
Having our say and being listened to	4.7	430
Public Transport	5.2	423

The table below shows scoring by school/centre

	Streets, squares and buildings	Play hang out, games and hobbies	School, libraries, shops and services	Meeting and talking with people	Having our say and being listened to
Aberdeen Grammar	5.1	5.2	5.5	5.0	5.1
Aberdeen Sports Village	4.0	5.7	5.0	1.0	5.2
Dyce Academy	5.1	5.0	4.6	4.8	4.6
Lochside Academy	4.9	4.9	4.9	5.0	4.9
Northfield Academy	4.8	5.4	5.0	5.0	4.8
Northfield Youth Work	4.5	5.7	5.3	5.1	5.0
St Machar Academy	4.3	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.6
St Machar Youth Work	3.1	3.4	3.4	3.9	2.6
Missing	2.7	5.0	4.1	5.5	4.2

Generally, there is evidence that young people who engaged in priority areas were less positive about streets, squares and buildings than their peers. St Machar scored particularly low.

Scoring for online children and young people's survey

A total of 54 Children and Young People took part in this exercise – the ages ranged from 5 years to 16 years. The average (mean) age of those taking part was 11.9 years. The number of children of each age is given in the table below.

Participants were also asked two additional questions to capture, from a list of choices, what they felt were positive aspects of their place and what they felt could be improved.

Theme	What is good now?	%	What would make it better?	%
Play	It's easy to access	62.8%	More play and sports equipment could be added	53.7%
	There is plenty of space	51.2%	They could provide sheltered spaces	39%
	It feels safe and secure	51.2%	They could be cleaner and better cared for/ They could provide sheltered spaces	36.6%
Streets and spaces	There are shops	54.5%	Fix and improve uneven surfaces/grounds	54.5%
	My place has public gardens	36.4%	More shops	45.5%
	My local place feels old and interesting/The surfaces/grounds are in good condition	27.3%	Add more artwork/There are too many dull places/Improve or add public gardens	36.4%
Natural space	Parks	81.8%	Better parks	63.6%
	Trees	72.2%	More trees	45.5%
	Rivers/Woods	63.6%	Ways to welcome more animals	27.3%
Play and recreation	Easy to find spaces	63.6%	Sports areas/Organised fun stuff/Somewhere to go to the toilet	63.6%
	Play parks/places to relax	36.4%	Places to relax/Play parks	45.5%
	Play for everyone	18.2%	More seats/Mix of activity	36.4%
Moving around	More plants and nature	38.5%	Interesting walking and wheeling routes	46.2%
	Interesting walking and wheeling routes	30.8%	More plants and nature	38.5%
	Signs to find your way/bright lights	23.1%	Places to stop/Bright lighting/No cars	30.8%
Public transport	Free bus travel	69.2%	The cost of busses for adults in my life/ Timetable information/Feeling safe/Shelter from the weather	30.8%
	Shelter from the weather	46.2%	Stops or stations nearby	23.1%
	Travel apps/Stops and stations nearby	30.8%	Bright lighting	154%
Traffic and parking	Places to cross/Low pollution levels	38.5%	Make streets less busy	58.3%

	Quiet streets	30.8%	Stop fast driving/Lower amount of traffic/Better places to cross/ Make streets less busy/wider paths	50%
	Slow traffic/Traffic free areas	15.4%	Traffic free areas/Tackle high pollution areas/more short and direct routes	25%
Influence and sense of control	I feel included	64.3%	I could be given more opportunities to share my views and ideas	57.1%
	My views are considered important	28.6%	I could be told more often that my views are important	35.7%
	It is easy to take part	21.4%	I could be given more chances to take part	21.4%
Care and maintenance	Clean and tidy	50%	Tackle dog poo	78.6%
	Places to recycle	43.8%	Tackle vandalism	50%
	Litter picks	18.8%	Stop broken things being dumped/Stop things being left unfixed	35.7%
Feeling safe	I feel safe during the day	85.7%	Tackle ant-social behaviour	78.6%
	There's good lighting/There are safe play spaces	28.6%	It could feel safer at night	71.4%
	It feels safe at night	14.3%	The lighting could be better	64.3%
Identity and belonging	The people	50%	More gala days/festivals	50%
	Arts/history/local museums	35.7%	Links to local museums	42.9%
	Food	21.4%	More culture/more arts/clearer ties to history/celebrations of food	35.7%
Facilities and services	There are good shops/access to doctors/local school	75%	A wider variety of clubs	72.7%
	Access to dentist/local libraries	50%	School improvements	54.4%
	Access to a sports hall/ choice of clubs/a community hall/easy to find who you need	33%	More shops/better access to doctors	45.5%
Work and local economy	There are jobs for my family	75%	More jobs nearby	62.5%
	There is volunteering	58.3%	More opportunities to train and learn new things/ fewer jobs being done far away	37.5%
	There are jobs nearby	50%	More volunteering in the area	25%
Housing and community	The houses feel like they are a home	90.9%	Homes could look better/the place could be more friendly for families	44.4%
	There are green gardens/ there are small houses	81.8%	More small houses/more big houses	22.2%
	There are homes that look good/ there are big houses/ there are more families	72.2%	There could be more green gardens/more flats/the houses could feel more like a home/the housing could be more of a variety of shapes and sizes/ Less rubbish in the streets and less graffiti would hugely improve the look of the buildings	11.1%

Social interaction	Meeting friends	63.6%	More places to hang out/more chances to gather with friends	60%
	Cafes	54.5%	More child friendly spaces	50%
	There are child friendly places/Plenty of places to hang out	45.5%	It is too noisy	30%

WHAT PEOPLE FROM NORTH LOCALITY SAID ABOUT OUR PROPOSALS?

All of our plans and strategies align to one, or more, of the 14 themes. As well as seeking scores and comments on 14 themes to refresh our strategies, we also sought views on whether we are focusing on the right priorities/actions in the current draft plans (Local Housing Strategy, Community Learning and Development, Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan, Local Development Plan Play Sufficiency Assessment, Visitor Levy Proposal) we are consulting on.

The tables below show the percentage of participants who answered 'yes' for each of the proposals. The overall figure gives the percentage for all participants who answered this question (survey respondents, locality events and out-reach sessions) with the base number given in brackets below (note – this will not match the total number of participants as not everyone answered all the questions).

Proposal	North % Yes	North PNP % Yes
Proposal 1: Work with partners to provide accessible community based learning opportunities (e.g. skills in digital inclusion, literacy, numeracy, English for speakers of other languages, and financial resilience) for adults, particularly those furthest from inclusion and facing disadvantages, to foster lifelong learning, positive pathways and reduce reoffending.	86.5% (Base = 230)	89.1% (Base = 55)
Proposal 2: Provide targeted learning opportunities for young people to address key issues, provide opportunities to gain skills, improve mental and physical wellbeing, and have their voices heard.	94.3% (Base = 230)	100% (Base = 56)
Proposal 3: Refresh our Primary Care Improvement Plan to improved access to local primary care services.	94.2% (Base = 225)	100% (Base = 54)
Proposal 4: Review the allocation of social care resources to ensure more community and home-based services allowing people to live independently in their own homes.	94.8% (Base = 233)	94.4% (Base = 54)
Proposal 5: To introduce a visitor levy on overnight stays in places like hotels and guesthouses, with the money raised being spent in ways to benefit the visitor economy. The proposed levy is an additional charge of around £5 for each room for each night. There will be some exemptions, including people with disabilities.	47.8% (Base = 232)	56.6% (Base = 53)
Proposal 6: If the visitor levy is introduced, we think some of money raised should be spent on more things to see and do in the city, such as big events, exhibitions, festivals, business events and sport championships.	60.2% (Base = 221)	59.6% (Base = 57)
Proposal 7: Other uses for the visitor levy money could be on improvements to places which benefit local people as well as tourists, for example museums, theatres, sport venues and parks.	70.0% (Base = 223)	63.2% (Base = 57)

Proposal 8: Another possible use for the money raised by the visitor levy could be to help promote the city to more visitors and major event organisers, by telling them more about the city, its facilities and what is going on.	50.9% (Base = 214)	48.1% (Base = 54)
--	-----------------------	----------------------

Work and Local Economy

Proposal	North % Yes	North PNP % Yes
Proposal 1: Provide a range of activity to improve people's physical and mental health and reduce harm ensuring people can continue to work and make a positive contribution to the economy whilst also improving their own financial wellbeing.	95.2% (Base = 229)	98.2% (Base = 57)
Proposal 2: Provide accessible opportunities for people to build skills (education, training or retraining, community work and volunteering) to support them access work.	95.2% (Base = 228)	98.3% (Base = 59)
Proposal 3: Work with young people to promote children's rights and provide targeted support to reduce the poverty-related attainment gap and support employment and positive destinations, through relevant and accredited learning opportunities.	91.6% (Base = 225)	96.4% (Base = 56)

Social interaction

Proposal	North % Yes	North PNP % Yes
Proposal 1: Work with partners to develop, deliver and promote a range of activities in our communities to increase social interaction and improve both physical and mental health and wellbeing.	93.8% (Base = 226)	98.3% (Base = 58)

Influence and Sense of Control

Proposal	North % Yes	North PNP % Yes
Proposal 1: Continue our inclusive approach when designing and delivering services ensuring the voices of our communities are heard and help influence decision making.	93.7% (Base = 223)	94.8% (Base = 58)
Proposal 2: Provide capacity building support to communities, all ages, to support them to have a voice, participate in decision making and take action to create, develop and sustain local programmes and activities which address emerging priorities.	92.9% (Base = 210)	96.3% (Base = 54)
Proposal 3: Provide capacity building support to communities, all ages, to support them to have a voice, participate in decision making and take action to create, develop and sustain local programmes and activities which address emerging priorities.	92.8% (Base = 222)	94.9% (Base = 59)

Housing and Community

Proposal	North % Yes	North PNP % Yes
Proposal 1: We will work collaboratively to support a sufficient supply of housing across all tenures to meet the varying needs of our citizens and to make homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring.	91.1% (Base = 236)	98.2% (Base = 56)

Proposal 2: We are committed to enhancing the condition of all homes, including improving their energy efficiency which will help to alleviate fuel poverty.	93.5% (Base = 230)	100% (Base = 55)
Proposal 3: We will help to create thriving, inclusive communities across the city which support independent living and involve local people in decision making about the places they want to live.	93.9% (Base = 229)	100% (Base = 55)

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

- Results analysed by Community Planning Aberdeen, the Locality Empowerment Groups and Priority Neighbourhood Partnerships, incorporating active engagement with communities to gather their ideas for change, to support the development of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan and Locality Plans 2026-36
- 27 August 2025 - Towards a Fairer Future Aberdeen 2036 Conference
- Stakeholder thematic sessions – Jan 2026
- Public consultation on draft Local Outcome Improvement Plan and Locality Plans – Feb/March 2026
- Final draft Local Outcome Improvement Plan and Locality Plans approved by CPA Board – June 2026
- Local Outcome Improvement Plan and Locality Plans approved and opportunities to get involved promoted – June 2026
- Keep up to date with the Local Outcome Improvement Plan development at www.communityplanningaberdeen.org.uk/
- Health and Social Care Strategic Plan: consultation comments used to update the Strategic Plan which will then make its way through an internal consultation process before being presented to the Integration Joint Board meeting on 1 July 2025 for final approval.
- Local Housing Strategy: consultation comments used to update the Local Housing Strategy which will be presented to the Communities, Housing and Public Protection Committee on 26 August 2025 for final approval.
- Community Learning and Development (CLD) plan: Feedback across CLD related themes shared and considered with city wide CLD partners to inform the 2025-27 CLD plan.
- Visitor Levy: Results will be analysed by officers in City Development and Regeneration, in conjunction with the wider Visitor Levy consultation, and including written submissions from businesses and representative organisations in the sector. Visitor Levy Report to Finance and Resources Committee on 6 August 2025 with recommendations and appendices, including data and comments from the engagement
- The Evidence Report to inform production of the next Local Development Plan will be reported to Council for approval in Summer 2025, and submitted to Scottish Ministers for their review thereafter. The Play Sufficiency Assessment will be reported to Council at the same time.
- Public consultation on Proposed Local Development Plan and Draft Local Transport Strategy - Autumn 2026.
- Keep up to date with Local Development Plan progress via [Keep in Touch with Latest News - Local Development Plan - Commonplace](#)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

- View Community Planning Aberdeen's full Your Place, Your Plans, Your Future Engagement Report at www.communityplanningaberdeen.org.uk
- Email the Community Planning Aberdeen Team at communityplanningaberdeen@aberdeencity.gov.uk