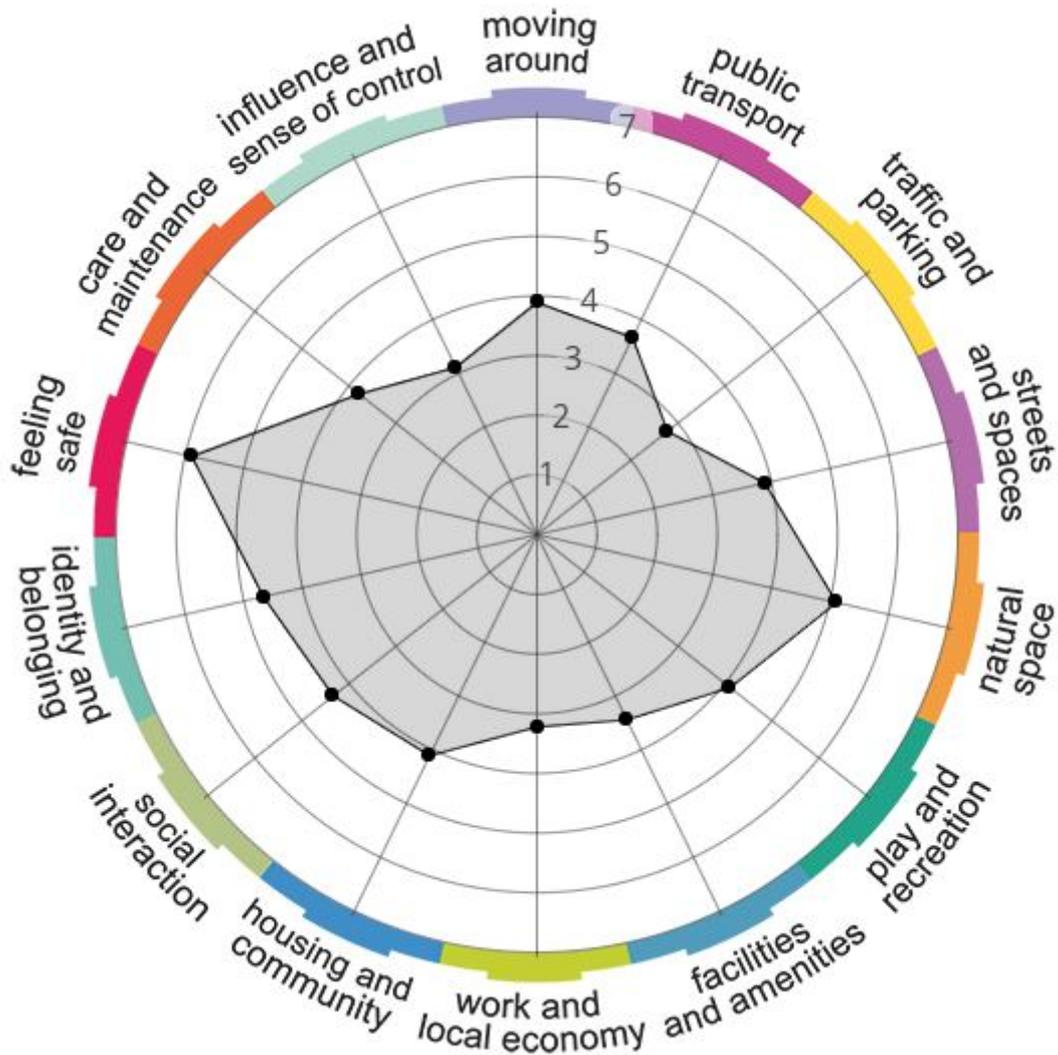


# Kirn Responses 2019



## Priority Areas for Improvement:



Traffic and Parking



Influence and Sense of Control



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](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](#).

## Kirn Responses

Our Top Rated Areas are:

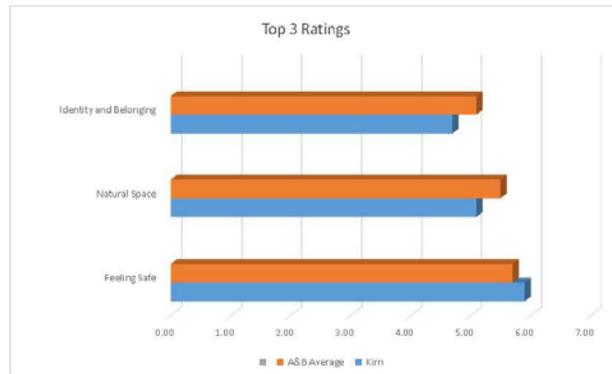
	<b>Feeling Safe</b>	Respondents rated this area 5.9 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 5.7 out of 7.
	<b>Natural Space</b>	Respondents rated this area 5.1 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 5.5 out of 7.
	<b>Identity and Belonging</b>	Respondents rated this area 4.7 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 5.1 out of 7.



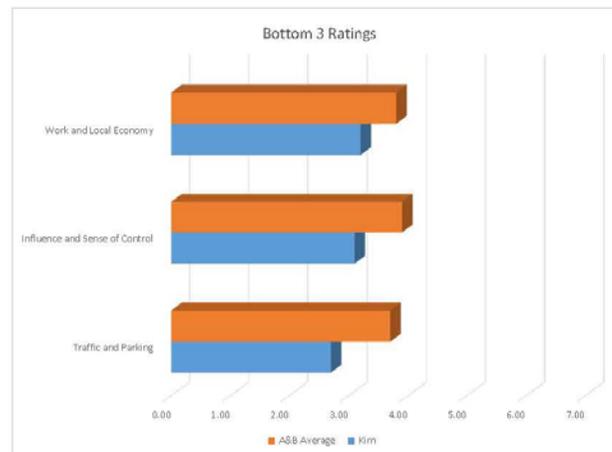
Areas of desired improvement are:

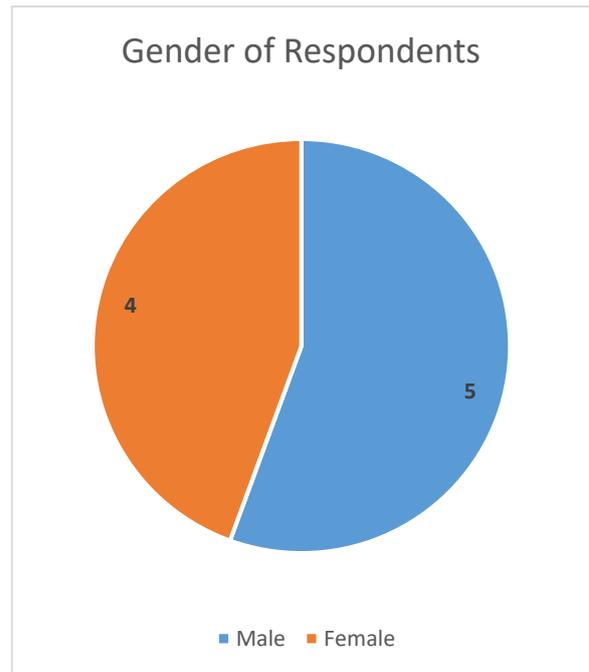
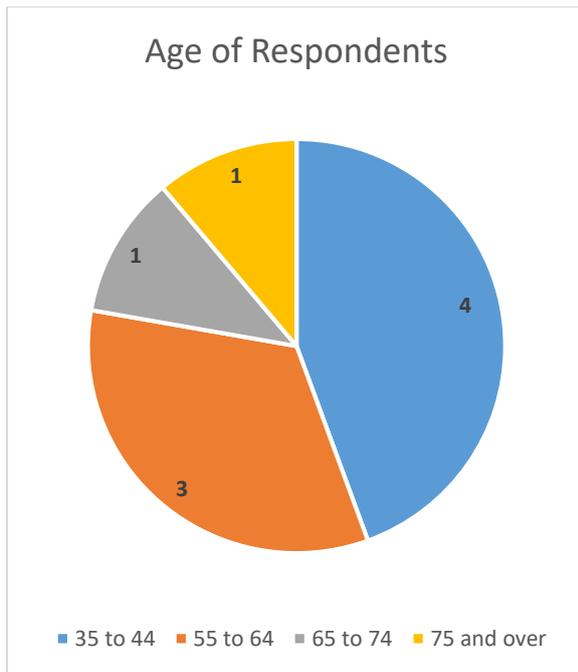
	<b>Traffic and Parking</b>	Respondents rated this area 2.7 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 3.7 out of 7.
	<b>Influence and Sense of Control</b>	Respondents rated this area 3.1 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 3.9 out of 7.
	<b>Work and Local Economy</b>	Respondents rated this area 3.2 out of 7 compared to Argyll & Bute Average of 3.8 out of 7.

Top 3 Ratings



Bottom 3 Ratings





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

Thematic Area	Average Score
<a href="#">Traffic and Parking</a>	2.7
<a href="#">Influence and Sense of Control</a>	3.1
<a href="#">Work and Local Economy</a>	3.2
<a href="#">Facilities and Amenities</a>	3.4
<a href="#">Public Transport</a>	3.6
<a href="#">Moving Around</a>	3.8
<a href="#">Streets and Spaces</a>	3.8
<a href="#">Care and Maintenance</a>	3.8
<a href="#">Play and Recreation</a>	4.1
<a href="#">Housing and Community</a>	4.1
<a href="#">Social Contact</a>	4.3
<a href="#">Identity and Belonging</a>	4.7
<a href="#">Natural Space</a>	5.1
<a href="#">Feeling Safe</a>	5.9

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

<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
2 responses	0 responses	1 responses	1 responses	4 responses	1 responses	0 responses	0 responses

#### Comments

Some of the pavements/roads are in need of repair Parking can be an issue if you need to access the centre of Dunoon town
Footpaths are not good. Main Road Dunoon to Sandbank very busy
The promenade is a good place to walk and cycle. The new signage is terrible though and not fit for purpose, the lettering is far too small and feels as if it has been crammed on to save money.
Not the best in for drivers ignoring pedestrian crossings at the Grammar school, Tilhill (forestry management) not helpful in promoting biking
Footpaths and roads are very uneven.
Always room for improvement

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

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

### Comments

I live on seafront. Since McGill Glasgow bus has been cancelled I have to walk uphill to nearest bus route.
Very good transport Drivers very helpful
The bus routes across to Gourock have been severely curtailed and the tiny ferry (Argyll) is not fit for purpose, and is not viable for the needs of the community.
I don't use it
Buses go off too early

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

9 responses in total – Average Score of 2.7							
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	1 responses	3 responses	3 responses	0 responses	0 responses	0 responses	0 responses

**Comments**

All good, close to shops car parking has to be paid for.
There is parking available, but if you have an elderly person, it usually means dropping them in the centre, going to park and then meeting them, and again having to leave them somewhere while you go to get the car. And because the spaces in the town are usually full, it's not easy to stop to drop people off/pick up without holding up a line of traffic.
People don't always stick to the rules.
There is not enough parking in Kirn. I would also like to state that the fact that you have to pay now to park in Dunoon is really short-sighted. You can park free in the supermarket carparks, which means that local shops loose out to them. The community of Dunoon needs local shops, it is not right or proper that residents have to pay to park and shop in their own town.
Parking charges are killing this town. I shop at Braehead or Port Glasgow where there is free parking
Parking is reasonable although the meters are unreliable and on several occasions the machines have been jammed with coins. Parking facilities like Sinclair street in Helensburgh where the first two hours are free would be an improvement for local people as well as visitors.
Limited free parking and unfair parking attendants

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

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

**Comments**

Dunoon Pier appears to be falling down and unused. If left to long it will cost much more to fix
Dunoon/Kirn is such a gorgeous place, but many of the buildings in the centre are empty/run down. Unfortunately, the community don't feel it is there responsibility to keep things nice, and would like the council to do everything.
Would like indoor shopping mall
With regards to Kirn, the constant presence of defunct, derelict and abandoned buildings (the old garage/teashop/garden centre next to Kirn Variety Store) are allowed to be left and slowly deteriorate is sad and bad for community morale. The owners should be penalised for this.
A lot of empty shops don't look good
In Argyll street some of the buildings are needing maintenance where vegetation is growing in gutters and some shop fronts do not have a pleasing appearance, the brick weave pavements are littered with discarded chewing gum.
Very bland

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

<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

Grass verges only get cut for Cowal Games, EnviroKirn do all local flowers etc.
Lots of it and all very well kept and accessible
Yes, walking along the sea-front is quite marvellous.
Plenty of space
Only if you drive out of town

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

<b>9 responses in total – Average Score of 4.1</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	1 responses	2 responses	1 responses	1 responses	2 responses	1 responses	0 responses

**Comments**

Not enough variety for kids in area, nothing in Kirn done by Council
Room for improvement
Beaches and the little play park on the front are good. I think the old Kirn Lido is a business opportunity for someone, the time is right for a re-build, it would be a great tourist attraction, there is a growing interest now in 'staycations' and wild swimming, and a yearning for Lidos.
Not the best facilities in Dunoon and surrounding areas
Badly needs a good open space for kids to play

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 3.4							
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	3 responses	1 responses	2 responses	1 responses	0 responses	0 responses

### Comments

Queens Hall has various problems including freezing staff
It's unfortunate the sports facilities are not available for young boys/girls to use free of charge. There is nothing for the teenagers to do, without having to pay. There should be more encouragement for the gym/pool/cages/sports pitches to be used, rather than the only thing is for them to hang around the street or elsewhere.
Library not as accessible More parking at GP surgeries
We have an excellent library, various GP surgeries, and accident and emergency department and a really great small hospital. We are beginning to see the local coffee shops putting in more effort, but the general standard of eateries in Dunoon as a whole is pretty poor.
There is room for improvement especially for parking at GP surgeries. The pier is in need of a lot of TLC
More public toilets
GP surgeries in town need a huge change, don't think any take forward appointments. Trying to call on the day is a joke

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

<b>9 responses in total – Average Score of 3.2</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	4 responses	0 responses	0 responses	0 responses	0 responses

**Comments**

Local shops are closing down no well-paid rather than minimum wage, long term job opportunities
more investment industry and tourism
This is debatable. I do think we are lucky in having a very good thriving town centre, and the folk of Dunoon are proud of it. Short term opportunities often arise to help people develop projects, but due to the very fact that they are short term, the lose credibility, which is a shame. The Burgh Hall has been very good for Dunoon.
What incentives are in place to attract new business to the area?
Only if you want to be a carer or work in a call centre. No disrespect to anyone working in either as my child does

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

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

**Comments**

There is a range of housing, however, the housing association appears to have their priorities all wrong. I may not be correct (!! ) but I was told over the weekend, if a person leaves there house they need to leave it as found, including removing any improvements, such as tiles, this seems unbelievable, and if true it is ludicrous and a waste of public money. Also, if a person is put into emergency accommodation/housing, they may get a grant to furnish, but when they move out, all the furniture is dumped!! Again, I struggle to believe this, but if it is true, it is a practice that needs to be changed!
Yes I think they do. I think it is a shame thought that some of the residential homes seem to be closing.
I'm unsure about this
Seems like a varied mix of housing

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

<b>9 responses in total – Average Score of 4.3</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	3 responses	2 responses	2 responses	0 responses	0 responses

**Comments**

Yes, Dunoon is very good for that, it is a very lively community, and people are generally kind, open and inclusive.
More communication to say what is on and where? clubs etc.
A hard one to answer as it varies so much with age and circumstances. I'm sure if you make an effort you could find like-minded people

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 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
1 responses	0 responses	1 responses	1 responses	2 responses	4 responses	0 responses	0 responses

**Comments**

I do feel I belong, though I would be termed 'an outsider'. I think Dunoon is a very welcoming and open place, apart from being set in the most incredibly beautiful land/seascape.
Town is very tired looking, don't think the work going on at the moment is a fair distribution of money. Less spent on more premises would help lift the town, rather than just a few large projects

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

<b>9 responses in total – Average Score of 5.9</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	0 responses	0 responses	1 responses	3 responses	1 responses	4 responses	0 responses

### Comments

I feel safe in Kirn but not in Dunoon centre at night
I have never lived in a place that feels as safe as Dunoon, that is what makes it such an extraordinary place.
Think the town has a high police profile

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

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

**Comments**

Drains are not good
There is an increasing awareness of the importance of this, but returning to my earlier answer regarding the now defunct cafe/garden centre/old garage in Kirn and the Gibson building along the road, and the Provandi wreck which is a haven for pigeons and other wingless vermin, I think Dunoon has a long way to go.
Ground maintenance is one area that is in need of improvement. Where roadsides and pavements and kerbs are covered in weeds.
The length of time it takes for repairs is awful, the railing at the junction of John street and Argyll street is a good example

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 3.1</b>							
Score of 1	Score of 2	Score of 3	Score of 4	Score of 5	Score of 6	Score of 7	No response
3 responses	1 responses	1 responses	1 responses	1 responses	2 responses	0 responses	0 responses

**Comments**

Addaction very good and listen to me Police Good with mental health issues "Meeting Place" - very good
Again that is debatable, as in all small communities all groups believe they have an equal right to demand what needs to be done, great democratically but in reality it means a that a small cabal get to push themselves forward without great regard for others. This creates apathy, which is what has happened.
Can't wait to see the result of this survey, if it will be published
Helping to change things for the better, there is always a cost factor and with money being tight how can things change for the better.
Local health partnership is not protecting the most vulnerable, when problems arise you have to fight for your rights (if you actually know what your rights are) no one is taking responsibility
There is an active community council, however, I think more volunteered groups would mean people had more ownership, but I think people feel most things are the councils responsibility

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

The neglected buildings need to be attended to and the owners penalised.  
2. The Argyll ferry needs to go, it is not serving its purpose  
3. Stop charging motorists for parking in the centre of Dunoon to promote better access to local shops.

The town needs a sense of identity and a reason to bring and keep people here

The area needs to be enhanced practically and aesthetically.

Care - Health partnership does not work Car park charges bus service

Something for the younger people, that doesn't cost a fortune Changes to the housing rules  
(If I'm right, sorry if I'm totally wrong!) More community involvement, could be encouraged to start with, by a community engagement officer

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

The neglected buildings need to be attended to and the owners penalised. 2. The Argyll ferry needs to go, it is not serving its purpose 3. Stop charging motorists for parking in the centre of Dunoon to promote better access to local shops.
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Actions rather than the usual empty words
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Properly plan and prepare a realistic programme of change and a change in the business approach to such projects.
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More staff and cover
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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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