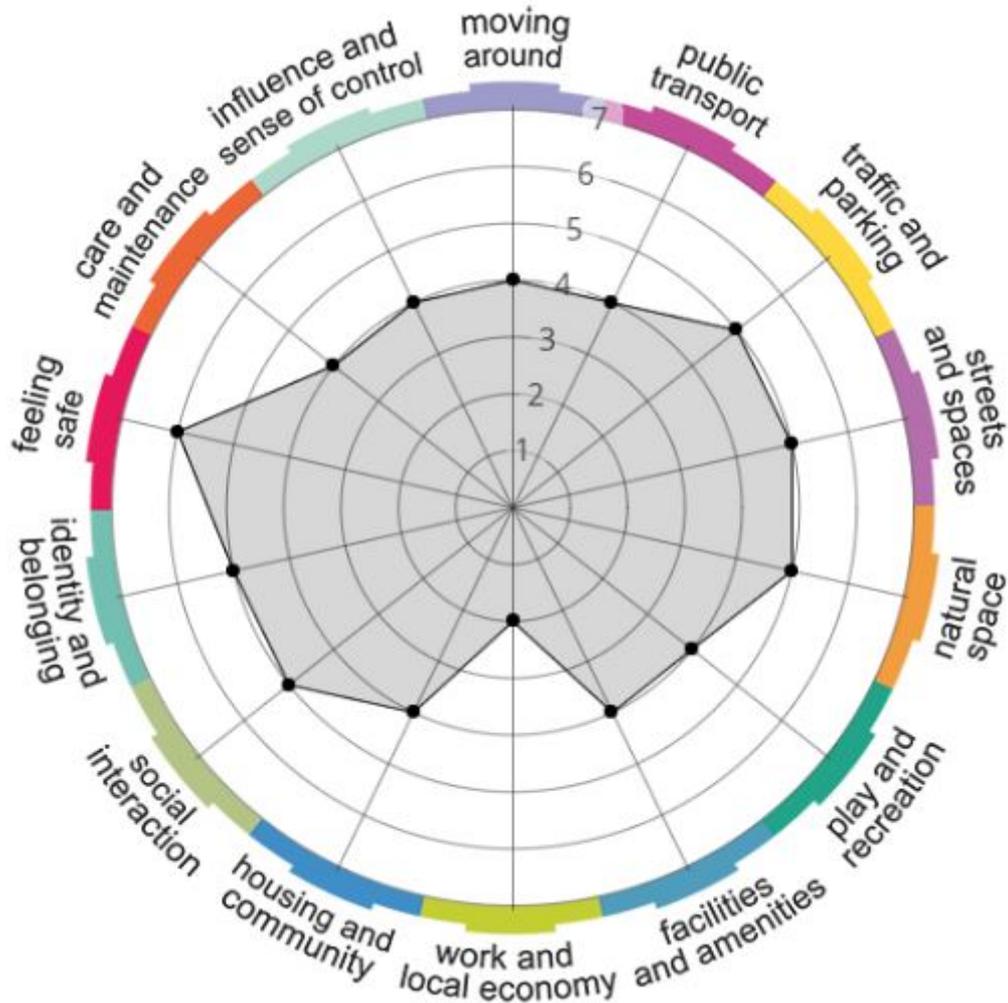


# Strone Responses 2019



## Priority Areas for Improvement:



Work and Local Economy



Care and Maintenance



Influence and Sense of Control

argyll and bute

communityplanningpartnership



## **How good is your place? Area wide engagement results using the Place Standard Tool**

Between May and October 2019, the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) used [the Place Standard tool](#) to engage residents in Argyll and Bute on how they feel about the place(s) that they live and work in Argyll and Bute.

We are very grateful to all the responses that we received. We hope you find the information easy to understand and of interest to you and your community.

We are pleased to see that the thematic areas of Natural Space, Feeling Safe, Identity and Sense of Belonging and Social Contact came out with the highest scores, needing the least improvement, when considering Argyll and Bute as a whole.

The engagement has been undertaken at a place-based level and respondents provided their postcode, groupings of postcodes have created the settlement/community level detail.

The results are available for community groups and partner agencies to use, for example, to assist with service planning or for community-led action plans.

Please note: The information is the views of individuals who responded to the engagement. We trust that the information provided will be viewed within the context of which it is provided. We are grateful to all those who have taken part in the consultation and believe in sharing information for openness and transparency.

We appreciate that the documents can be lengthy due to the amount of information and we hope that the format is user-friendly.

If you have any questions, please see our Frequently Asked Questions Guide or contact Community Planning by e-mail: [cppadmin@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:cppadmin@argyll-bute.gov.uk) , phone: 01546 604 464.

### **Next steps**

This information is helping to shape plans for the area. Other information such as information from partners' data and statistics is also used to consider priorities for improvement. The CPP will analyse the information to identify priority themes for improvement within each of the four administrative areas and shape actions to address these where this is possible with resources.

We are currently mapping out what activity is already happening, what is planned within the next 3-4 years and where the gaps are. This information will be considered by both the CPP Management Committee and the Area Community Planning Groups to shape the actions.

The final agreed actions will become part of our four Area Community Planning Action Plans, due to be refreshed in 2021. To get involved, contact your local [Area Community Planning Group](#).

## Strone Responses

Our Top Rated Areas are:

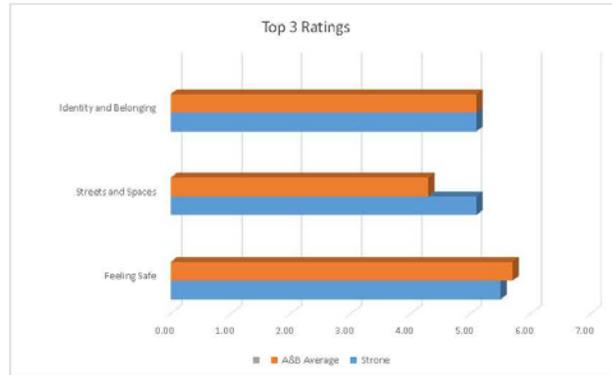
	<b>Feeling Safe</b>	Respondents rated this area 5.5 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 5.7 out of 7.
	<b>Streets and Spaces</b>	Respondents rated this area 5.1 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 4.3 out of 7.
	<b>Identity and Belonging</b>	Respondents rated this area 5.1 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 5.1 out of 7.



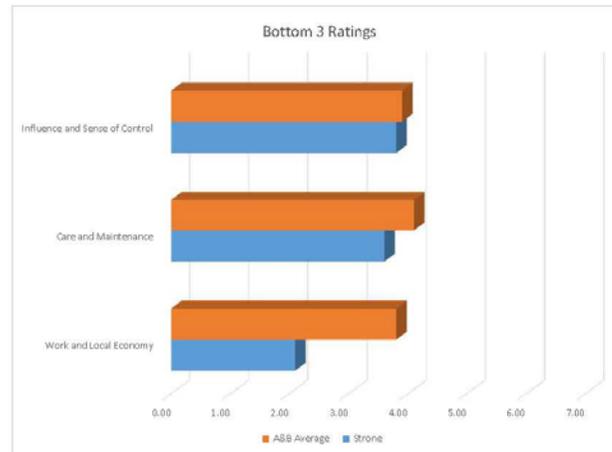
Areas of desired improvement are:

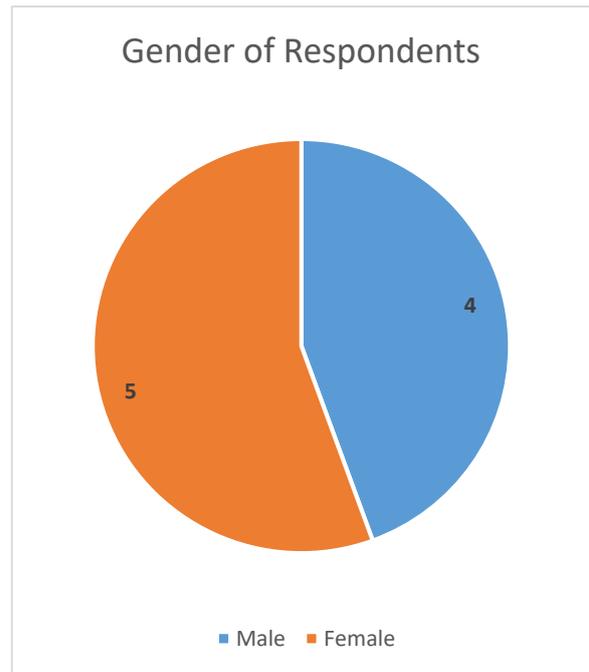
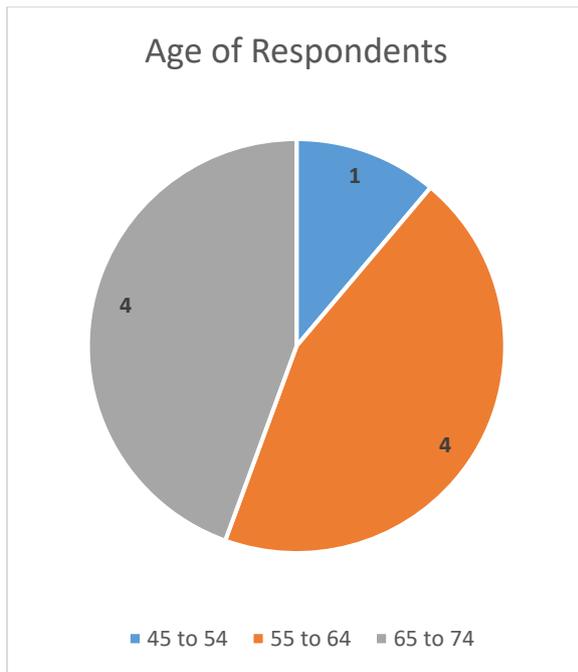
	<b>Work and Local Economy</b>	Respondents rated this area 2.1 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 3.8 out of 7.
	<b>Care and Maintenance</b>	Respondents rated this area 3.6 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 4.1 out of 7.
	<b>Influence and Sense of Control</b>	Respondents rated this area 3.8 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 3.9 out of 7.

Top 3 Ratings



Bottom 3 Ratings





#### Thematic areas by lowest score to highest score

Thematic Area	Average Score
<a href="#">Work and Local Economy</a>	2.1
<a href="#">Care and Maintenance</a>	3.6
<a href="#">Influence and Sense of Control</a>	3.8
<a href="#">Public Transport</a>	4.0
<a href="#">Play and Recreation</a>	4.0
<a href="#">Facilities and Amenities</a>	4.0
<a href="#">Moving Around</a>	4.1
<a href="#">Housing and Community</a>	4.3
<a href="#">Social Contact</a>	4.6
<a href="#">Traffic and Parking</a>	4.7
<a href="#">Natural Space</a>	5.0
<a href="#">Streets and Spaces</a>	5.1
<a href="#">Identity and Belonging</a>	5.1
<a href="#">Feeling Safe</a>	5.5

Q1. Moving Around: Can I easily walk and cycle around using good-quality routes?

9 responses in total – Average Score of 4.1							
Score of 1	Score of 2	Score of 3	Score of 4	Score of 5	Score of 6	Score of 7	No response
0 responses	1 responses	1 responses	3 responses	4 responses	0 responses	0 responses	0 responses

**Comments**

Competing for space with tour coaches and local buses on a one track road, through the village of Ardentinny.
Extremely bad un-adopted road which is used as a gateway for cycling and walking alike. Road unsafe and I would imagine that fire services would have difficulty in getting to a fire as council advised that no refuse collection facility could be offered as vehicles cannot get down the road.
I would benefit by being able to park my car at higher altitudes instead of beginning all hill walks at sea level. Steep approaches to ridge lines are hard work for the older members of the population.
Our roads are in poor condition. I imagine cycling must be uncomfortable!
Seems reasonable
There are pavements for walking. Cyclists have to share the road with vehicles In the evenings cars drive faster than the speed limit Speed limitation devices would be useful. speed bumps etc. there could be more seating roads and pavements are showing signs of wear and tear of 40 yrs. use with some patching in places
Walking along the Shore Road from Strone to Blairmore involves crossing the street at least once to ensure a continuous sidewalk, rather than being able to walk along the shore-side with a continuous route. Given that many members of the community have limited mobility, the sidewalk is not contiguous enough to allow for mobility assistance means like motorized scooters. Also, given the tendency for speeding motorists along the Road, biking is for the brave of heart, and definitely not for the elderly, occasional cyclist. I don't think we need a dedicated bike lane, but some signage to warn motorists (especially large trucks) that cyclists have rights would be welcome.

## Q2. Public Transport: Does public transport meet my needs?

9 responses in total – Average Score of 4.0							
Score of 1	Score of 2	Score of 3	Score of 4	Score of 5	Score of 6	Score of 7	No response
1 responses	0 responses	1 responses	4 responses	2 responses	1 responses	0 responses	0 responses

### Comments

<p>A bus route Dunoon-Oban would be appreciated instead of having to coordinate and change buses at Inveraray. The discontinuation of McGill's service Dunoon - Glasgow was regrettable. Even a smaller bus (as used by West Coast Motors) Dunoon - Greenock to connect with the 901 and 906 services to Glasgow would be appreciated. The late-night West Coast Motors Ardentiny-Dunoon is almost always empty when it passes through Blairmore and Strone - is it really commercially viable?</p>
<p>Bus from Dunoon to Glasgow now been removed</p>
<p>Bus services on a Sunday to areas just outside Dunoon are non-existent after 4.30 pm.</p>
<p>The service is far too infrequent to be of much use for daily shopping in Dunoon. The large bus currently on the route seems constantly empty except for the occasional tourist in summer or the odd student now and then. Based on watching the large bus go by empty most of the time seems a huge waste of public money. I don't advocate its elimination, but a smaller shuttle on a more frequent basis or an "on-call" taxi-style service would be more useful and I suspect much more economical.</p>
<p>There is almost no service on Sundays, and poor service during the afternoons when the buses do the school routes. Sometimes, you might have to wait two or three hours for a bus home.</p>
<p>There is regular bus service Clearly it does not meet the needs of the community as most of the time there is 1 or 2 people on the bus Needs a rethink as to how to provide public transport to support social inclusion, connective-ness that doesn't involve a large 50+ seater bus driving around empty for most of the time. Seems to be more about spending money on the operators (i.e. buying new buses) rather than meeting the needs of inhabitants Sunday bus services don't link with ferries. I emphasise I'm not suggesting scrapping bus service, but it needs a serious rethink</p>

### Q3. Traffic and Parking: Do traffic and parking arrangements allow people to move around safely?

<b>9 responses in total – Average Score of 4.7</b>							
Score of 1	Score of 2	Score of 3	Score of 4	Score of 5	Score of 6	Score of 7	No response
0 responses	1 responses	1 responses	0 responses	4 responses	3 responses	0 responses	0 responses

#### Comments

Free parking in Dunoon is inadequate. Given the reduction in the use of cash - there needs to be card/mobile payment facilities where charging is in place
Local residents know how to park and there's rarely an issue in finding a space within a reasonable walking distance along the Shore Road. In Summer, when there are tourists about, there are very occasional misunderstandings about rights of way and basic road courtesy, but that's a minor and passing event.
Parking charges in Arrochar lead me never to visit - they are extortionate and are seen as a cash-cow. The large esplanade car park in Dunoon would be better if it was turned over to all-free instead of half-chargeable and half-free, very few cars are to be seen in the chargeable part so why not make it all free and make it easier on the motorist as the free-part is often full, The car park at Dunoon ferry point needs to have bays painted as it still is configured for car ferry operations and is inefficient the way it now is. The parking facility at Ardentinny beach is outstanding.
Parking notices are not clear enough leading to unfair fines especially for people who don't know the area.
Traffic calming measures are needed that force vehicles to slow down. Simply putting up 20mph speed limits doesn't reduce speed Traffic islands, or road narrowing to one lane with give way signs would do more to reduce speed and calm traffic
We are well off for suitable parking.
Would be better if Dunoon high street was a precinct which would allow for a much better shopping and leisure experience

## Q4. Streets and Spaces: Do the streets and public spaces create an attractive place that is easy to navigate?

9 responses in total – Average Score of 5.1							
Score of 1	Score of 2	Score of 3	Score of 4	Score of 5	Score of 6	Score of 7	No response
0 responses	1 responses	0 responses	3 responses	0 responses	3 responses	2 responses	0 responses

### Comments

Dunoon's high street is run down looking. Old paving, flaking paintwork, leaking gutters, buddleia growing out of roofs, dirty green walls at pavement level, neglected alleyways and old posters tied to railings. The band area is a mess and so is the pier and the walls at the castle garden. The crazy golf needs updating or removal. The new Queens hall is good but only highlights the years of underinvestment in Dunoon.

Public spaces, community areas are not well maintained. 1. Locally the area in front of Strone Pier which could be a community focus are not well maintained. 1. The immediate around the head of the pier is a wasteland, with derelict facilities having been demolished but little done to replace them. 2. Building across road from pier is derelict. Rather than let it fall down or be demolished, it could be converted to social housing. Thus providing needed housing and maintaining the architectural integrity of the area. 3. Parking for the hotel and immediate neighbourhood could be provided at the rear of the building. This could reduce the number of cars etc. parked on the street. 4. Similarly for the Highgate Hall. Another use should be found this building, rather than let it fall down, and be replaced by a modern building that is not in keeping with the area. Rather than convert to housing, a community enterprise centre could be established encouraging local people to develop their own small businesses, which would help to further improve the economy of the area.

Quite happy as-is.

Referring to the Kilmun/Strone/Blairmore villages

Since the beautiful new civic centre in Dunoon the area has been vastly improved. Just be lovely to see a similar project for the pier

The communities along Loch Long take a pride in presenting their gardens as attractive. We make a special event of Halloween in our garden, which has created an opportunity for passersby to stop and take pictures or videos. However, I have often had to help hikers who follow a clifftop trail from Carrick castle to Ardentinny. There is no cafe at either point so getting water/drinks or snacks has been a distinct down side to that walk. I once provided a polish family with sandwiches and drinks, as they had run out of water half way!

The Shore Road is fine for cars and trucks, but the infrastructure for walking is inconsistent and lacks continuity from the Cott House gas station to the Blairmore Pier. People in the area are regular walkers along the entire way, which speaks more to their desire to get outdoors than to the attractiveness or ease of use of the public way. There are many neighbours that walk dogs along the Shore Road sidewalk, but there's very few spots where an animal can urinate or defecate. As one resident with a small strip of green grass next to the sidewalk (across from the seashore side), I can attest to the need for some kind of additional green sward to help the dogs. My patch is the only greenery not walled in, in the area, and it's essentially a doggy toilet. In the scheme of things, it's not a big deal but it does speak to the priority that cars and trucks are given along the Shore Road as opposed to people either walking, biking or using assisted mobility.

## Q5. Natural Space: Can I experience good quality green spaces?

<b>9 responses in total – Average Score of 5.0</b>							
Score of 1	Score of 2	Score of 3	Score of 4	Score of 5	Score of 6	Score of 7	No response
0 responses	2 responses	1 responses	1 responses	0 responses	1 responses	4 responses	0 responses

### Comments

Ardentinny and Glen Finart are excellent places for this. Larger signs and fines should be placed on the beach area, as sometimes the campers leave a lot of rubbish.
Aside from the playing grounds near Kilmun, there really is no public green space along the entire Shore Road. I'm discounting the occasional rough weedy patches on the shore side, though they could be managed with greater native vegetation to be more accessible and useable.
In the immediate area, the natural space is the shoreline. There are few access points to the shore, except when the road is level with the shore. In my immediate postcode a concrete seawall prevents access. Where there is access in some places the steps end with a 1m drop to the shore, which restricts access to only those who are in good physical condition.
In the middle of the forestry, on a lake, YES, good quality natural spaces
Lots of walking places and paths, much as a result of forestry use.
The area is a fabulous area to visit, live and work in
The park on the high street had to be taken on by volunteers as it was so neglected. Castle gardens needs work done on its path network. Morags fairy glen path remains unrepaired. There is a lack of flowers in the high street in the form of tubs and baskets.

Q6. Play and Recreation: Can I access a range of places for play and recreation?

<b>9 responses in total – Average Score of 4.0</b>							
Score of 1	Score of 2	Score of 3	Score of 4	Score of 5	Score of 6	Score of 7	No response
2 responses	0 responses	0 responses	4 responses	1 responses	1 responses	1 responses	0 responses

**Comments**

A range? No. Aside from the children's playground near Kilmun, there really is no public space along the Shore Road. Access down to the beach is also extremely limited. Across from my house is a cement step down to the shore which I use constantly. But I'm unique as far as I know, since most of the access steps are in poor repair. Otherwise, the Kilmun Pier is an option, but the access requires someone to be in robust physical shape to get down to the shore. Given the demographics of the Shore community (elderly, many with mobility issues), the focus on the children's playground is an interesting choice of public funds. I have suspected that projects like the playground are driven by the availability of funds tagged for that purpose, rather than anyone sitting down to see what the community could actually use.
Gyms and swimming good and swing park ok although poor for special need children.
Low community support for the village hall. Somewhat Better community support for the Ardentinny Walled Garden.
No useful comment.
Not particularly applicable to me
Nothing in the immediate area
There is nothing in this area for children of any age or ability.

Q7. Facilities and Amenities: Does my place have the things I need to live and enjoy life? This could include shops, schools, libraries, health services or places to eat and drink.

9 responses in total – Average Score of 4.0							
Score of 1	Score of 2	Score of 3	Score of 4	Score of 5	Score of 6	Score of 7	No response
2 responses	2 responses	0 responses	0 responses	2 responses	1 responses	2 responses	0 responses

### Comments

Access to toilets in Dunoon town is an issue. As an older male, I do need frequent access to toilets. This is a problem in the town. Perhaps the solution is one I have been aware of abroad, where shops can make facilities available to the public in exchange for a reduction in business rates. This is a simple and probably cheap way of resolving this issue, although I accept that many premises may not be able to provide disabled access.
Again only problem I have is the un-adopted High Road
Not in Ardentinny, but yes in or closer to Dunoon
Other than Cott House, there's little in the way of amenities except for the General Store in Strone which is for sale (again), the pub in Strone, the tea room and charity shop at Blairmore. The GP surgery and the school near Dunselma are the only remaining public services. Combined with the poor public transport links, it's not surprising that everyone takes their car into Dunoon or even further. It's a vicious circle which does not bode well for the continuation of either private or public services along the Shore.
There are few facilities. There is one shop/post office that struggles economically. It is in a viscous declining circle, it does not stock much, so people don't use it, which doesn't encourage a wider stock range.
There are no shops or cafes in this area, the GP is 7 miles away. No learning centres which are free. No mobile library. The villagers have to create activities to encourage visitors to this area.
We are blessed with an outstanding surgery at Kilmun. All amenities and facilities as listed above are as would be expected in a small village (Blairmore) - it would be unrealistic to expect shops, etc. here - they went out of fashion in the 1950/60s

Q8. Work and Local Economy: Is there an active local economy with good-quality work opportunities?

9 responses in total – Average Score of 2.1							
Score of 1	Score of 2	Score of 3	Score of 4	Score of 5	Score of 6	Score of 7	No response
4 responses	1 responses	3 responses	1 responses	0 responses	0 responses	0 responses	0 responses

**Comments**

Ardentinny Adventure Centre is really about the only source to access any work. Nothing here for most people
As a retired individual, I am unable to comment on this.
Investment is needed here to keep young people from moving away. The poor and extremely unreliable Argyll Ferry makes working or attending college across the water very difficult. The western ferry although regular is very expensive for a 20 minute car journey.
None of these exist in our area, but we would not want them as we are small communities.
Regarding access to "good quality work" - many local contractors see the aging community as a source of easy income and charge inflated rates. There is no easy answer to this except for Trading Standards involvement.....perhaps provide a list of reputable contractors.
Strone is primarily a residential community. Economic activity takes place in other locations; Dunoon, Sandbank etc.
The low rating speaks to the Shore Road. Aside from the few shops, there's really no local economy. Most workers commute out of the area into Dunoon or further afield. Most residents are on some kind of public subsidy especially pensions. I suspect that there's no shortage of money coming in to the area, but most of it is spent elsewhere. As for businesses to start up and grown, realistically here's only on-line businesses that could make a go of it. However, due to the lack of private and public services, the area is unlikely to attract younger entrepreneurial types which might otherwise be attracted by the natural environment, low-crime rates and relatively inexpensive housing.
Think the area needs more investment to promote business attraction

Q9. Housing and Community: Do the homes in my area support the needs of the community?

9 responses in total – Average Score of 4.3							
Score of 1	Score of 2	Score of 3	Score of 4	Score of 5	Score of 6	Score of 7	No response
0 responses	1 responses	0 responses	5 responses	2 responses	0 responses	1 responses	0 responses

**Comments**

Housing is mostly privately owned and of a varying size and meets the criteria set out here.
Lack of economical family homes
Strone is a community that was originally developed as a seasonal summer community in the 1840s. The housing stock reflects that. There is some infill housing, but generally infill housing does not blend into the historical architecture.
The Blairmore village community already do a lot. No need for much improvement.
The demographics of the Shore Road speak to it being primarily a retirement village, and yet, the housing options for "aging in place" are very limited. Some combination of adaptive housing for the elderly and/or more in-home services might be worth considering.
There are a large number of difficult to heat houses in the area, many occupied by retired people. However, the availability of grants to improve the environmental impact of such homes is limited to smaller homes. Thus a significant amount of the housing stock in this area has poor heating efficiency with little or no prospect of improvement. The style of these houses adds to the attractiveness of the area - but at an environmental cost. Demolishing these houses and replacing with heat efficient homes, the only real solution, would do nothing for the ambiance of the area.
Very difficult to get repair people or local tradesmen here. You call, set up an appointment and, most of the time, no one shows up. Homeowners are also charged extra or refused delivery services for goods ordered, saying that we are in the Highlands, which we are not.

Q10. Social Contact: Is there a range of spaces and opportunities to meet people?

<b>9 responses in total – Average Score of 4.6</b>							
Score of 1	Score of 2	Score of 3	Score of 4	Score of 5	Score of 6	Score of 7	No response
0 responses	1 responses	1 responses	1 responses	3 responses	3 responses	0 responses	0 responses

**Comments**

Churches are the remaining institutions that create spaces for those that don't want to socialize in a pub. But the reality is that church membership is old and declining through natural attrition, as seen by the closure of churches along the Shore. Efforts are made to make Blairmore a centre for social interaction for the entire Shore Road, but it's based on volunteers that will inevitably burn out or drop out due to aging. I don't advocate public money being spent on infrastructure like a community centre, but there might be ways in which the public sector could better support the volunteer sector in this regard.
There are few spaces to interact with people. Most interaction is meeting people walking on the street.
Village hall needs more support. It was almost closed and sold a few years ago due to lack of community support.
We only have a tiny village hall and a walled garden. The village hall is currently working at events that will bring the community together more. As our community comprises mostly of retired, elderly folk, we need to try and create opportunities for them to get out and socialise more.

Q11. Identity and Belonging: Does this place have a positive identity and do I feel I belong?

<b>9 responses in total – Average Score of 5.1</b>							
Score of 1	Score of 2	Score of 3	Score of 4	Score of 5	Score of 6	Score of 7	No response
1 responses	0 responses	1 responses	0 responses	2 responses	3 responses	2 responses	0 responses

**Comments**

A very diverse community but feel the uncertainty of another referendum and leaving the financial power house that London is makes Scotland seem a place of uncertainty and would leave if there was another referendum
For the most part folks do feel like they belong, and neighbours in Ardentinny are fabulous.
I like Dunoon but there is an underlying problem with alcohol and drugs which leads to problems. Dunoon has too many pubs and needs more investment in dealing with problem families.
I would have to say no. There appears to be a negative feeling about the community. I enjoy where I live, the natural beauty and the historical fabric, but there is not much community cohesiveness.
I've owned a house in Strone for many years, and visit regularly. My sense of belonging however comes from regular attendance at the Strone church, which has opened many doors for me. The people in the area are welcoming and keep an eye out for each other, but it's a long process to gain acceptance. I recognize that is the nature of a small community, but it's been worth the effort on my part to open those doors.
More or less. BREXIT DOES NOT HELP.

## Q12. Feeling Safe: Do I feel safe here?

9 responses in total – Average Score of 5.5							
Score of 1	Score of 2	Score of 3	Score of 4	Score of 5	Score of 6	Score of 7	No response
1 responses	0 responses	0 responses	1 responses	1 responses	2 responses	4 responses	0 responses

### Comments

I should think the folks along the shores of Loch Long do feel safe, any disrespect is quickly stamped out.
People keep an eye out for each other, and so far (fingers crossed) there's been little in the way of property crime to concern us. Personal safety and antisocial behaviour are rarely an issue, largely due to the elderly nature of the demography.
Safe from criminality - yes, very safe. Road safe - NO! The Scottish Government cuts to Police funding have resulted in virtually no traffic police controls in the area. Speed limits are often ignored - can't blame our local police for that - it is our poor government at fault. However, our community police officer (PS Donald McKay is outstanding.
There are derelict houses all along High Road along with land which is badly neglected by owners who live on Shore Road and effectively ignore land they own on adjacent roads. Example, clearing a fallen tree
There is an increasing number of holiday lets and unoccupied houses in the area. While this is not currently a problem, it does mean that there is an increasing number of people "passing through". That is an increasing in the number of strangers,
Very safe, very quiet, very little crime.
Yes, neighbours across the Lake and Police Scotland ensure that.

## Q13. Care and Maintenance: Are buildings and spaces well cared for?

9 responses in total – Average Score of 3.6							
Score of 1	Score of 2	Score of 3	Score of 4	Score of 5	Score of 6	Score of 7	No response
1 responses	2 responses	1 responses	2 responses	2 responses	0 responses	1 responses	0 responses

### Comments

<p>A lot of areas are neglected, such as High Road which is part owned by Blairmore Trust, having to maintain the overgrown lane ourselves and our communal refuse bins are used by everyone. I had to clear up glass bottles simply thrown at side of bins, the area is dirty and used like a local rubbish dump. Overgrown trees and bushes abound.</p>
<p>As mentioned before the area needs tidying up as it looks neglected.</p>
<p>Buildings yes, but the roads and pot holes and infrequent verge trimming and store drainage facilities/ditches from the council leave an awful lot to be desired. Try a bus ride or driving your car through the village. You'll see what I mean (if your vehicle has any springs left and if you haven't hit any people or wildlife.)</p>
<p>Generally they are However some public infrastructure shows sign of neglect; -weeds and grass growing on the edges of pavements - on some street lampposts the luminaires are at odd angles. Covers at are base of lampposts are held on by zip-ties - it feels like only critically necessary maintenance is being done</p>
<p>If we have a residents association, I do not know of it! There will always be those who do not respect public areas, and some campers leave a mess on the beach, but for the most part the places are tidy and clean</p>
<p>Mostly houses are well maintained and in a good state of repair, but there are notable exceptions in the area.</p>
<p>There's still too many abandoned and dilapidated private buildings along the Shore Road which brings down the tone of the area. Again, the demographics mean that there are many elderly couples or single people living in houses which they cannot maintain themselves and lack the financial means to do so. Gardeners, handy men, repair people are available but usually at great costs and almost always from outside the area. This could be a sector to foster as a mini-economy for the Shore Road, and might help with the state of repair as well.</p>

Q14. Influence and Sense of Control: Do I feel able to take part in decisions and help change things for the better?

<b>9 responses in total – Average Score of 3.8</b>							
Score of 1	Score of 2	Score of 3	Score of 4	Score of 5	Score of 6	Score of 7	No response
1 responses	0 responses	4 responses	2 responses	0 responses	0 responses	2 responses	0 responses

**Comments**

Everyone has an opportunity to have a say in our community.
Everything I have complained about is in the paper every week. Other than The Queens Hall nothing else has improved for the better.
not immediately obvious people are being seriously asked to participate, rather than consultations that are done to show that we are consulting people, i.e. going through the motions
The National Park has made efforts to engage the community, but at times, I wonder at how they are approaching their engagement strategy. It seems to be designed by young people from an urban setting, which assumes that on-line means are the best since they're cheaper and more accessible to the majority of the population. However, I often wonder how much thought is given to the actual makeup of the local population along the shore, many of whom are not on-line users to any great extent. Mass public meetings are also not usually a good approach, since it's often a few vocal people that get heard, while the silent majority sits listening or doesn't attend at all. There's nothing like a door-to-door campaign to have one person speak to one or two other persons. I recognize that it's more expensive and timely, but frankly, if public authorities are serious about public engagement then they have to adapt their ways to the local needs.

**What are the main issues and priorities for change that you have identified?**

- quality of public spaces - ease of transport for persons of limited mobility and/or means - broader set of means to engage the public in decision-making but in ways which are responsive to the demographic realities
1. Stopping buildings from being left to fall down 2. Reinforcing a sense of community, that reflects the history and sense of place 3. revisiting a conservation zone for the area, and educating inhabitants on the positive benefits
A lack and need for a small cafe/shop to serve both the community and tourists and those who walk. A suitable playground area for small children and disabled children.
A reliable ferry. A better Sunday bus service. A building repair investment. More investment in employment. Less pubs and more tackling anti-social behaviour.
Car Parking in Dunoon. Car parking in hilly forested areas. Traffic policing. Pollution along the shoreline. I am also seriously concerned at the lack of wildlife (birds and mammals) which has become evident over the recent past (10 years). This in towns may not have noticed but rural dwellers see it very clearly.
Help to get High Road adopted, maintained and cared for.
Little or no bus services on Sundays or during school bus pickups and drop off times. Better repair of potholes for the roads and more frequent verge or roadside vegetation.

## What actions could be taken to deal with these?

- a coherent plan for public spaces from Cott House all the way to Ardentinny and realistic plans to translate that into actions over a 3-5 year period - more engagement activities like this survey, but broader means to address the elderly population - a comprehensive social action plan for helping the elderly stay in their homes or at least in the community

Building permission!

For council to adopt the road

identifying patterns of success in other similar sized communities, and seek to replicate those and transfer the 'lessons learned' in the process

More funding for traffic police. Revision of bus routes/timings.

Take a journey on Argyll ferries when it's running on a stormy day and walk down the high street. It's easy to see Dunoon's legacy of underinvestment. The people here deserve better.

Produced by the Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership, January 2020 – based upon the Place Standard Consultation Engagement which took place between May and October 2019.



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