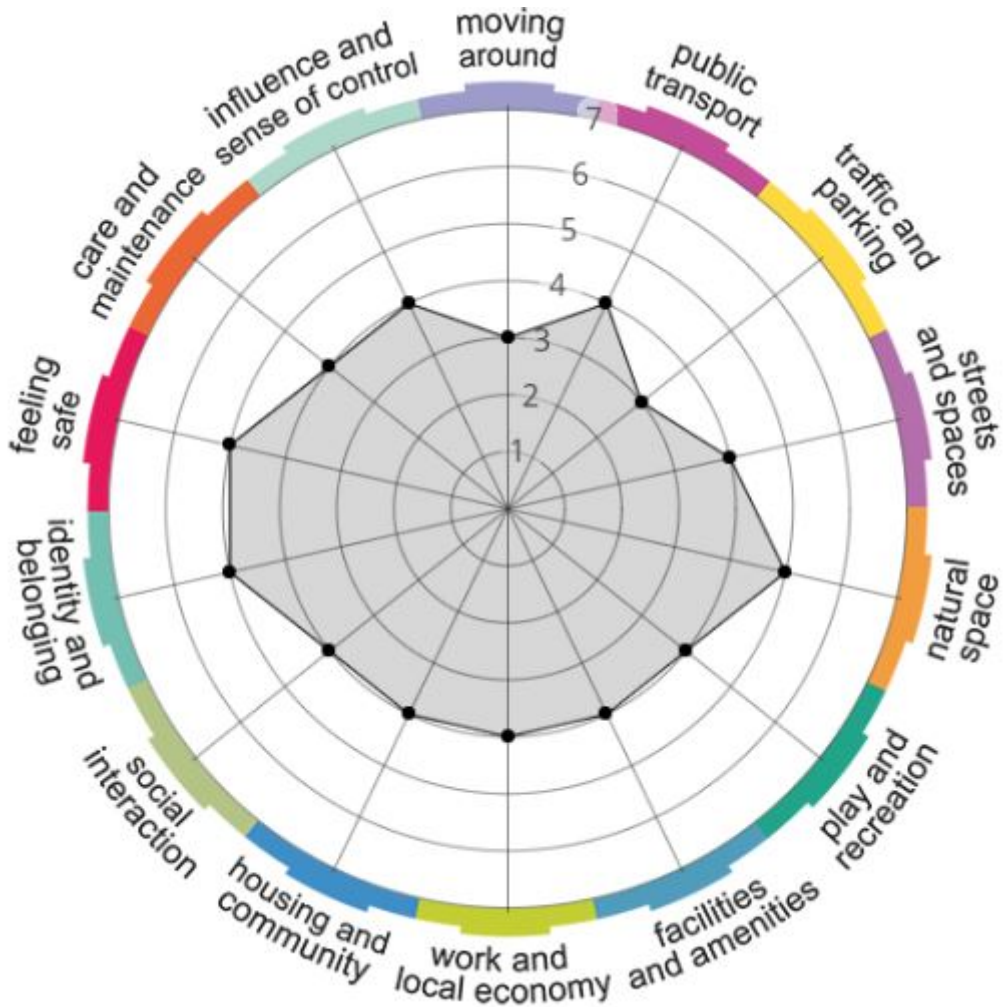


Garelochhead Responses 2019



Priority Areas for Improvement:



Moving Around



Traffic and Parking



Work and Local Economy

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 , 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](#).




Garelochhead Responses

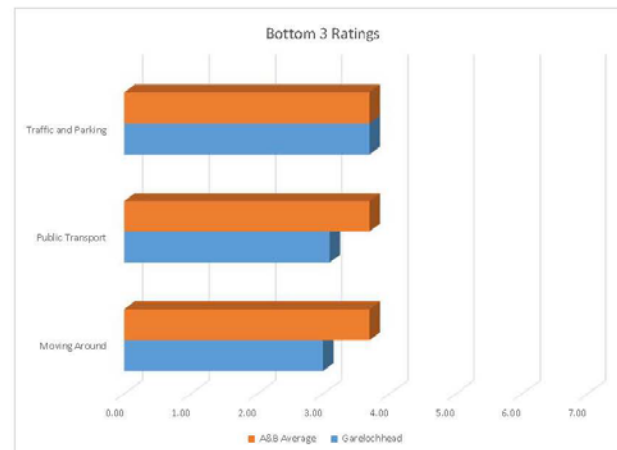
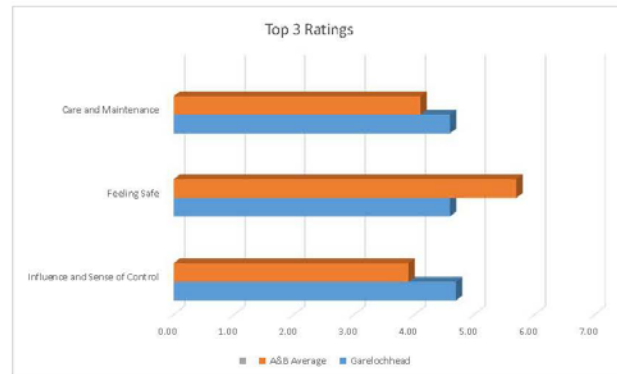
Our Top Rated Areas are:

	Influence and Sense of Control	Respondents rated this area 4.7 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 3.9 out of 7.
	Feeling Safe	Respondents rated this area 4.6 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 5.7 out of 7.
	Care and Maintenance	Respondents rated this area 4.6 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 4.1 out of 7.

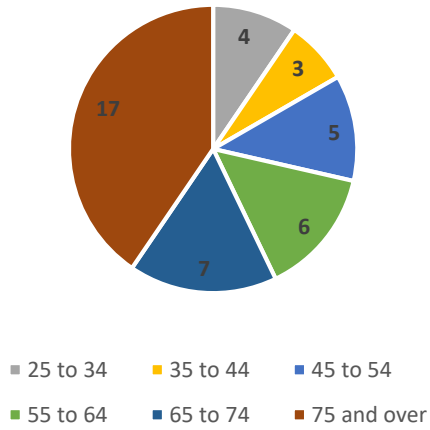


Areas of desired improvement are:

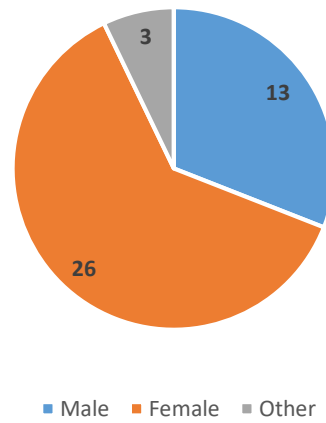
	Moving Around	Respondents rated this area 3 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 3.7 out of 7.
	Public Transport	Respondents rated this area 3.1 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 3.7 out of 7.
	Traffic and Parking	Respondents rated this area 3.7 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 3.7 out of 7.



Age of Respondents



Gender



Thematic areas by lowest score to highest score

Thematic Area	Average Score
Moving Around	3.0
Traffic and Parking	3.1
Work and Local Economy	3.7
Housing and Community	3.8
Streets and Spaces	3.9
Play and Recreation	3.9
Care and Maintenance	3.9
Influence and Sense of Control	3.9
Public Transport	4.0
Facilities and Amenities	4.0
Social Contact	4.3
Natural Space	4.6
Identity and Belonging	4.6
Feeling Safe	4.7

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

42 responses in total – Average Score of 3.0							
Score of 1	Score of 2	Score of 3	Score of 4	Score of 5	Score of 6	Score of 7	No response
12 responses	5 responses	7 responses	11 responses	4 responses	1 responses	2 responses	0 responses

Comments

Cycle path need more regular cleaning but very useful to have.
Cycling is dangerous in our area and the pavements are a disgrace and need urgent refurbishment.
I tend not to cycle and would have concerns cycling around the town due to the blind junctions. However, I feel that I am able to walk around the town and there are pleasant and safe routes for this.
I think there is always room for improvement not enough space for cyclists as surfaces are not also good enough!
If cyclists would use the paths provided, it would lessen the dangers for pedestrians
it is almost impossible to leave house on foot as no footpaths and verges are overgrown so would need wellies to walk it is not safe to walk in road, live 1 mile outside village there is only footpath for first 300metres out of village
It is, in my view, too dangerous to cycle in the area around and through Garelochhead without a cycle path. The path picks up around HMNBC but until then one would have to contend with hazards I see every day, vehicles speeding, getting through the Main Street of Garelochhead (with its frequent line of parked cars heading into H'Burgh), cars passing slower users e.g. mobility scooters too close.
More cycle paths and repairs on roads needed.
Not enough pavements.
Not enough walking and cycling routes, walking and cycling not given priority. No paths, muddy and 200 years old. Routes do not feel safe at night.
Parking in the Village is a problem during the day the main road down by the cafe and pharmacy it can cause a bottle neck during shop hours.
Path ways not great. Poor up keep of local parks and walkways
Pavements are a disgrace
Pavements are full of potholes. Children cycle on pavements, scooters and elderly electric wheelchairs all on the pavements which are supposed to be for pedestrians.
Pavements are in very poor condition. Cars parked too near corners which makes poor visibility both when on foot and driving
Pavements are too wide in Helensburgh. Colquhoun square is slippy and difficult to use with a stick.
Pavements in Colquhoun Square are not suitable for disabled access.
Poor quality pavements.

Road is narrow and cars travelling along go at a tremendous speed There are also large lorries which the road is not suitable for still travelling on the 814 road

Routes not always signed for people to see

The roads leading out of Garelochhead abruptly reduce from paved wide roads to narrow lanes with narrow pavement on a single side of one road and no pavement on all other routes. This change coincides with marked increase in speed limits and reduction of street lighting. The result is space and visibility when pedestrians have clear separation and reduced visibility and higher speeds when vehicles and pedestrians share the same carriageway. Added to this inadequate parking provision and lack of enforcement of illegal parking presenting additional hazards. Frustrated drivers held up in the national speed limit zones are then speeding in the 30 zones presenting higher risks.

There are no pavements along the B833 (where I live). Although the speed limit is 30, there are not enough traffic signs to reinforce this. It is therefore not always easy or pleasant to walk along the B833 from my house to Garelochhead.

There is not seating for those who need it.

very few cycle space on small and busy roads

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

42 responses in total – Average Score of 4							
Score of 1	Score of 2	Score of 3	Score of 4	Score of 5	Score of 6	Score of 7	No response
7	3	6	6	10	7	3	0
responses	responses	responses	responses	responses	responses	responses	responses

Comments

Bus needs route should incorporate more streets in Garelochhead - Feorlin Way and Linn Walk
Bus schedule has been changed and it is now less convenient and accessible.
Frequent bus service to and from H'Burgh. There could be a more frequent train service from Garelochhead - although whether it would be widely used I don't know.
Frequent but unreliable bus service. High kerbs at bus stops are trip hazards. Insufficient all day free parking for commuter town.
Half hourly buses however Sunday services are poor
I do not use them as not running at right times but I believe the service is reliable , I only use train to get to central Glasgow but often you can't park near Helensburgh station
I tend only to use the train for public transport. The trains are very unreliable however, the train station itself is accessible and Buses are not as frequent as many would like and there are limited access to bus stops throughout the town and can be expensive.
I would like to see an introduction of return fares and a more frequent weekend service
More regular train links would be better
No taxis. Have to wait ages to get a taxi to come from HELENSBURGH and they cost a fortune. Not enough buses when I need them.
On the whole, the service is good, local buses are excellent. If you live out of town, as many of my family do, this is costly.
Platforms are too low to access train easily, can cause accidents. Trains frequently cancelled. Dropped off like sheep to find our own way home.
Public must respect the facilities provided.
Public Transport is sufficient in Garelochhead
Public transport services are not frequent and reliable. Sinclair Street gives an hourly service but is up and down.
Reasonable bus service
Reasonable for village of this size, the buses still run regularly in the evenings and on Sundays.
Regular bus service also access to rail station on West Highland line
regular service except on Sundays
The bus service is good and reliable (service 316). My only concern is that there are no designated bus stops near my house. We are allowed to flag down the bus along this stretch of road but it would be easier to have designated bus stops.
The last train to Garelochhead should connect to buses. Information needs to be given by Scotrail to passengers when trains are cancelled.
The toilet in Helensburgh Central Railway Station is for those who are disabled and have a key. The toilet on the pier is good but a bit out of the way, also it keeps office hours. I'm lucky because

I have a travel card. I can hear complaints that the buses and trains are expensive for most people I know i.e. those on benefits without PIP.

There are bus services that provide a half hourly service at most times. The services do not extend to meet the end of train services from Glasgow into Helensburgh creating curfew zones to travel. Train services to Garelochhead are limited both in frequency and time. Issues with illegal parking and lack of separation of cycle traffic from roads present added dangers and frustrations

There is no bus service at all on the 814 road to Arrochar which is not good There should be a service at least twice a day between Helensburgh and Arrochar as a lot of people would use this service if provided People who live alongside Loch Long have to rely on a car which is not always suitable

Trains are not reliable. Connections to the hospital are not good, getting home at night after hospital visits using public transport is practically impossible!

We have a bus service but they also do not go very far out of Helensburgh

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

42 responses in total – Average Score of 3.1							
Score of 1	Score of 2	Score of 3	Score of 4	Score of 5	Score of 6	Score of 7	No response
15 responses	3 responses	8 responses	2 responses	9 responses	3 responses	2 responses	0 responses

Comments

Cars drive too fast through the village centre.
Cars speed along the 814 road and heavy lorries motor bikes also do not make the road safe to walk along
Garelochhead Main Street has a parking issue. There are several businesses along its length - including Spar, the Perch Café, the pharmacy, the Anchor Inn, the Post Office, hairdresser, convenience store - but there is no dedicated parking. There is nowhere for this. The consequence is that, at certain times of day, there is a long line of parked cars stretching along the east facing carriageway; there is very poor driving at times to negotiate this - some drivers race east through the available single lane, risking a head on collision; others have to proceed without being able to see the entire road ahead of them and therefore anything heading west (which has priority) and then, when they meet a west bound vehicle have nowhere to pull in on the east bound lane; I've seen larger vehicles 'stuck' with vehicles in the west facing direction having to drive along the pavement. If nothing can be done re parking (and I do support the local businesses presence here), then at least speed humps might be introduced and thought given to perhaps a traffic light system through the congested area, to operate at peak periods e.g. lunch times.
I am phobic of vehicles, however, I feel that it's not half as bad here for traffic as it used to be when I lived in Rothesay. At least we have lights for pedestrians and crossings. Garelochhead has 2 zebra crossings, by all accounts drivers take no notice of pedestrians.
I live at the lower end of Campbell St. On one side of the street is a single yellow line which is extremely superfluous to requirements. The street section in question is completely residential, my suggestion is: remove this yellow line and allow residents to park on both sides. This section of Campbell St is wide enough to allow this to happen.
I've a major concern about the speed of vehicles through the village. Cars frequently go past my house at speeds of more than 50/60 mph when the limit is 30. There are insufficient police to make people consider there's a possibility of being caught
Inadequate parking and unusual road layouts are complicated by illegal parking in main thoroughfares, junctions, in bus stops, across accesses.
My concern here is that the speed limit of 30 is not sufficiently enforced. More signs reminding drivers of the speed limit would help. Perhaps other traffic-calming measures could be used along the B833.
Not enough all day free parking. Side streets are choked with cars and very poor signage.
Not enough parking and prices for parking is high.
Not enough parking spaces
Not enough parking.

Parking fees put visitors off coming to Helensburgh. Not enough advertising of local parking areas! Stop traffic using West Princes Street as a track, make it pedestrians only.
Parking is a nightmare here
Parking is a real problem in our Area of Garelochhead. Vehicles far Out strip the limited numbers of parking spaces available. There can be 2/3 cars to each house with Work Vans being there overnight also.
Parking is an issue, not enough parking in village. Cars parked on the pavement.
Parking spaces are very badly situated
Some of the housing schemes get cluttered with cars
The council charge a fortune for parking and I need to find a space on the street to avoid council car parks. White lining in car parks is terrible and needs to be refurbished.
The parking arrangements within the town are limited and there are not many free spaces around town. The free section of the pier carpark however, is extremely valuable and useful. The new layout of the traffic lights in the town centre (widening of the pavements and reduction in the road width) have caused unnecessary delays for those turning right etc.
The village has very poor parking especially where I live and it's only a matter of time before there is a fatality
There is no congestion in Helensburgh area there is no need for overpriced parking in town centre there does need to be parking for those using train into Glasgow if there was better and cheaper parking by station more people would go into Glasgow by train rather than car
There is nowhere near enough parking spaces for the traffic that frequents Helensburgh.
Too many cars for infrastructure.
Too many parked cars, many of these are for local repair services. This means it is difficult to park near home.
Too much pavement and not enough disabled parking.
We do need the cars etc. to bring people to the area

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

42 responses in total – Average Score of 3.9							
Score of 1	Score of 2	Score of 3	Score of 4	Score of 5	Score of 6	Score of 7	No response
6 responses	3 responses	9 responses	10 responses	2 responses	10 responses	2 responses	0 responses

Comments

A mismatch of buildings crammed into an area dominated by traffic.
Buildings in the centre of HELENSBURGH are in poor condition and the town centre is not a good place to walk around because of shops placing A bounds on pavements. In our rural communities, the pavements are in poor condition which does not encourage people to walk.
Dog fouling is an issue.
Garelochhead is like a forgotten village.
I am not sure I can answer this question. Is Garelochhead attractive? Relatively so although there are buildings by Spar which are not only an eyesore in parts but which appear to have rotten windows. Is it easy to get around? Relatively so, although I have highlighted the parking and cycle issues. I don't however think that anything much can be done about the configuration of buildings and streets to improve matters - largely because there is a loch running alongside a fair bit of Main Street and the station is up a steep hill.
Lots of nice green spaces in Helensburgh, seating to sit and watch the world go by.
Main Streets are attractive
More shelters are required, especially on the front
Most of the areas around town are attractive and enjoyable.
Neglected buildings need tidying up, pavements are dirty. Need more flowerbeds and hanging baskets filled to make our town more attractive!
Not well kept
Pavements not cleaned
The improvements down the front has made a huge difference to the look of Helensburgh for the better. However, Helensburgh Pier is in a poor condition and needs to be rebuilt to allow the Waverly to be able to pick up passengers to broaden horizons of the beautiful scenery within Argyll and Bute.
There are grass cuttings everywhere.
There are no street lamps which again make it difficult to get around especially at night
There isn't much to do in the local areas and the views are overtaken by rubbish or littering

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

42 responses in total – Average Score of 4.6							
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	4 responses	7 responses	12 responses	4 responses	10 responses	5 responses	0 responses

Comments

Beaches need cleaned
Colquhoun square difficult for access.
Could be maintained a bit more by keeping paths and bins clean
Could be very nice but walkways are restricted by overgrown paths
Improvements could be made
Need to keep Duchess Woods
OK
Could be better maintained.
Shore path could be improved.
The beach is horribly littered
The council does not maintain our parks and leaves grass cuttings at their backside.
The fence line has been taken down in parts and vegetation is growing over onto the paths and play areas.
there is a lot of countryside here but not enough maintained walks
There is lots of green space but not always well maintained. More seating is needed at the duck pond and reservoir.
There is plenty of good quality natural space.
Trees hanging over the road bushes growing out of hand there does not seem to be any maintenance going on
Waterfront/parks, verges not well kept.

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

42 responses in total – Average Score of 3.9							
Score of 1	Score of 2	Score of 3	Score of 4	Score of 5	Score of 6	Score of 7	No response
3 responses	3 responses	8 responses	14 responses	11 responses	1 responses	2 responses	0 responses

Comments

Centre 81 offers facilities
Facilities in the village are limited
Facilities in this area leave a lot to be desired.
More shelters required
Not enough play areas in town for children
Not many facilities for teenagers.
Outdoor activities on the Loch is the only thing available It is too dangerous to have children cycling on the road due to speeding traffic
Play park and good quality pitch
The council spends loads of money on play areas in HELENSBURGH but our rural communities are ignored.
The new park in Helensburgh is a huge improvements for play and recreation for children. In Garelochhead, there is not really sufficient play and recreation for our children although Rhu and Rosneath have been upgraded.
The only things for children are 2 child swings 2 toddler swings and a small climbing frame, and a football pitch, the park does have a stream and plenty of trees there is nothing in village for teenagers to do in evenings weekends and holidays it is however very safe for children to play in the park most people being happy for children 8-9 years old to play unsupervised there are very few clubs there is a bowling club and a pub the church runs a youth group for 6-11 years old 1 evening a week from October to March
There are adequate play and recreation areas. Parking can be an issue around Hermitage park.
There are parks but they get vandalised by teenagers who ruin it for younger children and family members. More security is needed.
There are playing fields and a play park
There is a park that has to be accessed from crossing a main road, not thought through.
There needs to be more play areas along the walkway along the sea front
Vandalism in hermitage park is a problem
Well provided for, indoor play area needed - soft play could be developed
Yes, if prepared to pay, not very affordable.

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.

42 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	4 responses	9 responses	12 responses	9 responses	3 responses	3 responses	0 responses

Comments

A bank would be good
Equality of services, forces seem to have more facilities available.
Facilities in Garelochhead are good.
Few shops. Schools are in poor condition. No libraries because the council closed them.
For practical day to day there are adequate facilities in that there is Fire, ambulance, police and a medical centre you require access to a vehicle to go shopping for food and everything elsewhere.
Garelochhead is well served in many respects. There is a primary school, fire station, GP surgery, pharmacy, P.O., convenience stores. There is a decent bus service. However we suffer from lack of access to local hospitals. This is a big issue which poses worries for many who are old, chronically unwell, and reliant on expensive taxis.
Good quality but more selection of shops would be good.
I'm thinking of an article in the Helensburgh Advertiser several weeks ago. Controversial letters concerned with the fact that Live Argyll were charging seniors the full charge for use of the swimming pool facilities.
it is a small village daily needs like bread milk newspapers the doctors and pharmacy are here but it is a minimum of 16 miles round trip to get anything else the village hall and centre 81 could be more utilised but it is not commercially viable and relies on volunteers
More toilets needed
My GP surgery in Garelochhead went 2 years without a GP, relying on locum support. (Helensburgh response)
Need to improve public toilets. Businesses could promote the use of their facilities. Signage for toilets needs to be improved.
No bus service from Helensburgh to Arrochar so curtails a lot of activities
People 'moan' a lot. Everything I need or want is accessible to me. Lots of nice eating places and adequate shopping places.
Supermarkets, butchers and fish and chip shops are good
The amenities in this area leave a lot to be desired.
There are many lovely restaurants to eat in however, the availability of shops which are varied is poor.
There used to be more shops.
Very little amenities and I travel 8 miles to doctor as I can't get appointments
would love a swimming pool

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

42 responses in total – Average Score of 3.7							
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	9 responses	22 responses	3 responses	2 responses	1 responses	0 responses

Comments

Apart from Faslane, there are few job opportunities in the area. Jobs are poorly paid. The place is full of charity shops and empty shops.
Do not know, we are retired
Expensive to travel for work
I do not have sufficient knowledge or experience to rate this properly. I think that there are opportunities in Helensburgh but am not sure that the Garelochhead can meet the needs of all residents.
I do not think the local council supports local businesses due to lack of communication with what the local businesses require
More jobs are needed, there are limited opportunities for people and more so young people.
Most children going to Glasgow now for jobs
Not a lot apart from MOD.
Not many opportunities for work, again prohibitive travel costs to bigger towns
Once again, opportunities are minimal
Only employers is the base
The area is dominated/limited by the base.
The base
There are some opportunities.
There is very limited childcare in village 1 childminder for school of about 105 pupils if you don't have family it is really hard to get childcare which in turn makes it hard for two parents to both work fulltime 9-5 as most jobs are in next town, jobs in Faslane Naval base are good but local village is very dependent on Jobs here, otherwise it is town 8 miles away or Glasgow 28 miles away most people have to commute to work,
Too contingent on Faslane
Very little other than the base.

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

42 responses in total – Average Score of 3.8							
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	5 responses	9 responses	14 responses	9 responses	2 responses	1 responses	0 responses

Comments

A lot of MoD housing stock
Council houses not being quiet - not enough houses at affordable prices.
Dominated by standard housing to fulfil base requirements crammed into the space between established houses. Limited expansion/development.
Homes are too expensive to buy and many of the areas where there are homes for rent from housing associations are poorly maintained. Weeds are growing all over the place and are ignored by the housing associations. It is even worse now than when the council owned them.
Housing is OK there are everything from Victorian large house to 1 bed bungalows and most stuff in between house prices here are reasonable
I am not sure of the housing situation.
I don't know, hence a 4 - which is a 'neutral' answer
Inadequate social housing available
Lots of development in Helensburgh
Mostly private housing but am seeing a lot of people buying and then renting the houses to holiday let's which is not good for the area that people who are living in This leads to discontent as it brings an influx of a constant stream of strangers into the community This should be monitored as it is not healthy for families with young children
Need more houses for single people and young people as homelessness is a problem and they don't get the help they need. A few of the guest houses they are placed into are not helping them move on as they are left and no support is given.
Not enough accommodation for elderly or single people.
Not enough affordable housing locally, new houses built too close together.
Not enough housing, very difficult for young people starting out
Not enough single person housing.
Prices in the village are reasonable.
There are good quality houses available however they can be quite pricey and doesn't tailor for those of a lower income
There is a range of housing types in and around Garelochhead. However, it is probably not sufficient to meet all needs, or changing needs over time.
Wide range, out with associations.

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

42 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
3 responses	1 responses	10 responses	10 responses	8 responses	6 responses	4 responses	0 responses

Comments

Again, opportunities are very limited
Depends on the effort made.
Garelochhead has the Gibson Hall which is run very well and hosts a lot of different activities The Centre 81 is ok but not great poorly run There is nothing for our young people which is a shame
Garelochhead lunch club is good.
Garelochhead Station Trust
Gibson Hall hosts a variety of groups, events. There is also Centre 81, Perch Café, the church, Oasis Centre.
Grey Matters
Grey Matters let's all people meet together
If you want to meet a friend it costs you money as you have to buy meals and drinks.
It is the pub, bowling club or church really there is one daytime only cafe
Lots going on in Helensburgh, sometimes people just don't look out for what is available. Lack of community halls makes it difficult.
Lots of social opportunities, the Gibson Hall, the lunch club,
Lots to do in the village.
Nowhere to meet others
Plenty of clubs and activities
The seafront is a good spot for the summer which allows people to meet and spend time together as well as Hermitage park before work commenced on same. In the winter such availability is poor. Although increased use of the civic centre is beneficial.
There is a local pub and a community hall however a very much segregated local insular community and base workers.
We need more for elderly and young people to go to so they feel safe and also offer them a safe place to get support.
Yes - Grey Matters very active group. Lots of activities in local churches etc.

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

42 responses in total – Average Score of 4.6							
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	2 responses	11 responses	11 responses	9 responses	4 responses	0 responses

Comments

After been brought up in the village no one seems to have a community spirit as it once was
As I have lived in the village a number of years I have a lot of pride in the village.
Certain groups help bring people together but having no bus service prevents older and younger people from getting out and about
Helensburgh is a rundown old town and there is nothing to be proud of.
Insular local population segregated from periodically changing base staff.
Like many places Garelochhead experiences periodic issues with youth disorder. This is often perpetuated by a very small number of young people but its impact can be quite pronounced. It would be nice, for example, to have more flower displays at the entrances to the village. Whether these would remain or be vandalised is a key question however, based on past experience. However we have a fairly active Community Council and they now organise a monthly beach clean, which I think has greatly enhanced the village. There is, however, no central 'gathering' for the village which might provide a greater sense of identity. For example, an annual event e.g. fete. But these things take a lot of time and effort and I fully understand that this is likely to put off many who might appreciate something of this nature.
Lots of incomers, don't feel as much at home.
Not everyone feels they belong. I do, I love my town.
The community spirit has long gone
There is a nice sense of community spirit in the town which is encouraged by the local council.
Very positive
well accepted
You ask two very different questions here! Yes, the place has a positive identity. But I am not sure that I feel I belong.

Q12. Feeling Safe: Do I feel safe here?

42 responses in total – Average Score of 4.7							
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	7 responses	9 responses	11 responses	8 responses	5 responses	0 responses

Comments

Don't want to go out at night in Helensburgh as it is full of drunks and is dangerous.
Feel safe
I feel reasonably safe here. It might be difficult for those with disabilities.
Largely. I would not wish to walk a dog at night sometimes, however - due to groups of youths who - on fine nights - have taken to gathering to explode aerosol cans, yell, shout obscenities, etc.
More police needed on the streets.
Need more 'bobbies on the beat'. Drug issue needs to be addressed.
One has to be very careful when out and about in the evening.
Recent increase in harassment, arson and property damage by local teenagers makes me feel unsafe in my own home. This is intermittent, however.
Roving police patrols protecting the interests of the base make the area feel safe.
Street lighting would be an improvement
There is very little crime it is safe to walk after dark (apart from rurally where no footpaths but that is a traffic issue not a personal safety issue) lots of people would be ok leaving house unlocked or car unlocked
Yes, but don't go out at night much

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

42 responses in total – Average Score of 3.9							
Score of 1	Score of 2	Score of 3	Score of 4	Score of 5	Score of 6	Score of 7	No response
5 responses	2 responses	5 responses	14 responses	12 responses	4 responses	0 responses	0 responses

Comments

Buildings are not being maintained. We see streets in Helensburgh being closed due to dangerous buildings. The housing association houses are looking dilapidated due to lack of maintenance and gardens not being maintained. The area is an eyesore.
Could be better
Established houses appear to spend money on upkeep and improvements. Housing estates appear in reducing condition.
Lots of litter on roadsides in hedges and no public bins
No council spaces or public toilets in Garelochhead
No help is given by the council or any other authority to help clean the beach in Garelochhead. This is left to groups of local volunteers but there is only so much that we can do. The beaches are a disgrace with the amount of plastic and rubbish. The rest of the village is kept very well.
No, pavements and roads are not well maintained, weeds are not managed.
public toilets not well maintained
Some issues with roofing
The area is suffering from neglect and lack of maintenance.
The coop car park is not well maintained and doesn't feel like a safe area to park at night. Other than that overall it is safe.
There could be a lot of improvement in building appearance
There is a litter problem by shore as lots of people come to fish but there are no litter bins so it gets left
Too many bins left on pavements. Don't know of any residents associations.
Town totally neglected, no toilets.
Varied - some are well maintained, others 'let the side' down.

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

42 responses in total – Average Score of 3.9							
Score of 1	Score of 2	Score of 3	Score of 4	Score of 5	Score of 6	Score of 7	No response
5 responses	3 responses	6 responses	13 responses	8 responses	7 responses	0 responses	0 responses

Comments

Because I'm not involved.
Decisions that affect our lives are being centralised by the Scottish Government in Edinburgh and by the Council in Lochgilphead. Loads of consultation but our views are ignored.
Definitely not. The powers at be don't consult enough, the Community Council don't allow for participation.
Don't feel listened to.
I am unable to comment on same as I have had no experiences. I work in the community and have family who live here but I do not live here. However, I am aware of consultations that do go on.
Most people know and can find local councillor to talk to as he lives here but I think councils tend to do what they want most consultation is in name only
Not enough importance placed on the views expressed by the Community Council e.g. the Pier head Development
People feel that they might have a say but does anybody listen
The council ignores public opinion every time they make a big fuss pretending how much they listen
There is a Community Council which is open to all.
There is very little meaningful consultation with the Community Council or Argyll as Bute. The survey exercises in spending are incredibly fixed and the local councillors are virtually unacceptable (apart from at the ballot box)
There should be better communication from council proper meetings at least 3 times a year to discuss any issues
Through the Community Council.
Yes I would like too
Yes, via Grey Matters etc.
You can if you know how to get involved.

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

Amenities and recreational facilities for kids
Building shelters ASAP as it rains a lot here
Encourage people to set up small businesses deal with marine litter public transport needs to link up, the hourly bus leaves 1 minute before school finishes making taking the bus to town with a child for swimming after school impossible the bus in the morning doesn't get to the station in time to get a train to get you to Glasgow for 9am etc
Improve pedestrian and cycle access through area to facilitate more active travel around area and access to other areas. This would remove more people from their cars, and in doing so improve safety and convenience increasing people interaction and use of existing facilities.
In order of priority: Traffic/parking issue on Main Street. Ensuring that, of an evening/night, the outdoor spaces in the village can be shared and enjoyed by all. This may mean a visible police presence, something that has been largely lost, as far as I am aware, since the creation of Police Scotland and the removal/downgrading of local police stations.
Increased public spending Housing Youth services (Centre 81 is full) Education Social care
Lack of Doctors surgery, too difficult to get appointment for Helensburgh doctor.
Money needs to be spent on our rural communities instead of being poured into our towns. The council also needs to get its act together instead of wasting money on projects that do not come in on budget and continue to cut services but not the number of staff they employ.
Need a bus service from Helensburgh to Arrochar. Need street lighting where I live as there is none I have to use a torch at night. Better monitoring of holiday lets where they are situated and how many in one area are being used as such
Parking
Parking as noted
Play and recreation stands out as youngsters have very limited facilities when they leave school between 3 - 5.
Public sense of safety and rubbish not being cleared.
Roads and pavements.
Roads and pavements.
Shelters required (especially on the front). Maintenance of flower beds in Colquhoun Square
Traffic calming along B833, with more emphasis on helping motorists to drive within the speed limit. Pavements or safe walking lanes along B833 (perhaps combined with cycle path).

What actions could be taken to deal with these?

Car park
Clear cycle and walkways separate from the roads and of a high enough standard to encourage walking and provide a safe cycle way that can be utilised for cycling events. This would reduce traffic, reduce illegal parking, reduce driver frustration and resulting dangerous behaviours.
Cut the number of office staff and developments workers and get more workers at the coal face on our streets keeping the place clean and removing the litter and weeds that the council ignores.
Have a meeting to see what the people of the area want or deliver a survey to ask if a bus service is a priority or street lighting Communicate with the people who live in the area
Linking public transport up so it is actually useful make sure bus arrives at station before train not 2 minutes after it leaves
More signs for motorists to remind them of, and to reinforce, the speed limit on the B833. Building pavements or walking lanes along B833.
Police presence would be appreciated to make my family feel safe however despite numerous calls from multiple houses around me, no one ever appears. Beach cleans need formalised and run by the council.
Spending - political challenge to the austerity narrative
Traffic/parking: a traffic light system operating at peak periods through the congested part of Garelochhead's Main Street; possibly the introduction of speed humps through this area, too. Occasional youth disorder: a more visible police presence and/or police officers known to the community, and easily accessible to the community

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Please contact cppadmin@argyll-bute.gov.uk for further information.

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