



Engagement Full Results Report 2025



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YOUR PLACE; YOUR PLANS; YOUR FUTURE – FULL RESULTS REPORT DRAFT – **Error!**
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1. Overview

1.1. Why did we do this?

Over 2025 and years ahead, Community Planning Aberdeen partners are engaging on a number of plans and strategies aimed at improving our city. All the plans and strategies align to one, or more, of the Place Standard themes.

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.

1.2. 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

A separate area of the consultation also focused on draft Topic Papers that had been produced to help inform the next Local Development Plan (LDP). The Play Sufficiency Assessment is also a key background document to the production of the LDP.

1.3. How and who did we ask?

The engagement ran from 24th March to 18th May 2025 and was a combination of the following:

- online surveys 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.

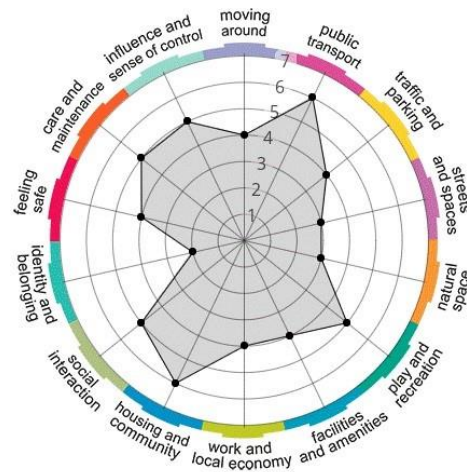
1.4. Methodology

1.4.1. Scores

Place Standard Tool methodology

The Place Standard tool provides a framework for place-based conversations to support communities, public, private and third sectors to work together to find those aspects of a place that need to be targeted to improve people's health, wellbeing and quality of life and deliver high quality, sustainable places.

The tool asked 14 questions/themes about the physical and social elements of life in Aberdeen City. These are the 14 themes from the Scottish Place Standard tool, which is used across Scotland to start conversations with people about the place where they live. The 14 themes are shown in the diagram below. For each theme a brief description was provided as was prompts for things to think about when considering the theme.



For each theme, participants were asked to rate how they find that theme affects their lives now, on a scale of 1-7, where 1 means there is a lot of room for improvement and 7 means there is very little room for improvement. Based on scoring allocated by participants, average (mean) scores were calculated for each of the 14 themes. A higher score indicates a more positive response. Themes were then ranked by mean score.

To provide overall results, the scores from survey participants, locality events and out-reach sessions were combined. For ease of presentation, mean scores are rounded to 1 decimal point.

Demographic information provided by survey participants enables sub-group analysis of the results for those who provided this information. Postcode data (if provided) was matched to locality area (North, South and Central), priority neighbourhood and Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). While personal information was also collected from those who took part in the in-person events, this was not matched to individual participants. Therefore, while this enables the provision of a demographic profile of participants, it cannot be included for the sub-group analysis. We were however able to match locality area data with individual participants for the locality in-person events. This was assigned depending on the location of the event (e.g. those attending an event in the South locality were assumed to live in the South locality). Similarly, those attending Priority Neighbourhood Partnership (PNP) events were assigned to those priority neighbourhoods.

Mean scores were calculated for each of the sub-groups (Locality, Priority Neighbourhood, SIMD, Sex, Ethnicity) to look at differences in responses across these groups. Basic descriptive analysis was used to look at how the ranking of themes varied across the groups, e.g. whether a theme was scored more or less positively in different areas of the city. Due to the small numbers in some of the demographic groups, some of the categories were 'collapsed' for this analysis:

- Sex – 'prefer not to say' and 'other' were collapsed into a single group.
- Ethnicity – collapsed to groups of 'White Scottish', 'White British', 'White Other' and 'Other Ethnic Group'.
- Age group – due to the small number of 13-15 year-olds, this group was included with the 16-24 year-olds to give an age group of 0-24 years.

Mean scores for all sub-groups (excluding missing data) were calculated.

Proposals

For the proposal questions, basic descriptive analysis was used to give the proportion of respondents who answered 'yes' to each of the proposals. This was broken down by locality (Central, North and South) and by Priority Neighbourhoods in each of the localities.

Draft Topic Papers

For those interested in the evidence base to inform preparation of the next Local Development Plan, a separate area of the consultation focused on ten draft Topic Papers. Participants were asked whether they agreed with the evidence base presented in the Topic Papers, or whether anything was missing. The papers focused on the following topics:

- Spatial Strategy
- Delivery of Homes
- Infrastructure
- Sustainable Transport
- Climate Change, Mitigation and Adaptation
- Nature and Biodiversity
- Energy and Resources
- Centres of Business and Culture
- Place
- Wellbeing and Communities

Analysis of comments on the draft Topic Papers was undertaken separately to the response on the Place Standard exercise and will be reported on separately through the Evidence Report process. A copy of the Evidence Report will be presented to Council in Summer 2025 for approval, and submitted to Scottish Ministers for their review thereafter.

1.4.2. Comments

Methodology

The analysis of the data for this report employed a hybrid analytical approach combining AI-assisted synthesis (Microsoft Co-pilot) with human insight. The comments received from the engagement. The analysis aimed to reflect the voices of a diverse participant base, ensuring transparency, rigour, and inclusivity throughout the analysis process.

Analytical Approach

To help manage the volume of participant responses, Microsoft Co-Pilot was used to support the initial stages of analysis. Prompts for Co-pilot were designed, trialled and refined before the consultation closed, using previous LOIP data. A systematic way of organising the large quantity of data prior to analysis was developed by NIHR Health Determinants Research Collaboration Aberdeen (HDRC Aberdeen) and refined using ACC knowledge and expertise. Once the analysis had begun, Co-Pilot enabled efficient thematic coding. It also facilitated the extraction of significant quotes that exemplified key themes and participant sentiments.

Collaborative Analysis

The AI-generated outputs were not used in isolation. ACC and HDRC Aberdeen staff reviewed and refined the outputs, bringing in their own knowledge and experience to make sure the themes made sense, and the quotes were used in the right context. This back-and-forth helped us build a clearer, more accurate picture of what people were telling us. This process of reviewing and refining was undertaken collaboratively with support from the HDRCA.

Oversight and Quality Assurance

To ensure the robustness and ethical integrity of the analysis, the HDRC Aberdeen provided oversight throughout. This included reviewing the analytical framework, verifying the representativeness of identified themes, and confirming that participant voices were accurately and respectfully represented.

2. Results

2.1. Who took part?

Overall, a total of 2,087 people took part in engagement process – up from 470 participants in the last engagement in 2023. Of those who took part, 987 completed the survey (615 online and 372 paper copies), 134 took part in locality events and 379 in the facilitated outreach sessions. 587 children and young people took part in a children and young people designed version.

Demographic questions were included in both the survey and in-person events. These were voluntary so we do not have full demographic information for all of those who took part as some participants chose not to complete these questions (this varied by question). Regarding the survey, full postcode data was given by 592 participants. This was then matched to locality area (North, South, Central), neighbourhood, and to SIMD quintile.

The table below gives an overview of the demographic profile of survey, locality event and outreach session participants (i.e. not including the 587 children and young people). It gives number and percentage of participants within each category. It also gives the percentage within each category excluding those for whom demographic information was not available (valid percentage). The final column of the table also includes a profile of Aberdeen City to allow comparison of respondents to the wider population of the City (although it should be remembered that we do not have demographic information for many of the participants). On the whole there seems to be broad representation across most groups, and across different areas of the City. However, some groups are over/under represented compared to the wider population. In particular, males are under-represented (38% compared to 48.5%) with females being over-represented and those in the younger age groups (16-24 years and 25-34 years) are under-represented with those in age-groups 35-44 years and 45-54 years being over-represented compared to the wider population. (Note: while there were a small number of under 16's in this data, these have not been included in this comparison as the Children and Young People's engagement is reported separately.)

Table 2.1: Demographic profile of participants

Locality	Number	%	Valid %	Aberdeen City
North	327	21.8%	36.0%	32.0%
South	284	18.9%	31.3%	33.3%
Central	296	19.7%	32.6%	34.7%
Other	<5	0.1%	0.1%	
Missing	592	39.5%		
Total	1500	100.0%		
Sex	Number	%	Valid %	Aberdeen City
Female	470	31.3%	58.0%	51.5%
Male	308	20.5%	38.0%	48.5%
Prefer not to say	30	2.0%	3.7%	
Missing	690	46.0%	0.2%	
Overall total	1,500			
Age group	Number	%	Valid %	Aberdeen City
Under 16	<5	0.3%	0.5%	16.2%
16-24	43	2.9%	5.0%	12.7%
25-34	111	7.4%	12.9%	15.4%
35-44	238	15.9%	27.6%	14.6%
45-54	165	11.0%	19.1%	12.0%
55-64	115	7.7%	13.3%	11.9%
65-74	83	5.5%	9.6%	9.3%
75-84	48	3.2%	5.6%	5.7%
85+	34	2.3%	3.9%	2.2%
Prefer not to say	21	1.4%	2.4%	
Missing	638	42.5%		
Total	1500	100.0%		
Employment status	Number	%	Valid %	Aberdeen City*
Employed full time	307	20.5%	38.2%	42.9%
Employed part time	127	8.5%	15.8%	17.2%
Unemployed	84	5.6%	10.4%	4.1%
Student	26	1.7%	3.2%	6.9%
Full time carer	24	1.6%	3.0%	3.1%
Retired	151	10.1%	18.8%	19.8%
Long term sick or disabled	38	2.5%	4.7%	3.8%
Prefer not to say	47	3.1%	5.8%	
Missing	696	46.4%		
Total	1500	100.0%		
Sexual orientation	Number	%	Valid %	Aberdeen City
Gay	11	0.7%	1.4%	1.9%
Lesbian	8	0.5%	1.1%	
Straight	640	42.7%	84.2%	87.3%
Other	13	0.9%	1.7%	0.7%
Prefer not to say	87	5.8%	11.4%	7.5%
Another term	<5	0.1%	0.1%	

Missing	740	49.3%		
Overall total	1500	100.0%		
Do you consider yourself to be trans or have a trans history	Number	%	Valid %	Aberdeen City
Yes	<5	0.1%	0.3%	0.6%
No	693	46.2%	93.9%	94.3%
Prefer not to say	43	2.9%	5.8%	5.1%
Missing	762	50.8%		
Overall total	1500			
Ethnicity	Number	%	Valid %	Aberdeen City
White-Scottish	504	33.6%	63.4%	67.8%
White - British	107	7.1%	13.5%	7.4%
White - Irish	12	0.8%	1.5%	0.9%
White - Gypsy/Traveller	<5	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%
White - Showman/Showwoman	<5	0.0%	0.0%	<0.1%
White - Eastern European	35	2.3%	4.4%	10.2%
Other White Ethnic Group	34	2.3%	4.3%	
African, Scottish African or British African	18	1.2%	2.3%	0.3%
African other	6	0.4%	0.8%	3.7%
Caribbean or Black	<5	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%
Indian, Scottish Indian or British Indian	12	0.8%	1.5%	2.2%
Pakistani, Scottish Pakistani or British Pakistani	<5	0.1%	0.3%	0.8%
Bangladeshi, Scottish Bangladeshi or British Bangladeshi	<5	0.1%	0.3%	0.4%
Chinese, Scottish Chinese or British Chinese	<5	0.1%	0.3%	1.0%
Other Asian, Scottish Asian or British Asian	5	0.3%	0.6%	1.3%
Mixed or Multiple	8	0.5%	1.0%	1.8%
Arab, Scottish Arab or British Arab	<5	0.1%	0.3%	0.8%
Other Ethnic Group	<5	0.2%	0.4%	0.8%
Prefer not to say	37	2.5%	4.7%	
Self-identify	<5	0.3%	0.5%	
Missing	705	47.0%		
Total	1500			

Legal marital status	Number	%	Valid %	Aberdeen City **
Married/Civil Partnership	267	17.8%	37.2%	39.5%
Single	372	24.8%	51.9%	60.5%
Prefer not to say	78	5.2%	10.9%	
Missing	783	52.2%		
Overall total	1500			
Religion	Number	%	Valid %	Aberdeen City
None	420	28.0%	55.5%	58.0%
Buddhist	<5	0.1%	0.1%	0.5%
Christian	145	9.7%	19.2%	7.5%
Church of Scotland	80	5.3%	10.6%	14.6%
Roman Catholic	35	2.3%	4.6%	8.6%
Hindu	<5	0.2%	0.4%	1.3%
Jewish	<5	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Muslim	12	0.8%	1.6%	2.9%
Sikh	<5	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%
Humanist	5	0.3%	0.7%	-
Pagan	<5	0.1%	0.3%	0.4%
Other Religion or Belief	7	0.5%	0.9%	0.3%
Prefer not to say	45	3.0%	5.9%	5.8%
Missing	743	49.5%		
Total	1500	100%		
Day-to-day activities limited	Number	%	Valid %	Aberdeen City ***
Yes	197	13.1%	27.0%	24.1%
No	481	32.1%	66.0%	75.9%
Prefer not to say	51	3.4%	7.0%	
Missing	771	51.4%		
Overall total	1500	100.0%		
Look after someone or provide support	Number	%	Valid %	Aberdeen City****
Yes	209	13.9%	27.2%	8.7%
No	507	33.8%	65.9%	91.3%
Prefer not to say	53	3.5%	6.9%	
Missing	731	48.7%		
Overall total	1500	100.0%		
Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) Quintiles (based only on survey respondents)	Number	%	Valid %	Aberdeen City
Quintile 1 (most deprived)	72	7.3%	12.2%	10.1%
Quintile 2	140	14.2%	23.6%	22.4%
Quintile 3	89	9%	15%	16.0%
Quintile 4	82	8.3%	13.9%	14.4%

Quintile 5 (least deprived)	209	21.2%	35.3%	37.1%
Missing	395	40%		
Total	987	100%		

Sources: Data for Aberdeen City: Sex and age-group are based on National Records of Scotland mid-2023 population estimates. Population estimates for locality areas are based on National Records of Scotland Small Area Population estimates for 2022. SIMD comparison is based on population at SIMD20. Aberdeen City data for all other categories comes from the 2022 Census.

* percentage of 16+ years population

** 'single' includes separated, divorced, widowed and never married

*** illness that limits daily activity either a little or a lot

**** provides unpaid care (percentage of population aged 3+ years)

2.2. Place Standard – Mean scores for all participants

This section includes the mean scores for all participants excluding children and young people as the format for children and young people's engagement differed. Results are reported separately in Section 2.6 below.

The theme with the highest mean score was **natural space** with an average (mean) score of 5.0 (out of a maximum of 7). **Play and recreation** was the next highest scoring theme with a mean score of 4.3. The next highest scores were for **facilities and services**, **social interaction**, **feeling safe** and **housing and community** which all scored 4.2. The lowest scoring theme was **influence and sense of control** with a mean score of 3.3, followed by **traffic and parking** (3.4) and **work and economy** (3.7).

The five **highest ranking** themes were:

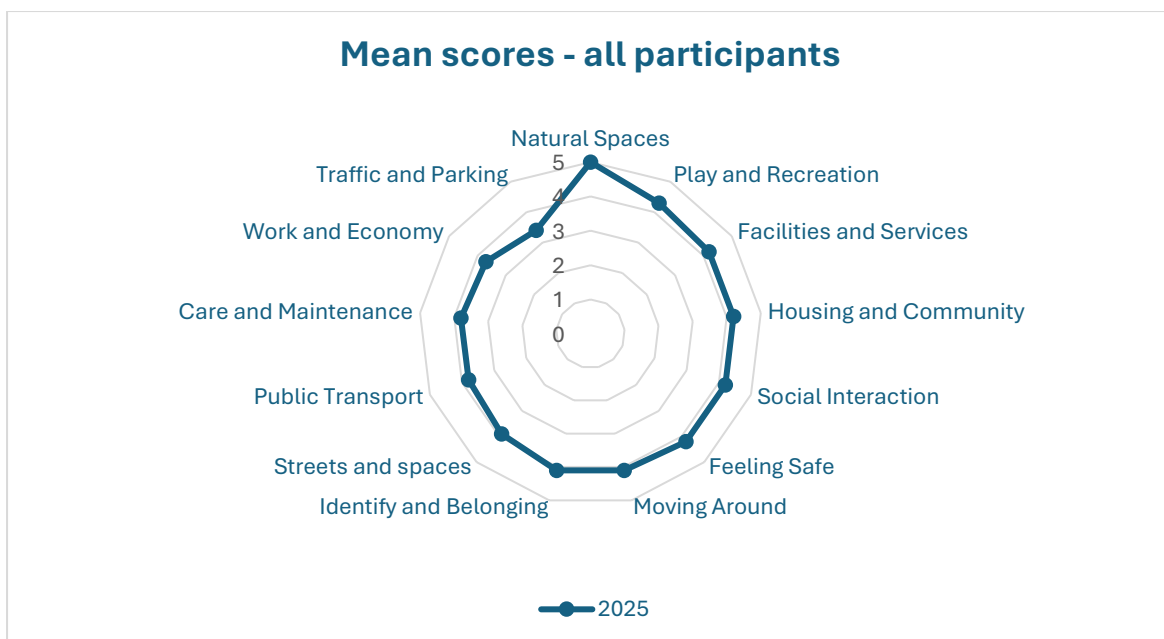
Natural space (5)
Play and recreation (4.3)
Facilities and services (4.2)
Social interaction (4.2)
Feeling safe (4.2)

The five **lowest ranking** themes were:

Influence and sense of control (3.3)
Traffic and parking (3.4)
Work and Economy (3.7)
Care and Maintenance (3.8)
Public Transport (3.8)

The figure below shows the mean scores for all 14 themes.

Figure 2.1: Mean scores – all participants



The table below shows the mean scores for each of the themes, ranked from highest to lowest. It also shows the total number of people who answered each question (base).

Table 2.2: Mean scores overall ranked highest to lowest

Theme	Mean Score	Base
Natural Spaces	5	1,252
Play and Recreation	4.3	1,048
Facilities and Services	4.2	1,144
Housing and Community	4.2	1,033
Social Interaction	4.2	1,087
Feeling Safe	4.2	1,219
Moving Around	4.1	1,256
Identify and Belonging	4.1	998
Streets and spaces	3.9	1,098
Public Transport	3.8	1,263
Care and Maintenance	3.8	1,006
Work and Economy	3.7	990
Traffic and Parking	3.4	1,059
Influence and Sense of Control	3.3	951

A more detailed breakdown of responses is given in the table below. This shows the scoring for each of the questions, giving the proportion of respondents who chose each score, along with the mean score and total number of people who answered each question.

Table 2.3: Scoring by question

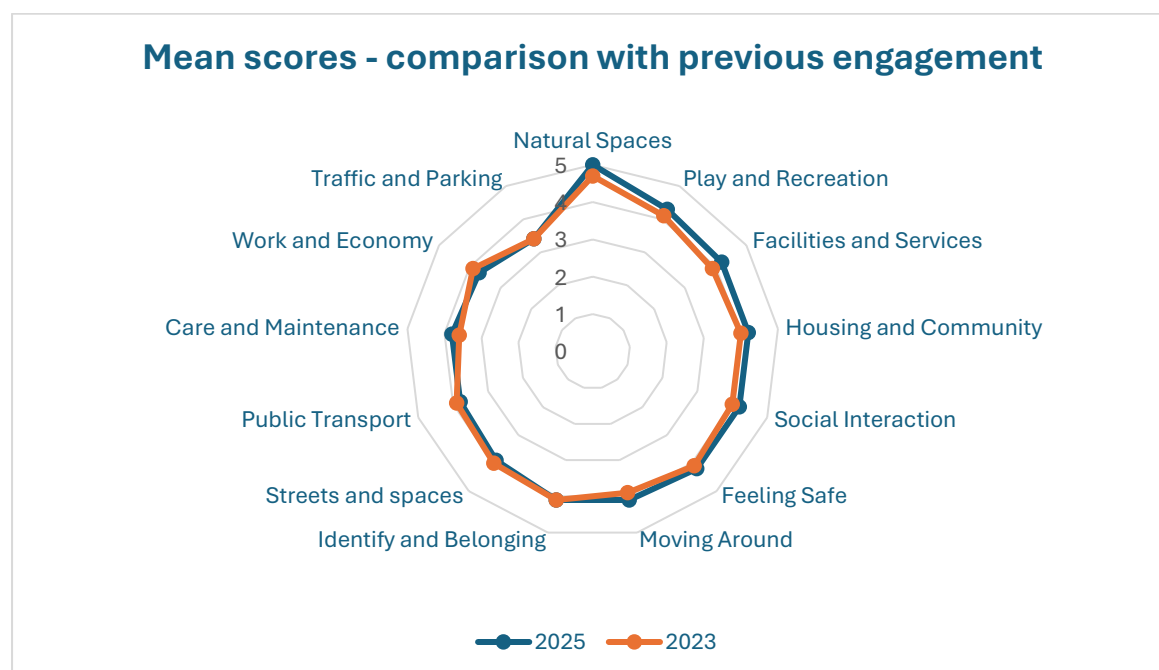
	1 (Very bad)	2	3	4	5	6	7 (Excellent)	Mean	Base
Moving around	9.1%	10.2%	12.2%	26.6%	21.0%	16.3%	4.6%	4.1	1,256
Public Transport	9.4%	12.0%	22.6%	23.6%	18.6%	9.0%	4.7%	3.8	1,263

Traffic and Parking	14.8%	15.9%	18.2%	27.7%	15.4%	4.8%	3.2%	3.4	1,059
Streets and Spaces	7.5%	12.6%	16.6%	26.3%	21.7%	11.5%	3.9%	3.9	1,098
Natural Spaces	3.4%	3.0%	7.7%	17.9%	26.6%	28.6%	12.9%	5.0	1,252
Play and Recreation	4.7%	8.1%	14.8%	24.5%	26.7%	14.3%	6.9%	4.3	1,048
Facilities and Services	7.3%	7.3%	13.1%	30.3%	23.3%	14.2%	4.5%	4.2	1,144
Work and Local Economy	8.1%	11.2%	19.2%	32.0%	19.9%	7.9%	1.7%	3.7	990
Housing and Community	7.6%	8.8%	14.6%	24.5%	24.1%	14.8%	5.6%	4.2	1,033
Social Interaction	5.5%	8.6%	14.9%	26.4%	28.1%	11.3%	5.2%	4.2	1,087
Identity and Belonging	6.4%	9.2%	13.2%	30.5%	21.9%	13.1%	5.6%	4.1	998
Feeling Safe	7.3%	7.1%	14.3%	30.5%	19.6%	15.9%	5.3%	4.2	1,219
Care and Maintenance	10.1%	10.5%	17.6%	25.0%	22.8%	11.0%	2.9%	3.8	1,006
Influence and Sense of Control	17.8%	13.1%	18.8%	27.7%	14.7%	5.5%	2.4%	3.3	951

2.2.1. Comparison with previous engagement

The chart below shows the mean scores for this engagement with those achieved in 2023. On the whole the pattern of scoring is broadly similar with Natural Spaces again scoring the highest.

Figure 2.2: Comparison of mean scores with 2023



To allow more detailed comparison, the table below shows the mean scores from both engagements along with the change in scoring between 2023 and 2025. On the whole the changes are relatively small. Overall 8 themes show **improvement**, 3 have stayed the **same** and 3 have scored **lower** (**Work and Economy**, **Public Transport** and **Streets and Spaces**).

Table 2.4: Comparison of mean scores, 2023 and 2025

Theme	2023	2025	Change between 2023 and 2025
Natural Spaces	4.7	5	0.3
Play and Recreation	4.1	4.3	0.2
Facilities and Services	3.9	4.2	0.3
Housing and Community	4	4.2	0.2
Social Interaction	4	4.2	0.2
Feeling Safe	4.1	4.2	0.1
Moving Around	3.9	4.1	0.2
Identify and Belonging	4.1	4.1	0
Streets and spaces	4	3.9	-0.1
Public Transport	3.9	3.8	-0.1
Care and Maintenance	3.6	3.8	0.2
Work and Economy	3.9	3.7	-0.2
Traffic and Parking	3.4	3.4	0
Influence and Sense of Control	3.3	3.3	0

2.3. Place Standard Comments – overall summary

A total of 13,433 comments were received across each of the 14 themes, combining all ‘good’ now comments, and all ‘improve’ comments by all participants (survey and in person events – results for children reported in Section 2.6).

Table 2.5 below highlights the number of comments received for each of the 14 themes, combining all ‘good’ now comments, and all ‘improve’ comments by respondents who completed the consultation. Each comment per theme is included with a sum of all comments highlighted for each theme. A number of cross cutting themes were raised across a number of the themes for example, lighting, public transport. These are evident throughout the summarised comments below, and a matrix to show the cross cutting themes is [here](#)

The number of comments for ‘improve’ are greater than the number for ‘good’ in all themes except Natural Space and Housing and Community. There was a wide variety and range of comments provided for each theme suggesting improvements.

Table 2.5: Consultation Themes (using Place standard themes) and number of comments received and combined per theme.

Place Standard Tool Themes	Number of ‘good’ comments	Number of ‘improve’ comments	Total number of comments (per theme)
Moving around	538 (2)	723 (3)	1261
Public Transport	610 (1)	835 (1)	1445
Traffic & parking	460	830 (2)	1290
Streets & spaces	526 (5)	646 (4)	1172
Natural space	591 (3)	587	1178
Play & recreation	526 (5)	633	1159
Facilities & Services	558 (4)	644 (5)	1202

Work & local economy	290	332	622
Housing & community	340	142	482
Social Interaction	354	374	728
Identity & belonging	269	338	607
Feeling safe	330	554	884
Care & maintenance	281	466	747
Influence & sense of control	223	433	656
TOTAL	5896	7537	13433

The top 5 themes for ‘good’ comments were:

1. ‘Public Transport’;
2. ‘Moving Around’;
3. ‘Streets & Space’;
4. ‘Natural space’ and
5. ‘Facilities and Services’ and ‘Streets and spaces.’

The 5 themes that included the most ‘improve’ comments were:

1. ‘Public Transport’;
2. ‘Traffic and parking’;
3. ‘Moving around’;
4. ‘Streets & Space’ and
5. ‘Facilities & Services’

All of the themes above were in the first 7 questions suggesting that as participants progressed through the survey the level of participation reduced. From this overview, it cannot be concluded that those themes with the most comments pertain to the issues that participants felt most strongly about at the time of participating.

Tables 2.6, 2.7 and 2.8 below highlight the number of comments across each locality (North, South, Central) for each theme. NB. The number of comments per theme do not sum to the number of participants. Calculating the comments in this way does not reflect the content of the comments. Rather, it provides an indication of which themes participants provided the most and least comments for. Across all three localities, in general the themes with the most comments were those asked at the beginning of the survey.

Table 2.6 Number of comments for each theme from participants who reported that they lived in the South Locality.

Themes	Number of ‘good’ comments	Number of ‘improve’ comments	Total number of comments (per theme)
Moving around	132	175	307
Public Transport	145	194	339
Traffic & parking	115	206	321
Streets & spaces	131	175	306
Natural space	142	146	288
Play & recreation	126	165	291
Facilities & Services	125	145	270
Work & local economy	76	105	181
Housing & community	73	109	182
Social Interaction	81	93	174
Identity & belonging	60	85	145
Feeling safe	82	140	222
Care & maintenance	67	131	198

Influence & sense of control	54	91	145
TOTAL	1409	1960	3369

Table 2.7 Number of comments for each theme from participants who reported that they lived in the North Locality.

Themes	North Number of 'good' comments	North Number of 'improve' comments	Total number of comments (per theme)
Moving around	139	201	340
Public Transport	169	219	388
Traffic & parking	119	208	327
Streets & spaces	142	200	342
Natural space	154	142	296
Play & recreation	136	164	300
Facilities & Services	192	164	356
Work & local economy	143	172	315
Housing & community	91	116	207
Social Interaction	97	150	247
Identity & belonging	101	93	194
Feeling safe	87	157	244
Care & maintenance	81	128	209
Influence & sense of control	58	109	167
TOTAL	1709	2223	3932

Table 2.8 Number of comments for each theme from participants who reported that they lived in the Central Locality.

Themes	Number of 'good' comments	Number of 'improve' comments	Total number of comments (per theme)
Moving around	168	204	372
Public Transport	176	201	377
Traffic & parking	144	209	353
Streets & spaces	163	202	365
Natural space	179	161	340
Play & recreation	156	176	332
Facilities & Services	158	165	323
Work & local economy	54	60	114
Housing & community	54	65	119
Social Interaction	51	54	105
Identity & belonging	42	50	92
Feeling safe	48	64	112
Care & maintenance	49	56	105
Influence & sense of control	40	53	93
TOTAL	1482	1720	3202

2.4. Analysis of Comments – City Wide

The following table details the summarised top areas participants overall felt are ‘Good now’ and ‘Could Make Aberdeen Better’ in the future. There are a number of cross cutting areas arising across themes and a matrix of these can be viewed [here](#). The reports with the comments by locality can be viewed at the following links: [North](#), [South](#) and [Central](#). Overall similar areas were raised across all three localities, with any areas of difference detailed in the final column in the table below. The comments from children and young people can be viewed below

Theme	‘Good’ now	‘Improve’ for the future	Areas raised by specific Locality
Moving Around	Bus: Participants appreciate the reliability and convenience of the bus routes, with specific mentions of routes to the city centre, Hilton, and the beach retail park. “Regular bus services.” Walking: The city is described as “walkable”, with good pavements and pedestrian crossings. “Walking around Aberdeen is great. With the current city layout, there isn’t much that can be or even need be improved.” The presence of wide pavements and pedestrianised areas in the city centre, like Marischal College, adds to the ease of walking. “The city is lucky to have wide pavements which help.” Cycling infrastructure there are mentions of good cycle routes. “I do cycle and the cycle lanes are good.” The segregated cycle path on South College Street is particularly praised. Additionally, the availability of adaptable bikes and support from organisations like Cycling UK have been beneficial. The support by cyclingUK to purchase and repair adaptable bicycles has been a game changer in motivating more people to cycle. Please continue supporting Cycling UK via the funding from NESTrans”	Safety and accessibility of cycling: Some participants have highlighted the need for more dedicated cycle lanes that are separate from pedestrian paths and roads. They feel that current cycle paths are inadequate and often pose risks to both cyclists and pedestrians. “Bike lanes are either non existent or not respected by car users as they are often squeezed in places into drivers lanes, and they end suddenly People park on pavements...” Better signage for cycle routes is suggested. Additionally, there is a call for more secure bike parking facilities, covered by CCTV, to encourage cycling. Condition of Pavements: comments raised that many pavements are uneven, with loose slabs and large gaps, posing a risk to pedestrians, particularly the elderly and disabled. Participants have reported trip hazards and injuries due to the poor state of pavements. “Some pavements very uneven, a trip hazard. Eg Duthie Terrace.” “The pavements throughout the Midsocket area are really uneven and present real trip hazards” There is a call for better maintenance and resurfacing of pavements to ensure they are safe and accessible for all. “Can be difficult for disabled community members. Uneven pathways and litter issues”	• Accessibility for people with a disability raised in North and Central

		Lighting: There is also a call for better lighting on streets and paths to improve safety, especially during winter months. <i>"Street lights in Kincorth are a joke - really bad in winter."</i> Public transport: participants express dissatisfaction with bus routes, frequency, and affordability. Comments also feel that bus services are unreliable, expensive, and do not cover enough areas, making it difficult to travel across the city. There is a desire for more frequent and affordable bus services, as well as better connections between different parts of the city. <i>"Cheaper and more reliable bus routes."</i> <i>"Moving across the city can sometimes take multiple buses."</i> Parking enforcement: There are concerns about cars parking on pavements, blocking access for pedestrians and wheelchair users. <i>"Stop people parking on kerbs on residential streets and also poor parking."</i> There is a call for more regulated parking and some have suggested banning non-resident parking at certain times to improve traffic flow and safety. Road Infrastructure and maintenance: Participants reported numerous potholes and poor road conditions, making they felt driving and cycling hazardous. There is a call for better road maintenance and quicker completion of roadworks to minimise disruption. <i>"Roadworks need to be completed much quicker"</i> There is also a call for the removal of bus gates and low emission zones, which are seen as causing confusion, inconvenience, more traffic congestion and pollution due to detours. <i>"Get rid of the bus gates and the ulez zones, they don't work and provide no benefit to anyone."</i> General cleanliness: participants reported issues with litter, dog fouling. <i>"pavements are disgusting, broken glass, litter and dog</i>	
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		excrement". Feeling that more needs to be done to keep the city clean and safe for everyone.	
	Emerging priorities/potential gaps: (These are areas that were not raised in the last Place Standard engagement in 2023) • People parking on kerbside (covered under traffic and parking in 2023) • Cleanliness		

Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future	Areas raised by specific Locality
Public Transport	Range and reliability of bus services, highlighted as a positive with participants commenting that buses are frequent and generally on time, with the number 19 bus route highlighted for its convenience. <i>"There are plenty of bus options to move around the city."</i> And <i>"Buses on time, regular and reliable."</i> Location of bus and train services within the city centre is highlighted as a positive. Technology: highlighted as enhancing the public transport experience, with participants mentioning the usefulness of apps that show bus routes and waiting times. <i>"I know which bus to get, when and where because of the technology available."</i> The Firstbus and Stagecoach apps are specifically noted for their effectiveness. <i>"Firstbus and Stagecoach app works well."</i> The verbal announcements of stops on buses are seen as helpful for those unfamiliar with the routes. Environmental Improvements: The introduction of hydrogen and electric buses is appreciated for their environmental benefits. <i>"Electric buses quieter and cleaner."</i> <i>"Electric buses are good – there should be more of them."</i>	Ticketing and Pricing: Participants find the bus fares to be high, making public transportation unaffordable for working individuals and families. "Extremely expensive for working people who don't receive discounts." There is a call for cheaper fares and more competitive pricing to encourage more people to use buses instead of cars. "Pricing of tickets too high and does not discourage users from driving". "It's a bit pricey if you are not young or old." <i>"If driving to town is not encouraged by the council then cheaper bus fares should be offered for return journeys from town. Also increasing the frequency."</i> Frequency and Reliability: Participants report that buses often do not adhere to their schedules, leading to long waiting times and missed connections. "Reliability. Buses often do not appear." Suggestions that there is a need for more frequent services, especially during peak hours and weekends, to ensure timely and reliable transport. <i>"More routes, more frequent times that are stuck to, and more affordable."</i> Routes and Connectivity: The current bus routes are raised as inefficient, with comments highlighting that residents having to travel into the city centre to connect to other areas. "Need more direct routes from suburbs." There is a call for more direct routes that	Environmentally Friendly Buses: raised in South Safety and Cleanliness raised in North and Central

	Free bus travel scheme for children and young people is praised for encouraging independence and facilitating access to education and work. <i>"Great having young travel cards, has encouraged independence has meant they can take on additional education (my son is attending college) something he wouldn't have managed to do without his travel card as both parents work through the day and the cost would have been a prohibitor."</i> The concession bus passes for elderly and disabled persons are also valued for enabling mobility and access to services. <i>"The concession bus passes for the service users are great. It enables them to be access services in town and take somebody along when support is needed."</i> Cleanliness and maintenance of buses are generally satisfactory, and the politeness of bus drivers is appreciated. <i>"Buses are clean."</i> <i>"Clean frequent buses with friendly helpful drivers."</i>	connect different parts of the city without the need to go through the city centre. <i>"Service only goes to city centre, does not connect to other areas without lengthy connections."</i> Additionally, there is demand for circular routes that improve connectivity and reduce travel times. <i>"Have some circular routes, place routes to places like ARI within a few bus routes so people from all areas can visit the hospital with changing via union street and taking half a day to get to and from ARI."</i> Accessibility: issues are raised, particularly for elderly and disabled residents. <i>"They could have more space for wheelchair users and prams. Often they compete for space and can usually not have a wheelchair and a pram on the same bus."</i> Need for more bus stops closer to residential areas, better access for wheelchair users, and improved infrastructure at bus stops to make them more user-friendly also raised. <i>"The bus shelters have no seats too."</i> Cleanliness and Safety: comments about the cleanliness and safety of buses raised. <i>"Some buses are not so neat, so cleanliness should be worked upon more."</i> There are reports of buses being dirty <i>"Buses are so dirty"</i> as well as instances of antisocial behaviour that make some residents feel unsafe, especially at night. <i>"There's a great deal of anti social behaviour. Measures should be taken to reduce this."</i> <i>"Anti-social behaviour on the bus is also putting people off using them at night."</i> Environmental Impact: suggestion for more environmentally friendly transportation options <i>"Increasing low-carbon vehicles to 100% of fleet"</i> Bus Stops and Shelters: Participants express that many bus shelters are poorly maintained, dirty, and lack adequate seating and would	
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		welcome live timetable information. <i>“The bus shelters have no seats too.” and “Updated bus shelters like in the city centre so you can actually see how many minutes the bus will be”.</i> Integration with Other Transport Options: There is a call for better integration of bus services with other transport options, such as trains and taxis. Comments suggest the introduction of a unified ticketing system that allows seamless travel across different modes of transportat would be beneficial. <i>“Stagecoach and FirstBus don't accept each other's tickets. Surely we could have an integrated, tap in, tap out "Transport for Aberdeen" system?” and "Having two bus companies with their own ticket systems does not seem to have the desired effect of the free marked to have reasonable bus fairs and competitive connectivity. Other councils seem to have better systems in place, eg. Edinburgh.”</i>	
	Emerging priorities/potential gaps: (These are areas that were not raised in the last Place Standard engagement in 2023) • Accessibility of public transport • Anti social behaviour on public Transport		

Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future	Areas raised in specific localities
Traffic and Parking	Parking Availability: Participants appreciate the availability of parking spaces, noting that there are plenty of options both in the city centre and in residential areas. <i>"Plenty parking around Aberdeen"</i> Parking Facilities Quality and Pricing: participants have mixed opinions on the quality and pricing of parking facilities. Some praise the modern payment methods and reasonable costs, others express concerns about the high prices, especially in the city centre. <i>"I can easily park outside the city centre and walk in, saving on parking fees and getting exercise. When I need to take my car I like to use Pay by phone which I find convenient and reasonably priced."</i> And <i>"Parking is safe, but very costly."</i> Traffic Management Initiatives: the introduction of the Low Emission Zone (LEZ) and bus gates has been seen as beneficial by some, as it has reduced traffic congestion and improved air quality in the city centre. Some participants highlight that the bypass and other new roads have also made a difference in alleviating traffic congestion, making it easier to navigate the city. <i>"LEZ and bus gates seem to reduce the amount of traffic. Should be extended all the way to Anderson Drive."</i> And <i>"Bypass made big difference"</i> Accessibility and Safety: The presence of designated disabled parking spaces and the enforcement of parking regulations have been positively received, contributing to a sense of safety and organisation. <i>"It is good to have disabled parking spots I can use with my badge."</i>	Transportation Issues: Participants raise that they feel the approach to discouraging car use has not been balanced with viable alternatives. <i>"Need to reduce the number of vehicles on the road - congestion, delays and pollution by providing better alternative"</i>. Some have raised that cycling is unsafe, and public transportation, especially buses, is both "expensive and unreliable". This has led to a general sentiment that the city's efforts to reduce car usage have caused more frustration than improvement. <i>"Until you make public transport cheap people will continue to use their cars."</i> Parking Concerns: Parking issues are raised. The cost of parking in the city centre is seen as expensive, which is viewed as discouraging people from visiting and negatively impacting local businesses. There are also complaints about the lack of parking spaces, both in residential areas and around key locations like schools and shopping centres. Some participants have suggested that more affordable or even free parking could help revitalise the city centre. <i>"Parking is very expensive, bus gates all over the place discourage from going into the city centre to shop which affects local business."</i> Road and Car Park Conditions: The condition of the roads and car parks is another common concern. The state of repair of car parks, with issues such as standing water, vandalism, and a general feeling of neglect raised. The presence of potholes and the need for more frequent resurfacing and repainting of roads have also been mentioned. <i>"The condition of the roads is shocking - lack of investment."</i> Additionally, there are calls for better signposting and maintenance of pedestrian routes from public car parks to main streets.	Anti-social Driving and Enforcement: raised in North School Drop-off and Pick-up parking, road Conditions and Repair and Accessibility and Inclusivity issues raised in Central

		Traffic Flow and Management: Traffic flow and management are also issues raised. Participants have expressed frustration with bus gates and low emission zones (LEZ), which they feel have created more traffic congestion and increased travel times. There are also concerns about the impact of these measures on residential areas, where traffic has been redirected, causing safety issues for pedestrians, especially children walking to school. <i>"Certain areas of the city have terrible traffic flow (Berryden, Hutcheon Street)." and "The bus gates create more traffic build-up and increase emissions."</i> Safety Concerns: Some participants feel that the current traffic management measures prioritise vehicles over pedestrians, making it difficult and unsafe to cross roads. There are also concerns about anti-social driving behaviour, particularly around schools, and the need for more enforcement of parking regulations to ensure safety. <i>"Traffic in the mornings block the crossing and this makes it unsafe for children walking to school." And "Traffic takes priority over people. Can't cross the road without a lengthy detour."</i>	
	Emerging Priorities/potential gaps: (These are areas that were not raised in the last Place Standard engagement in 2023) • Impact of bus gates and LEZ • Anti-social behaviour		

Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future	Areas raised in specific localities
Streets and Spaces	Green Spaces and Parks: participants appreciate the abundance of green spaces, parks, and natural landscapes, such as Victoria Park, Bonnymuir, and Union Terrace Gardens. <i>"Lovely parks, some lovely places to walk dogs and enjoy."</i> The cleanliness and maintenance of these areas are frequently mentioned, with participants noting that parks like Duthie Park and Hazlehead Park are well-kept and provide safe places for socialising and exercising. Architecture: The city's architecture, including historic buildings and modern developments like Marischal College and Union Terrace Gardens, is also highlighted as a source of pride. <i>"The preservation of historic buildings adds character."</i> Accessibility and Convenience: participants value the accessibility and convenience of public spaces, with good signposting and easy navigation around the city. <i>"Useful signposting."</i> Community Groups and Public Space Improvements: the presence of community groups and efforts to improve public spaces, such as street art projects like Nuart, contribute to a vibrant and engaging environment. <i>"Appreciate the art from Nuart. Brightens things."</i>	Cleanliness and Maintenance of Public Spaces: Participants have expressed concerns about the condition of the streets, pavements, and buildings. Issues such as litter, dog mess, graffiti, and overflowing bins are frequently mentioned. The need for more rubbish bins and dog mess bins is highlighted, along with the importance of regular cleaning and maintenance to improve the overall appearance of the city. <i>"Cleaning of buildings in Aberdeen central, and wider, would see a remarkable visual improvement. In some locations there could be more bins."</i> Condition of Roads and Pavements: the condition of roads and pavements is raised as a concern. Participants have reported numerous potholes, uneven surfaces, and trip hazards, which have led to injuries. There is a call for better road maintenance, including resurfacing and repairing potholes, as well as gritting pavements during snowy and icy weather to ensure safety for pedestrians. <i>"Road conditions - some terrible potholes and poorly maintained road surfaces."</i> Green Spaces: Participants have expressed a desire for more parks, trees, and greenery throughout the city. <i>"More green spaces around the city centre and near school areas."</i> The need for better maintenance of green spaces, including regular grass cutting, tree trimming, and cleaning of public areas is also raised. <i>"The upkeep and maintenance of the parks and gardens."</i> The importance of creating more accessible and well-maintained parks for families, children, and individuals with disabilities is emphasised.	Facilities and Accessibility: and City Centre: Aesthetic raised in North

		Accessibility and Safety: participants have raised concerns about the accessibility and safety of public spaces. Poor lighting in parks and streets, lack of proper signage, and insufficient facilities for disabled individuals are raised. <i>"Better lighting in parks at night." "More spaces for disabled access. As a disabled person there's minimal spaces and people without blue badges take them."</i> It is suggested that there is a need for better street lighting, more accessible pathways, and improved safety measures to make public spaces more welcoming and secure. <i>"Doesn't feel safe in the city centre from around 4pm onwards, some areas unkempt and uninviting"</i> State of Buildings and Infrastructure: the condition of buildings and infrastructure is raised. Some buildings are described as <i>"dirty"</i>, and in <i>"need of repair"</i>. There is a call for building owners to take more responsibility for maintaining their properties, including cleaning up graffiti, removing weeds, and repairing damaged structures. <i>"Buildings need to be maintained better, for example force owners in Union Street to clean them up and get weeds out of the roof etc. Union Street should sparkle. Pavements are dirty, lots of chewing gum, litter and dog poop."</i> The importance of preserving historical buildings and landmarks is also highlighted. Community Engagement and Activities: Participants have suggested more community involvement in maintaining and improving public spaces. Suggestions included community gardens, local litter pick-ups, and educational programmes. <i>"Mobilise community to do local litter pick ups more often, ask schools to speak about this issue in schools."</i> The need for better communication and collaboration between communities and the council is raised.	
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	Emerging priorities/Potential Gaps (<i>These are areas that were not raised in the last Place Standard engagement in 2023</i>) • Accessibility and Safety of Public Spaces	
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Theme	‘Good’ now	‘Improve’ for the future	Areas raised in specific localities
Natural Spaces	Proximity and Accessibility: Participants appreciated the easy access to green spaces, with parks like Seaton, Duthie, and Hazlehead being frequently mentioned as beautiful and well-maintained. <i>“Great access to parks and outdoor spaces across the city and surrounding countryside.”</i> The city's proximity to the countryside and the beach is also valued, providing residents with opportunities for outdoor activities and relaxation. <i>“We are lucky that we live near the countryside.”</i> Improvements to green spaces and parks have been noted positively, <i>“Recent improvements to green spaces and parks is great.”</i> and the presence of mature trees and well-kept public parks contributes to the overall appeal of the city. Diversity of Natural Spaces: Participants highlight the variety of natural spaces available, including riverside walks, woodland areas, and nature reserves. <i>“There are natural areas at the river and woods that are well maintained and easy to access.”</i> <i>“There are a good amount of parks and woodland areas around.”</i>	Green Spaces: Participants express desire for more green spaces and better maintenance of existing ones. Participants raised concerns about the removal of parks like St Fittick's, and the need for more <i>“More localised small green spaces within the city centre to attract wildlife.”</i> They also asked for more trees planted, better maintenance of footpaths, and improved connectivity to green spaces. <i>“More of them, stop cutting down trees and not replacing.”</i> Accessibility. Participants highlighted the need for better access to parks and green spaces, especially for those with disabilities. Suggestions include more benches, improved lighting, and better public transport options to these areas. <i>“Pavements that have tree roots not very level and can cause trip hazards. Dog mess, owners need fined.”</i> Safety and Cleanliness: Participants have reported issues with litter, dog mess, broken glass, and vandalism in parks and green spaces. There is a call for more regular cleanups, better policing, and more bins to address these problems. <i>“Dog mess, owners need fined.”</i> Community Involvement and Activities: Participants highlighted community involvement and activities to support natural spaces. Suggestions included creating community gardens, increasing allotments, and organising local gatherings and events in parks to boost city morale and support local businesses.	Green Spaces and Natural Areas within the City Centre raised in North Accessibility and Connectivity raised in North and Central Increased use of Green Space raised in North

	Amenities: The availability of benches, bins, and other amenities are cited. <i>"Parks and natural spaces are pleasant. Benches and bins. Ducks and ponds."</i>	<i>"More wild/open spaces. More options to create community gardens, increase allotments and community food growing" and "I'd love to see more micro allotments opened up so that those who think they might want an allotment can try a small version first."</i> Impact of New Developments: impact of new developments on green spaces was raised. Some participants suggested that too many green areas are being lost to housing and industrial developments, and they wanted the council to protect existing green spaces and consider the environmental impact of new projects. <i>"Stop approving housing developments on green spaces (like the Bucksburn Valley area, Green Bank at Bridge of Don, or Den of Maidencraig), while rejecting developments planned for abandoned industrial areas (e.g. former Exhibition Centre)."</i>	
	Potential Gaps/Emerging priorities (These are areas that were not raised in the last Place Standard engagement in 2023) • Community Involvement and Activities • Impact of New Developments		

Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future	Areas raised in specific localities
Play and Recreation	Availability and maintenance of parks appreciated, with several mentioning specific locations like Hazlehead Park and Duthie Park. These parks are praised for their well-kept play areas, green spaces, and the recent upgrades that have made them even more enjoyable for families and children. <i>"Good availability of parks" and "Renovations of the play parks" and "The play park is well maintained"</i> Accessible Recreational spaces and sports facilities is highlighted as good, with participants recognising the	Increased Recreational Facilities -Participants feel that there is a need for more and better-maintained sports facilities, including football pitches, swimming pools, and outdoor gym equipment. Participants suggest development of facilities such as skate parks, bike tracks, and community centres, to provide a wider range of activities for all age groups. They also express a request for more community events. <i>"More accessible play equipment but also outdoor gym equipment that can be used for free would be a boost in terms of health in the area."</i>	Spaces and Activities for Children and Teenagers raised in North and Central Facilities for Children with Disabilities/

	accessibility “There are parks within walking distance”, inclusivity such as accessible play equipment and variety of activities available for different age groups “Our local parks offer facilities for most age groups”	Affordable and Accessible facilities, raised as important, particularly for teenagers and young adults, to support reduce antisocial behaviour and provide safe spaces for socialising and physical activity. "Facilities for teens to reduce antisocial behaviour. “The weather in Aberdeen can be cold, rainy and windy. Young families and teens also need affordable fun areas inside especially over winters. Parks MUST be lit for safety." Maintenance and cleanliness of existing facilities highlighted for improvement, with specific mentions of dog waste, litter, and vandalism as ongoing issues. Suggestions included “more rubbish bins, dog poo bins”. Additionally, there is a call for more public toilets, better drainage of sports fields, and improved public transport links to recreational areas. Inclusivity: participants raise the need for more inclusive play areas for children with disabilities, opportunities for intergenerational and affordable activities. "Provide incentives that will attract more people to go out. Also more and more people don't have money to play or do recreation." “there are not many affordable alternatives to public play parks." Promotion: better advertising of existing recreational opportunities to increase participation and engagement is suggested.	Additional Needs: raised in North Safety raised in South and Central Community events/activities raised in North and Central
	Potential Gaps/Emerging priorities (These are areas that were not raised in the last Place Standard engagement in 2023) • Public transport links to recreational activities • Maintenance and cleanliness of existing facilities • Inclusivity: participants highlight the need for more inclusive play areas for children with disabilities, opportunities for intergenerational and affordable activities.		
Where do children and young people	Variety of Play Areas: Participants mentioned that children play in local parks such as Duthie Park, Westburn Park, Hazlehead Park. Participants also stated that children also play in private gardens, or on the streets, and specific play parks like those in front of multi-storey buildings and at Seaview Crescent. Other locations such as school grounds, green spaces, Asda car park, and the beach were provided. “On the roads, in shops, outside shops, at the local primary school, walking the streets, unions sq”		

play in your area?	Accessibility and Safety: some expressed concerns about the lack of safe play areas, with comments about children having to travel to parks or play in less ideal locations like streets or driveways. "Homes and gardens as unfortunately there is no local play space" and "There is no where for children to play unless they have access to their own garden"
Please tell us your thoughts on the quality, quantity and accessibility of play spaces in your area?	Quality and Maintenance: varied opinions about the quality, quantity, and accessibility of play spaces in their area. <i>"Quantity and accessibility of play spaces are great, there are plenty of play places in the city and all are accessible for everyone. The quality varies depending on which play space you go to, some are better maintained than others."</i> However, some find play spaces to be well-maintained and of good quality, while others report poor maintenance and safety issues. <i>"The quantity is so poor, for quality, you have one or two parks with just one or two things installed for play. It really needs to be looked at."</i> Accessibility: There are concerns about accessibility, with suggestions for more accessible equipment and better facilities. "Grass is often left to grow too long between cuts. Built on a hill no accessible toys for children with additional needs" Some felt that the play spaces are greatly lacking and underfunded, while others feel that there is a good quantity but mixed quality. <i>"need to be more quality activities for all ages including teenagers. free skate parks areas for scooters"</i> Safety: Issues like dog waste, vandalism, aggressive dogs, and motorbikes are mentioned as safety concerns. <i>"No policing or enforcement for aggressive dogs or motorbikes" and "Not any, not enough safe places and no segregation between kids and dogs - there should be specific parks designated Dog free and others for Dog Friendly."</i> Suggestions for Improvement: suggestions included enhancing and extending playparks, installing all-weather floodlit pitches, and creating more playgrounds with various equipment for different age groups.

Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future	Areas raised in specific localities
Facilities and Services	Local amenities: Participants appreciate the accessibility and availability of local amenities such as shops, community centres, and schools. Convenience of having essential services within walking distance, including supermarkets, pharmacies, and GP surgeries highlighted. <i>"Local shops and cafes are easily accessible."</i>	Availability of Facilities: Participants raise the lack of facilities and services, particularly libraries, and public spaces. Also raised is the closure of local libraries and community centres, which they feel has left a void in their communities. They raise the need for these spaces to be reopened or repurposed to serve the community better. <i>"No library so maybe need a community hub/centre." And "The nearest library (Central) is more than a mile away. I'm not aware of any</i>	Education capacity raised in North Educational Support for children with additional needs

	The presence of libraries and community hubs is also valued, with some noting the helpful staff and the range of activities available for different age groups. The availability of food banks and support groups for those in need is also appreciated. Green Space and local parks highlighted as important and provide a pleasant environment for walking and outdoor activities. The community spirit is evident, with participants praising the efforts of volunteers and local charities in supporting various community services. Education: participants are generally satisfied with the quality of local schools and the accessibility of educational facilities. <i>"Schooling is still decent in the area"</i> Community centres and hubs, the positive impact of community centres and hubs, which offer a range of services and activities that cater to different needs.	<i>social/ community/ childrens/council/ housing/alcohol/substance/ homeless/ employment/reoffending/low-income/food bank services within half a mile."</i> Activities and Facilities for young people: Concerns that there are not enough recreational options for children and teenagers, leading to boredom and potential antisocial behaviour. They suggest the creation of more youth-oriented spaces and activities to keep young people engaged and out of trouble. <i>"more for young people to do" and Improvement in facilities for young people"</i> Access to Healthcare services, particularly GP and dental services, was highlighted as a concern. Participants report difficulties in accessing these services due to long waiting times and oversubscribed practices. <i>"Many services over-subscribed making it hard to see a doctor or dentist etc."</i> They call for more doctors, better appointment systems, and improved access to healthcare facilities. Public transportation and accessibility: participants mention the need for better bus routes and services, especially to community centres and other essential facilities. <i>"However local community centre is not on the bus route so is not accessible to a lot of locals with mobility issues."</i> Accessibility for people with mobility issues is also highlighted as a concern. Affordable retail options: Participants expressed a desire for more local shops and affordable retail options. <i>"Shops in my community are expensive."</i> They feel that the current retail landscape is lacking, with too many empty units and not enough variety <i>"More variety of shops"</i> and <i>"Greater variety of shops, encourage small businesses to use empty units."</i> They suggest that the council should do more to encourage local businesses and make retail spaces more affordable.	is called for raised in North Public Transport and Infrastructure raised in North Safety and facilities for vulnerable people: raised in North and South Education performance and childcare funding raised in Central. Support for local businesses raised in South and Central.
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		Safety: in public spaces raised as important. Participants mention issues with antisocial behaviour, drug use, and general neglect of public areas. They call for more police presence, better maintenance of public spaces, and initiatives to address substance use and homelessness. <i>"There is a lack of joined up thinking between services in relation to addiction and mental health."</i> Education Investment and Additional Support Needs: quality of education and the condition of school facilities raised with comments suggesting more investment in schools, better support for children with additional needs, and a focus on creating a positive learning environment. <i>"Need more support in schools with children with additional support needs."</i>	
	Potential Gaps/Emerging priorities (These are areas that were not raised in the last Place Standard engagement in 2023) • Safety: in public spaces. Participants mention issues with antisocial behaviour, drug use, and general neglect of public areas. They call for more police presence, better maintenance of public spaces, and initiatives to address substance use and homelessness. (raised under feeling safe in 2023) • Education Investment and Additional Support Needs: Comments suggest more investment in schools, better support for children with additional needs, and a focus on creating a positive learning environment		

Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future	Areas raised in specific localities
Housing and Community	Availability and affordability of houses and flats to buy or rent is generally good, with a mix of housing types and sizes and council and private homes. <i>"Good availability of houses and flats to buy or rent" and "General good range of housing available"</i> Variety of home types, including new builds and older houses, is highlighted.	Oversupply of Properties: Participants raise "There is a huge oversupply of private housing in Aberdeen, leading to properties that people can't sell and increasing misery of negative equity." There are questions about the need for new developments. <i>"Too many new housing developments making it harder to sell and devaluing older properties"</i> Affordable and social Housing: There is demand for more affordable homes for purchase and rent. <i>"more social housing for families" and</i>	Impact of new developments on infrastructure/ services raised in North and South Housing Quality and maintenance

	Community spirit is highlighted as good with friendly neighbours raised <i>"Good and inclusive community"</i> and <i>"Community spirit is good in most areas, local projects increase participation"</i> Housing is felt as well-maintained with many new developments under construction. <i>"Homes are well kept and there are options for elderly in terms of adapted"</i> and <i>"Homes are in good condition"</i> Safety: participants feel safe and there is a sense of active community engagement.	<i>"More affordable homes to buy. Greater provision of community facilities to encourage social inclusivity."</i> Participants suggest prioritising the renovation of empty buildings over new constructions. <i>"Encourage redevelopment of city centre properties over building of yet more new housing estates on the fringe of the city. Not only might this reinvigorate the city centre, it would also help tidy up the buildings there and provide custom for city centre businesses too."</i> Facilities and Infrastructure: to support the growing population in areas of new development. Concerns about the lack of community spaces, shops, doctors, and other essential services in housing areas, especially in new developments. <i>"There aren't facilities for the increased population. Doctors, dentists, school places."</i> Energy Efficiency: participants raise that many homes are often energy inefficient, with poor insulation and outdated heating systems <i>"A lot of houses are energy inefficient."</i>, and there is an ask for investment in green technology to improve energy efficiency and reduce heating costs. <i>"Needs to be more investment in green technology e.g. heat pumps, heating networks."</i> and <i>"Cost effective improvements like introducing new technologies for heating and energy."</i> Housing Repairs and Maintenance: Concern raised over long process for arranging repairs, wait times and quality of maintenance work. Call for better maintenance of existing council properties. <i>"The process for organising a communal repair and the missing shares procedure isn't easy to find information about. The Novoville app is helpful, but it's so hard to find someone in the council to help navigate the system and the information is hard to find. So more easily accessible information in simple language about organising communal repairs would be great."</i>	raised in North and Central Investment in Green Technology/ Energy efficiency raised in North and Central Community Integration/Cohesion, transport and accessibility and safety raised in North Oversupply and empty properties raised in South
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		Community Spirit and Safety are important to participants. Highlighted that integration can impact an areas with desire for more community building opportunities and better support for local events to foster a sense of community and improve the living environment. <i>"There are a lot of HMO properties in the area, with lots of residents coming and going frequently, which doesn't help to create a community spirit. However, everyone needs to live somewhere, including students and young people who are only around temporarily, and that is just the way of things. More support for community events, and better awareness of community organisations would help."</i>	
	Potential Gaps/Emerging priorities (These are areas that were not raised in the last Place Standard engagement in 2023) None		

Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future	Areas raised in specific localities
Work and Local Economy	Availability of skilled jobs in the oil and gas and energy sectors, small businesses, the public sector and in the NHS are recognised by participants as providing <i>"Good mix of employment opportunities"</i>, while the <i>"Universities and NHS act as magnets for talent."</i> Vibrant local economy with "lots of local shops / businesses within walking distance" are appreciated by participants as are the efforts to diversify away from the oil industry. Volunteering and Training is "plentiful", with many opportunities to "upskill" available for young and older people and in community centres, churches, libraries and local organisations such as ABZ Works, Pathways and ACVO	Local Job Opportunities and Skill-Building Initiatives were regarded as lacking by participants who emphasised the need for better collaboration between schools and local companies to provide work placements and modern apprenticeships. Participants felt more could be done for people to <i>"gain experience and employability skills", such as "a scheme to set up volunteering opportunities in both the third sector and in the community (in partnership with ACC)"</i> Economic Decline and Government Support were highlighted as a concern, with industries moving away due to insufficient government support for oil, gas, and renewable energy projects. Participants believe that the <i>"council should pressure the government for radical changes to stimulate city growth"</i>.	Remote working raised in Central Impact of transport options raised in North and Central Volunteer opportunities raised in North Lifelong Learning raised in central

	Community Support to keep businesses open demonstrates “a strong community infrastructure”. Social enterprises are appreciated by participants.	Infrastructure and Public Transport: participants suggested infrastructure and public Transport should be a focus for ACC investment to boost the economy. Participants also suggested investing in renewable energies and offering more training opportunities. Participants were concerned that “<i>vehicular restrictions</i>” had impacted negatively and encouraged ACC to “<i>Reduce rates and remove lez and bus gates to encourage footfall and business to enter again.</i>” Repurposing Empty Shops and Buildings for “<i>housing or community hubs</i>”, or “<i>cultural attractions</i>” to revitalise the area was suggested by participants who were concerned that the city centre was in “<i>decline</i>”. Information Dissemination and Tourism: participants raised the need to improve, especially around “<i>local volunteering and training opportunities</i>”. Participants also point out the importance of supporting and developing tourist attractions, cultural events, and outdoor opportunities to draw visitors from outside the area and engage residents. Support for Diversification in the Oil and Gas Sector was regarded as a way to improve the city, with participants urging better “<i>support for diversification to prevent further economic downturn</i>”. The council is encouraged to “<i>work alongside the oil and gas industry</i>” while increasing investment in “<i>offshore wind or wave energy projects</i>”. Visibility of Job Opportunities raised as needing improvement, as some participants feel that jobs are not well advertised within the local community. Participants urged ACC to be “<i>more proactive in highlighting local jobs and volunteering opportunities</i>”.	
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		Community-Led Initiatives and Lifelong Learning should be “ <i>prioritised</i> ”. Participants would like to see “more community wealth building... in priority neighbourhoods”. Participants feel that more could be done to advertise volunteering and training opportunities, and to “ <i>make them more accessible to everyone, including non-digital users</i> ”	
	Potential Gaps/Emerging priorities (These are areas that were not raised in the last Place Standard engagement in 2023) • Information Dissemination and Community Engagement need to improve, especially around “local volunteering and training opportunities”. • supporting and developing tourist attractions, cultural events, and outdoor opportunities to draw visitors from outside the area and engage residents. • Support for Diversification in the Oil and Gas Sector • Visibility of Job Opportunities needs improvement • Community-Led Initiatives and Lifelong Learning should be “prioritised”. Participants would like to see “more community wealth building... in priority neighbourhoods”.		

Theme	‘Good’ now	‘Improve’ for the future	Areas raised in specific localities
Social Interaction	Spaces for social interaction: participants highlight various places and opportunities for social interaction within the community. Community Events and Activities are frequently mentioned, including local self-help groups, charity events, and social support groups. The spaces and opportunities for social interaction are plentiful, preventing people from feeling lonely. The variety of opportunities for social interaction was praised, for example, “knitting group which is great”, “free activities like museums / art galleries” and “very active community garden”.	Decline in Community Engagement due to the closure of local resources was raised as a concern. Participants said there should be more activities that “<i>foster social interaction without a commercial aspect, particularly for younger people</i>” such as festivals, fun days, and creative activities, especially those that are not centred around alcohol, “<i>More support could be given to establishing an evening cafe culture, the opening of libraries, community centres, and other public buildings to provide options for evening socialising?</i>”. Spaces to socialise that did not centre around alcohol were regarded as important with calls for “<i>Alternatives to pubs... Community gyms, library and community spaces for different clubs to meet</i>”.	

	Schools are mentioned as integration spaces which “support socialising”. Private Businesses such as restaurants, cafes, and bars are also noted as good places for social interaction. Several residents mentioned meeting with others for coffee, promoting a cafe culture as opposed to pub culture. Social Media, used by community organisation, such as Facebook, was regarded as helpful in making participants feel socially connected. It was also viewed as helpful to “share the many wonderful initiatives going on with friends and family, colleagues, and others”. Sense of Community participants said there is a strong sense of community, with active community councils, local shops, and a friendly atmosphere, especially where people have lived for many years. Community support after lockdown “highlighted the importance of being able to socialise in person and engage with members of the public”.	Cost of Community-led Events participants feel that “The cost of accessing community-led events is becoming prohibitive”. There is a concern that social interaction is inhibited by financial considerations, <i>“Almost all of the places to meet and socialise... are monetised”</i>. Promotion and Communication – participants suggest using local media and online platforms to keep information updated; <i>“Bringing together the information”</i> and running <i>“more publicity pre-event”</i> was suggested. Variety of Activities participants called for wider variety of activities that cater to different interests and age groups, including more options for people with full-time jobs. Social Isolation participants are particularly concerned about <i>“A lot of social isolation in older generation and in young people of post-school age”</i>. Social connectedness could be improved if <i>“More effort could be spent to get others involved”</i>.	
	Potential Gaps/Emerging priorities (These are areas that were not raised in the last Place Standard engagement in 2023) • Alcohol free spaces to socialise “Alternatives to pubs” • Cost of Community-led Events participants feel that “The cost of accessing community-led events is becoming prohibitive”. • Social Isolation participants are particularly concerned about “A lot of social isolation in older generation and in young people of post-school age”. Social connectedness could be improved if “More effort could be spent to get others involved”.		

Theme	‘Good’ now	‘Improve’ for the future	Areas raised in specific localities
Identity and Belonging	Community and People: Aberdeen's residents have a strong sense of community and pride in their local identity. Participants mentioned there is a “diverse mix of people who mix well” and	City Centre and Infrastructure: Participants suggested there was a lack of belonging. The city centre, in particular, is seen as <i>“unappealing”</i> , with “abandoned buildings, closed facilities”, and a	Integration Diversity and Culture raised in

	highlighted a “sense of belonging” and a “good community spirit”. Participants who had moved to the area said they felt “included”. Participants said the people are generally nice, tolerant, interested, helpful, and well-meaning. Green Areas and Development: The maintenance of green areas and ongoing development work in Aberdeen are highly valued by residents. Participants expressed pride at the beach and welcomed the new development, they praised the new harbour, the “boon” of the tall ships event and the multiple museums and galleries. Participants also praised the maintenance of green spaces such as Hazlehead and Duthie parks and Union Terrace Gardens. History and Heritage: Aberdeen's rich history, including its maritime and oil heritage, is highly appreciated by residents. They appreciate that different neighbourhoods have their own identity with local businesses within walking distance. Old Aberdeen was praised “iconic” and “charismatic”. Cultural events which celebrate Aberdeen’s uniqueness were praised, such as Granite Noir, NuArt and Mayfest. Participants were particularly proud of the city's unique architecture, attractive beachfront, and iconic landmarks. Community Centres and Events and volunteer efforts contribute to a strong sense of belonging and identity in Aberdeen. Participants praised cultural events and organisers such Inspire, Spectra, Tall ships, and NuArt as helping to promote Aberdeen’s sense of community. Participants also said schools and community centres help promote community and belonging and appreciated newsletters and social media which help keep people connected.	general sense of neglect. Participants have called for better maintenance and revitalisation of the area, including the preservation of historical sites and the promotion of positive stories about the city. The city's infrastructure and transport links are also areas of concern. Participants highlight the need for better roads, more effective public transport, and improved maintenance of public spaces to make the “<i>city somewhere to be proud of</i>”. Community Activities and Events: participants expressed a desire for more community activities and events to foster a “<i>sense of pride and belonging</i>”. Participants have suggested increasing support for local events and “<i>creating more attractive meeting places</i>” where community councils could meet and invite residents. They also want the council to listen to their concerns and act on them, particularly regarding issues like anti-social behaviour, and the state of council housing. Participants feel that the city needs to do more to promote its history and culture, with suggestions for “more events showcasing local heritage” and more support for grassroots community projects. Safety and Anti-Social Behaviour: Participants reported feeling unsafe due to crime and the presence of drug users. There is also a call for better maintenance of public spaces, including cleaning up graffiti, improving lighting, and addressing fly-tipping. Support for Local Businesses: The lack of support for local businesses and the high cost of living are raised as issues which have impacted “<i>the heart</i>” of the city. Participants call for lower business rates “<i>to help see a thriving return of retail shops</i>” and more affordable events and activities. Residents have also called for more support for local businesses and efforts to attract new ones so the city centre can “<i>flourish</i>”.	North and Central. Union street raised in Central. Council housing conditions and the availability of community spaces raised in Central Future Strategic Planning raised in South Infrastructure raised in North Safety raised in North and South
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		Integration and Inclusion: There is also a desire for better integration and inclusion of international residents who sometimes find it <i>"challenging to connect with local Aberdonians."</i> There is also a call for more positive promotion of the city to counteract the negative perceptions, <i>"Fix the city centre, make it vibrant and people will care and be proud of this place again."</i>	
	Potential Gaps/Emerging priorities (These are areas that were not raised in the last Place Standard engagement in 2023) • Safety and Anti-Social Behaviour (raised under feeling safe in 2023) • Support for Local Businesses: (raised under work and economy and facilities and services in 2023)		

Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future	Areas raised in specific localities
Feeling Safe	Sense of Safety: Participants feel safe in their neighbourhoods, even at night, <i>"We feel very safe here, even walking at night."</i> and appreciate the presence of street lighting which enhances their sense of security. <i>"Well lit paths, a positive vibe about the area, low crime rates, very little antisocial behaviour experienced."</i> The presence of CCTV and neighbourhood watch programmes supports feeling of safety, as does Low crime rates and visible police presence. "CCTV prevalence, visible officers." Well-lit paths and open spaces are frequently mentioned as positive features. <i>"Well lit, open spaces."</i> And <i>"Paths are very well lit at night."</i> Community spirit is highlighted, with neighbours looking out for each other and a general sense of friendliness and support. <i>"Sense of community."</i> And <i>"Neighbours look after each other."</i>	Lighting in public areas: some feel is inadequate, making it unsafe to walk at night. Participants suggest better street lighting and more CCTV. <i>"Antisocial behaviour and lots of people around the city are clearly under the influence of drug and/or alcohol. More lighting would be good, the lights under the bridge connecting the green to the Kirk made such a difference but have gone now."</i> And <i>"Poor lighting in the street."</i> Specific crimes: raised such as reported issues with fast food delivery bikes and e-bikes not following normal rules, causing danger to pedestrians and road users. <i>"Stop all the folk using ebikes and terrorising both pedestrians and road users."</i> Crime involving children and young people, is raised. With comments suggesting have community based projects to combat antisocial behaviour and improve safety. <i>"Have places for older children to go and play or community centres to teach kids how to build or create."</i> and <i>"Behaviour management and polices in schools"</i>	Dangerous Dog and Incidents of Violence raised in North CCTV cameras raised in Central Activities for children and young people raised in South and Central Enforcement against antisocial driving and parking raised in Central

	Amenities and atmosphere: Participants also value the convenience of living close to amenities and the overall quiet and peaceful atmosphere of their areas. <i>“Very close to everything, very convenient.”</i> And <i>“Very quiet area”</i>	<i>needs to be improved so that children learn boundaries and consequences.”</i> City centre is perceived by some participants as unsafe, especially at night, with the presence of teenagers causing trouble, people using substances and a general feeling of insecurity raised. Some participants state that they avoid going into town alone at night. <i>“City centre is full of teenagers causing trouble, drink/drug addicts. Not safe to walk around at night.”</i> Shoplifting and drug dealing are raised, and some participants feel that higher responsibility and quicker action are needed to tackle these issues. Night time public transport options are referenced as poor, and contributing to the feeling of insecurity. Alcohol and Drug use: participants raised people being under the influence of Alcohol and Drug and impact of this and that it makes people feel nervous. <i>“Antisocial behaviour and lots of people around the city are clearly under the influence of drug and/or alcohol.”</i> Support for mental health and substance use: Participants raise a lack of mental health services and drug use programmes and that those struggling with substance use issues aren't getting the support they need, leading to increased crime. <i>“Lack of concern from police. Lack of support for those with mental health issues and substance abuse. Many negative online news reports on social media.”</i> And <i>“More supportive hub for substance use Time and worry of this prevents people's confidence in accessing services and going out and participating at night.”</i> And <i>“More spaces where people can drop in for help and guidance if they are feeling a need for support.”</i>	Enhanced drug support programmes and mental health services raised in South
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		Suggested improvements: Greater accountability from student landlords and the University to prevent antisocial behaviour by students. Police resourcing: Participants feel that the police are stretched too thin and often do not attend or investigate certain crimes, making communities less safe. There is a call for more visible policing and more community police to be seen walking around the area. "<i>More police on beat.</i>" Specific areas like Denburn Car Park and George Street are mentioned as needing better policing.	
	Potential Gaps/Emerging priorities (These are areas that were not raised in the last Place Standard engagement in 2023) • Specific crimes: raised such as reported issues with fast food delivery bikes and e-bikes • Shoplifting and drug dealing are raised, and some participants feel that higher responsibility and quicker action are needed to tackle these issues • Night time public transport options are referenced as poor, and contributing to the feeling of insecurity. • Crime involving children and young people • Alcohol and Drug use: participants raised people being under the influence of Alcohol and Drug and impact of this Support for Mental health and substance use: Participants raise a lack of mental health services and drug use programmes and that those struggling with substance use issues aren't getting the support they need, leading to increased crime.		

Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future	Areas raised in specific localities
Care and Maintenance	Maintenance Reporting and Community Group Activities: Participants appreciate the ease of reporting issues through the council website "Can report issues easily enough through council website." and the general maintenance of roads and pavements. "<i>Grass cutting, park maintenance, street cleaning is in general very impressive.</i>"	Road and Pavement Conditions were highlighted as "<i>very poor</i>" by participants. Comments highlight the prevalence of potholes and uneven surfaces, which are seen as significant safety hazards, especially for the elderly and those with mobility issues. "<i>Fix potholes improve streets.</i>" Additionally, there are complaints about	Response time to reported issues raised in North and Central

	Local community council activities, floral areas, and parks are also well-regarded. Participants maintain their properties in good condition, and there is a noticeable community involvement in city maintenance. <i>"Areas and spaces maintained by community groups."</i> Some participants specifically mention the good condition of housing repairs and the efforts of community groups like Friends of Westfield Park and Community CleanUp in keeping the area clean. Green Spaces and Environmental Efforts The city's green spaces are well-maintained, and there is a sense of pride in the community's efforts to keep the environment tidy. Participants appreciate the regular bin collections and the maintenance of parks and playgrounds. The new LED street lighting and the general cleanliness of the streets are also noted positively. <i>"New LED Street lighting is working well."</i> Some participants mention the positive impact of NUART and the investments in rejuvenation projects across the city. The reliability of rubbish collection and the efforts of community volunteers are also appreciated. <i>"Rubbish collection is good."</i>	the lack of maintenance and repair of these surfaces, with some residents noting that reported issues remain unresolved for years. Cleanliness and Upkeep: Participants have pointed out that there is a lot of litter, dog waste, and graffiti in public spaces, which detracts from the city's appearance. There are calls for more frequent street cleaning, better maintenance of green spaces, and stricter enforcement of fines for littering and not picking up after pets. Some residents also suggest that the council should provide more bins, especially dog waste bins, to help address this issue . Building Conditions: Many buildings are described as <i>"run-down"</i> and in need of repair, with issues such as peeling paint, broken windows, and overgrown vegetation. There are suggestions for the council to provide subsidies or incentives for building owners to maintain their properties and for stricter enforcement of maintenance standards. <i>"Tell folk what standards are expected and that they must maintain their place"</i> Council Response to Maintenance Issues: There are complaints about the slow response times and the perceived lack of action on reported problems. <i>"Faster repairs."</i> Some feel that the council prioritises high-profile projects over essential maintenance work, leading to a sense of neglect in certain areas . Specific Areas Needing Attention: Participants describe Union Street as dirty and uninviting, with many empty and poorly maintained shop fronts. There are calls for a comprehensive clean-up and revitalisation of this key area to make it more attractive to both residents and visitors. <i>"Union Street's shop fronts and building facades are generally in poor condition. Landlords should be forced to ensure that their buildings are kept looking good - kept clean, invasive plants removed, shop fronts should be attractive and in good</i>	Dog fouling and enforcement raised in North and Central Maintenance of Buildings and Communal Areas raised in Central Safety: police presence and lighting raised in North. (note lighting raised in the other localities through other themes)
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		<i>repair. Empty units should be covered with attractive glass coverings."</i>	
	Potential Gaps/Emerging priorities (These are areas that were not raised in the last Place Standard engagement in 2023) Building Conditions: subsidies or incentives for building owners to maintain their properties and for stricter enforcement of maintenance standards .(raised under work and economy, facilities and services and feeling safe in 2023) Council Response to Maintenance Issues: Specific Areas Needing Attention: Participants describe Union Street describe as dirty and uninviting, with many empty and poorly maintained shop fronts		

Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future	Areas raised in specific localities
Influence and Sense of Control	Community Engagement and Participation: Participants value the presence of community councils and local councillors who are "very approachable and always listen to concerns" and keep participants "informed about what's happening in the area". Participants appreciate consistent consultation efforts and the opportunity to participate in decision-making processes through "regular surveys and meetings that allow us to have a say in local decisions". Communication and Information Dissemination: The availability of "council information online and in the local press" is seen as beneficial. Meetings with council staff and direct contact with councillors are regarded as "very helpful" and have made "a big difference in getting things done." Support and Services such as food banks, are regarded as a "lifeline" which provide valuable assistance in "tough times". The communication of road repairs, closures, and gritting routes is seen as well-managed and informative.	Council's Community Engagement was criticised as being a "tick box exercise" where opinions are gathered "<i>but nothing ever changes</i>". The community engagement was referred to as "<i>just a formality</i>" and participants perceived ACC as "<i>not really caring about what we think</i>". Participants said they want to "feel included in the decision-making process and see real improvements in our community." Participants are calling for a more responsive and accountable council that "<i>genuinely listens</i>" to and acts upon their concerns. Transparency and Communication: Participants highlighted the need for greater transparency and communication from the council; "<i>what they are doing and why</i>". Participants want to be informed about what is happening in their area and how their feedback is being used. Participants also criticised the use of "jargon" and "lengthy technical documents" in consultation exercises, suggesting these "<i>make it hard for us to understand</i>". Participants want to be informed about what is happening in their area and how their feedback is being used.	Inclusivity and Diversity in Engagement: raised in North and Central Recognition of local volunteers raised in North

	Positive Experiences with Local Institutions such as Countesswells primary school which is “fantastic”, Newton Dee, and family learning initiatives that have been informative and supportive. The community's involvement in fighting the closure of local amenities, like the local pool is regarded as a “great experience.””	Handling of Specific Projects: Participants expressed concerns about the council's handling of specific projects and initiatives such as “<i>bus gates and road restriction</i>” which were perceived as “<i>implemented despite our disapproval</i>”. They feel that decisions are made without proper consultation and are “<i>detrimental to the city</i>”. Community Outreach and Engagement could be improved recognised that “not everyone is on social media” and they used “different methods to reach out” Involving “<i>disabled and visually impaired individuals in consultations would make the city safer and more inclusive.</i>”	
	Potential Gaps/Emerging priorities (These are areas that were not raised in the last Place Standard engagement in 2023) • Transparency and Communication: Participants highlighted the need for greater transparency and communication from the council; “what they are doing and why”. Participants want to be informed about what is happening in their area and how their feedback is being used. Participants also criticised the use of “jargon” and “lengthy technical documents” in consultation exercises, suggesting these “make it hard for us to understand”. Participants want to be informed about what is happening in their area and how their feedback is being used • Handling of Specific Projects: Participants expressed concerns about the council's handling of specific projects and initiatives such as “bus gates and road restriction” which were perceived as “implemented despite our disapproval”. They feel that decisions are made without proper consultation and are “detrimental to the city”. • Community Outreach and Engagement could be improved if the council recognise that “not everyone is on social media” and they used “different methods to reach out” Involving “disabled and visually impaired individuals in consultations would make the city safer and more inclusive.”		

2.5. Results for groups – mean scores

Mean scores for all sub-groups (excluding missing data) were calculated. For all groups (locality, priority neighbourhoods, SIMD quintile, age group, sex and ethnicity) the results are shown in a number of ways:

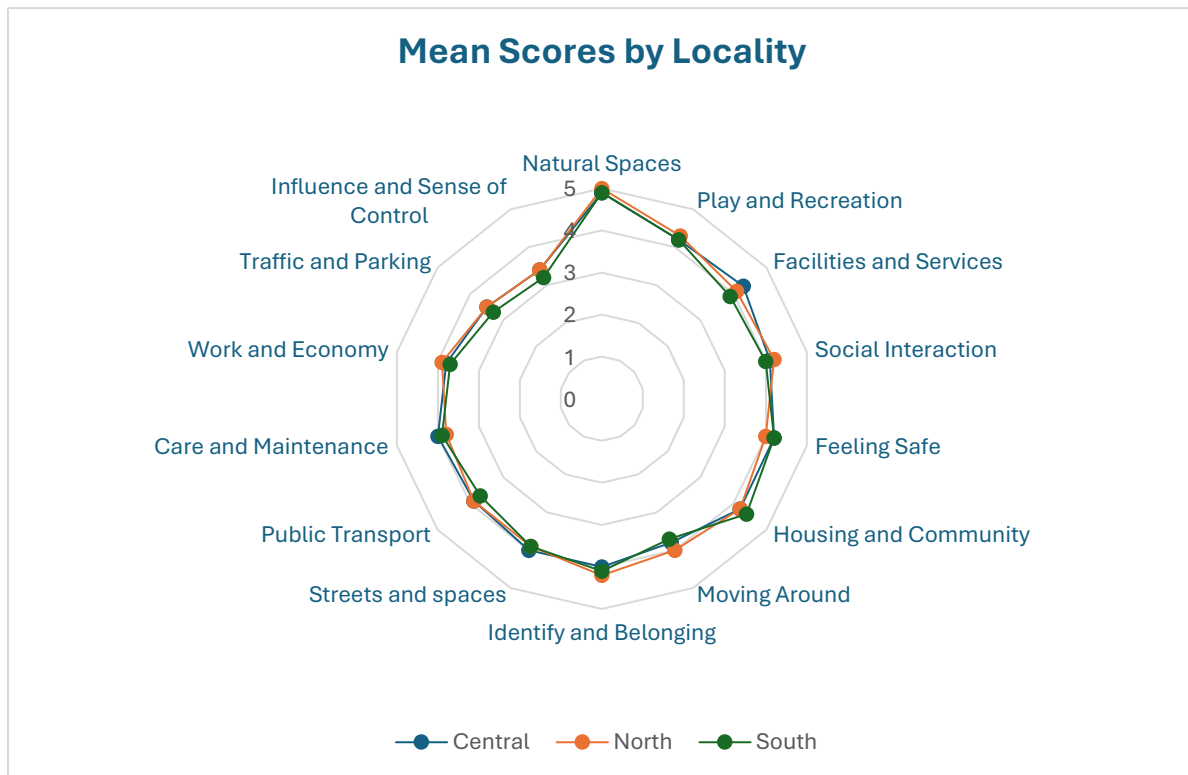
- **Overview** - Firstly, mean scores are plotted on a radar chart to give a broad overview of the differences in mean scores for each of the 14 themes by group.
- **Ranking** - In many cases the relatively small differences in mean scores between groups can make it difficult to compare/prioritise themes between different groups. The mean scores for each theme for each group were therefore ranked (from 1 to 14 – lowest to highest). Tables showing the five lowest and five highest ranking themes for each sub-group are provided for each section.
- **Summary tables** – a table showing mean scores for all groups to allow direct comparison between the groups. This table also includes the number of people who answered each question (base). The lowest scores for each theme are highlighted in red. It should be noted that in general the differences in mean scores between groups are relatively small and caution is advised when interpreting the results. Additional caution is also required as numbers in some of the groups may be relatively small.
- **Changes over time** – To allow comparison of differences in mean score since the last engagement (2023) for the localities and priority neighbourhoods, summary tables show the mean scores are given. These tables also include a column showing the difference between mean scores.

2.5.1. Mean scores by Locality

Locality area (Central, North and South) data was available for 949 (out of 1,500) adult participants (815 from the survey and 134 from the locality events). Of these, 231 were identified as belonging to a Priority Neighbourhood.

Overall scores: Mean scores for each of the locality areas are plotted on the chart below. On the whole, mean scores are broadly similar across the three localities. The greatest variations between the localities are for **Facilities and Services** (low of 3.9 in South to high of 4.3 in Central) and **Moving Around** (low of 3.7 in South to a high of 4 in North).

Figure 2.3: Mean scores by locality area



Ranking: Consistent with the overall results, **Influence and sense of control** and **traffic and parking** were the two lowest ranking themes for all three localities. **Work and economy** and **public transport** were also in the lowest ranking themes for all three localities (although the order of the ranking varied). **Moving around** was in the lowest ranking themes for both Central and South localities and **care and maintenance** was in the lowest ranking for North locality.

Natural Spaces was the highest ranking theme for all three localities. There is more variation in terms of which other themes are ranked highest within each locality. For example, **facilities and services** is ranked 2nd highest in Central but is not in the 'top 5' for either of the two other localities. Similarly, while **identity and belonging** is in the 'top 5' for both North and South localities, it is not in the top 5 for Central and while **feeling safe** is among the top 5 ranked for South and Central localities, it is not for North locality.

The table below shows the 5 highest and 5 lowest ranking themes for each locality. To make it easier to identify differences between localities, themes which appear in one locality, but not in either of the others are shaded blue.

Table 2.9: 5 highest and lowest ranking themes by locality area

	Central	Mean	North	Mean	South	Mean
5 Lowest scoring themes	Influence and Sense of Control	3.4	Influence and Sense of Control	3.4	Influence and Sense of Control	3.2
	Traffic and Parking	3.5	Traffic and Parking	3.5	Traffic and Parking	3.3
	Moving Around	3.8	Care and Maintenance	3.8	Work and Economy	3.7
	Work and Economy	3.8	Work and Economy	3.9	Public Transport	3.7
	Public Transport	3.9	Public Transport	3.9	Moving Around	3.7
5 Highest scoring themes	Natural Spaces	4.9	Natural Spaces	5	Natural Spaces	4.9
	Facilities and Services	4.3	Play and Recreation	4.3	Housing and Community	4.4
	Play and Recreation	4.2	Housing and Community	4.2	Play and Recreation	4.2
	Housing and Community	4.2	Social Interaction	4.2	Feeling Safe	4.2
	Feeling Safe	4.2	Identity and Belonging	4.2	Identity and Belonging	4.1

The table below shows the mean scores for each of the themes by locality area (as well as the overall score to allow easy comparison). To give a crude indication of where differences may exist, the lowest scores for each theme are highlighted in **red**. So, for example, the lowest mean score for **work and economy** is in the South locality. (Note: in some cases two scores have been highlighted – the same score in both areas.)

Table 2.10: Comparison of mean scores by Locality

Theme	Overall		Central		North		South	
	Mean	Base	Mean	Base	Mean	Base	Mean	Base
Natural Spaces	5	1,252	4.9	271	5	312	4.9	266
Play and Recreation	4.3	1,048	4.2	260	4.3	302	4.2	249
Facilities and Services	4.2	1,144	4.3	266	4.1	303	3.9	256
Housing and Community	4.2	1,033	4.2	263	4.2	299	4.4	259
Social Interaction	4.2	1,087	4.1	256	4.2	294	4	250
Feeling Safe	4.2	1,219	4.2	270	4	301	4.2	267
Moving Around	4.1	1,256	3.8	283	4	304	3.7	263
Identify and Belonging	4.1	998	4	261	4.2	286	4.1	254
Streets and spaces	3.9	1,098	4	273	3.9	310	3.9	261
Public Transport	3.8	1,263	3.9	273	3.9	311	3.7	263
Care and Maintenance	3.8	1,006	4	263	3.8	288	3.9	253
Work and Economy	3.7	990	3.8	251	3.9	286	3.7	246
Traffic and Parking	3.4	1,059	3.5	266	3.5	300	3.3	253
Influence and Sense of Control	3.3	951	3.4	245	3.4	277	3.2	247

Mean scores – comparison with previous engagement: The table below shows the comparison of mean scores for 2023 and 2025 by locality for each of the themes to look at whether there are differences in scoring between then and now. The table also includes a column showing the change (if any) in mean scores. To allow easy comparison, where there has been an improvement (i.e. higher

score in 2025), the figure has been highlighted **green** and where the score has gone down, this has been highlighted in **red**. (Note: caution is advised as some of the changes may be very small).

In **Central**, there has been an improvement for 9 of the themes, with scores for three themes remaining the same and a lower score for two themes (**public transport** and **identity and belonging**).

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**).

In **South** there has been an improvement for 5 of the themes, with scores for 1 theme remaining the same and a lower score for 8 themes (**moving around**, **public transport**, **traffic and parking**, **streets and spaces**, **facilities and services**, **work and local economy**, **feeling safe** and **influence and sense control**).

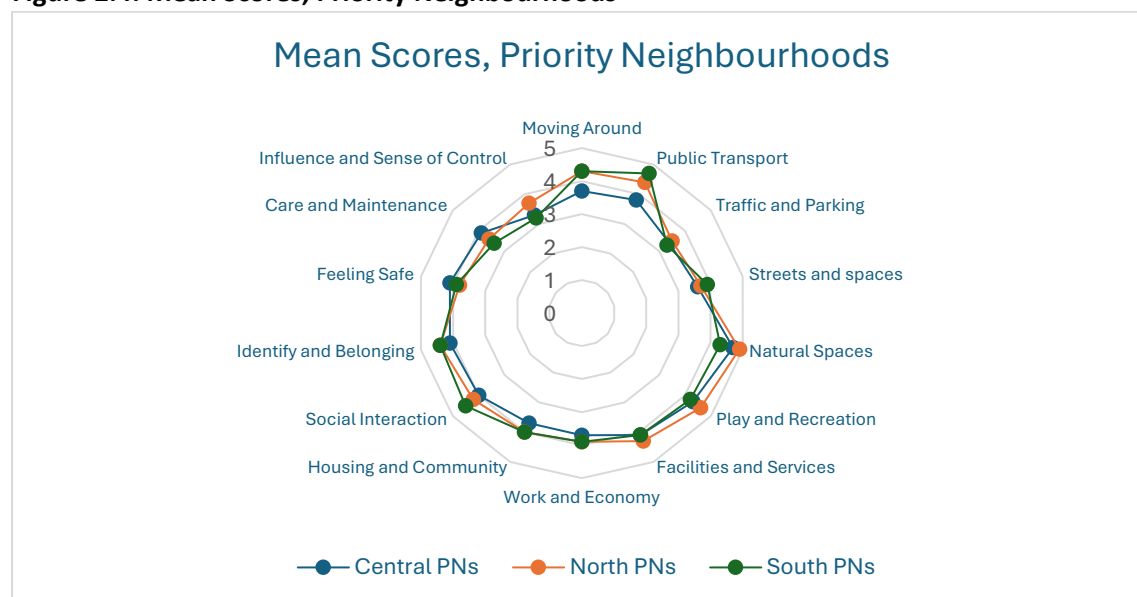
Table 2.11: Comparison of locality mean scores with 2023.

	Central			North			South		
	2023	2025	Change	2023	2025	Change	2023	2025	Change
Moving Around	3.8	3.8	0.0	3.8	4	0.2	4.1	3.7	-0.4
Public Transport	4.0	3.9	-0.1	3.9	3.9	0.0	3.9	3.7	-0.2
Traffic and Parking	3.1	3.5	0.4	3.6	3.5	0.0	3.5	3.3	-0.2
Streets and Spaces	3.9	4.0	0.1	4.2	3.9	-0.3	4.0	3.9	-0.1
Natural Space	4.6	4.9	0.3	4.9	5	0.1	4.7	4.9	0.2
Play and Recreation	4.2	4.2	0.0	4.0	4.3	0.3	4.0	4.2	0.2
Facilities and Services	3.9	4.3	0.4	3.7	4.1	0.4	4.0	3.9	-0.1
Work and Local Economy	3.7	3.8	0.1	4.0	3.9	-0.1	4.2	3.7	-0.5
Housing and Community	3.9	4.2	0.3	4.2	4.2	0.0	4.0	4.4	0.4
Social Interaction	4.1	4.1	0.0	3.9	4.2	0.3	4.0	4	0.0
Identity and Belonging	4.1	4.0	-0.1	4.2	4.2	0.0	4.0	4.1	0.1
Feeling Safe	4.0	4.2	0.2	4.1	4	-0.1	4.3	4.2	-0.1
Care and Maintenance	3.4	4.0	0.6	3.9	3.8	-0.1	3.6	3.9	0.3
Influence and Sense of Control	3.1	3.4	0.3	3.3	3.4	0.1	3.4	3.2	-0.2

2.5.2. Mean scores for priority neighbourhoods

Priority neighbourhoods: A total of 231 participants were identified as belonging to a Priority Neighbourhood (77 Central PNs, 99 North PNs and 55 South PNs). To give an ‘at a glance’ indication of where differences may exist, the figure below shows mean scores for the priority neighbourhoods in each locality. On the whole, the pattern is broadly similar for the three priority neighbourhood groups 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 either Central or North PNs).

Figure 2.4: Mean Scores, Priority Neighbourhoods



Ranking: The table below shows the 5 lowest and highest ranking themes for Priority Neighbourhoods within each locality. As with the overall locality results, **Influence and Sense of Control** and **Traffic and Parking** were the lowest ranked themes for both Central and South PNs. In North PNs, **Traffic and Parking** was the lowest ranking theme, following by **Care and Maintenance**. **Feeling Safe** was amongst the five *lowest* ranked themes in North and South PNs – although this was the third *highest* ranked theme in the Central PNs. **Natural Space** was the highest ranked theme for Central and North priority neighbourhood groups, but only the 4th highest for South priority neighbourhoods where **Public Transport** was the highest ranked. **Public Transport** was the 4th highest ranked theme in North PNs but did not appear in the top five for Central. To make it easier to identify the differences, the themes in the highest or lowest rankings which appear in one group but not the other have been highlighted in blue.

Table 2.12: 5 highest and lowest ranking themes by Priority Neighbourhoods

	Central PNs		North PNs		South PNs	
	Theme	Mean	Theme	Mean	Theme	Mean
Lowest	Influence and Sense of Control	3.3	Traffic and Parking	3.5	Influence and Sense of Control	3.2
	Traffic and Parking	3.4	Care and Maintenance	3.6	Traffic and Parking	3.3
	Streets and spaces	3.6	Influence and Sense of Control	3.7	Care and Maintenance	3.4
	Moving Around	3.7	Streets and spaces	3.7	Streets and spaces	3.9
	Work and Economy	3.7	Feeling Safe	3.8	Feeling Safe	3.9
Highest	Natural Spaces	4.7	Natural Spaces	4.9	Public Transport	4.7
	Play and Recreation	4.3	Play and Recreation	4.6	Social Interaction	4.5
	Feeling Safe	4.1	Identify and Belonging	4.4	Identify and Belonging	4.4
	Facilities and Services	4.1	Public Transport	4.4	Natural Spaces	4.3
	Identify and Belonging	4.1	Facilities and Services	4.3	Moving Around	4.3

Comparison of mean scores for Priority Neighbourhoods

The table below shows the mean scores for each of the themes by locality area (as well as the overall score for all priority neighbourhoods). To give a crude indication of where differences may exist, the lowest scores for each theme are highlighted in **red**. (Note: in some cases two scores have been highlighted – the same score in both areas.)

Table 2.13: Comparison of mean scores, 2023 and 2025

Theme	Overall		Central PNs		North PNs		South PNs	
	Mean	Base	Mean	Base	Mean	Base	Mean	Base
Natural Spaces	4.7	197	4.7	56	4.9	89	4.3	52
Play and Recreation	4.4	194	4.3	61	4.6	88	4.2	45
Public Transport	4.3	200	3.8	61	4.4	89	4.7	50
Identify and Belonging	4.3	187	4.1	58	4.4	82	4.4	47
Social Interaction	4.2	183	4	56	4.2	82	4.5	45
Facilities and Services	4.2	195	4.1	60	4.3	86	4.1	49
Moving Around	51	198	3.7	51	4.3	82	4.3	43
Housing and Community	3.9	192	3.7	57	4	84	4	51
Feeling Safe	3.9	203	4.1	61	3.8	87	3.9	55
Work and Economy	3.8	176	3.7	51	3.9	82	3.9	43
Streets and spaces	3.6	238	3.6	60	3.7	89	3.9	51
Care and Maintenance	3.6	185	3.9	56	3.6	80	3.4	49
Influence and Sense of Control	3.5	177	3.3	53	3.7	79	3.2	45
Traffic and Parking	3.4	196	3.4	56	3.5	89	3.3	51

Comparison of Priority Neighbourhood with 2023

The table below show the mean scores for each theme for the priority neighbourhoods for 2023 and 2025, with a column showing the change in score. Where there has been an improvement (higher in 2025) this is highlighted in **green** and where the score is lower in 2025 this is highlighted in **red**.

Central – improvement in 9 themes, 1 has remained the same and decreases in 4 themes (moving around, public transport, streets and spaces and housing and community).

North – improvements for all 14 themes.

South – improvements in 9 themes, 3 have stayed the same and decreases in 2 themes (**work and local economy** and **feeling safe**)

Table 2.14: Comparison of mean scores in Priority Neighbourhoods, 2023 and 2025

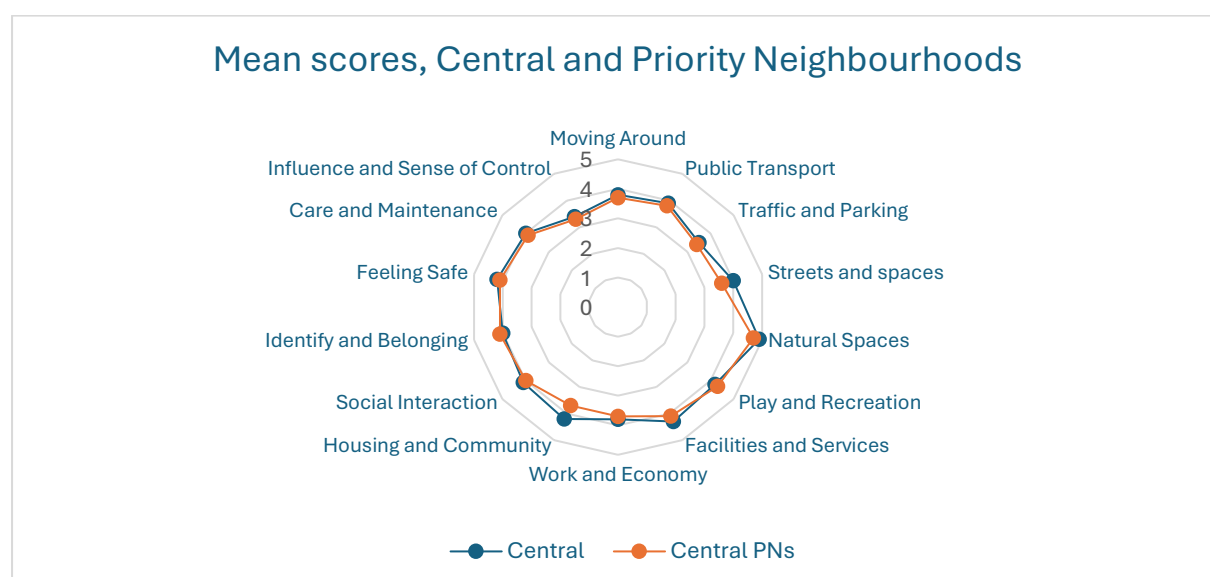
	Central Priority Neighbourhoods			North Priority Neighbourhoods			South Priority Neighbourhoods		
	2023	2025	Change	2023	2025	Change	2023	2025	Change
Moving Around	3.9	3.7	-0.2	3.5	4.3	0.8	3.8	4.3	0.5
Public Transport	4.3	3.8	-0.5	4.0	4.4	0.4	4.0	4.7	0.7
Traffic and Parking	3.1	3.4	0.4	3.3	3.5	0.2	3.2	3.3	0.1
Streets and Spaces	3.8	3.6	-0.2	3.6	3.7	0.1	3.7	3.7	0.0
Natural Space	4.4	4.7	0.3	4.1	4.9	0.8	4.3	4.3	0.0
Play and Recreation	4.1	4.3	0.2	4.0	4.6	0.6	4.0	4.2	0.2
Facilities and Services	3.6	4.1	0.5	3.4	4.3	0.9	3.7	4.1	0.4
Work and Local Economy	3.4	3.7	0.3	3.7	3.9	0.3	4.1	3.9	-0.2
Housing and Community	3.9	3.7	-0.2	3.4	4	0.6	3.2	4	0.8
Social Interaction	4.0	4	0.0	3.9	4.2	0.3	3.9	4.5	0.6
Identity and Belonging	3.9	4.1	0.2	3.9	4.4	0.5	3.9	4.4	0.5
Feeling Safe	3.8	4.1	0.3	3.5	3.8	0.4	4.0	3.9	-0.1
Care and Maintenance	2.9	3.9	1.0	3.5	3.6	0.1	3.4	3.4	0.0
Influence and Sense of Control	3.1	3.3	0.2	3.0	3.7	0.7	3.1	3.2	0.1

2.5.3. Comparison of Priority Neighbourhoods with Locality Areas

The three charts below show mean scores for each locality as a whole and for the PNs within that locality.

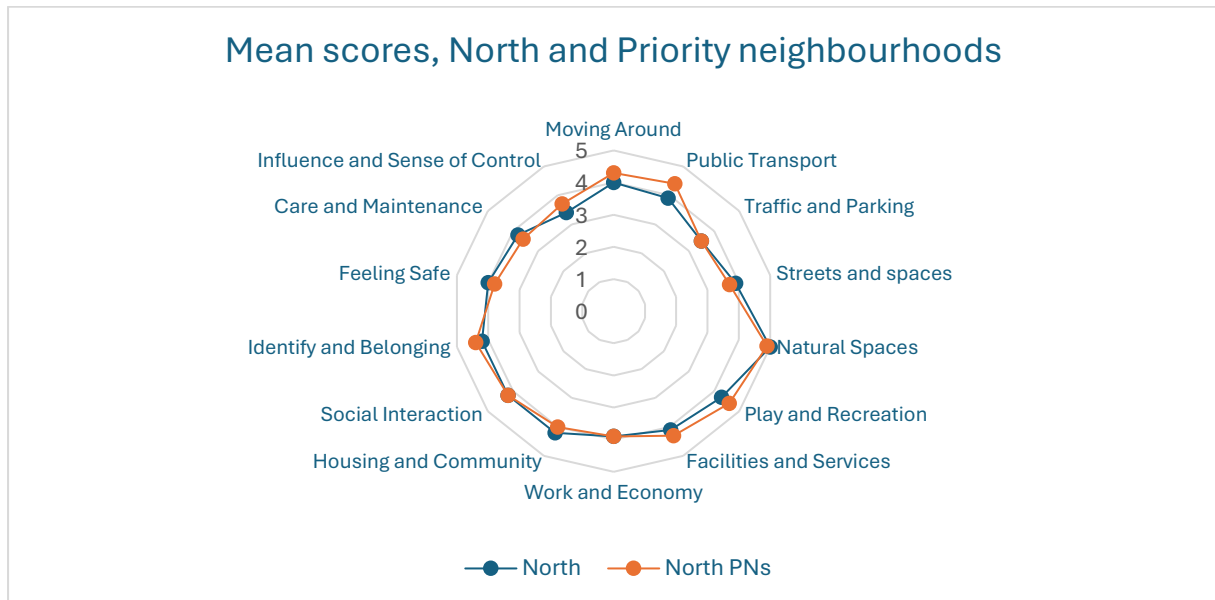
Central – scores were similar for priority neighbourhoods and locality area as a whole. Priority neighbourhoods scored lower for **streets and spaces** and **housing and community**.

Figure 2.5: Mean scores, Central and Priority Neighbourhoods



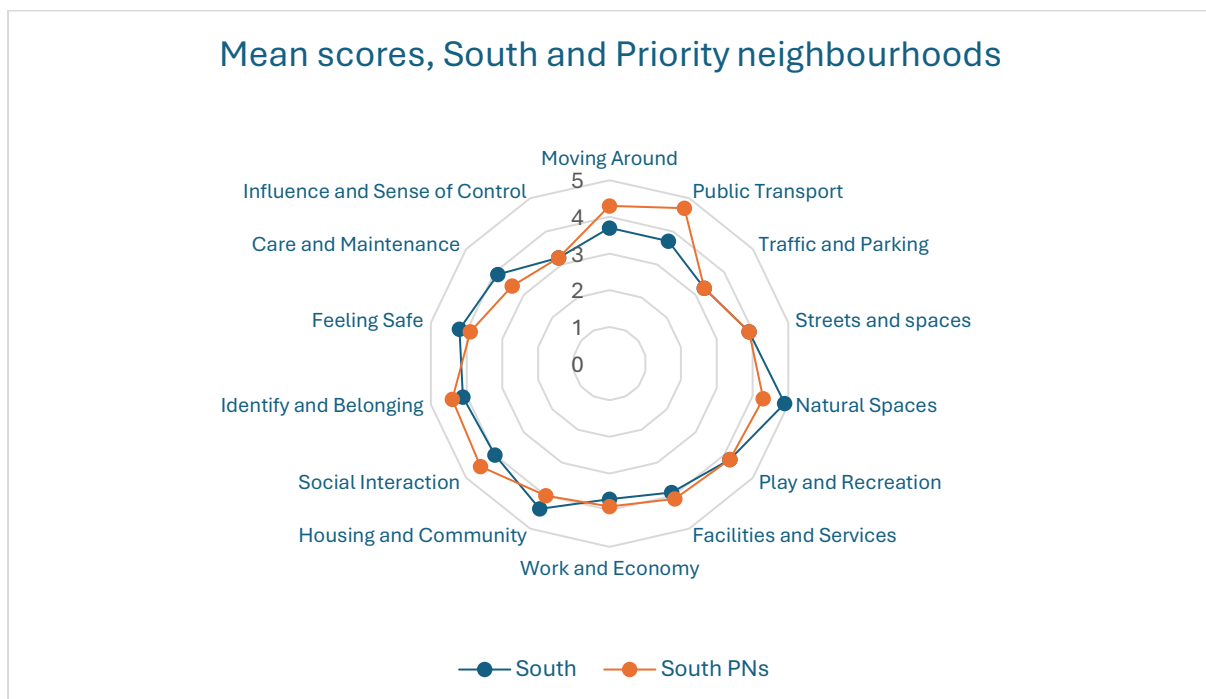
North – again scores were broadly similar for priority neighbourhoods and locality as a whole. Priority neighbourhoods scored higher for some themes, most notably **Public Transport**.

Figure 2.6: Mean scores, North and Priority Neighbourhoods



South – there seems to be more variation here with priority neighbourhoods scoring noticeably higher for **public transport, moving around, and social interaction** and lower for **natural spaces and care and maintenance**.

Figure 2.7: Mean scores, South and Priority Neighbourhoods



To allow easier comparison between ranking in Priority Neighbourhoods compared to the locality as a whole, the three tables below show highest and lowest ranking for each locality and the priority neighbourhoods within that locality. For the most part, the themes ranked highest and lowest are similar in PNs and the locality as a whole – although the rankings may differ. However, there are some differences, particularly in the South locality. To make it easier to identify the differences, the themes in the highest or lowest rankings which appear in one group but not the other have been highlighted in blue.

Table 2.15: Highest and lowest ranking themes Central

Central			Central PNs	
	Theme	Mean	Theme	Mean
Lowest	Influence and Sense of Control	3.4	Influence and Sense of Control	3.3
	Traffic and Parking	3.5	Traffic and Parking	3.4
	Moving Around	3.8	Streets and spaces	3.6
	Work and Economy	3.8	Moving Around	3.7
	Public Transport	3.9	Work and Economy	3.7
Highest	Natural Spaces	4.9	Natural Spaces	4.7
	Facilities and Services	4.3	Play and Recreation	4.3
	Play and Recreation	4.2	Feeling Safe	4.1
	Feeling Safe	4.2	Facilities and Services	4.1
	Housing and Community	4.2	Identify and Belonging	4.1

Table 2.16: Highest and lowest ranking themes North

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

Table 2.17: Highest and lowest ranking themes South

South			South PNs	
	Theme	Mean	Theme	Mean
Lowest	Influence and Sense of Control	3.2	Influence and Sense of Control	3.2
	Traffic and Parking	3.3	Traffic and Parking	3.3
	Moving Around	3.7	Care and Maintenance	3.4
	Public Transport	3.7	Streets and spaces	3.9
	Work and Economy	3.7	Feeling Safe	3.9
Highest	Natural Spaces	4.9	Public Transport	4.7
	Housing and Community	4.4	Social Interaction	4.5
	Play and Recreation	4.2	Identify and Belonging	4.4
	Feeling Safe	4.2	Natural Spaces	4.3
	Identify and Belonging	4.1	Moving Around	4.3

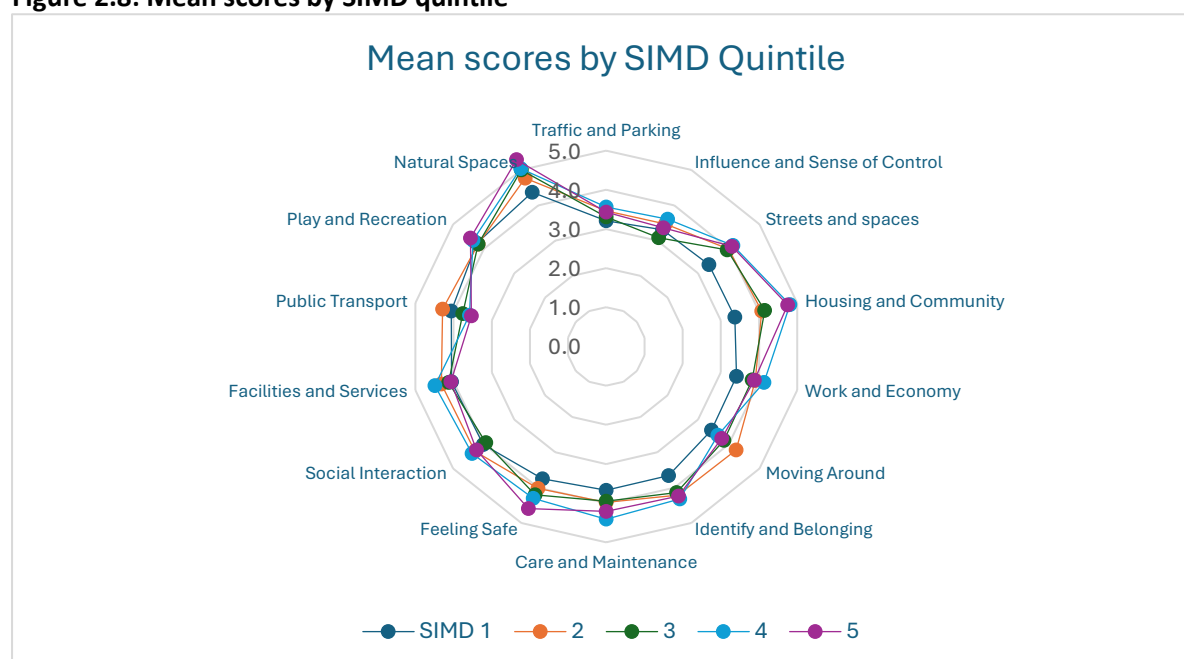
The reports with the comments by locality can be viewed at the following links: [North](#), [South](#) and [Central](#).

2.5.4. Mean scores by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) Quintile

Data on SIMD quintile was available for 592 participants. Of these, 12.2% were in quintile 1 (most deprived), 23.6% were in quintile 2, 15% were in quintile 3, 13.9% were in quintile 4 and 35.6% were in quintile 5 (least deprived).

Overall scores are charted in the figure below – highlights that while for some themes there is a substantial difference in scoring between the SIMD quintiles.

Figure 2.8: Mean scores by SIMD quintile



Ranking: The table below shows the highest and lowest ranking themes within each SIMD quintile. **Influence and Sense of Control** and **Traffic and Parking** were the two lowest rankings in most SIMD categories (although in a different order). The exception was in SIMD 4 where **Public Transport** was the second lowest ranking theme (after **Traffic and Parking**).

Natural Space was the highest ranking theme across all five SIMD categories. Ranking for other themes was more varied for the higher rankings. For example, **Feeling safe** was ranked 2nd highest for SIMD 3 and third highest for SIMD 5 (least deprived) – however, this did not appear in the top five for SIMD 1 (most deprived), SIMD 2 or SIMD 4. Similarly **Housing and Community** was ranked in the top 5 for SIMD 3, 4 and 5 (least deprived) but was among the lowest ranked in SIMD 1 (most deprived). To make it easier to identify some differences, the themes in the highest or lowest rankings which appear in one group but not in any of the others have been highlighted in blue.

Table 2.18: Highest and lowest ranked themes by SIMD Quintile

	SIMD 1 (most deprived)	SIMD 2	SIMD 3	SIMD 4	SIMD 5 (least deprived)
Lowest	Traffic and Parking	Traffic and Parking	Influence and Sense of Control	Traffic and Parking	Influence and Sense of Control
	Influence and Sense of Control	Influence and Sense of Control	Traffic and Parking	Public Transport	Traffic and Parking
	Streets and spaces	Work and Economy	Public Transport	Influence and Sense of Control	Public Transport
	Housing and Community	Care and Maintenance	Work and Economy	Moving Around	Moving Around
	Work and Economy	Streets and spaces	Moving Around	Work and Economy	Work and Economy
Highest	Natural Spaces	Natural Spaces	Natural Spaces	Natural Spaces	Natural Spaces
	Play and Recreation	Facilities and Services	Feeling Safe	Housing and Community	Housing and Community
	Public Transport	Public Transport	Play and Recreation	Facilities and Services	Feeling Safe
	Facilities and Services	Social Interaction	Housing and Community	Care and Maintenance	Play and Recreation
	Social Interaction	Moving Around	Identity and Belonging	Social Interaction	Social Interaction

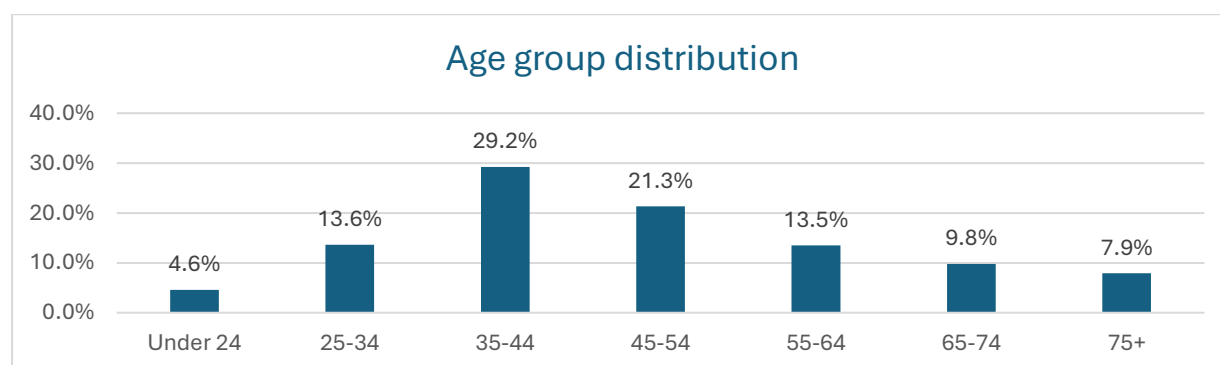
Comparison of mean scores by SIMD: The table below shows the mean scores for each of the themes by SIMD quintile (as well as the overall score for all SIMD quintiles). To give a crude indication of where differences may exist, the lowest scores for each theme are highlighted in red. (Note: in some cases more than one score has been highlighted – the same score.) For almost all themes (with the exception of **public transport**, **social interaction** and **influence and sense of control**) the lowest scores (or shared lowest) were in SIMD 1 (most deprived).

Table 2.19: Comparison of mean scores by SIMD

Theme	SIMD 1	SIMD 2	SIMD 3	SIMD 4	SIMD 5	All	Base
Moving Around	3.4	4.2	3.8	3.6	3.8	3.8	554
Public Transport	4.1	4.3	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.8	551
Traffic and Parking	3.2	3.5	3.3	3.6	3.4	3.4	535
Streets and spaces	3.4	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.0	552
Natural Spaces	4.4	4.8	5.0	5.0	5.3	5.0	554
Play and Recreation	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.4	4.4	4.3	528
Facilities and Services	4.1	4.3	4.1	4.5	4.1	4.2	534
Work and Economy	3.4	3.9	3.8	4.1	3.9	3.9	508
Housing and Community	3.4	4.1	4.2	4.8	4.8	4.3	529
Social Interaction	4.0	4.3	3.9	4.4	4.2	4.2	527
Identify and Belonging	3.7	4.2	4.1	4.3	4.2	4.2	522
Feeling Safe	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.6	4.3	545
Care and Maintenance	3.7	4.0	4.0	4.4	4.2	4.1	525
Influence and Sense of Control	3.3	3.5	3.1	3.6	3.4	3.4	515

2.5.5. Mean scores by Age Group

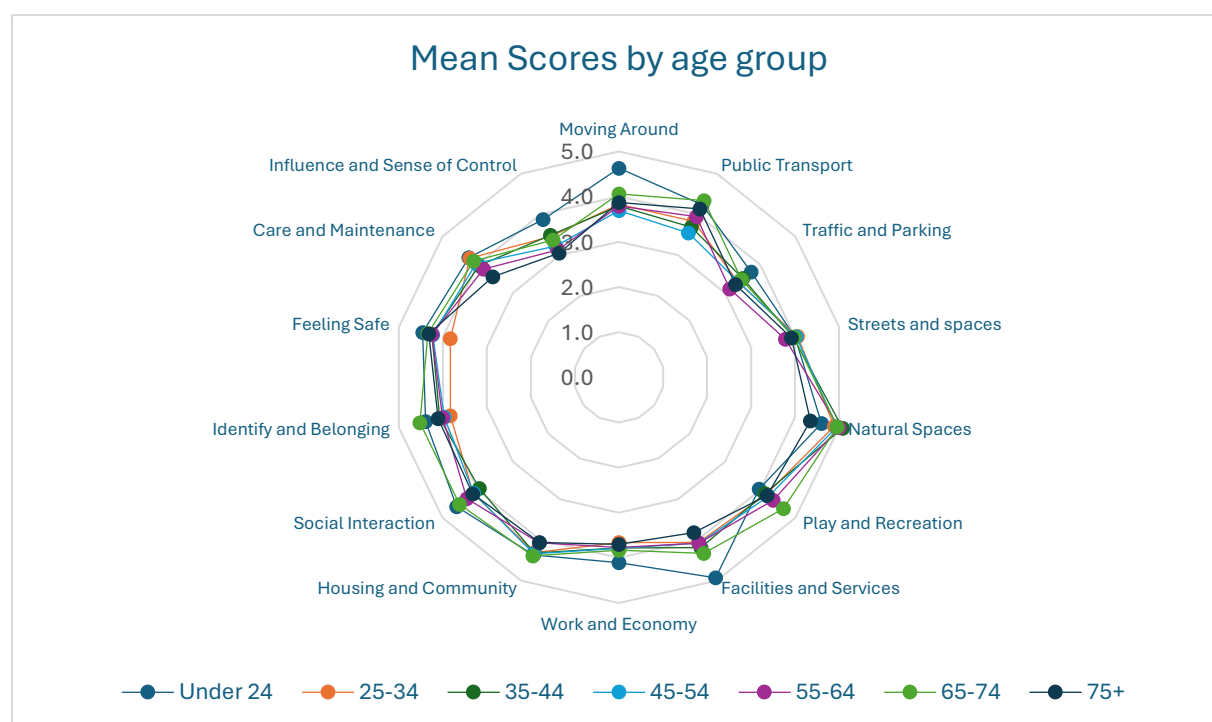
Data on age group is available for 733 participants. The largest age group is the 35-44 year group with just under 30% of participants.



Overall scores by Age Group

The chart below shows the overall scores by age group. Again there is a broadly similar pattern of scoring across age groups. The most noticeable differences are for the youngest age group which has scored higher than other age groups for **facilities and services** and **moving around**.

Figure 2.9: Mean scores by age group



Ranking: For all age groups, **Traffic and Parking** and **Influence and sense of control** were the lowest scoring themes (although the order varied – **Traffic and Parking** lowest for younger age groups and **Influence and Sense of Control** lowest for older age groups). **Natural spaces** scored highest in all age groups except the youngest age group where **facilities and services** scored highest.

The table below shows the highest and lowest ranking themes for each age group. To make it easier to identify some differences, the themes in the highest or lowest rankings which appear in one group but not in any of the others have been shaded blue.

Table 2.20: The 5 highest and lowest ranking themes by age group

	0-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+
	Theme	Theme	Theme	Theme	Theme	Theme	
Lowest	Traffic and Parking	Traffic and Parking	Influence and Sense of Control	Influence and Sense of Control	Influence and Sense of Control	Influence and Sense of Control	Influence and Sense of Control
	Influence and Sense of Control	Influence and Sense of Control	Traffic and Parking	Traffic and Parking	Traffic and Parking	Traffic and Parking	Traffic and Parking
	Play and Recreation	Work and Economy	Public Transport	Public Transport	Work and Economy	Work and Economy	Care and Maintenance
	Streets and spaces	Public Transport	Work and Economy	Moving Around	Streets and spaces	Streets and spaces	Work and Economy
	Work and Economy	Identify and Belonging	Moving Around	Work and Economy	Moving Around	Moving Around	Facilities and Services
Highest	Facilities and Services	Natural Spaces	Natural Spaces	Natural Spaces	Natural Spaces	Natural Spaces	Natural Spaces
	Moving Around	Housing and Community	Housing and Community	Housing and Community	Play and Recreation	Play and Recreation	Feeling Safe

	Social Interaction	Care and Maintenance	Feeling Safe	Feeling Safe	Social Interaction	Social Interaction	Play and Recreation
	Natural Spaces	Play and Recreation	Facilities and Services	Play and Recreation	Feeling Safe	Identity and Belonging	Social Interaction
	Feeling Safe	Social Interaction	Play and Recreation	Social Interaction	Facilities and Services	Housing and Community	Public Transport

Comparison between age groups: The table below shows the mean scores for each of the themes by age group (as well as the overall score for all age groups combined). To give a crude indication of where differences may exist, the lowest scores for each theme are highlighted in red. (Note: in some cases more than one score has been highlighted – the same score.)

Table 2.21: Comparison of mean score by age group

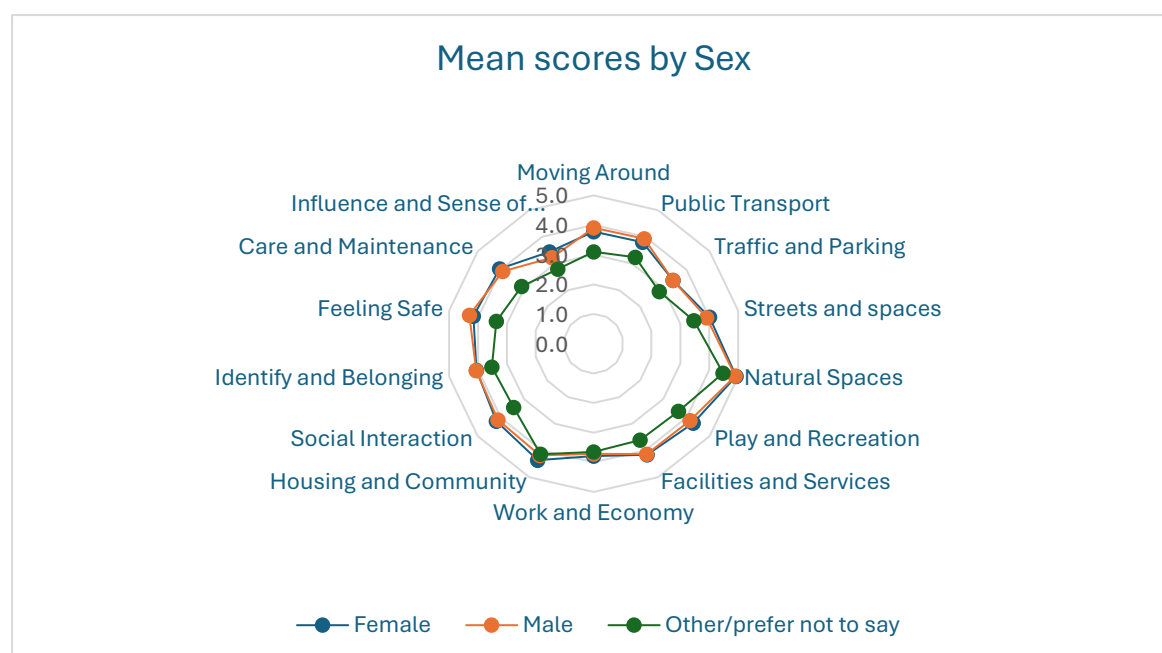
Theme	Under 24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	All	Base
Moving Around	4.6	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.8	4.1	3.9	3.8	684
Public Transport	4.2	3.8	3.7	3.6	4.0	4.3	4.1	3.8	682
Traffic and Parking	3.7	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.1	3.5	3.3	3.4	654
Streets and spaces	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.8	4.0	3.9	4.0	673
Natural Spaces	4.6	4.9	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.4	4.9	684
Play and Recreation	4.0	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.4	4.7	4.2	4.2	650
Facilities and Services	4.9	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.3	3.8	4.2	663
Work and Economy	4.1	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.8	633
Housing and Community	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.1	4.4	4.1	4.3	660
Social Interaction	4.6	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.3	4.5	4.1	4.2	654
Identity and Belonging	4.4	3.8	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.5	4.1	4.1	652
Feeling Safe	4.5	3.8	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.2	673
Care and Maintenance	4.3	4.2	4.0	4.0	3.8	4.1	3.6	4.0	661
Influence and Sense of Control	3.9	3.5	3.5	3.2	3.1	3.4	3.1	3.4	629

2.5.6. Mean scores by sex

Information on sex was available for 736 participants. Of these, 57.3% were female, 38.3% were male and 4.3% were 'other/prefer not to say'.

Overall scores: Mean scores are plotted on the chart below. Scores for females and males are broadly similar for most themes, however, with the exception of **work and economy**, the mean scores are lower for those in the 'other/prefer not to say' group.

Figure 2.10: Mean scores by sex



Ranking: Again, **influence and sense of control** and **traffic and parking** were the two lowest ranked themes for all groups, although the order varied. While **work and economy** was amongst the lowest ranking themes for males and females, it was the 4th highest ranking theme for those in the 'other/prefer not to say' group. **Natural spaces** was the highest ranking theme for all three groups, with **housing and community** the 2nd highest for both females and 'other/prefer not to say'. **Feeling safe** was the 2nd highest ranked theme for males but was not in the top five for either of the other groups.

The table below shows the highest and lowest ranking themes for each age group. To make it easier to identify some differences, the themes in the highest or lowest rankings which appear in one group but not in any of the others have been shaded blue.

Table 2.22: Highest and lowest ranking themes by sex

	Females	Males	Other/Prefer not to say
	Theme	Theme	Theme
Lowest	Traffic and Parking	Influence and Sense of Control	Influence and Sense of Control
	Influence and Sense of Control	Traffic and Parking	Traffic and Parking
	Moving Around	Work and Economy	Moving Around
	Work and Economy	Moving Around	Care and Maintenance
	Public Transport	Streets and spaces	Public Transport
Highest	Natural Spaces	Natural Spaces	Natural Spaces
	Housing and Community	Feeling Safe	Housing and Community
	Play and Recreation	Housing and Community	Play and Recreation
	Social Interaction	Play and Recreation	Work and Economy
	Facilities and Services	Social Interaction	Facilities and Services

Comparison between groups: The table below shows the mean scores for each of the themes by sex (as well as the overall score for all groups combined). To give a crude indication of where differences may exist, the lowest scores for each theme are highlighted in red. (Note: in some cases more than one score has been highlighted – the same score.)

Table 2.23: Comparison of mean scores by sex

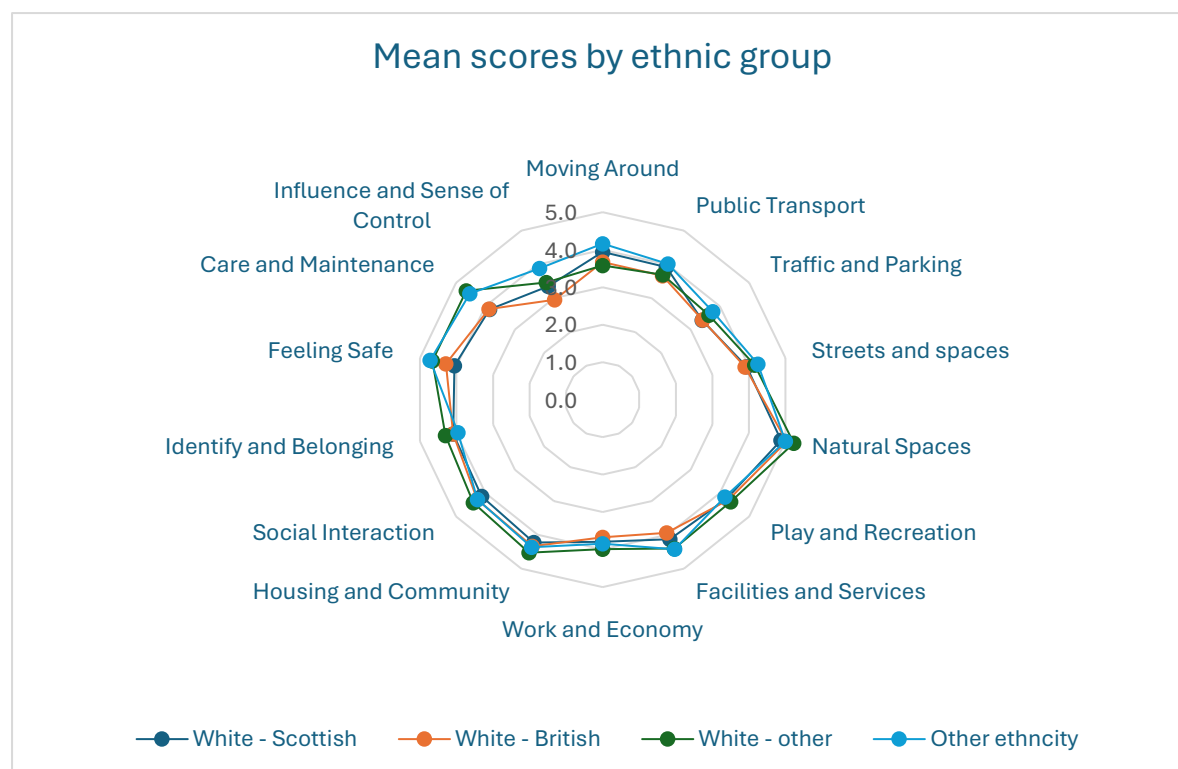
Theme	Female	Male	Other/ prefer not to say	All	Base
Moving Around	3.8	3.9	3.1	3.8	691
Public Transport	3.8	3.9	3.2	3.8	685
Traffic and Parking	3.4	3.4	2.8	3.4	657
Streets and spaces	4.0	3.9	3.5	3.9	680
Natural Spaces	4.9	4.9	4.5	4.9	686
Play and Recreation	4.3	4.2	3.7	4.2	652
Facilities and Services	4.2	4.1	3.6	4.1	667
Work and Economy	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.8	639
Housing and Community	4.4	4.2	4.1	4.3	666
Social Interaction	4.2	4.1	3.5	4.1	655
Identify and Belonging	4.1	4.1	3.5	4.0	653
Feeling Safe	4.2	4.3	3.4	4.2	676
Care and Maintenance	4.1	3.9	3.1	4.0	664
Influence and Sense of Control	3.4	3.2	2.8	3.3	631

2.5.7. Mean scores by ethnic group

Information on ethnicity was available for 686 participants. Of these, 66.2% were White Scottish, 15% were White British, 11.1% were White Other and 7.7% were 'Other' ethnic groups.

Overall scores: Mean scores for ethnic groups are plotted on the chart below. Again the pattern is broadly similar across all groups, however there are differences between the groups – in particular those in 'Other' ethnic groups and 'White – other' scored higher than either White – Scottish or White British for **feeling safe** and **care and maintenance**.

Figure 2.11: Mean scores by ethnicity



Ranking: **Influence and sense of control** was the lowest ranking theme for all groups except ‘Other ethnic groups’ where **traffic and parking** was ranked lowest and **influence and sense of control** was the third lowest. **Identity and belonging** was the 4th lowest scoring theme for ‘Other ethnic groups’ but was not in the lowest ranking for any of the other groups. **Natural spaces** was the highest ranked theme for all groups. **Feeling safe** was the 2nd highest ranked theme for both ‘White – other’ and ‘Other ethnic groups’ and the 4th highest for ‘White British’ but was not in the top 5 ranked themes for ‘White Scottish’.

The table below shows the highest and lowest ranking themes for each group. To make it easier to identify some differences, the themes in the highest or lowest rankings which appear in one group but not in any of the others have been shaded **blue**.

Table 2.24 : Highest and lowest ranking themes by ethnic group

	White Scottish	White British	White other	Other ethnic groups
	Theme	Theme	Theme	Theme
Lowest	Influence and Sense of Control	Influence and Sense of Control	Influence and Sense of Control	Traffic and Parking
	Traffic and Parking	Traffic and Parking	Moving Around	Work and Economy
	Work and Economy	Work and Economy	Traffic and Parking	Influence and Sense of Control
	Care and Maintenance	Public Transport	Public Transport	Identity and Belonging
	Public Transport	Moving Around	Work and Economy	Public Transport
Highest	Natural Spaces	Natural Spaces	Natural Spaces	Natural Spaces

	Play and Recreation	Housing and Community	Feeling Safe	Feeling Safe
	Housing and Community	Play and Recreation	Care and Maintenance	Care and Maintenance
	Social Interaction	Feeling Safe	Housing and Community	Facilities and Services
	Facilities and Services	Social Interaction	Social Interaction	Housing and Community

Comparison between groups: The table below shows the mean scores for each of the themes by ethnic group (as well as the overall score for all groups combined). To give a crude indication of where differences may exist, the lowest scores for each theme are highlighted in red. (Note: in some cases more than one score has been highlighted – the same score.)

Table 2.25: Comparison of mean scores by Ethnic Group

Theme	White Scottish	White British	White other	Other ethnic groups	All	Base
Moving Around	3.9	3.7	3.6	4.2	3.9	645
Public Transport	3.9	3.7	3.7	4.0	3.9	638
Traffic and Parking	3.4	3.4	3.6	3.8	3.5	619
Streets and spaces	3.9	3.9	4.2	4.3	4.0	635
Natural Spaces	4.9	5.0	5.2	5.0	5.0	641
Play and Recreation	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.2	4.3	611
Facilities and Services	4.1	3.9	4.4	4.4	4.2	623
Work and Economy	3.8	3.7	4.0	3.8	3.8	602
Housing and Community	4.2	4.3	4.5	4.4	4.3	625
Social Interaction	4.1	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.2	613
Identify and Belonging	4.1	4.1	4.3	4.0	4.1	612
Feeling Safe	4.1	4.3	4.7	4.7	4.2	635
Care and Maintenance	3.9	3.9	4.7	4.5	4.0	626
Influence and Sense of Control	3.4	3.0	3.5	3.9	3.3	593

2.6. Children and Young People

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.

Young Ambassadors

This group gamified the engagement process for under 12s, designing and delivering workshops including the use of 'Emoji Jenga', tug of war, and randomising topic selection with dice and spin the wheel for drop in activity. Lots of great ideas were generated with primary school pupils, who also made Play Sufficiency Assessments of their local community with support from the Young Ambassadors, Creative Learning and Streets UK.

Aberdeen Youth Movement

Aberdeen Youth Movement brought Your Place, Your Plans, Your Future consultation to 5 secondary schools in the city, aiming to empower young people to have a direct voice in shaping their communities. Through interactive sessions and surveys, students were being encouraged to share their thoughts on public spaces, things to do and the services and interactions that effect their daily lives. By involving youth in this meaningful way, the Aberdeen Youth Movement is fostering civic engagement and helping build more inclusive, youth friendly future for Aberdeen City.

In addition to these events interactive forms with facilitation guides were shared with children and young people services and organisations and an online survey was created based on the children and young people's Place Standard tool covering the 14 themes, this was linked to the Common Place; Your Place, Your Plans, Your Future information and was shared with pupils, parents and carers.

In creating the on-line survey for children and young people, asking questions across all 14 themes may have been considered by some children and young people as too much, therefore children and young people were given options at each stage of the survey whether they wished to continue to respond to further themes across; Where do we go and what do we do? How do I get around? What do I need to live well? and What makes us feel safe or unsafe?

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.

2.6.1. Children and young people - in person engagement

Overview: In person engagement for children and young people was predominantly delivered by young people, this included Aberdeen Youth Movement's secondary school roadshows at Lochside, St Machar, Northfield, Dyce and Aberdeen Grammar, ensuring that our young people in priority areas had opportunities to get involved and so that all 3 localities were included. Locality events provided bespoke children and young people's activity, with workshops involving primary school pupils at

Greyhope and Gilcomstoun also involved Play Specificity engagement with the Young Ambassadors delivering sessions alongside Creative Learning and Streets UK. Other drop-in activity took place at Aberdeen Sports Village, with many families attending Saturday morning events, Airyhall Library, Get Active Northfield and Kings Church.

A total of 527 children and young people participated in these events.

School/centre participation

	Number	Percent
Aberdeen Grammar	48	9.1%
Aberdeen Sports Village	29	5.5%
Airyhall Library	10	1.9%
Dyce Academy	84	15.9%
Lochside Academy	142	26.9%
Northfield	40	7.6%
Northfield Youth Work	26	4.9%
St. Machar	67	12.7%
St. Machar Youth Work	14	2.7%
Greyhope Primary	38	7.2%
Gilcomstoun Primary	21	4.0%
Not specified	8	1.5%
Total	527	100.0%

Age was available for 508 children and young people. Of these, ages ranged from 4 to 25 with an average (mean) age of 12.9 years.

Age	Number	Percent
4	3	0.6%
5	1	0.2%
6	2	0.4%
7	4	0.8%
8	4	0.8%
9	7	1.4%
10	34	6.7%
11	40	7.9%
12	90	17.7%
13	132	26.0%
14	125	24.6%
15	42	8.3%
16	9	1.8%
17	9	1.8%
19	2	0.4%
21	1	0.2%
22	1	0.2%
23	1	0.2%
25	1	0.2%
Total	508	100%

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, Aberdeen Youth Movement 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. As with the main survey, they were asked to score each of the themes from 1 – 7. In addition to the six themes chosen, at some events children and young people could also score some of the other themes (Nature and Walking, wheeling, cycling), although the numbers scoring these themes were very small.

The table below shows the overall mean score for each of the themes as well as the number of children and young people who scored each theme (base).

Table 2.24: Children and Young People – overall mean score from in-person engagement events

Category	Mean Score	Base
Streets, squares and buildings	4.6	455
Play, hang out, games and hobbies	4.7	449
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
Walking, wheeling, cycling	3.6	12
Nature	3.1	19

The table below shows the mean scores for each of the themes by school.

Table 2.25: Mean Scores 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 listen to	Public Transport	Walking, wheeling, cycling	Nature, parks, woods, hills and beaches
Aberdeen Grammar	5.1	5.2	5.5	5.0	5.1	5.2	n/a	n/a
Dyce Academy	5.1	5.0	4.6	4.8	4.6	5.0	n/a	n/a
Lochside Academy	4.9	4.9	4.9	5.0	4.9	5.6	3.0	n/a
Northfield Academy	4.8	5.4	5.0	5.0	4.8	5.6	n/a	n/a
Northfield Youth Work	4.5	5.7	5.3	5.1	5.0	5.2	n/a	n/a
St Machar Academy	4.3	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.9	n/a	n/a
St Machar Youth Work	3.1	3.4	3.4	3.9	2.6	3.0	n/a	n/a

Greyhope Primary	2.0	1.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.0	n/a
Gilcom-stoun Primary	2.3	7.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.1

Note: caution is advised in interpreting these results due to small numbers answering some questions.

2.6.2. Online children and young people's survey – overview of results

The children and young person's survey was shared alongside the adult survey on Common Place, it was also shared with all city secondary school pupils and parents and carer via Groupcall, linked in wider CPA communication and shared across youth participation networks. It was recognised that with the timescales available in person engagement would be the best way to capture children and young people's voice, with young people giving us feedback that a well-designed app would be a more engaging way of hearing from this age group than an on-line survey. This is something we will explore as we develop and improve your engagement with young people.

While the survey for children and young people broadly followed the format used for the overall survey, the layout was altered to make it more 'child friendly'. The 14 theme questions were split into 4 topics:

- How I get around my local place
 - Personal transport routes
 - Public transport options
 - Traffic and parking
- The places I go and the things I do there.
 - Streets, Squares and Buildings
 - Nature
 - Fun play spaces
- What helps me to live well in my local place?
 - Types of buildings and services
 - Mix and type of jobs and work
 - Housing and homes
 - How 'together' and 'as a group'
- What makes me feel safe or unsafe in my local place?
 - How included you feel
 - Cared for and well-kept
 - Safe and secure
 - Levels of pride you feel

Children and young people were asked to score each of the 14 themes. However rather than a 7 point scale, this survey had a 3 point scale:

- 1 – Not good (needs improving)
- 2 – Okay (needs some improvement)
- 3 – Great (it's good or as good as can be)

In addition to the 'scale' question, for each theme, the participants were asked two additional questions to capture what they felt were positive aspects of their place and what they felt could be improved. Specifically the questions asked:

- What is good now?
- What would make it better?

For each of these questions, a list of choices was provided (these differed by question). An additional text box was also provided for each question for participants to give their own ideas.

In addition to the theme questions, the survey included three questions which asked participants for their thoughts on 'Places to Play'. Again, a list of choices were given and the children and young people could choose as many as they wished

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.

Age (years)	Number
5	2
6	1
7	3
8	1
9	2
10	3
11	5
12	9
13	10
14	13
15	4
16	1
Total	54

Overall, there were participants from 20 schools. With the exception of Bridge of Don Academy, less than five participants from each school took part.

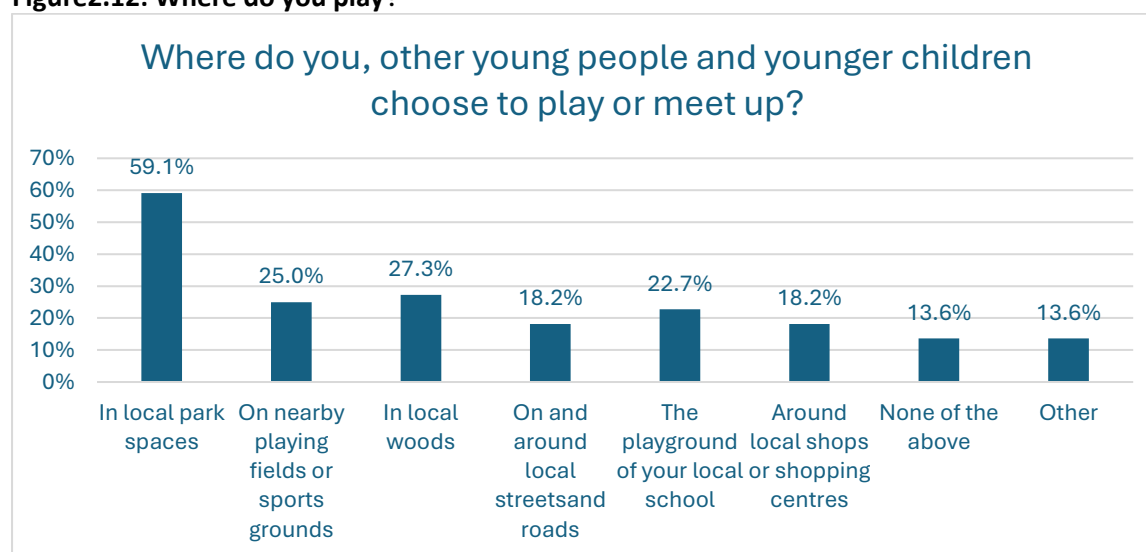
After providing basic demographic information (which school they attended and their age), the children were asked if they wanted to participate further in the survey. 15 (27.8%) of the 54 children and young people said that they did not wish to participate further in the survey.

Places to Play

All of those who said that they wish to continue with the survey were directed to the questions about 'Places to Play'. This question was not scored in the same way as the 'theme' questions (i.e. children were not asked to give a score of 1-3). Rather, children were asked where they choose to play or meet up in their local area. A list of options was given and children could chose as many options as they wanted. An 'other' option was also included where children could give other places. The most common choice from the list provided was **in local park spaces** (59.1% of respondents), followed by **in local woods** (27.3%) and **on nearby playing fields or sports grounds** (25.0%). 'Other' responses

included 'at home', 'house gardens' and 'there is nowhere to meet and play, the school playground and field is locked'.

Figure2.12: Where do you play?



Base = 44

Similar to the 'themed' question, this question was followed by questions asking 'what is good now' and 'what would make it better'. A list of options was given and children could choose as many as they wished. The top three responses are summarised in the table below.

Table 2.26: Places to play

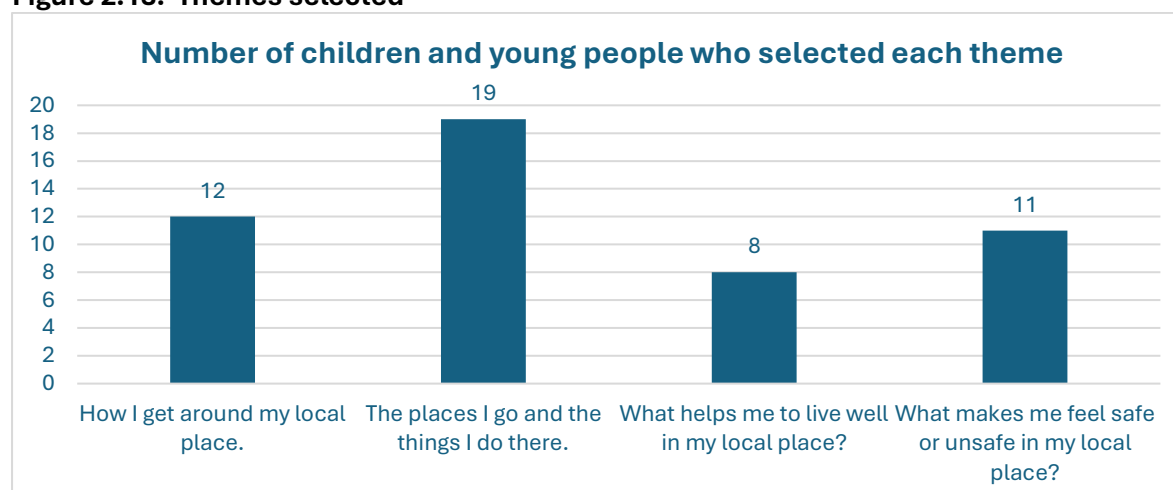
Theme	What is good now?	Percentage	What would make it better?	Percentage
Play	It's easy to access	62.8%	More play and sports equipment could be added	53.7%
	There is plenty of space	51.2%	They could provide sheltered spaces	39%
	It feels safe and secure	51.2%	They could be cleaner and better cared for/ They could have more places to sit and relax	36.6%

Place Standard Themed questions

After this section, children and young people were asked, which topic they wanted to answer questions about. Questions presented to participants were then filtered by this choice meaning that the participants were directed to the questions in their chosen theme. Participants were not asked to complete every topic. They could move on to another topic if they wanted or choose not to participate any further. Additionally, they could choose which of the questions within a theme that they wanted to answer. As a result, base levels vary for each of the 4 sections and questions within them, meaning that the number of children who completed each question is relatively small.

The most common theme selected was 'Places I go and the things I do there'.

Figure 2.13: Themes selected



The table below shows the scoring for each of the 14 themes. With the exception of ‘Housing and Homes’ the most common response for each theme was ‘OK’. The most common response for ‘Housing and Homes’ was ‘Great’.

Table 2.27: Scoring for each of the themes

		Not good	OK	Great	Base
The places I go and the things I do there	Streets, squares and buildings	2	9	0	11
	Nature	1	7	3	11
	Fun play spaces	3	6	1	10
How I get around my local place	Personal transport routes	2	8	0	10
	Public transport options	1	9	1	11
	Traffic and Parking	3	8		11
What makes me feel safe or unsafe in my local place	How included you feel	5	6	2	13
	How cared for and well-kept the area is	2	9	2	13
	How safe and secure	2	8	2	12
	Levels of pride in your local place	2	8	2	12
What makes me to live well in my local place	Types of buildings and services	1	8	1	10
	Mix and type of jobs and work	1	6	2	9
	Housing and homes	1	4	5	10
	How together and as a group you feel	2	5	3	10

For each of the 14 themed questions, participants were also asked ‘what is good now’ and ‘what would make it better’ and asked to choose from a list of options (differed by each question). The table below shows the top three choices for each question .

Table 2.28: Highest responses for ‘what is good now’ and what ‘would make it better’

Theme	What is good now?	Percentage	What would make it better?	Percentage
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	15.4%
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%
	I feel included	64.3%	I could be given more opportunities to share my views and ideas	57.1%

Influence and sense of control	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%	This 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%

2.7. Comments from Children and Young People

Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future
Moving Around	Walking, Wheeling, and Cycling: Children and young people appreciate the areas available for cycling, which provide opportunities for walking, wheeling, and cycling. "lots of areas to cycle" and "Most people walk". The presence of electric scooters, is also seen as a positive addition, making it easier for people to travel around the city. Safety and Security: Safety is a factor for children and young people, with several individuals expressing that they feel safe while walking or cycling. This sense of security contributes to the overall positive perception of these activities. "I feel safe and it is easy [to walk and cycle]" and "I feel safe on my bike" Ease of Mobility: Additionally, the ease of walking and cycling was mentioned, with children and young people noting that it is easy to get around, especially for those living close to their destinations. "Easy to walk places as they live close"	Pedestrian Safety: Pedestrian safety is a concern for children and young people, with particular concern for the elderly. Uneven roads and narrow pavements make it difficult for people to navigate the city. There is a call for wider pavements to accommodate more pedestrians comfortably. "roads are uneven my gran struggles walking on the pavements" Cycling Safety: Cycling safety is another important issue. Riding bicycles next to fast-moving cars is perceived as dangerous, suggesting a need for safer cycling paths. "<i>Riding next to cars is dangerous and they are too fast</i>" Traffic and Public Transport: Traffic is a concern in the feedback. Children and young people want "less traffic" and "more bus stops" to improve public transportation accessibility. The presence of traffic lights and crossing guards is seen as important for safer road crossings. Some children and young people feel that people should pay more attention when crossing the road to avoid accidents. "<i>People pay more attention when crossing the road</i>" Lighting: Lighting is also a priority for children and young people. There is a need for "more [street] lights" to enhance visibility and safety at night. Other concerns included having "Less dog poo"
Public Transport	Public Transport: Many children and young people appreciate the convenience and accessibility of the transport system, noting that "Transport is great." to school and other destinations. "You can go to school using it." They feel comfortable using the transport system and find it easy to navigate. "Yes, it is easy [to use]."	Desire for Better Public Transport: Children and young people have expressed a desire for better public transport overall, with specific suggestions such as increasing the number of buses and trains available. "Public transport better" and "More busses and trains" Some children and young people mentioned the idea "music on the bus" to enhance the travel experience. Safety is a

		significant concern, with some children and young people emphasising the need for safer transport options. Convenience of Bus Stops: There is also a call for more convenient bus stops, as some children and young people only use their bus pass when traveling into town or to Glasgow. Others mentioned that they don't use buses frequently, indicating a potential need for more appealing or accessible transport options. "[Would like] a close bus stop" and "Need to be on time." Traffic Safety Measures: Additionally, some children and young people mentioned the presence of Crossing Guards, which could be related to traffic safety measures or pedestrian crossings. "More Lolly Stick people"
Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future
Traffic and Parking	Convenience of Living Close to Everything: Some children and young people appreciate living close to everything. "Living close to everything is convenient.". They also mentioned that "The main road in Torry is not busy", which is a positive aspect. Additionally, some children and young people feel safe crossing the road, which indicates that pedestrian safety is a priority in the city. "I feel safe crossing the road."	Concerns About Traffic: However, there are also concerns about traffic, with some children and young people mentioning that there is a "There is a lot of traffic." And that "It takes ages to cross the road.". There is also a call for people to follow the rules to improve the overall traffic situation.
Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future
Streets and Spaces	Some children and young people appreciate "narrow, clean streets, old/ durable buildings", which they find historic and attractive. They also mention that the area is usually well-kept. The roads beside the school are highlighted positively "the roads beside the school, because they just put speed bumps in and good for doing wheelies on your bike" Ease of Navigation and Safety: When asked about the ease of navigating their neighbourhood, most children and young people find	Condition of the Streets: the condition of the streets is a concern for children and young people. They have expressed the need for better maintenance, including fixing potholes and ensuring cleanliness. "Fix/clean streets (potholes) no trash" and "Remove dog poo" Safety and Visibility: Safety and visibility, especially at night, are important issues for the children and young people. There is a desire for more streetlights to improve these aspects. "Staying out for longer. More

	it "very easy" to get around. However, there are mixed feelings about safety after dark, with some children and young people feeling safe because their house is nearby, while others feel unsafe due to poor visibility and the quietness of the area	streetlights." , "More people, northern lights watching during night maybe" and "Decorate the trees, lanterns, lights?" Greenery and Aesthetic Appeal: children and young people valued the aesthetic appeal of their surroundings and want to see more greenery and flowers. "More colour" , "Lots of lights, behind the trees for lights, sticks and leaves everywhere removed, lots of litter/rubbish" and "It would be better if it's more tidy, make more grass, more greenery, flowers, certain areas more dirty than others" Recreational Facilities: There is a demand for better recreational facilities, such as "A better playing place for football", "More equipment?" and "More play stuff"
Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future
Natural Spaces	Positive Aspects of Nature and Parks: The city's nature, parks, woods, hills, and beaches are appreciated by children and young people. They frequently mention the cleanliness and fun activities available in the parks, with Hazelhead Park being a particular favourite due to its animal corner. The abundance of natural places, including Seaton and its beach, is also highlighted. "Parks are great clean and fun, plenty of activities" and "Like the parks kid friendly, likes Hazelhead the best" Local Spaces to See Nature: While some children and young people raise the lack of good parks in their neighbourhoods, others appreciate the ease of access to places like Logie Park and the football pitch. Despite some parks being described as filthy, they are still considered fun and valuable for social interactions among children.	Nature Spaces: Children and young people have expressed a desire for better nature spaces, indicating a need for more green areas and natural environments. Amenities in Parks: There is a concern about the lack of toilets in parks, specifically in Milltimber raised. Pet Corner Facilities (Hazelhead): Another point raised is the ask for a bigger pets corner.
What our CEYP people said through	Time outdoors : 88% of CEYP children (8-11yrs) and 89% of young people (11-17yrs) answered that they had spent time outdoors in nature at least once this week.	

the Bright Spots Survey		
Theme	‘Good’ now	<i>‘Improve’ for the future</i>
Play and Recreation	Positive Aspects of Play Spaces: Children and young people appreciate the availability of places to play and hang out, with comments highlighting the abundance of parks and open spaces. They reported finding the parks to be good for playing games and hobbies, and they enjoy the opportunity to play with friends. The presence of big open spaces and safe environments is also valued. Specific Parks: Specific parks like Duthie Park are mentioned favourably, with children and young people appreciating the local accessibility and the equipment available for play. The swings, slides, and other play equipment are particularly liked, and some children and young people have good memories of playing in these parks.	Desire for More and Better Play Areas: Children and young people have expressed a desire for more and better play areas. They want safer spaces for cycling and hanging out, more fun activities, and bigger areas to play. They also a call for more swings, slides, and climbing frames, as well as exciting features like monkey bars and big open spaces. Some children and young people suggested adding a massive slide from the top of a hill to the bottom and a soft surface on the ground to enhance safety . "Safer spaces to hang out" and "Add bigger play equipment for older children" Cleanliness Concerns: Cleanliness is a concern. Children and young people have raised the need for "More bins, lots of rubbish at the astro turf, and dog poo" as well as cleaner seating areas, and overall cleaner parks. They also mentioned the importance of maintaining the cleanliness of play equipment. Better Facilities and Amenities: There is an ask for better facilities and amenities. Suggestions include more seating, covered seating to protect from rain, bird food places, and hotspots. Children and young people also want more lights and equipment in the parks, as well as additional features like a football area, running track, ping-pong table, skiing area, and hockey space. <i>"Add more lights and more equipment"</i>. Safety and Accessibility: Safety and accessibility are also important to children and young people. They want barriers from hills to prevent accidents, fewer things that spin to avoid dizziness and sickness, and easier access to information about the parks. There is also a desire to reduce groups of people who might make others feel wary . "Make it easier to get information. More free stuff to do" and "Reduce groups of people who might be wary of"

		More Wildlife and Free Activities: Children and young people have expressed a wish for "...more wildlife and plants" in the parks, as well as more free activities to do. They appreciate the existing trees to climb and the fun atmosphere of the parks, but they believe there is room for improvement to make the parks even better.
What our CEYP said through the Bright Spots Survey	Hobbies and Activities: CEYP Children aged 4-11 were asked if they get to have fun at weekends, and young people aged 11-17 were asked about spending time on hobbies or activities outside school 95% of children aged 4-7 said they have fun, while 72% of children aged 8-11 and 63% of young people aged 11-17 said they take part in activities.	More Play Opportunities: Comments from Care Experienced children highlighted their desire for more opportunities to play, such as playing imagination games, having more toys, and visiting places like the beach.
Theme	‘Good’ now	‘Improve’ for the future
Facilities and Services	Educational Facilities: Children and young people appreciated good schools where they have friends and enjoy their time. "good school with friends" and "have lot of friends at school" Recreational Facilities: Children and young people also find the city's recreational facilities to be positive. They appreciate the availability of hobbies and activities, as well as the presence of toy shops. Libraries and Shops: children and young people find shops to be good, although they express a desire for more libraries.	Community Centre: Children and young people have suggested that the community centre could "...be open at better times".
What our CEYP said through the Bright Spots Survey	Internet Access: The majority (96%) of children and young people (11-17) reported that they had access to the Internet where they lived.	Long term health concerns/disabilities: 54 (35%) care leaver indicated that they had a long-term health problem or disability that limited their day-to-day activities compared to 24% of care leavers in the Bright Spots comparator group.

		The proportion of Care Leavers with a long-term health problem or disability is more than double that of young people in the general population in the UK (35% to 16%).
Theme	‘Good’ now	‘Improve’ for the future
Housing and Community	Community and Support: Children and young people value “[Living] quite near friends and family”, which fosters a sense of community and support. The "family, friendly people" in the community is highlighted. Good friendships are important, and there is a desire for improvements such as children's play parks. Outdoor Activities: Children and young people enjoy playing in their gardens and engaging in activities like football. The opportunities for outdoor activities are appreciated.	Housing Quality: Children and young people have expressed concerns about the maintenance of homes. Community Behaviour: Some children and young people feel that “people can be a bit too wild”, indicating a need for better community behaviour.
What our CEYP said through the Bright Spots Survey	Satisfaction With Living Arrangements In this survey 75% of care leavers responded ‘mainly yes’ to the question ‘Is where you live now right for you?’.	Satisfaction With Living Arrangements In this survey 25% of care leavers responded ‘mainly no’ to the question ‘Is where you live now right for you?’.
Theme	‘Good’ now	‘Improve’ for the future
Work and Local Economy	No Comments	No Comments
What our CEYP said through the Bright Spots Survey		Financial stability 26% of care leavers finding it quite or very difficult to get by financially

		Care Experienced Young People Post School Destinations 47% of Care Leavers not in education, employment or training. Of the young people who were not in education employment or training, 29 (42%) were in the process of looking for work, training or further education, 16 (23%) were unable to work due to disability or illness, 9 (13%) were caring for their child(ren), and 15 (22%) chose 'Other'. Young people who chose 'Other' reported that they were: in prison; in the army; waiting for the right time; struggling with their mental or physical health; or had a criminal record. Some young people reported that they had been in work or education but had struggled to maintain this.
Theme	'Good' now	<i>'Improve' for the future</i>
Social Interaction	No Comments	No Comments
What our CEYP said through the Bright Spots Survey	Having a Good Friend 91% of Care Experienced Young People (4-17) felt they had a really good friend, this is still below the average of the general population (97%) 83% of Care Leavers felt reported having a really good friend Having a Partner 13 (10%) of young people (11-17yrs) recorded that adults did things that made them feel embarrassed about being in care. 57 (37%) care leavers had a partner.	Barriers to Care Leavers having Fun The main barrier to having fun for care leavers was a lack of finances (24%). Other barriers included: – Not being able to drive, not having a car, or not having access to a lift. – Care leavers' mental health, in particular anxiety about doing new activities or having motivation. – A lack of childcare. – A lack of opportunities. – Being incarcerated. Mental Health

	Female care leavers were more likely to have a partner – 50% of young women had a partner compared to 28% of young men. 4 (77%) of the care leavers with a partner stated that their partner gave them emotional support. 30 (19%) young people were a parent and/ or they or their partner was pregnant. This is comparable to the average (19%) for other Bright Spots local authorities in England. Eight (27%) of the young people who were parents felt that their children were a source of emotional support. Care Leavers Having Fun 79 care leavers provided comments. Top of their wish list were: – Participate more in activities, examples included: rock climbing; football; boxing; cycling; swimming; horse riding; kayaking. (27%) – Traveling, going on a holiday abroad and/ or going on day trips (20%) – Having friends to do activities with (8%) – Work on social media content (4%)	47% of Carer leavers reported feeling lonely in the past week some/often or all of the time. 31% of care leavers reported having high levels of anxiety
Theme	‘Good’ now	‘Improve’ for the future
Identity and Belonging	No Comments	No Comments
What our CEYP said through the	Physical Appearance 70% of young people in care said they were happy or very happy with their physical appearance	

Bright Spots Survey	Quality of Life 54% of 8-17 year olds in Care felt their lives were getting much better Trusted Professionals 100% (66) of young people in care from 8-11 years reported they trusted their social worker most or all of the time	
Theme	‘Good’ now	‘Improve’ for the future
Feeling Safe	Feeling of Safety: Children and young people have expressed that they feel secure in their surroundings, which is crucial for their overall well-being. Friendly Atmosphere: Children and young people feel the presence of nice people contributes to a friendly and welcoming atmosphere, making the city a pleasant place to live. Well-Lit Areas: Children and young people raise that well-lit areas in the city, enhance safety but also improve the appeal of the city.	Street Lighting: Children and young people from some communities have expressed a need for better street lighting. Expressing "More street lights to see better so you could stay out longer" and feel more secure in their surroundings. Greenery: Children and young people feel that adding more plants and trees would contribute to a more pleasant environment, making the city more enjoyable.
What our CEYP said through the Bright Spots Survey	Feeling Safe Overall, 89% (219) of children and young people reported that they ‘always’ felt safe where they lived. This is higher compared with children (82%) in the general population. 93% of young people (11-17yrs) responded that they ‘always’ felt safe where they lived, compared to 86% of the Bright Spots comparator group. The majority (87%) of children in care (4-7yrs) said that they ‘always’ felt safe at home Feeling Safe at Home More than two-thirds (70%) of care leavers in reported that they ‘always’ felt safe in their home. This is a lower proportion compared to children and young people (11 -17yrs) in care in Aberdeen where 93% always felt safe. Almost two-thirds (64%) ‘always’ felt safe in their neighbourhoods.	Lack of Trust in Professionals 13 (10%) of young people (11-17yrs) recorded that adults did things that made them feel embarrassed about being in care. 44% of girls trusted their social workers ‘sometimes’, ‘hardly ever’ or ‘never’ Bullying and School 43% of children and young people in care (8-11yrs) in Aberdeen reported being afraid of going to school because of bullying compared to 22% of boys. 5% of boys were afraid of being bullied ‘all or most of the time’ or ‘sometimes’ compared to 33% of girls. 43% of girls did not like school, compared to 20% of boys. Not Feeling Safe The proportion of care leavers who do not always feel safe was over four times that of young people in care (11-17yrs) in Aberdeen (30% to 7%).

Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future
Care and Maintenance	Cleanliness: Children and young people have shared their thoughts on what they appreciate about the cleanliness and management of the city. The comments highlight several positive aspects namely that the city "Fixed, clean and managed" as well as "...well kept usually."	Litter Sorting: There is a specific concern about litter sorting, with children and young people mentioning that binmen do not sort the litter.
Theme	'Good' now	'Improve' for the future
Influence and Sense of Control	No Comments	Feeling Unheard: Children and young people have expressed that they do not feel heard. Where to Voice Opinions: There is uncertainty about where to go to have a say, and where to voice their opinions. Children and young people have expressed a need for better ways to have their say and share their opinions. They feel that there are "not enough ways to reach out with opinions".
What our CEYP said through the Bright Spots Survey	Feeling Listened To 92% (70) of 8-11yrs 'all or most of the time' or 'sometimes' felt listened to when decisions were made about their lives. (Bright Spots) 94% (123) of young people (11-17yrs) 'all or most of the time' or 'sometimes' felt listened to when decisions were made about their lives (Bright Spots) Trusted Adult Almost all (99%) of young people in care (11-17yrs) in Aberdeen felt that they had an adult who they trusted and who sticks by them no matter what 84% of the young people who reported worrying were getting help from an adult to cope with their worries.	Anxiety About Feelings 63% of young people (11-17yrs) worried about their feelings and behaviour: – 8% 'all or most of the time' – 55% 'sometimes'.

3. Scoring of 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 proposals are related to five of the themes:

- Facilities and services
- Work and local economy
- Social interaction
- Influence and sense of control
- Housing and community

The tables below show the percentage of participants who answered ‘yes’ for each of the proposals by theme. Each theme has two tables. The first table gives the **overall** figure i.e. it shows the percentage “yes” for all participants who answered this question (survey respondents, locality events and out-reach sessions). This table also shows the percentage who answered ‘yes’ by **locality** and therefore only includes those for whom we have answers that we can link to the their locality (i.e. survey respondents who provided postcode/locality information and participants attending locality events - but not those attending out-reach sessions). The second table for each theme shows the percentage who answered “yes” within the **priority neighbourhoods**. In all cases the base number is given in brackets below (note – this will not match the total number of participants as not everyone answered all the questions).

3.1. Facilities and Services

Table 3.1: Facilities and Services proposals – overall scoring and scoring by locality

	Overall % yes	Central % Yes	North % Yes	South % 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.	86.2% (Base = 741)	88.% (Base = 215)	86.5% (Base = 230)	82.2% (Base = 191)
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.	93.4% (Base = 731)	94.8% (Base = 211)	94.3% (Base = 230)	91.3% (Base = 195)

Proposal 3: Refresh our Primary Care Improvement Plan to improved access to local primary care services.	93.6% (Base = 715)	94.1% (Base = 204)	94.2% (Base = 225)	93.5% (Base = 186)
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.	93.4% (Base = 731)	93.3% (Base = 210)	94.8% (Base = 233)	92.4% (Base = 185)
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.	45.9% (Base = 734)	45.6% (Base = 204)	47.8% (Base = 232)	42.6% (Base = 190)
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.	61.4% (Base = 681)	64.4% (Base = 191)	60.2% (Base = 221)	60.7% (Base = 178)
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.	73.2% (Base = 672)	76.6% (Base = 192)	70.0% (Base = 223)	73.3% (Base = 172)
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.	56.0% (Base = 654)	63.2% (Base = 185)	50.9% (Base = 214)	50.9% (Base = 171)

Table 3.2: Facilities and Services proposals – scoring by priority neighbourhood

	Central PNs % Yes	North PNs % Yes	South PNs % 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.	91.0% (Base = 67)	89.1% (Base = 55)	90.3% (Base = 31)

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.	95.4% (Base = 65)	100% (Base = 56)	96.0% (Base = 25)
Proposal 3: Refresh our Primary Care Improvement Plan to improved access to local primary care services.	93.7% (Base = 63)	100% (Base = 54)	92.6% (Base = 27)
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.	89.2% (Base = 65)	94.4% (Base = 54)	100% (Base = 27)
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.	46% (Base = 63)	56.6% (Base = 53)	45.2% (Base = 31)
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.	63.8% (Base = 58)	59.6% (Base = 57)	44.8% (Base = 29)
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.	78.9% (Base = 57)	63.2% (Base = 57)	60.7% (Base = 28)
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.	66.1% (Base = 56)	48.1% (Base = 54)	48.3% (Base = 29)

3.2. Work and Local Economy

Table 3.3: Work and local economy proposals – overall scoring and scoring by locality

	Overall % yes	Central % Yes	North % Yes	South % 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.	92.3% (Base = 710)	90.2% (Base = 205)	95.2% (Base = 229)	91.5% (Base = 188)
Proposal 2: Provide accessible opportunities for people to build skills (education, training or retraining, community work and volunteering) to support them access work.	94.1% (Base = 708)	92.2% (Base = 205)	95.2% (Base = 228)	94.2% (Base = 189)
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 = 690)	91.9% (Base = 198)	91.6% (Base = 225)	90.2% (Base = 184)

Table 3.4: Work and local economy proposals – scoring by priority neighbourhood

	Central PNs % Yes	North PNs % Yes	South PNs % 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.	92.1% (Base = 63)	98.2% (Base = 57)	93.5% (Base = 31)
Proposal 2: Provide accessible opportunities for people to build skills (education, training or retraining, community work and volunteering) to support them access work.	91.9% (Base = 62)	98.3% (Base = 59)	91.2% (Base = 34)

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.	93.2% (Base = 59)	96.4% (Base = 56)	93.9% (Base = 33)
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3.3. Social interaction

Table 3.5: Social interaction proposal – overall scoring and scoring by locality

	Overall % yes	Central % Yes	North % Yes	South % 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.	93.1% (Base = 699)	92.8% (Base = 207)	93.8% (Base = 226)	94.0% (Base = 184)

Table 3.6: Social interaction proposal – scoring by priority neighbourhood

	Central PNs % Yes	North PNs % Yes	South PNs % 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.	91.3% (Base = 69)	98.3% (Base = 58)	93.9% (Base = 33)

3.4. Influence and Sense of Control

Table 3.7: Influence and sense of control proposals – overall scoring and scoring by locality

	Overall % yes	Central % Yes	North % Yes	South % 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.	91.9% (Base = 669)	92.5% (Base = 213)	93.7% (Base = 223)	88.6% (Base = 184)

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.	91.9% (Base = 628)	91.7% (Base = 193)	92.9% (Base = 210)	90.8% (Base = 184)
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.	91.5% (Base = 660)	90.9% (Base = 198)	92.8% (Base = 222)	89.8% (Base = 187)

Table 3.8: Influence and sense of control proposals - scoring by priority neighbourhood

	Central PNs % Yes	North PNs % Yes	South PNs % 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.	94.0% (Base = 67)	94.8% (Base = 58)	91.2% (Base = 34)
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.	90.6% (Base = 64)	96.3% (Base = 54)	88.2% (Base = 34)
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.	89.2% (Base = 65)	94.9% (Base = 59)	91.2% (Base = 34)

3.5. Housing and Community

Table 3.7: Housing and community proposals – overall scoring and scoring by locality

	Overall % yes	Central % Yes	North % Yes	South % 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.	89.1% (Base = 746)	92.2% (Base = 218)	91.1% (Base = 236)	86.1% (Base = 209)
Proposal 2: We are committed to enhancing the condition of all homes, including improving their energy efficiency which will help to alleviate fuel poverty.	88.5% (Base = 742)	92.1% (Base = 214)	93.5% (Base = 230)	84.1% (Base = 208)
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.	93.3% (Base = 686)	93.6% (Base = 204)	93.9% (Base = 229)	92.3% (Base = 183)

Table 3.7: Housing and community proposals – scoring by priority neighbourhood

	Central PNs % Yes	North PNs % Yes	South PNs % 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.	93.9% (Base = 66)	98.2% (Base = 56)	94.1% (Base = 34)
Proposal 2: We are committed to enhancing the condition of all homes, including improving their energy efficiency which will help to alleviate fuel poverty.	90.6% (Base = 64)	100% (Base = 55)	97% (Base = 33)
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.	95.2% (Base = 63)	100% (Base = 55)	93.9% (Base = 33)

3.6. Comments on Proposals

Participants were also asked to provide any comments on the proposals. A total of **3,212** comments were received across each of the proposals. Table 3.8 below shows the number of comments received for each of the proposals.

Table 3.8: Total number of comments received by proposal

Facilities and services	Total number of comments
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.	245
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.	219
Proposal 3: Refresh our Primary Care Improvement Plan to improved access to local primary care services.	173
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.	179
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.	334
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.	268
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.	196
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.	210
Work and local economy	
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.	151

Proposal 2: Provide accessible opportunities for people to build skills (education, training or retraining, community work and volunteering) to support them access work.	136
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.	117
Social interaction	
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.	184
Influence and sense of control	
Proposal 1: Continue our inclusive approach when designing and delivering services ensuring the voices of our communities are heard and help influence decision making.	161
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.	104
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.	115
Housing and community	
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.	142
Proposal 2: We are committed to enhancing the condition of all homes, including improving their energy efficiency which will help to alleviate fuel poverty.	160
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.	118

3.6.1. Facilities and Services Comments

1,824 comments received in relation to the proposals. The comments received are summarised below.

Table 3.9: Summary of comments and number of comments received

Proposal	Number of comments	Summary of the comments
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.	245	Participants have expressed support for the proposal as shown in the data above with the following comments made: Focus: Comments suggest that resources should concentrate on improvements for the majority of people, not minorities. <i>"All adults need help, not just minority groups"</i> and questioned <i>"Why are we providing so much funding for non-English speakers? Significant online resources exist."</i> There is a call for support for working families and suggestion that schools should be teaching these skills. Other comments state that working with marginalised or excluded groups is beneficial and that early intervention is needed, <i>"We need early intervention. Stop cutting school budgets and health budgets. The city needs to become trauma informed."</i> and <i>"I think the more we can work with those marginalised or excluded the better. We need all sections of Aberdeen society to contribute to making this a worthwhile place to live."</i> Some are supportive of additional support but wouldn't want to exclude groups of people who would also benefit. Clarity: on how the proposal will be implemented is sought <i>"This sounds great, but how are you going to do it? What exactly will be on offer, and to whom?"</i>. Some raise that they believe that Community Learning and Development need developments. Funding to implement the proposal and ensuring the actual cost per person remains reasonable raised by participants. <i>"Good idea but do you have funding."</i> Some feel that funding is allocated to services for people who do not sue these. <i>"council always</i>

		<i>provides for people who have no intention of using these services"</i> Community based Assets and Programmes: participants raise using existing communities spaces, with suggestion to use empty schools in the evenings for adult education, community projects, and activities. <i>"Reintroduce a wider range of evening classes (vocational and non-vocational) in the community (schools are empty in the evening). Work with businesses to provide practical life skills e.g. banks, accountancy could provide financial skills "</i> Running opportunities from community locations also raised: <i>"This needs to be community-based at the local level and not centralised by one charity." and "Run these opportunities from the Seaton Community Centre to help develop a programme."</i> Specific Learning Opportunities: There is also a call for learning in specific areas, such as digital skills for completing GP eConsult and accessing prescription services were cited examples. <i>"Internet is based on money, skills and accessibility - not everyone can do this."</i> Volunteering: suggestion that reaching out to retired people to help with the proposal and fostering lifelong learning would support implementation. <i>"Reach out to retired people to help with this. I would volunteer to help but opportunity for that is not easy to find."</i> Community Cohesion: Some comments expressed that the proposal will connect people from different backgrounds. <i>"I see this as part of Scottish identity. welcoming and helping. I don't know how much need there is in my neighbourhood but I'd be happy to see these opportunities on service programmes either way." And "Inclusion is the key, race, age, sex, and etc"</i>
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.	219	Participants have expressed support for the proposal as shown in the data above with the following comments made: Community based learning opportunities: importance of providing learning opportunities, particularly those that are community-based rather than school-based. <i>"library and community centre ideal spaces for this".</i> Need to invest in young people,

		addressing the root causes of why they are not engaging with school. Employment opportunities: calls for more part-time jobs to support young people gain skills. <i>“Provide job opportunities for our youngsters.”</i> Some suggest that the proposal should include more vocational training and support for young people with special needs. <i>“The hardest part after learning a new skill is to pursue it in ways that provide a path to a career, this is often missing, both in schools and in these learning opportunities.”</i> Training for staff: particularly on neurodiversity and additional support needs for children raised as a suggestion. Specificity and funding of proposal: some comments felt that the proposal is vague and lacks specificity, while others are concerned about funding and the effectiveness of similar past initiatives. Targeted and practical learning opportunities: feeling that opportunities for young people should be built around their interests and that more support is needed for those who are not suited for formal education. <i>“School doesn't fit for all! Provide opportunities for young people built around their interests and they will thrive”.</i> Or Suggest that schools should provide more practical topics such as budgeting, cooking, and financial responsibility. <i>“There needs to be opportunities to learn life skills, cooking, financial responsibility, coping skills.”</i> Involving parents in their children's education and providing robust help for young people in the community.
Proposal 3: Refresh our Primary Care Improvement Plan to improved access to local primary care services.	173	Participants have expressed support for the proposal as shown in the data above with the following comments made: Access to Primary Care Services: Comments raise concern about the difficulty in accessing healthcare services, particularly GP appointments. There is a call

		for better access to services particularly for the elderly and those with mental health issues. Feeling that the current system is overwhelmed and that more GPs are needed to improve accessibility. The impact of new housing developments on services was also raised. <i>"People are struggling to get appointments at GP and are either being missed or they are clogging up other areas of the NHS."</i>, <i>"Yes we are in desperate need for more available GP appointments."</i> And <i>"I am a GP and we are working way over our working hours and doing a lot of remote working just to keep our heads above water and try to provide the best quality service we can - but constant complaints and lack of understanding from the public on how difficult the current Primary Care environment is to work in is demoralising! Please do anything you can to help - but more investment is required. We cannot afford to hire any new doctors due to NI increases and running costs. Needs sorted or more GP practices in Aberdeen will shut."</i> Consistency and Co-ordination: impact of the lack of standard procedures and the autonomy of GP practices raised. A more coordinated approach to implementing changes in the primary care system suggested. Pilots projects: call for more pilot projects to be implemented before making changes to the system. <i>"Ensure pilots projects have been implemented first before changing and restructuring the system."</i> Proposal detail: Some respondents have asked for more information about the proposal and its objectives, as well as the financial feasibility of it.
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.	179	Participants have expressed support for the proposal as shown in the data above with the following comments made: Community care: participants supportive and highlighted the importance of providing adequate community care and support for the elderly and those with disabilities. <i>"Well needed"</i> They emphasise the need for more resources, better training for carers, and improved access to services.

		Impact on other services: feeling that the proposal should not be a reason to cut other essential services. Feasibility and effectiveness: Some are unconvinced about the proposal's feasibility and effectiveness. They raise concerns about funding, the availability of staff, and the potential for the proposal to be used as a cost-saving measure rather than genuinely improving care. There are also worries about the lack of detailed information and the potential negative impact on existing services.
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.	334	Participants raised concerns that the levy if introduced could: Reduce Visitors: Some felt that the proposed levy will discourage visitors from coming to Aberdeen, citing that the charge is <i>"too high and will put people off"</i>. Some suggested that a lower charge would be more affordable. <i>"Too expensive per night and will put visitors off coming to Aberdeen. Should be a lower charge (£3) so more affordable."</i> There are also comments about the need to encourage visitors to the City, with comparisons to other European cities that charge lower rates. <i>"I don't agree with the principal of the levy as this could discourage visitors from coming to Aberdeen in favour of other destinations. I'd rather we encourage people to come for good attractions and facilities."</i> Impact and justification for the levy: comments that the levy may negatively impact the local industries, particularly hotels and guest houses. <i>"I think this will put people off staying - and will possibly put businesses at risk if visitor numbers decrease."</i> Some felt that Aberdeen does not have enough attractions to justify the charge and that the city needs to improve its offerings before introducing such a levy. Transparency and accountability: need for clear explanations and accountability as to how the money raised will be spent. Suggestions: There were also suggestions to place the levy on specific types of accommodation, such as AirBnB, and to exempt local residents who stay in local hotels. <i>"We should be encouraging people to stay at hotels and guest houses - a levy, which could be higher, should be placed on AirBnB or similar types of</i>

		<i>accommodation."</i> Some believe that the levy should be extended to cruise ship passengers. Participants also raised this <i>"Other countries do it, as long as the money is used in a positive manner."</i>
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.	268	Allocation of money: Participants raised that social care should be prioritised over the proposed events. <i>"Put money into smaller organisations directly helping poor, eg more support nurses in GP practices. Health Services (eg GP/Health HUBS). One central Health enquiry facility informing where to get help."</i> Others feel that the money should be spent on more lasting facilities rather than short-term events. There is also a sentiment that the funds should be used to improve infrastructure such as pavements, roads, and transport to benefit both visitors and locals. Funding core services: comments raise that the levy money should be used to fund core services and provide discounts for local residents accessing the events. <i>"The money should be spent on more lasting facilities rather than short term events."</i> However the financial position of the public sector was raised and allocation of funding for events questioned, as was the restrictions on how levy money can be used. Some felt that the levy discourages spending and concern over use of the money. Regeneration of Priority neighbourhoods: suggestion that the money should be used to regenerate priority neighbourhoods and improve the general appearance of the city, including fixing potholes and cleaning up Union Street. <i>"Use the money to help improve and regenerate the priority neighbourhoods, such as Seaton, Torry, Mastrick, Woodside."</i> Organisation of Events: suggestion that smaller organisations directly helping more deprived areas should receive the funds. Event Location Preferences: Some participants support the idea of holding events in specific locations like Union Terrace Gardens, the beach, and Hazlehead Park.

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.	196	Allocation of visitor levy money: comments suggest prioritising more urgent matters, such as social care. While others believe that the infrastructure such as roads, pavements, and street lighting, and better city maintenance should be improved first. Suggestions that the funds be used for council-run parks and museums, but not for privately-owned venues. There are also suggestions for using the funds to enhance cultural and recreational facilities. Some believe that the proposal could bring life to the city and benefit the whole community. Participants also raise that there are more critical issues to address, such as the public sector financial position and the need for better city maintenance. Some are unconvinced about the benefits of the proposal, questioning its impact on local people and the restrictions on how the levy money can be used. Community benefit: support the proposal, suggesting that it could help reopen local attractions like the Belmont cinema and Bon Accord baths. The importance of making the facilities affordable for local people and introducing discount schemes is also made. <i>“a scheme to support low income families to enjoy the arts”</i> Impact of the Levy: some view it as an unnecessary tax that would not attract visitors. There are also concerns about the transparency and accountability of how the funds would be used.
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.	210	Allocation of Visitor Levy Money: effective use of funds raised with <i>“As long as any funds used are targeted wisely and of provable ROI then yes.”</i> Comments suggest using the money to clean up buildings and shop fronts on Union Street, while others feel that there are more critical things to address due to the public sector financial position. Concerns about the restrictions on how levy money can be used raised. Events and Promotion: some feel that there is very little for tourists in Aberdeen, <i>“The city has very little to currently 'promote'. Events are rare and those that do happen, get overcrowded and/or don't appeal to a broad selection of the population.”</i> Some asked whether VisitAberdeen already does this. <i>“Plenty promotional tools online that do not require</i>

		<i>investment." Others feel that" If they want to come to Aberdeen, they will come."</i> Comments suggested getting music events in place <i>"We would need to actually have events happening and for this we need to attract people/events to the city."</i> There were suggestions to <i>"clean the city up before marketing for tourism"</i> and to focus on <i>"essential services"</i>. Comments also raised that word of mouth speaks for itself <i>"Word of mouth is the most important form of promotion. And it's free."</i> and that actual improvements rather than advertising will please locals and visitors alike. Infrastructure: suggestions that more infrastructure and events are needed for locals before spending money on promoting Aberdeen to visitors. <i>"I feel like just people want to make our city 'nice' 'better' for tourists etc but what about the people who are actually staying here."</i>
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3.6.2. Work and Local Economy Comments

404 comments received in relation to the proposals. The comments received are summarised below.

Table 3.10 Summary of comments and number of comments received

Proposal	Number of comments	Summary of the comments
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.	151	Participants have expressed support for the proposal as shown in the data above with the following comments made: Financial Concerns: Residents question the funding sources, the allocation of council tax, and whether the initiative represents a "good use of public money". Effectiveness and Clarity: Concerns that the proposal is "vague", lacks detailed information, and may not provide adequate solutions to wellbeing issues. Inclusivity: Participants emphasised the need for the proposal to take account of "accessibility" and "accommodations" for older people and people with disabilities. Physical and Mental Wellbeing: Participants emphasised the need to improve existing activities and

		facilities such as investing in exercise classes, free membership to Council facilities, and putting gym equipment in public parks.
Proposal 2: Provide accessible opportunities for people to build skills (education, training or retraining, community work and volunteering) to support them access work.	136	Participants have expressed support for the proposal as shown in the data above with the following comments made: Scepticism and Concerns about the proposal were expressed, participants said similar “promises” have been made before without success, emphasising the need for “action rather than paper plans”. Others highlight the importance of “lifelong learning “and the need for retraining, especially for “computer literacy”. There are also concerns about how it might be funded, participants said it was not “the council’s responsibility” to fund this initiative through council tax. Young People should be the focus of the proposal. "While these should be offered to everyone that needs them, the focus should be on young people gaining employable skills while still at school". Participants emphasised the need for schools to be properly resourced so young people could “find a purpose and discover their talents”. Community Involvement was suggested to ensure that the proposal is accessible to all, including non-English speakers and those with learning difficulties. Libraries were suggested as a base for activities with retired people volunteering.
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.	117	Participants have expressed support for the proposal as shown in the data above with the following comments made: Funding and Effectiveness are concerns for participants who agreed with the proposal but worried about the potential financial burden on taxpayers. Participants said the proposal would “need to involve all sorts of community groups and enable them to fix issues for themselves." Discipline and Resources: Participants suggest that for the proposal to be successful the issues of discipline in schools would need to be addressed alongside supporting teachers, and providing resources for extracurricular activities like clubs, music education,

		and sports, "Give the schools resources to develop young people." Strategies and Suggestions were offered on the proposal such as, adopting a holistic approach to include mental health support, safeguarding online, travel opportunities, training, technology and access to healthy food. While some participants suggested that implementing the proposal "needs to come from parents and be supported by schools", others recognise the need for "corporate parenting" in delivering the proposal.
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3.6.3. Social interaction Comments

184 comments received in relation to the proposal. The comments received are summarised below.

Table 3.11 Summary of comments and number of comments received

Proposal	Number of comments	Summary of the comments
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.	184	Health and Wellbeing Services Participants appreciate the proposal for more opportunities for social interaction, highlighting, "it is such an important element for good health and wellbeing." They suggest that communities are "included in planning events etc in order to connect socially and with confidence". Family-Oriented Events and Initiatives Participants suggested that more family-oriented events and initiatives should be part of the proposals to "help people to get to know their neighbours would be good - we can the better support each other." Involvement of Multiple Partners such as Community Councils, emergency services, local council workers and business partners should play a central role in the proposals. Support for hard to reach individuals should be part of the proposals. Participants highlight the particular needs of disabled people, single dads and those living in "blackholes" that are often neglected such as Stockethill and Ashgrove. Community Spaces and Social Gatherings Participants suggest the proposal should include opening more community spaces such as "community gardens" and coffee shops to facilitate social gatherings and classes,

		like, chair-based yoga sessions should be promoted to “help with both physical and mental health and wellbeing.”
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3.6.4. Influence and Sense of Control Comments

380 comments received in relation to the proposals. The comments received are summarised below.

Table 3.11 Summary of comments and number of comments received

Proposal	Number of comments	Summary of the comments
Proposal 1: Continue our inclusive approach when designing and delivering services ensuring the voices of our communities are heard and help influence decision making.	161	Participants have expressed support for the proposal as shown in the data above with the following comments made: Confidence in Achievements: Participants expressed scepticism about the feasibility of the council's ability to execute the proposal; "No confidence that this can be achieved – aspirations should be realistic." Participants also suggested that there was "Not much evidence that this is actually taking place." Communication and Participation: There is sentiment that the “council don't listen to what the people want”. Participants suggested that there needs to be better communication around decision making, suggesting the council "Need to be clear about what is being taken forward and what isn't and how that links back to what was said." Participants called for better communication and more opportunities for participation rather than “token surveys” or “box ticking”. Importance of Genuine Consultation: Participants emphasised the need for genuine consultation and the inclusion of community voices in decision-making, not listening to “Moving ahead with the plans in the face of overwhelming opposition from the community is arrogant” , “letting egos and “creates distrust." Other participants welcomed the proposal suggesting it was “Good for building trust and create services that are needed. All voices, especially ones that have felt unheard are heard."
Proposal 2: Provide capacity building support to	104	Participants have expressed support for the proposal as shown in the data above with the following comments made:

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.		Trust and Scepticism: Participants expressed a lack of trust in the Council's ability to genuinely listen to and act upon their opinions. There is a prevailing sense of scepticism about the effectiveness of consultations and the Council's commitment to community engagement, "there's no point if no one is listening". Community Involvement and Engagement: Participants emphasised the importance of genuine community involvement and continuous engagement, "beyond just an online survey here and there". The timing of engagement sessions was criticised because "anyone who works cannot realistically attend". Participants highlighted the need for "clear, succinct communication with timelines" and transparency around "examples of responding to and delivering on local needs" Inclusive consultation across a wide range of ages, ethnic groups and areas across the city was seen as a positive step. Townhall meetings were suggested as a way for councillors to respond to local needs, show a genuine commitment to co-production and be accountable "rather than a tick box" exercises. Participants emphasised the need for action not just consultation, "For all sectors of the community to feel represented, they need to be able see that 'people like them' are being listened to and contributing to strategies and plans." Participants highlighted the need for a "transparent strategy" for hearing from those who are "not part of existing groups", a way to "tackle integration" and hear from those who are "socially isolated."
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.	115	Participants have expressed support for the proposal as shown in the data above with the following comments made: Support for Youth Participation is regarded as essential for fostering a sense of community and responsibility from an early age, "so young people grow up expecting to have a voice and expecting to be listened to." Participants understand young people are future leaders and should be "instilled with a sense of community and responsibility, believing that they can achieve change." Participants welcomed the proposal to "invest in them now and keep doing it." Concerns About Practicality and Effectiveness Some participants feel that young people may lack the

		experience to participate usefully and that their views may be influenced by adult figures in their lives. Need for Honest Communication and Support for young people, particularly those with additional needs or in care. Participants also called for more universal youth work, better support for student councils, and greater involvement of parents in decision-making processes.
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3.6.5. Housing and Community Comments

420 comments received in relation to the proposals. The comments received are summarised below.

Table 3.10 Summary of comments and number of comments received

Proposal	Number of comments	Summary of the comments
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.	142	Participants have expressed support for the proposal as shown in the data above with the following comments made: Housing supply: participants raised that more council houses are needed <i>"My impression is that significantly more council houses are required."</i> and suggest <i>"Build council houses on brownfield sites in centre of town."</i>. Some however, felt that the housing supply is already sufficient and that efforts should be focused on renovation <i>"I think the housing supply is already there, we need to bring empty units back into use through grants for renovation. Stop granting permission for new build flats."</i> Suggestion that <i>"Housing first has been highly successful in Scandinavia and we should have that kind of ambition here."</i> And also raised that <i>"Not just about bricks and mortar. Look at prevention and intervention and wrap around support needs so tenancies are maintained - statutory and non-statutory services."</i> Housing to meet varying needs: Suggestion that collaboration, for example, with occupational therapists, important for ensuring housing was tailored to individual needs. <i>"Please work with occupational therapist and housing to ensure appropriate house are accosted based on individuals needs."</i> Quality and repair of existing housing: concerns about the quality and state of repair of existing housing

		raised <i>"the quality and state of repair of housing in many parts of Aberdeen needs to improve."</i> Prioritising of allocations: suggestions to prioritise local residents who are homeless <i>"Supportive of support for anyone who finds themselves in a situation where they are homeless. Lots of work around helping with employability alongside this would help."</i> Complexity of Homelessness: comments highlight the complexity of addressing homelessness and raise the need for early intervention support and a "Holistic approach needed to enable early intervention in situations well before homelessness arising." And <i>"Homelessness is much more complex - but ultimately, you need to provide the temporary accommodation."</i>
Proposal 2: We are committed to enhancing the condition of all homes, including improving their energy efficiency which will help to alleviate fuel poverty.	160	Participants have expressed support for the proposal as shown in the data above with the following comments made: Suggested improvements: improvements such as more heat and power schemes, over cladding flats, and including private houses in the initiative, new homes with solar panels and heat pumps to maximise efficiency were suggested. <i>"Retrofit to PassivHaus PAS2035 standards. Work with local partners to build a supply chain and local skills. This should be an opportunity for community wealth building and local skills and jobs."</i> However, practical concerns over effectiveness of heat pumps raised and the need for better insulation and ventilation emphasised. Incentives, grants and inclusion of all homes: suggestion that <i>"Provide Incentives - Such as reduce Council tax."</i> to support installation of improvement and ensuring inclusivity across all housing types including older properties and private rentals. <i>"Ensure private houses are included in this."</i> <i>"Will this extend to private landlords as tenants are often forgotten and they live in insufficient energy homes."</i> And <i>"Make sure any grants available are widely advertised, and not only on social media or the internet."</i> Fuel Poverty: Importance of addressing fuel poverty and improving energy efficiency emphasised Ambition and Opportunity: Some feel that the proposal is too ambitious <i>"OK to have these aspirations but energy efficiency in old granite housing not straightforward to improve."</i> and <i>"This will be</i>

		<i>difficult to achieve unless the resources are significantly achieved</i>". While others highlight the importance of addressing fuel poverty and improving energy efficiency in homes and calls for more support, clearer information, and practical solutions.
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.	118	Participants have expressed support for the proposal as shown in the data above with the following comments made: Implementation: participants raise concern about the council's ability implement the proposal, citing past experiences and a lack of trust in the council's commitment to listening to local opinions. <i>"The feeling in my area is powerlessness; that ACC will do as it wants regardless of what the locals want."</i> Others are concerned about the practical implementation of the proposal, questioning how it will be achieved and whether it will address the real issues faced by the community. Clarity of the Proposal: participants raise that they feel the proposal is too vague and lacks specific details on how the goals will be accomplished. Some believe that the proposal is filled with statements, and they are not convinced that it will lead to meaningful change. On the other hand, some participants support the idea of involving the community in decision-making and believe that it could lead to positive outcomes if done correctly. <i>"Actions speak louder than words, lots of nice sentiment but implementing this in tough economic circumstances and with poor local governance will be a challenge so community led, and community governed opportunities that include volunteering will be essential."</i> They emphasise the importance of transparency, clear communication, and genuine engagement with local people.

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