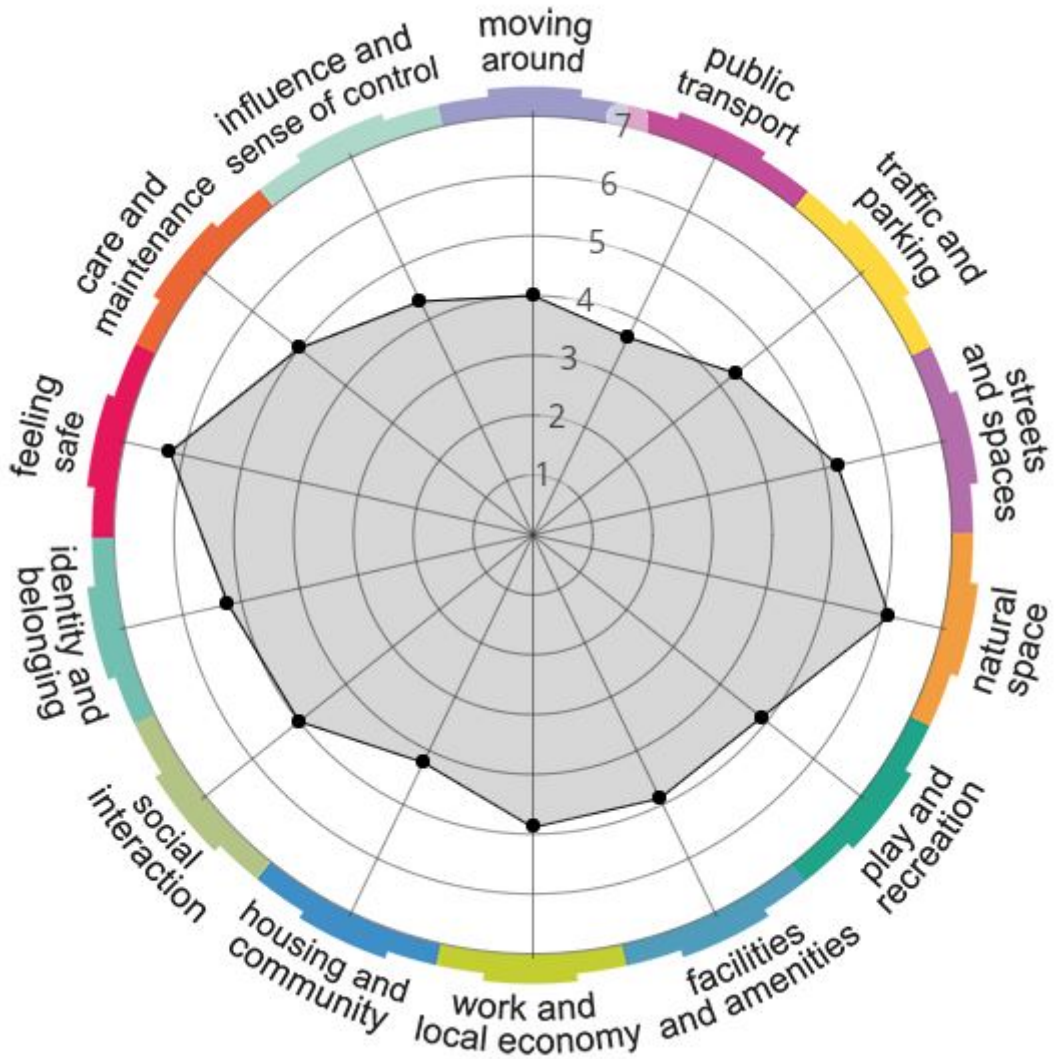


North Connel Responses 2019



Priority Areas for Improvement:



Public Transport



Moving Around



Housing and Community



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.

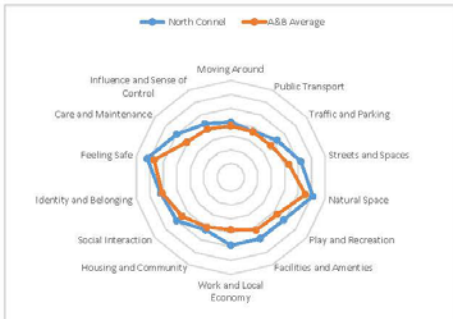
We are currently mapping out what activity is already happening, what is planned within the next 3-4 years and where the gaps are. This information will be considered by both the CPP Management Committee and the Area Community Planning Groups to shape the actions.

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](#).




North Connel Responses

Our Top Rated Areas are:

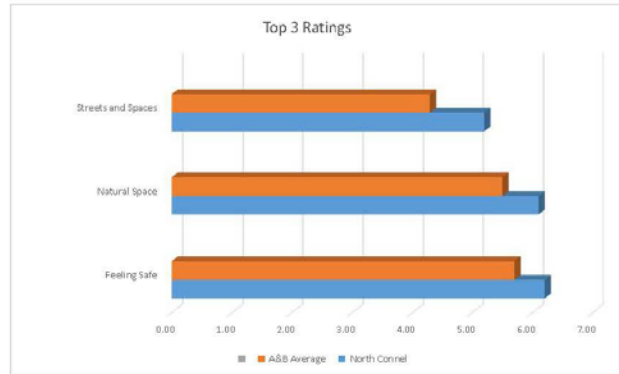
	Feeling Safe	Respondents rated this area 6.2 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 5.7 out of 7.
	Natural Space	Respondents rated this area 6.1 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 5.5 out of 7.
	Streets and Spaces	Respondents rated this area 5.2 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 4.3 out of 7.



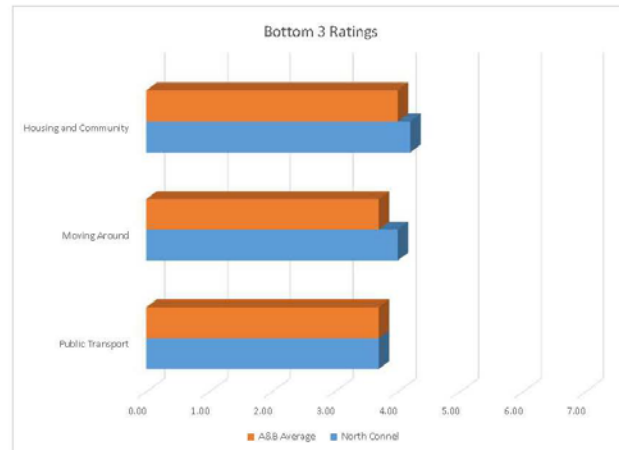
Areas of desired improvement are:

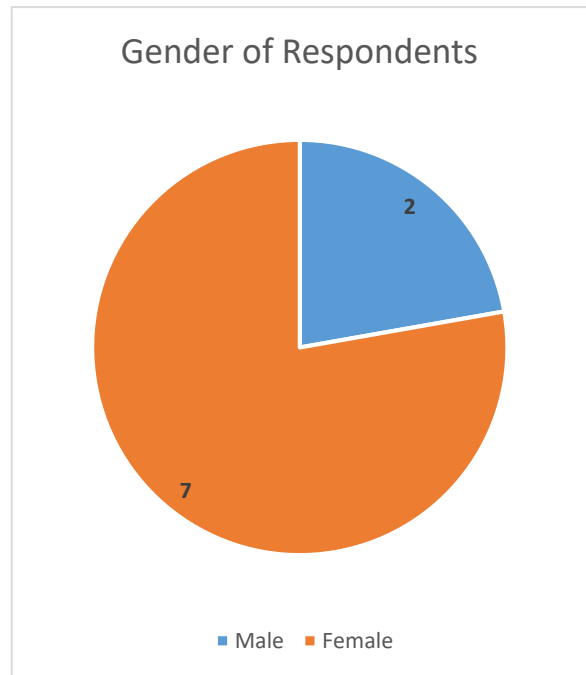
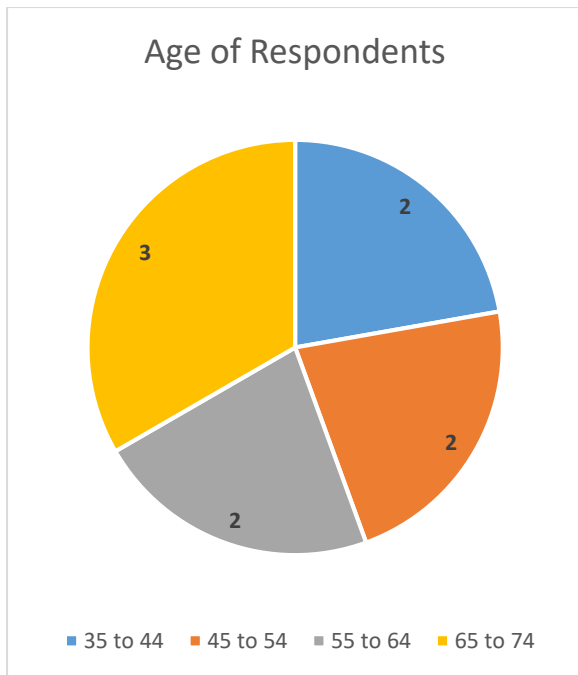
	Public Transport	Respondents rated this area 3.7 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 3.7 out of 7.
	Moving Around	Respondents rated this area 4 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 3.7 out of 7.
	Housing and Community	Respondents rated this area 4.2 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 4 out of 7.

Top 3 Ratings



Bottom 3 Ratings





Thematic areas by lowest score to highest score

Thematic Area	Average Score
Public Transport	3.7
Moving Around	4
Housing and Community	4.2
Influence and Sense of Control	4.3
Traffic and Parking	4.3
Work and Local Economy	4.9
Facilities and Amenities	4.9
Play and Recreation	4.9
Care and Maintenance	5
Social Contact	5
Streets and Spaces	5.2
Identity and Belonging	5.2
Natural Space	6.1
Feeling Safe	6.2

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

9 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
0 responses	3 responses	0 responses	2 responses	2 responses	2 responses	0 responses	0 responses

Comments

I can walk and cycle locally but not into Oban - designated cycle/walking route is on a 60mph zone single track road with poor visibility.
No pavements or cycle track No street lighting
No continuous pavement along road and no safe link to cycle path
The roads next to my house are reasonably quiet, but I have no direct access to separate walking /cycling routes as cars and lorries use them.
Quality of road surface is not uniformly good. Narrow roads and large lorries do not mix well.
I'm rating this as a 5. I have 2 kids aged 3 and under, and despite the fantastic Sustrans Route being nearby, I struggle to get to it safely from North Connel (east). The footpath along the road is intermittent / narrow and so not suitable for small kids on their bikes. I even don't like towing the trailer along there. Big lorries use this road and folks drive at more than the 30 mph speed limit. I've had a lorry wing mirror skiff the top of my helmet while on the pavement towing the trailer one time which has somewhat put me off! It's a shame a proper cycle lane, pavement, or 'path for all' can't be added to cover this stretch and link us (and the growing population in the Black Crofts area) to the cycle path. If it were there I think kids from this area would ride up to Lochnell School on their bikes. I'm also frustrated that the Connel to Dunbeg stretch of cycle path hasn't come about. I know a lot of folks who cycle from Benderloch / North Connel / Connel to Dunbeg (SAMS) or into Oban, and all have said this stretch of A road in summer is quite terrifying at times! Pity as it would plug a major gap and get more folks on their bikes. It's a barrier to people riding to work at present. Not everyone is confident to ride on an A road. I do, but wouldn't ever take the kids in the trailer, which is a shame as it means I can't cycle them into town on my days off (back road isn't safe enough either!)
Completing the cycle route from Ledaig caravan park to Connel bridge would be a great help
Now cycle track completed from North Connel to Benderloch this has made a huge improvement for both cyclists and walkers. Now just need North Connel to Dunbeg to be completed
Now that Sustrans have completed the North Connel to Benderloch section of the cycle path, this has greatly enhanced the local area both for cycling and walking; indeed, I used to walk the North Connel-Bonawe road regularly as this was so accessible for me once I stopped cycling. Over time, though this route has been increasingly busy with a lot of heavy traffic, what with Breedon and other quarry traffic up and down to the Bonawe quarry; D&J Campbell artic lorries up and down to the yard only a mile or so down the road from my property; PMG Services vans and a host of other commercial and building construction traffic up and down all day. I cannot envisage any way this traffic situation can be improved; it is just a very unfortunate fact of modern life that what was, in the past, an essentially farming and crofting community and the unclassified road was sufficient for its dwellers' needs in decades past, this is no longer so; with the development of

constant new sites for private houses and the local industries of quarrying and road haulage. I now most frequently walk, using the Sustrans cycle path up to and from Benderloch or cross Connel Bridge and walk up the "back" road to Oban which, while carrying increasing amounts of traffic, is still very pleasant to walk. I would add that I am fortunate to be fully mobile; but it is not quite so easy for less mobile folk to walk safely; not sure how practical or even cost effective it would be to put a pavement in those sections of this unclassified C25 at presently not served by a pavement; it would probably be totally impractical as the road is already under severe pressure due to its narrowness to cope with the volume of heavy traffic presently using it. The current Bonawe to Oban 408 West Coast Motors bus service does offer a bit more scope for folk to move about - albeit the service is basically only morning, noon and night and no provision for folk to have a night out in Oban and get a bus home; but it is an essentially rural community so I can appreciate the uneconomic basis for providing any more bus service.

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

9 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
1 responses	2 responses	2 responses	1 responses	1 responses	1 responses	1 responses	0 responses

Comments

<p>Only 3 buses per day and 2 of these are targeted at those going to /returning from work. Buses stop on the route past my house in the very early evening. There is no late bus back from Oban (the last one passes my house at 6.20pm). The bus stop is convenient.</p>
<p>Infrequent buses</p>
<p>Very poor only once an hour making it difficult to use public transport to town. And quite a walk to nearest bus stop.</p>
<p>Public transport is quite poor. Especially on a Sunday so then have to use car to collect child from Oban as no buses after 5pm. Would be more helpful if there were at least every 30 minutes at peak times but also continued with the same route till late. E.g. bus from Oban to North Connel if missed 7pm bus then have to wait till 9pm or get 9:30 bus to Dunbeg for then to be collected by car! Otherwise it's after 10pm bus to get to North Connel. This does not help evening workers get home from Oban if they don't have a car</p>
<p>Basically too few bus services on my route. Last bus into Oban is at 6.45pm. There is no late night service out of Oban that passes near my house.</p>
<p>I haven't really used public transport in the area so far (only been here about 15 months). Had to select a score to continue - please ignore it.</p>
<p>I am very lucky to be served by a bus stop very close to home. The timetable would make it tricky to use on a regular basis as the timings don't always work.</p>
<p>Things have improved since buses started taking contactless payment. Also, when the morning buses are late, it's a challenge because there's no helpline open to find out if the bus is actually coming or if you need to try and flag down a passing neighbour (similar when the bus is early and has gone before the scheduled time)</p>
<p>Given the geographical location of North Connel, and since the railway to Fort William was axed in the 60s, Connel Ferry is our nearest Rail Station; which for most of us, either means getting the bus, if it is timeously practical, or having the expense of getting a taxi; I have had to do this on some occasions, especially if I am required in Glasgow to attend early hospital appointments and have to catch the 0530am train. I am fortunate enough to be able to walk across the bridge to catch the Glasgow bound bus from the main A85, but this is very dependent on luggage/weather!! The local 405 bus route is a bit away from my house (approx. 8 to 10 minutes) but am still mobile to walk; the 408 stops across the road so quite easy; but come the day when mobility becomes a problem for me then I will have no alternative but to use taxis; currently the fare from my house to Oban is approximately £13 so you can see this could become quite a financial burden - living as I do on a fixed pension. This must be the case for everybody else of my age group living along the C25; unless they are in the fortunate position of having a car! The Connel Ferry station is well maintained and we have the luxury of a bus shelter at Etive Park and on the main A828 for the Fort William bus but only on the southbound side of the road; whether it would ever be possible</p>

for Bear Scotland, or whoever manages the road network going forward, to erect a shelter on the northbound side I have no idea.

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

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	2 responses	3 responses	1 responses	0 responses	2 responses	0 responses

Comments

I am afraid it is simply a fact of life along the C25 that traffic has the upper hand and I cannot foresee any change here.
Lack of pavement is an issue.
My area is fairly rural; parking tends to be limited to each house's immediate vicinity or driveway; there are no pavements or footpaths/cycle routes.
Narrow road with lorries and cars travelling. The lorries are usually very considerate but many cars don't always use passing places effectively. There are not many effective passing places which means traffic uses house driveways to enable traffic to pass safely. Also verges are not well maintained and have become very overgrown which hinders visibility.
No need for parking
No parking needed at North Connel - only at airport where there is sufficient parking at the moment
Parking in Oban is poor. Having to pay everywhere in recent times has made me use town much less - I'm sure lots of locals are the same, so it could actually be having a negative impact on the town. Traffic - Oban has its issues but I think some recent improvements to Argyll Sq have helped. I think some Traffic Calming measures wouldn't go amiss around North Connel (Bonawe road) - too many cars going too fast along there. Or sort the pavement for walkers and recreational bikes. Benderloch could use a proper way of addressing traffic management at Lochnell School. There's so much potential for an accident here with no proper crossing and small kids. Cars are just coming out of a very fast stretch of open road and forget to slow down in time, even with the tight corner beforehand. I think this needs some serious thought - be a shame to wait til a nasty accident actually happens and then re-think it? Can it not have a proper crossing? Lollipop person? Also have to say there is a very, very negative / abusive attitude towards cyclists in Argyll from some road users. There is regular abuse on online media (Facebook traffic pages). It's not just in Argyll but the Highlands in general. I've never had abuse yelled at me from passing traffic for using the road anywhere else in the country! It's awful. The cycle paths around here are fantastic, but in many ways they need to be re-promoted as multi-user paths. They're not suitable for road cyclists travelling at 20-30 mph. They're often full of dog walkers, mums and buggies, kids on bikes, mums like me with a trailer in tow! This is great! However, if I'm going for a proper cycle, I'll not use them. A peloton of bikes on them is actually dangerous. Some issues are as follows: - they cross the main carriage way repeatedly (not good for kids or if you're just trying to get somewhere quickly - like to work!) - They have debris thrown up from the road surface by cars strewn across them where they are right beside the road (e.g. parts of Benderloch/Barcaldine bit and Onich area). This leads to lots of punctures and puts cyclists off using them. - Some areas in the trees are absolutely lethal in the wet where leaf debris accumulates and then turns to a slick film. Puts bikes back on the road. - Some stretches cross field entrances and driveways. Fine for

recreational cyclists, but if you have to stop to cross these repeatedly when travelling at speed, then you end up just using the road. - I've heard of a group of cyclists using the path and being clipped by a wing mirror of a passing large van which had pulled closer to the edge of the road to give way to a wide load. Putting them so close to the carriageway should be an absolute last resort (I guess it maybe is). Sections of the route are however brilliant and I do use it on my road bike at quiet times of day - Appin bit is great. I think we need a local campaign to educate motorists about these routes though and who they're suitable for. The sheer hatred I've had from passing drivers giving me abuse even on the back road from Connel to Oban (!) because I'm not using that million £ cycle path that was put in is just awful. Attitudes need to change. I have to say in my experience of this abuse, it tends to be older generations.

There is sufficient parking in North Connel for residents however parking becomes a challenge when the rugby/shinty pitch is being used because there is no designated parking for it - this could be improved. In Oban, where I work, parking arrangements vary from street to street and even as a local, I find it confusing to know where I can get 2hrs free parking, 1/2 free parking, no free parking etc. Supermarkets still the most reliable parking for less than 3 hrs.

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 5.2							
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	1 responses	2 responses	4 responses	1 responses	0 responses

Comments

I think Oban Bay area looks great. It's a really bonnie looking town and I'm proud to live and work in the area. It could do with a better park area for kids though. It would be amazing to have an adventure playpark somewhere in the area. I'm aware of the issues with the Atlantis site - such a shame that our local kids are missing out on this facility.
Lack of safe pavement.
Lovely environment....
Neutral
North Connel seems to be ok
Sad to see more empty shops in Oban. Would be great to see these filled with shops that cater for the needs of local people rather than ever increasing tourist tat shops please! Men's and children's clothing choice is appalling.
We already live in a very lovely part of Argyll and Bute and as long as the Planners maintain a sympathetic policy on restricting permission for developments and sporadic housing, long may this last.

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

9 responses in total – Average Score of 6.1							
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	0 responses	1 responses	0 responses	0 responses	4 responses	4 responses	0 responses

Comments

Countryside surrounds us so everyone can enjoy this - I would have thought whatever their personal abilities are.
Depends how many houses you are going to build on it!!! Agree we need more housing but consider where you are putting them, when huge amounts of peat have to be moved and the biodiversity is upset just to build 1 house in North Connel. That small area should have had a protected space area placed on it. - guess we'll see no bats flying around this year!!
I think we live in a fantastic area - we're surrounded by green space of the highest quality. More paths would give even more access to our stunning area - Lochside trail to Ardchattan? Would be amazing! Ben Lora is a stunning feature of the area. It is so well loved and well used. I wish we could open it up for Community Mountain bike trails as well as to walkers. It has incredible potential for that, and the area has a lot of cyclists. Look at how Dunoon put itself on the mountain biking map of Scotland with such success. Can Oban/ Benderloch copy this with Glencruitten or preferable Ben Lora as it's got the space and gradient.
Lovely environment
The natural area around us is amazing but does draw a lot of tourists. Which brings travel problems

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

9 responses in total – Average Score of 4.9							
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	2 responses	1 responses	2 responses	0 responses

Comments

Families with children generally have houses with gardens - that is nature of the area; then there is the beautiful beach running alongside the Connel Airport; but access to this may be a problem with folk who are less mobile as you need to walk or have a car to access Tralee further up the coast.
Little formal play/recreation areas, but huge amounts of informal/natural recreational land
Luckily there is a play park and fields and the beach. But the play park is getting less in it as items not replaced.
No opportunities for play or recreation other than walking. Walking is roadside
See my comments to previous question. Kids play parks in the area need to be improved and better promoted. North Connel doesn't have much at all. We're hugely fortunate with our access to good beaches, woodlands, hills, forestry areas, and soooo lucky to have the amazing Stramash! It should be the pride of the area - staff there and the site are fantastic.
There is a real lack of facilities for our young people.
There is a village hall, playpark and rugby pitch as well as a local hotel. No idea what activities go on in the hall, though cos there's no information posted outside it or online.

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 4.9							
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	0 responses	2 responses	2 responses	1 responses	3 responses	1 responses	0 responses

Comments

Have to travel by car to all amenities
I think there is a good range of facilities in Oban. Gaps I see are: - a larger shop on the north side of town (Coop or something?) Growing populations and have to traipse through town to get to a supermarket. - Kids playground / play barn or something in the area that's undercover and has a café for parents to sit. There isn't anything like this near here and in other parts of the country they are booming businesses. It would be so popular over the winter when the weather is poor.
I will shortly be looking for a nursery place for my child - current provision for under-2s seems to not meet current demand. See previous response re: shops for local people as well as tourists. Our pounds count too!!
I would i am very lucky to be where i am and have a car or can walk to these areas
Most facilities/amenities tend to be in Oban - 7.5 miles away....
Of these facilities listed, there is a village hall and a hotel in my village (places to meet and eat/drink) so the public transport and walking/cycling routes are important for other services. There is a safe cycling route to Benderloch which has a shop and school and safe walking route to Connel which has a Doctor's Surgery. There is a library in Oban and a decent bus service to access it.
The community is mixed; for myself I can make use of the activities at the North Connel Village Hall should I so wish; I have to bus into Oban for Church and other events as and when required.
There is a surgery in Connel and a school in Benderloch.

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

9 responses in total – Average Score of 4.9							
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	0 responses	1 responses	4 responses	1 responses	1 responses	2 responses	0 responses

Comments

Childcare can be a challenge.
In my organization there are opportunities and a great working environment on the whole. Being in Argyll has not lessened my opportunities at all. In other sectors in Argyll however, I know this not to be the case. NHS Argyll & Bute has a problematic structure with its governance being from Highland, and referral pathways and clinical expertise being in Glasgow. I feel that this does not work well and results in Argyll being a backwater that nobody seems to want to deal. From the many people I know who work in NHS Argyll - it seems a really poor quality working environment. I haven't had any problems finding good quality childcare, but I think there has at times been a local shortage of childminders in the area. Stramash is excellent, we are very lucky to have it.
Lots of opportunities for those who are self-motivated, less so for those who seek an employer.
No work opportunities and broadband very slow and unreliable
Not a great deal of local opportunities for our young people
There is a rather diverse local economy - I have no idea how good the jobs that it creates are.....
There is probably some scope for local employment opportunities; other than that I would think most folk travel into Oban for work; as I did for many years before retirement.
Yes - providing local businesses are supported to grow and employ locals instead of constantly battling red tape.

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

9 responses in total – Average Score of 4.2							
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	0 responses	3 responses	3 responses	2 responses	0 responses	1 responses	0 responses

Comments

Few social rented houses near us and high demand. Private rented two bed house (ex council) round the corner currently available at £800 pcm (inc council tax) - not affordable.
Housing for the retired middle class is good; housing for aspirant young people is under-represented at present.
Housing is expensive
I would say generally "yes" to this; I do understand that there is Planning Permission for a development of smaller homes and flats on the site of the old Ossians Nursing Home. I also note that MacLeod Homes have developed a site at the south end of the Connel Bridge in partnership with ACHA so this will provide much needed social and low cost housing for younger families and some of the older generation. I also believe there is housing developed opposite the Loch Nell Primary School in Benderloch; and as yet unspecified plans for the redundant school at Ardchattan.
I'm not sure to be honest. It took us a long time to find a house that suited us (2 yr.!), but I think we were just picky! I've heard of people finding it difficult to find somewhere to rent in Oban however.
It seems there are lots of folk struggling to find accommodation - ranging from students to professionals. Tourism is obviously a huge part of our local economy but we need people who want to live and work here to be able to afford to do so, and to have accommodation available for them to rent/buy
There are new build housing springing up in many areas including along the cycle path which only adds to difficulties and safety concerns on our road. There is a real lack of good quality affordable housing. Many of the houses in our area are used for holiday lets
There is a shortage of housing to support local people's needs, though it is improving, and the needs of incoming workers and their families.
Yes to a degree but for people who don't drive. Transport becomes an issue to get to places

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

9 responses in total – Average Score of 5							
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	0 responses	1 responses	2 responses	3 responses	2 responses	1 responses	0 responses

Comments

I think more could be done for parents with small kids over the winter. It can be hard to entertain kids in months of rain! We end up travelling away at weekends a lot to pass the dreich weather. There is Atlantis soft play which is a good resource - the kids love it, but for parents the layout is tricky! You can't get a coffee / chat to others if you've really small kids as there's nowhere to safely contain them and keep an eye on them. I'd love to see a play barn for kids of different ages, with a space for parents too. Something like Go Bananas but bigger scale. Some local clubs are very inclusive too - Orienteering club for one. As soon as your child is walking you can get round a course with them and meet other people. The events up at Glencruitten have been fantastic - Halloween one and Christmas one - just brilliant.
North Connel Hall and Benderloch Village Hall are good for activities; but one really needs their own transport to access these.
North Connel has a village hall but I won't know what on
Only the village hall with irregular events
We have a village hall but not many events for the community.

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

9 responses in total – Average Score of 5.2							
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	1 responses	3 responses	2 responses	2 responses	0 responses

Comments

At this moment in time I feel content
Great place to live
North Connel is strung out in two parts along the lochside so doesn't have the same "village feel" that some other areas can however, the little part we're in feels safe and I feel connected to my immediate neighbours.
The linear layout of North Connel has meant we haven't met many people from the village. People in our street are well connected though. I'm not sure if I'm just not hearing of local events in that area, but maybe there could be more ways to integrate N Connel as a village a bit more?
This is really a matter of personal perspective; what would any individual / family be looking for when seeking to move into an area like North Connel; it is perfect for me as I am not a "social butterfly" but you would not move to an area like this if you wanted to be out and doing all the time - Oban offers good scope for this lifestyle.
Too new to area to say

Q12. Feeling Safe: Do I feel safe here?

9 responses in total – Average Score of 6.2							
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	0 responses	0 responses	0 responses	2 responses	3 responses	4 responses	0 responses

Comments

I feel safe.....except on my road bike! On the whole very lucky to live in this area, I hardly ever think of crime or antisocial behaviour.
No comment needed...
No street lighting but not sure would want light pollution
Not a lot of trouble here, thankfully. People just need to be more considerate and patient at times
We incredibly fortunate in North Connel - other than the occasional "hi-jinks" from youngsters very little trouble.

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

9 responses in total – Average Score of 5							
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	0 responses	1 responses	1 responses	5 responses	1 responses	1 responses	0 responses

Comments

Generally yes, although roundabout was taken away in the playpark a few years ago and the taped up stump remains. We also seem to have a commercial property developing with vans and lorry parking spilling out around it. Generally the community are good at taking care of the area - Gillie maintains the shore path and we take turns in taking the bin that is used by dog walkers, up to the collection point for the refuse collectors.
It'd cost a lot, but some aspects of Atlantis could do with modernizing to make the spaces more user friendly for families. Oban has a dog poo problem!
No buildings other than private homes
No issues
Our area suffers, like everywhere else with litter; I do my bit when able and out with my bag and litter picker to clean up!! Other than that, due to its very nature, most folk are responsible and maintain their houses and gardens.
Roads, paths, verges all lack sufficient maintenance. Most local buildings are privately owned and well looked after.
The local community take care of the space around us.

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

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	1 responses	3 responses	3 responses	0 responses	1 responses	0 responses

Comments

Could do - people not always listened too. Decisions have normally already been made - 'its not in my backyard' culture seems to go on.
I don't always buy the Oban Times so can miss out on notifications if that's the medium used. I am signed up to the council's news bulletin, though, and the community council are good at putting out information.
I don't think we have been in the area long enough to know what the channels are to be involved in decision making.
Not clear what decisions are taken by whom that affect North Connel
We are fortunate to have a Community Council pitching for us.

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

- Change attitudes towards cyclists in the area and help more people get involved in cycling. The local cycling club is booming but there is so many more people here who could be involved. Explore opportunities for community mountain biking trails. Paths / routes that connect people safely to the Sustrans route. - NHS. Seems to have been run badly in Argyll for a long time. Needs addressing before good clinicians and other front line staff are forced to work elsewhere. - More bad-weather activities for families.

Better bus services Better road repairs More services at Village hall? Library?

Housing for young families; pavements/cycle routes; public transport

I do not think I can practically offer any comments here; traffic volume is really my only concern but cannot offer any meaningful comments to improve the situation.

Improve the road system to enable families to walk and cycle safely. More activities to ease rural isolation and loneliness

Improved walking/cycling route to Oban i.e. safer route. No reduction in public transport service Continue to offer the great natural space which makes up for lack of facilities i.e. shore path round to the spit and then on to the airfield and caravan park

Public transport would ideal so more people would use it with a better, reliable and cheaper service with a more regular timetable for all. May take some cars off the road

Roads (including paths and verges) maintenance. More affordable housing (social and private).

What actions could be taken to deal with these?

Bus company to look at
Funding focussed on these as priorities (after the several million even higher priorities). Raise council tax....?
Increase bus services Outreach/mobile library Mend potholes
Maintain bus service (possibly extend 10.30pm bus from Oban to Benderloch on a Friday evening to allow young people to attend Free Style Friday?) Happy to contribute to maintenance of open spaces if community clean up days were organised.
more subsidises to public transport; support Housing Associations attempts to provide additional (appropriate) houses
Some sort of local awareness campaign with Sustrans about the cycle paths and their use by different groups of people. Cyclists on the roads here shouldn't suffer abuse. Some scoping exercise to look at connectivity of the Sustrans route to local communities. Do they need to take their car to get onto the route safely for example? Not sure what to do about the NHS! If things don't improve soon, then I think families will be forced out of Argyll (including mine) which would be a great shame when we'd otherwise call here home for life.

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.

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



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