

B·L·S
Community Place Plan 2022

Balquhiddar • Lochearnhead • Strathyre



Introduction

This is the Balquhidder, Lochearnhead and Strathyre Community Place Plan. It outlines our three distinct communities, charts our challenges, opportunities and priorities, and provides suggested actions that would make our beautiful glens even better places to live.

It was compiled and produced by the BLS Community Trust and the BLS Community Council..

With thanks to:

All the residents and businesses of the BLS area
and

The Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Authority

Abbreviations

BLS – Balquhidder, Lochearnhead and Strathyre.

NR7 – National Cycle Route 7

SAC - Special Area of Conservation

SSSI - Site of Special Scientific Interest

DRT – Direct Response Transport

CC – Community Council

CT – Community Trust

Delivery Plan

Once drafted the Delivery Plan for the BLS Place Plan will be found on the websites of the BLS Community Council and The BLS Community Trust:

<https://www.blsc.org>

<https://www.blsccommunitytrust.org.uk>

The Alan Jones Lochearnhead Active Travel & Place-Making Project Report can be found at the following link:

[Lochearnhead Active Travel & Place-Making Project 2020](#)

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Our Communities: Where we are and Who we are

Where we are:

Our unique villages are located in the three beautiful glens of Balquhiddier, Loch Earn, and Strathyre, in the north-east of the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park. Although we are surrounded by mountains, rivers, lochs, and forests, we are within easy reach of our main town of Callander, and commutable to Stirling, Glasgow, and Edinburgh.

Who we are:

Our population at the last census (2011) was 787, concentrated in the villages of Strathyre and Lochearnhead, and along Balquhiddier Glen.

Our largest demographic is the working age population (25-64), comprising 57.2%. Our smallest is the 16-24 age group at 6.6%, lower than the national average of c12%. Our older demographic (65+) comprises 21.3%, higher than the national average of 17%.

Our Villages:

Balquhiddier is more akin to several small historic townships strung out along the glen rather than a village with a clearly defined boundary. These historic townships, or clachans, which make up Balquhiddier include Auchtubhmore, Kirkton, Auchtubh, Auchleskine, Gartnafuaran, Monachyle, Stronvar, Tuarach, Inverlochlarig and Stronslaney.

It is a quiet, rural, and unspoilt glen whose residents wish to maintain its natural beauty, improving accessibility and infrastructure and managing the impact of tourism. While it relies on the neighbouring villages for shops, post office and school it has an active community with a well maintained and upgraded village hall. Historic events in the hall include amateur dramatics and pantomimes and as we return to normal after the Covid closures, weekly yoga and choir have restarted. Annual events such as the Christmas Tree Festival, Hogmanay Party and the New Year Dance will eventually return, and the new audio-visual facilities should allow cinema nights to be introduced. The book exchange in the old telephone box has been a success with locals and visitors. The area's five Munros make it a popular place for walking and there are small-scale water sports on Loch Voil. With the attraction of Rob Roy's grave at Balquhiddier Church, it's a favoured holiday and tourist destination.

Lochearnhead is concentrated around the northwest corner of Loch Earn and the junction of the A84 and A85 roads. It is a mixed community of private and social accommodation, served by a local shop and several inns and hotels. The village hall is host to the local playgroup and lunch club, keep fit, Pilates, art classes, and the children's basketball club. The village is a popular place for water sports and walking and is connected to Callander and Killin by the NR7 cycle path.

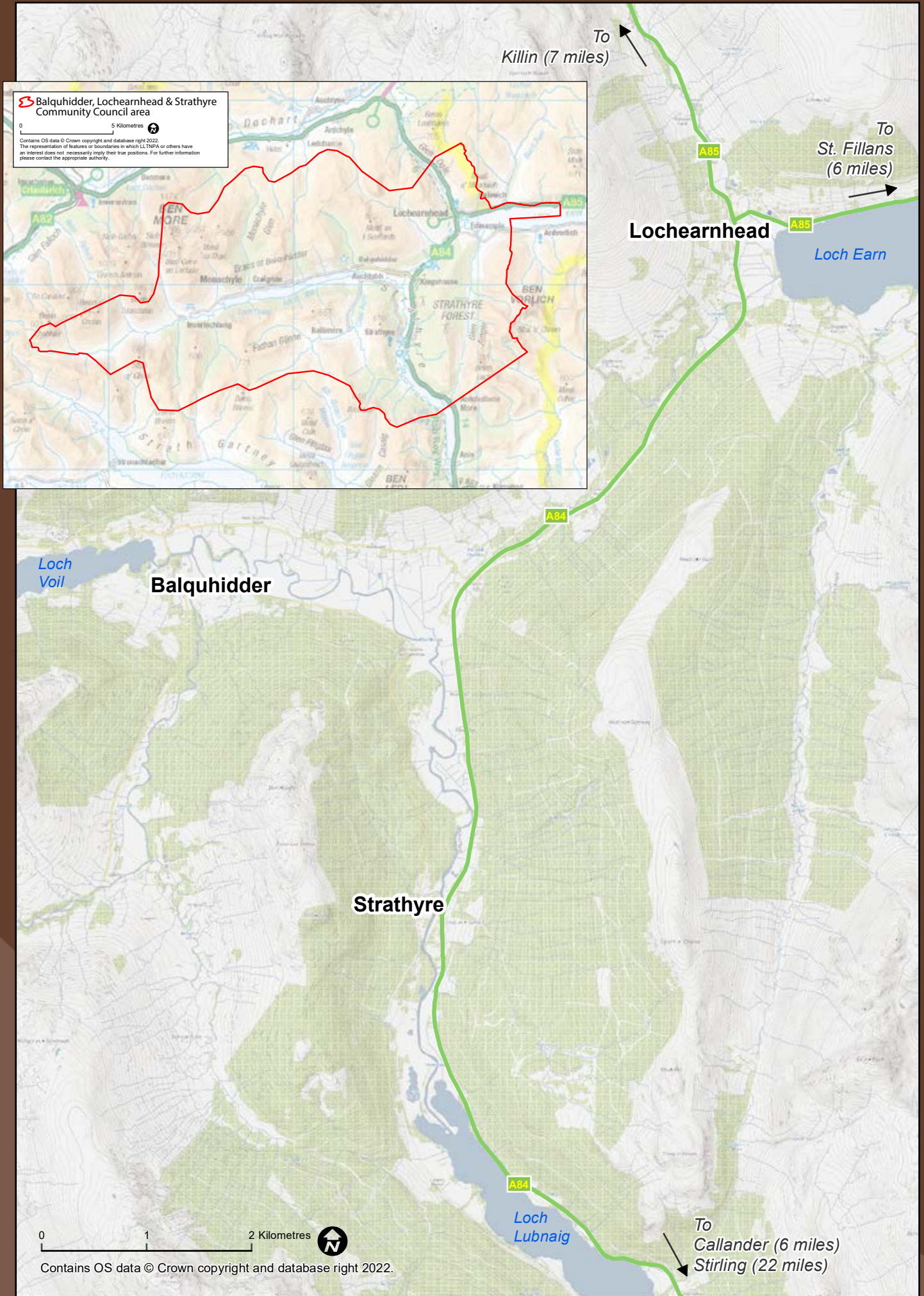
Strathyre is located to the north of Loch Lubnaig and comprises three main areas: the main street following the A84, and Keip Road and Stroneslaney Road to the west. Like Lochearnhead there is a mix of private and social housing. Strathyre has a shop, post office, café, inn and hotel. The primary school for the BLS area is located on Keip Road and has a current roll call of 41. The main social areas are the Village Hall and Broch Field, where many popular annual events are held, such as the Fireworks Night, Christmas and Hogmanay Parties, the Music Festival, and Ladies' Lunches and MacMillan Coffee Mornings.

The Economy and Employment:

Our largest employer is the hospitality industry, accounting for nearly 25% of all jobs. The next largest employer is retail and wholesale trade at 12%. Traditional industries such as forestry and farming only account for c.8% of employment, while those working in construction, education, and health and social care account for c7% each. Self-employment is well above the national average, 24% compared to 9%, while 20% of our population is retired compared to an average of 15%.

Our larger employers include local hotels, inns, and cafes, such as Monachyle Mhor, Mhor 84, Kingshouse Travel and The Golden Larches in Balquhiddier and Kingshouse, the Clachan and Lochearnhead Hotel in Lochearnhead, and the White Stag Inn and the Broch Café in Strathyre.





Our Communities: Our Heritage

Cultural Heritage:

Our glens have been occupied for thousands of years. Prehistoric evidence includes cup marked stones, standing stones, a chambered cairn, and crannogs on all four lochs.

In the 13th century a battle was fought between the Buchanans of Leny and the MacLarens along the River Balvaig near Auchleskine. Although the earliest church at Balquhidder dates to the 13th century. The 'Old Kirk', now a ruin, was built in 1631 and the present church was built in 1855. The 8th or 9th century St Angus Stone implies an earlier foundation. Other mediæval religious sites include St Blane's Chapel and the potential monastery on Edinchip Estate. Edinample Castle, the ruined Dalveich Castle, and the ancient burial ground of the MacLarens at Leckine, all probably had mediæval foundations.

Post-mediæval and early modern settlement was considerable. Balquhidder Glen was probably the most populous, hosting a smithy, bloomery, both lime and corn kilns, and a corn mill. All three glens have numerous deserted townships and farmsteads, indicating once thriving communities. The townships at the head of Loch Doine were large enough to need a church and burial ground. The goldmine near Balquhidder Station hints at the industrial heritage of our area, and the numerous shielings and whisky stills in Glen Ample are a glimpse into the seasonal lives of local farmers and drovers.

The arrival of the railways in the 19th century significantly impacted the local area. Lochearnhead and Strathyre coalesced around the new stations, changing from scattered townships and farmsteads to villages. Hotels and inns sprung up in response to hundreds visiting from the cities of the central belt. Although the railways have gone much of the infrastructure remains, including the impressive viaducts through Edinchip Estate and up Glen Ogle – now part of the NR7 cycle path.

The area has several famous sons and literary associations, the most famous being Rob Roy MacGregor, who spent his final years at Inverlochlarig in Balquhidder Glen and is believed to be buried at Balquhidder Church. The Gaelic poet Dugald Buchanan was born at Ardoch Mill in Strathyre.

Walter Scott and William Wordsworth visited and wrote about Strathyre, while Balquhidder features in Robert Louis Stevenson's *Kidnapped*. Queen Victoria also used to stop off at Strathyre en route north, visiting the Temperance Hotel which is now the Ben Sheann Hotel.

Natural Heritage:

Strathyre, Balquhidder and Loch Earn are the first three Highland glens one enters from Callander. Our beautiful area is dominated by the mountains of Ben Our, Ben Vorlich, Stuc a'Chroin, Ben Each, and the Braes of Balquhidder, and the lochs of Lubnaig, Voil, Doine, and Earn. There are a wide variety of habitats, from marshes to mixed-native woods, conifer plantations to upland moors. The River Balvaig and lochs Doine, Voil and Lubnaig are all part of the River Teith SAC (Special Area of Conservation).

Our area boasts seven SSSIs (Sites of Special Scientific Interest), including Ben More to the north of Inverlochlarig, which has an unusually large range of montane habitats; the Stronvar Marshes, which provides an uncommon 'transition' habitat from loch, through fen to wet woodland; Loch Lubnaig Marshes, which provides an exceptional range of freshwater plant and animal communities; Edinchip Wood, an excellent example of upland oak and wet woodland; Edinample Meadow, which supports a wide range of important and rare plants; Coille Chriche Woods, which comprises scarce and important, mixed ancient woodland; and Dalveich Meadow, which supports extensive and varied species-rich habitats.

It's interesting that natural places were also adopted by locals, such as Rob Roy's Cave and Creag an Tuirc, where the MacLaren Clan gathered when trouble brewed.



Our Challenges

Although our communities are proudly unique, which is reflected in our priorities, there are still many challenges and opportunities which cross all three glens.

Community Challenges

- Speeding traffic and volume of traffic on all the roads and through the villages makes cycling and walking dangerous and off-putting.
- People parking in passing places on our small roads is frustrating and dangerous for locals and visitors.
- Our public transport is not suitable, we need better connections and better integration with other services, such as Crianlarich railway station.
- It is too far to the hospital and not easy to get to without a car.
- There is a lack of facilities and information for visitors, meaning we cannot cope with rising tourist numbers.
- Some areas and buildings are badly run down and this can bring the feel of the whole area down.
- We feel that local authorities, agencies and landowners sometimes do not properly listen to the community or take our concerns and needs seriously.

Economic Challenges

- Lack of affordable homes for families and young people means that some businesses struggle to recruit, and young people leave because of lack of public transport and year round employment opportunities.
- Too many holiday homes, which puts further pressure on needed housing stock.
- Lack of suitable childcare is problematic for employers and employees.
- Better support needed to encourage businesses to start-up in rural areas to help improve and widen the economy.

Environmental Challenges

- There is a lack of good, safe, public outdoor access including lochs, hills, forests. There is no community owned land in Balquhidder or Lochearnhead.
- There are problems with littering and human waste along lochsides, rivers and paths, and who takes responsibility for this.
- The flouting of National Park byelaws is common and often not dealt with.



Consulting the Community

Phase 1: Community Action Plan (CAP) Consultation in 2019

In 2019 all three communities held Open Days providing residents with the opportunity to comment on the previous CAP and to determine new priorities for a new CAP.

In Strathyre we held our Open Day in the local pub, where we had representatives from the National Park and Stirling Council present. In Balquhidder and Lochearnhead our Open Days were held in the village halls. Balquhidder also conducted an online survey and asked its residents to rank the suggested ideas.

Although the information was drafted into a new CAP it became apparent that, because of changes in legislation, we had to upgrade our work to a Place Plan.

Phase 2: Place Plan Consultation in 2020

A Place Plan exercise using the consultants Alan Jones and funded by Sustrans was conducted in Lochearnhead in connection with the railway path from St Fillans:

[Lochearnhead Active Travel & Place-Making Project 2020](#)

This left Balquhidder and Strathyre to conduct and fund our own surveys and the corona-virus lock down removed our ability to undertake normal face to face consultations.

In the Spring 2020 a Steering Group comprising of representatives from the Community Trust and the Community Council set about conducting our own Place Plan consultations. The plan was to collate the results of the CAP, the Lochearnhead Place Plan and new Place Plan consultations into one new Place Plan for the three villages.

In the early Autumn of 2020, we issued our own tailored online survey based on the Place Standard. The 94 responses, mostly from Balquhidder and Strathyre, was considered a good return particularly when combined with the Lochearnhead results.

Combining the CAP and our online survey data we identified four 'focus groups' to engage with further; residents, businesses, young families, and young people..

Phase 3: Online Events and Primary School Survey in 2021

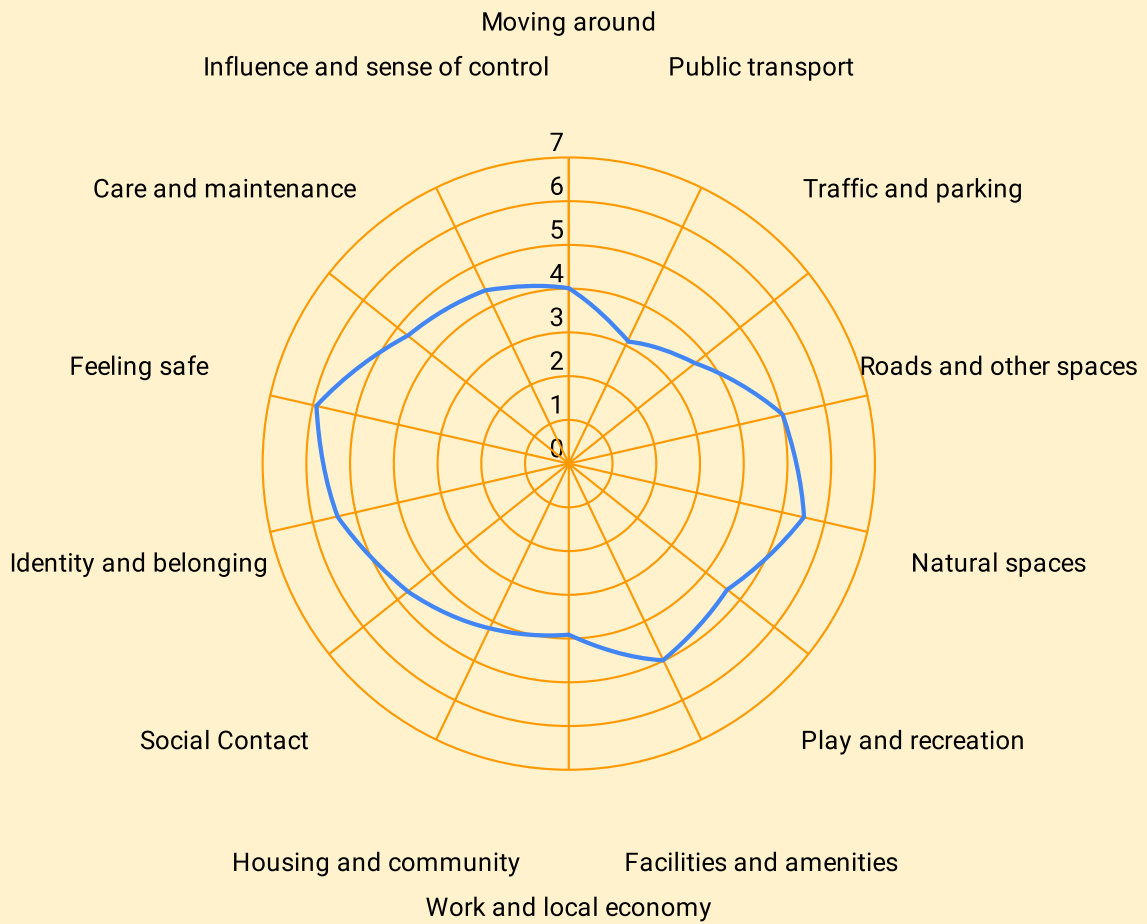
Over the course of April and May 2021 with support from the National Park, we hosted online sessions with the four focus groups identified.

These well attended sessions were led by a mix of local hosts and hosts from LL&TNP and Stirling Council.

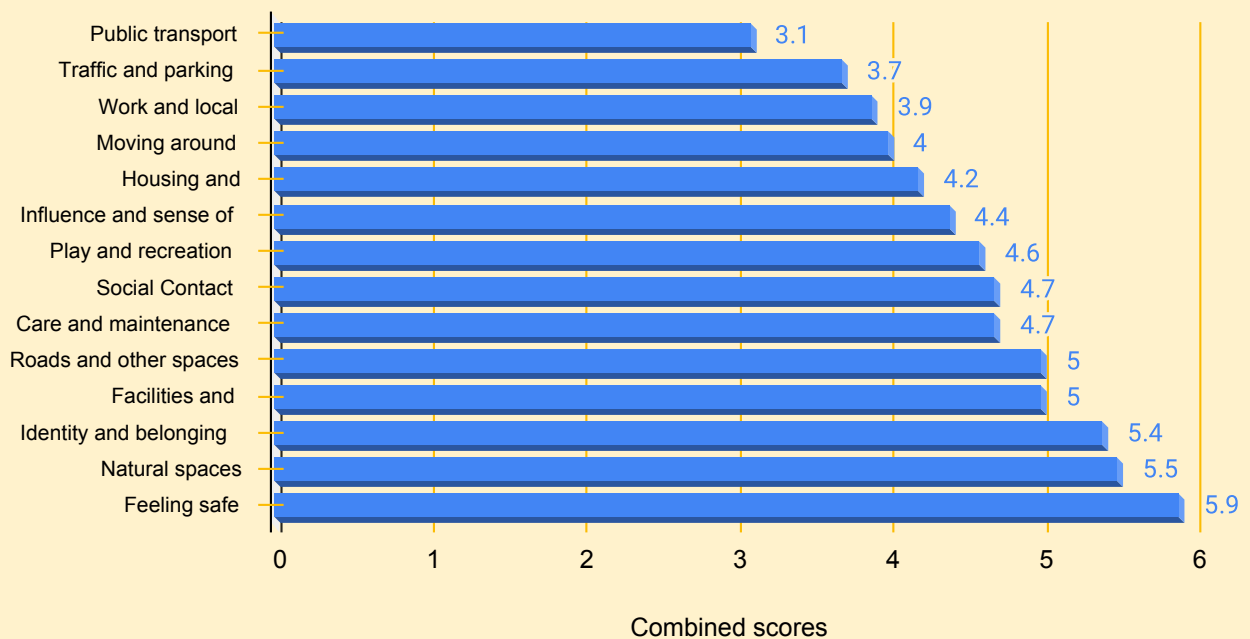
As we could not directly consult our Primary School pupils, we developed a questionnaire with support from the teaching staff. This was issued in the spring and the teachers kindly worked with the pupils to complete it.



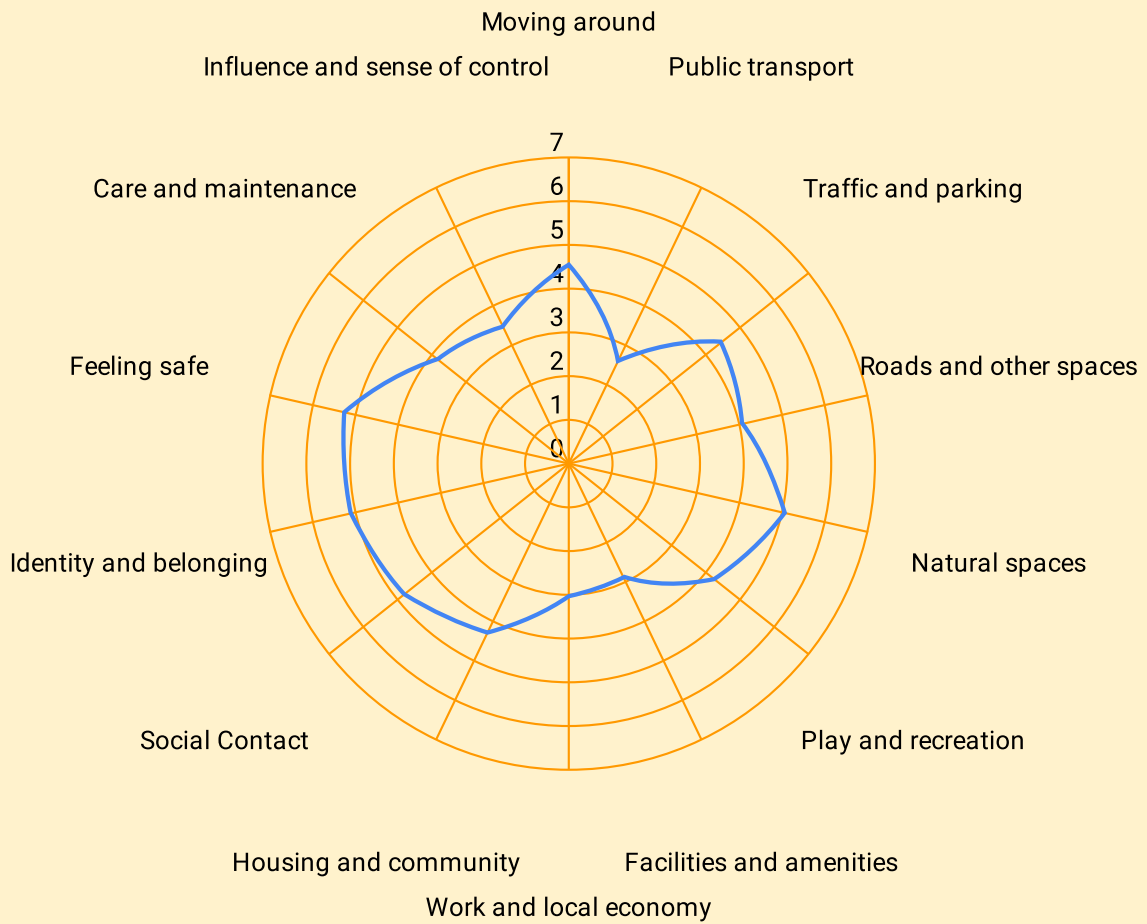
Balquhiddier Place Making Results



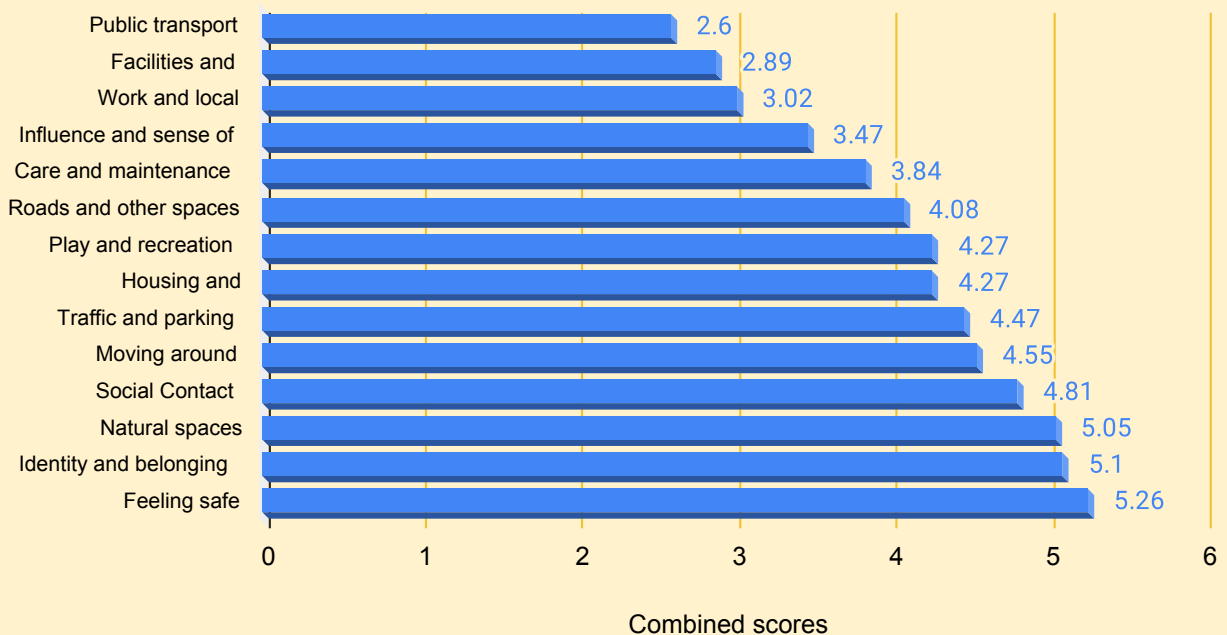
Balquhiddier themes by priority for action



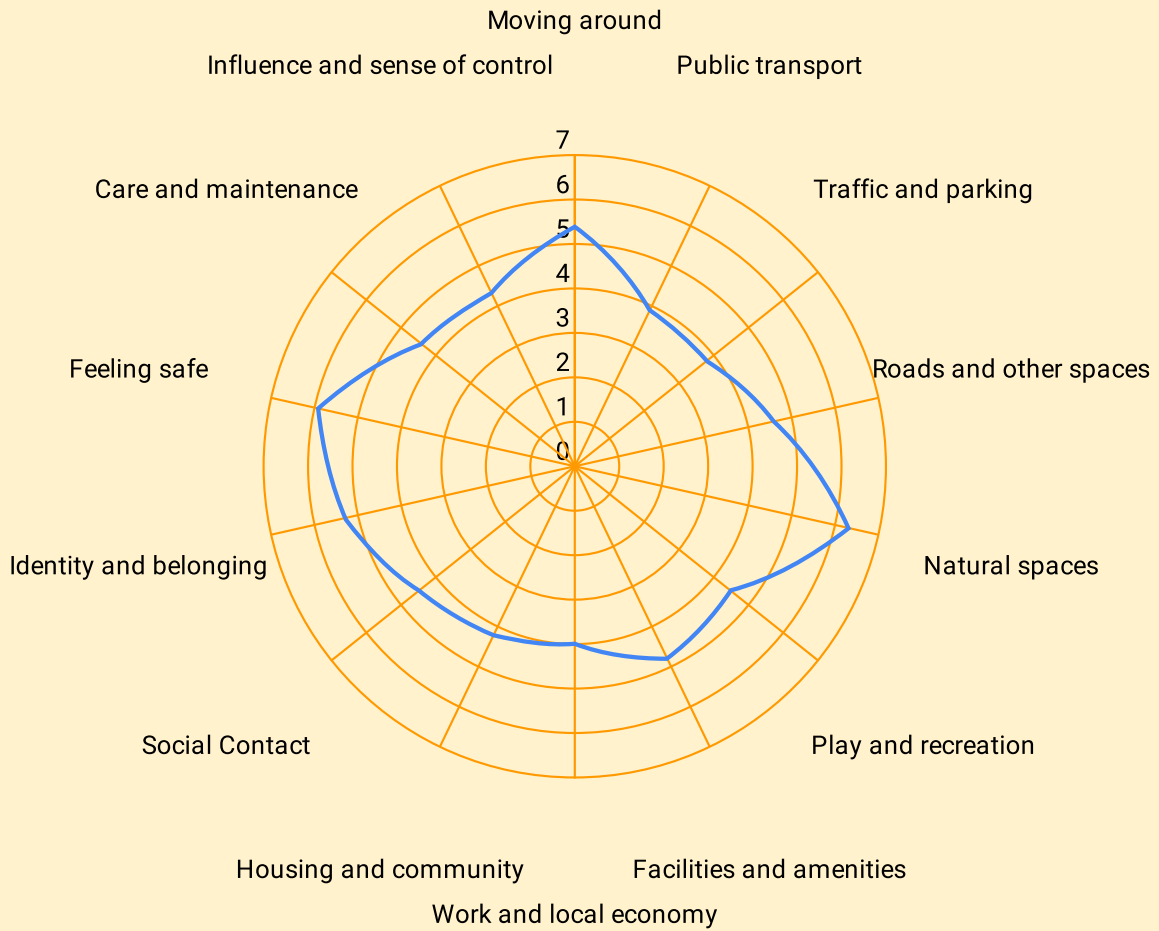
Lochearnhead Place Making Results



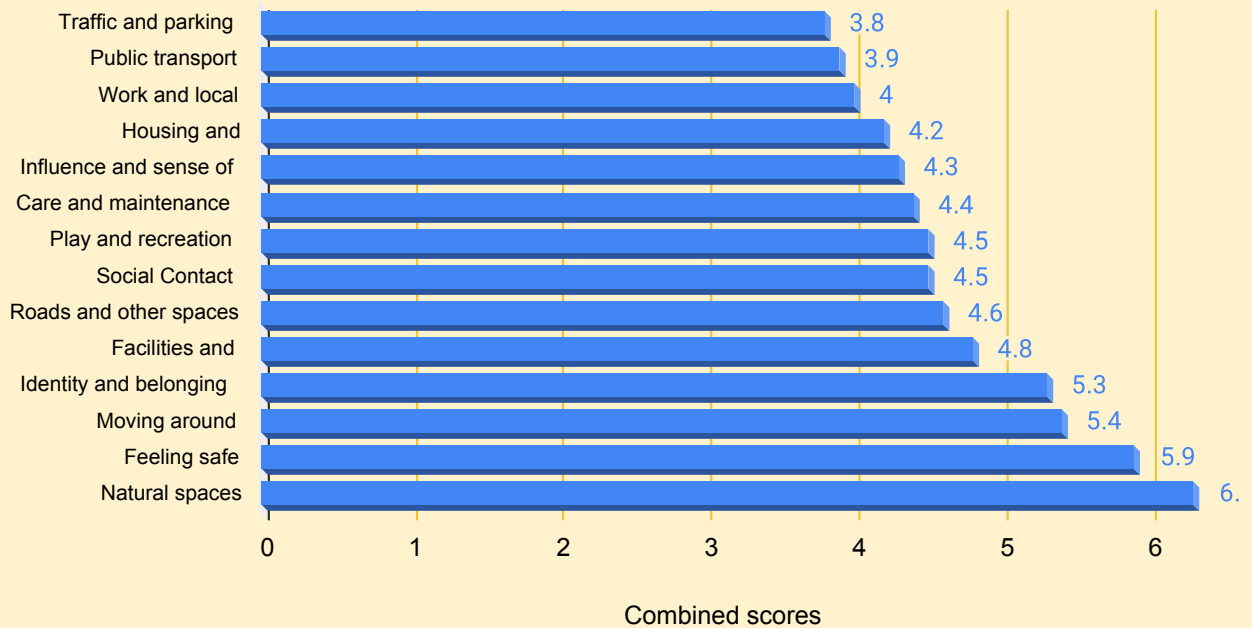
Lochearnhead themes showing priority for action



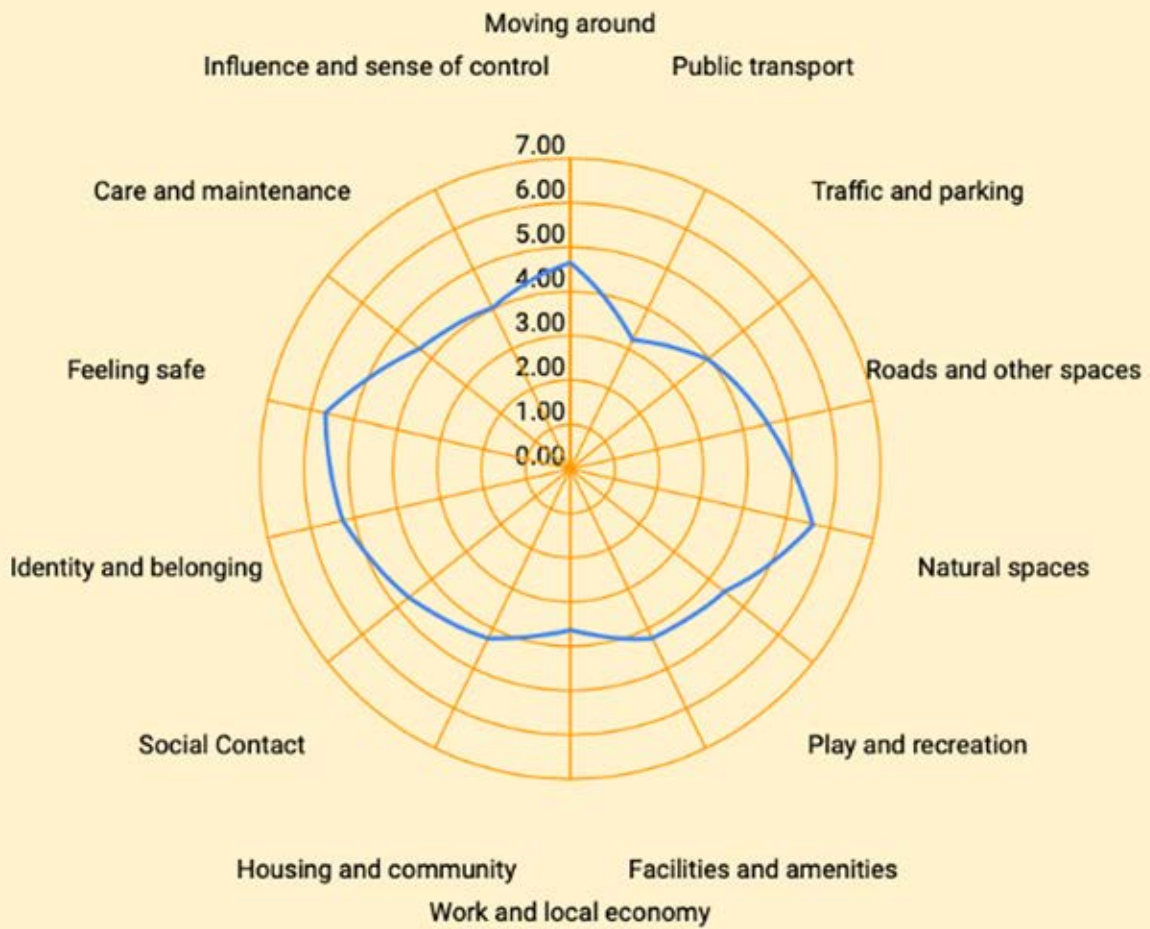
Strathyre Place Making Results



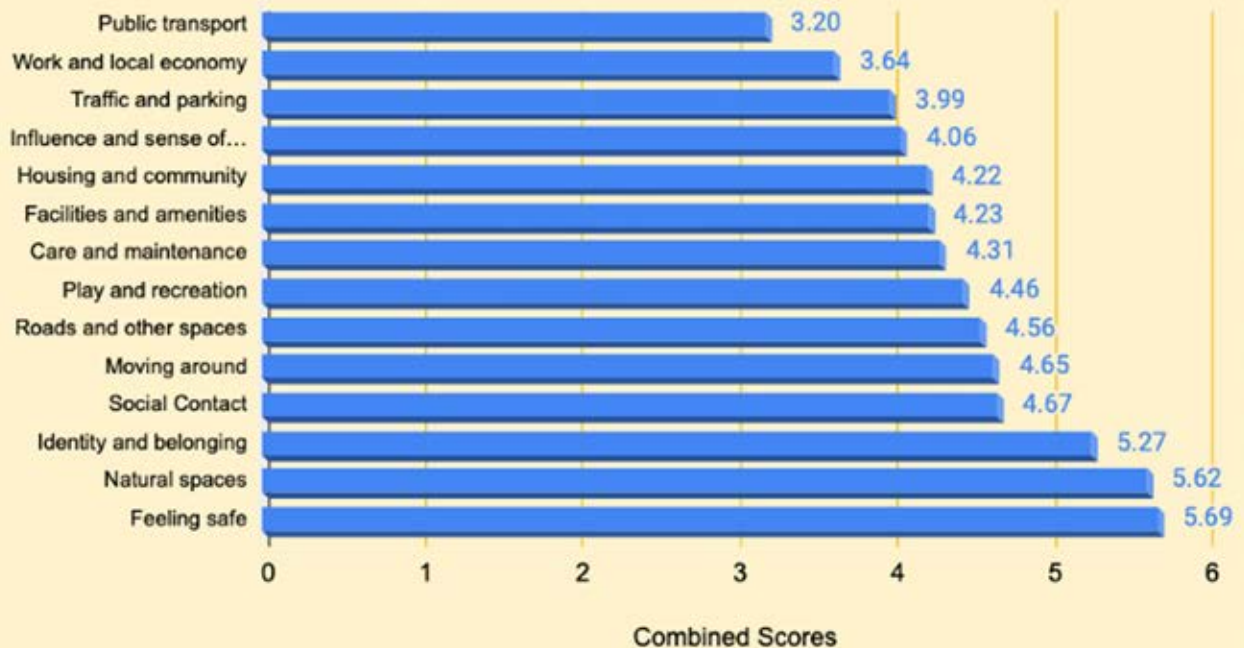
Strathyre themes shown in order of priority for action



BLS Combined Place Making Results



BLS combined themes shown in order of priority for action



Visions

BLS Cross-Community Vision:

The BLS area comprises three proudly unique settlements, but we also have a vision about how we will work together across common goals. We aim for a community that has safer roads and good public transport, with beautiful, clean and healthy hills and glens. Where there are enough affordable homes, good year round job opportunities, public transport and childcare for all who need it. Services that are accessible to all, and good relationships within and between our communities; where we share events and activities, supporting each other in turn.

Balquhiddier Glen

Vision: Balquhiddier must continue to be a beautiful, unspoiled glen, retaining its rural tranquillity. It must retain its well maintained low-impact facilities for locals and visitors. Our hills, forests, lochs and rivers must be sustainably managed for flora, fauna and people; increasing resilience to our changing climate.

Mission: Whilst we want to maintain the quiet, rural, and unspoiled nature of our beautiful glen, we recognise that we need to sustainably improve our places for locals and visitors.

Improved accessibility and stewardship of our lochs, forests and hills is needed so residents can enjoy our beautiful landscape and we can manage rising visitor numbers.

Sustainable, small-scale facilities could help our community to cope with the impact of tourists, while providing safe, off-road routes will increase road safety for everyone.

Lochearnhead

Vision: Lochearnhead will be a clean, tidy, and safe village, with good recreational areas, and in control of our local development. Our beautiful loch side will be well-managed and easily accessible for everyone. We will be well connected to surrounding areas by roads and paths.

Mission: We will improve the feel and safety of our village through better road and traffic management and developing good, well-used play and recreational areas.

We will work with local landowners, agencies and authorities to improve provision of facilities, infrastructure and information for locals and visitors, including completing the cycle path, improving access and management of the loch side, and developing derelict sites. This will help improve our community and economy.

Strathyre

Vision: Strathyre will be a safe village for everyone, with good, well-maintained facilities and spaces for residents and visitors. Our beautiful landscape will be well-managed for people and nature, with good paths and trails. We will be an inclusive and engaged community, working together and with local agencies to make Strathyre a great place to live.

Mission: We do not want our community to become overdeveloped, but we need a range of facilities to cope with rising visitor numbers. We will develop visitor and community facilities and better maintain our recreational sites and buildings, improving community cohesion and visitor experience.

Local paths and trails are important to our community; we will sustainably maintain and expand them, helping us access and enjoy our beautiful environment.

We will improve safety by lobbying for traffic calming measures and installing a safe road-crossing, and engagement by working with local landowners, agencies, and local authorities, making sure our voices are heard.





Balquhiddar



Balquhiddy: Roads, Parking and Public Transport

"Glen roads need improvement."

What Residents Said:

Roads and Parking: We have too much heavy traffic on the road, including tourists, forestry and farming vehicles. This clashes with walkers and cyclists and can make people feel very unsafe, especially as some people drive too fast for the road.

Some of the glen roads need improvement, with too many potholes and often verges and foliage overhanging the road.

There is not enough parking for the numbers of visitors we now get. We are generally in favour of increasing parking in the glen, but it must fit sympathetically into the landscape and be in the right place.

Public Transport: There is no regular publicly accessible transport from the glen to the bus stop at Kingshouse, meaning that everyone must have a car. It would be good to see some sort of regular provision, especially for younger people to get to work or after school activities. Perhaps we should look at more community focused alternatives.

What Businesses Said:

Roads and Parking: We are a little concerned that building more car parks will increase visitor numbers, which will put further pressure on the glen environment.

Public Transport: It would be good to see a regular service to Kingshouse, especially for local young people.

What Young Families Said:

Roads and Parking: We really need some traffic calming measures. People drive too fast and there is too much traffic, so it can be very scary walking and cycling with young children. We need to find ways to reduce speed and traffic volume.

Public Transport: Public transport is really not suitable for young people and families. We really need a regular service, perhaps a shuttle bus, from Kingshouse to at least the village hall. How do we secure this?

What Young People Said:

Roads and Parking: Speeding traffic, too much traffic and lots of big forestry lorries make the roads feel unsafe. We need some traffic calming measures, like a speed limit.

Public Transport: There is not public transport out of the glen we can access. The DRT is not suitable at short notice. We would like to see a regular service to Kingshouse bus stop, so we can more easily attend after school activities and meet with friends.

What Children Said:

Roads and Parking: Speeding traffic on the main road can be very scary. Some of our roads need to be fixed - they are too bumpy.

Public Transport: We like the school bus, but generally don't use other buses very often.

Priorities:

Roads and Parking:

- Manage traffic volume and speed through the community.
- Improved road maintenance
- Sustainably improve parking to cope with rising visitor numbers.




Public Transport:


- Improve publicly accessible transport from the glen to Kingshouse, especially for young people.

"We need regular public transport."

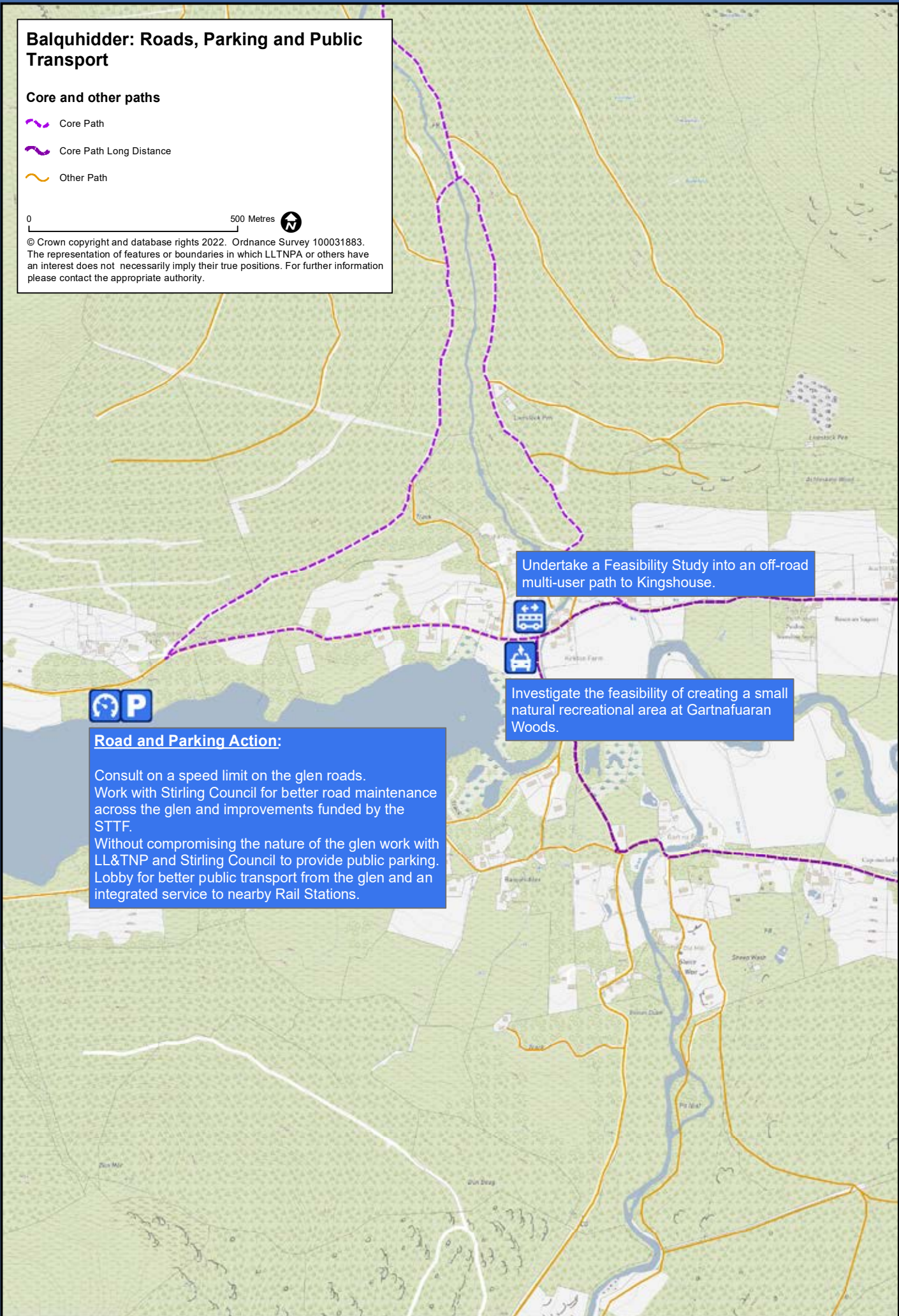
Balquhiddar: Roads, Parking and Public Transport

Core and other paths

-  Core Path
-  Core Path Long Distance
-  Other Path

0 500 Metres 

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Road and Parking Action:

Consult on a speed limit on the glen roads.
Work with Stirling Council for better road maintenance across the glen and improvements funded by the STTF.
Without compromising the nature of the glen work with LL&TNP and Stirling Council to provide public parking.
Lobby for better public transport from the glen and an integrated service to nearby Rail Stations.

Undertake a Feasibility Study into an off-road multi-user path to Kingshouse.



Investigate the feasibility of creating a small natural recreational area at Gartnafuaran Woods.



Balquhiddar: Recreational Access

What Residents Said:

We love the opportunities for cycling, walking and swimming in the glen; however, we feel that access to some of the forests, hills and especially the loch side is poor. We would like better access for recreation and exercise. We do recognise that we must retain and look after the special nature of the glen. Engagement with LL&TNP and landowners to provide clear access rights guidance and resolving any issues is required.

The clash between vehicles and pedestrians on the narrow glen roads really puts people off walking and cycling. We would love to see a safe, off-road route from the village to the cycle path at Kingshouse.

There are no public recreation areas for local children and families to meet. We do not want to detract the natural feel of the glen, but it would be nice to see a small, natural style play park for children and parents to meet.

What Young Families Said:

The local roads are unsafe for walkers and cyclists. It is very scary to have children cycling on the roads with lots of logging lorries and the volume of traffic. We really need a safe off-road path to Kingshouse, and perhaps some more trails or paths for local recreation.

What Young People Said:

There are lots of good paths for walking and cycling, and we use the cycle path from Kingshouse to visit friends. We would really like to see a cycle path from the village hall to Kingshouse, as there is too much traffic on the main road, and it is dangerous to cycle.

We are rather split on whether we need a recreation space in the glen, some of us do and others don't. A reasonable number of us would like to see a small play area with seating where we can meet after school and weekends, though we are worried that older residents might not like it.

What Children Said

We really like walking and cycling in the area. We use the cycle path (from Kingshouse) to get to school. We would like to see better things down on the lochs.

Priorities:

- Improve access to the lochs, hills, and forests.
- Increase off-road paths, trails and cycle paths to reduce the clash between people and vehicles.
- Improve recreational provision for young people and children.

"We'd like better access for recreation."

"Could we have a small play area?"



Balquhiddar: Natural Spaces

What Residents Said:

We love our natural spaces, the mountains, lochs and woods, the peace and quiet. We want to retain this as much as possible and we are concerned about large, unsuitable houses and other developments being given planning permission. We would also like to see better land management, with plantations replaced with mixed woodland, and good farming practices.

We are also very concerned about the impact of rising visitor numbers, especially the amount of litter and waste they leave behind and flouting the Byelaws. We do not have the facilities to cope and would like to see this better managed – how do we do this?

What Young Families Said:

We live in a lovely place and are very lucky, but we are feeling the impact of visitors leaving litter, waste, flouting Bye Laws, and even leaving farm gates open. We really need to find ways to deal with this issue without over development or encouraging unsustainable tourism. How do we do this?

What Young People Said:

We love our natural spaces and enjoy them all year round. We are worried about the mess at the lochs and river during the summer, there can be a lot of broken glass, litter, and human waste, which is horrible. Perhaps we can do some local litter picks?

What Children Said:

Our lochs are really important to us, and we want to see them looked after.

Priorities:




- Ensure any development is limited and sympathetic to the beauty of the glen.

*“We live
in a lovely
place!”*

*“We’re
worried about
litter...”*

Balquhider: Recreational Access and Natural Spaces

Core and other paths

-  Core Path
-  Core Path Long Distance
-  Other Path


0 500 Metres 


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Natural Spaces Action:
Work with the LL&TNP Planning Dept to make sure that new developments are in keeping with the special nature of the glen. Endeavour to restrict the development of new holiday.

Recreational Access Action:
Increase availability of maps, information and interpretation on local trails and paths.

Undertake a Feasibility Study into an off-road cycle path from Inverlochlarig to Kingshouse.

 With LL&TNP and landowners explore ways to improve access to the lochs, rivers, forests and hills under current access legislation. Reduce, where appropriate, the environmental impact in sensitive areas.

 Investigate the feasibility of creating a small natural recreational area at Gartnafuaran Woods.





Balquhiddar: Community and Visitor Facilities and Spaces

What Residents Said:

Community/Visitor Facilities: Our village hall is a great social place, and we enjoy and appreciate it. We are happy with how it is being upgraded to ensure that it is suitable for future use.

We would love to see a wee shop and tearoom in the glen, somewhere for people to meet up and socialise during the day.

We really feel that there needs to be some toilets in the glen for visitors. At Inverlochlarig Car Park, there are 60 parking spaces but no facilities; human waste is a real problem here.

Community Spaces: We live in a beautiful glen which is generally well maintained however, some areas are a little rundown, and some fences and walls could do with better maintenance.

We feel that it would be good to have some more community space for outdoor recreation or even a community orchard.

What Businesses Said:

Community/Visitor Facilities: Some were concerned that increasing facilities would encourage more visitors, putting pressure on the glen.

We think a business hub in the village hall is a good idea, but we are not sure how it would work.

What Young Families Said:

Community Spaces: We would like to see more community owned land, which we could use for social and recreational activities.

What Children Said:

Community/Visitor Facilities: We like our village hall; it is really important place for us to see friends and have fun. We do think that some buildings in the glen need fixing.

Priorities:

Community/Visitor Facilities:

- Maintain a modern, well used village hall.
- Improve local community and visitor facilities.

Community Spaces:




- Conserve the beauty of the Balquhiddar while encouraging the sympathetic improvement of rundown areas.
- Increase outdoor community space for multiple uses.


"There's nowhere to meet up with friends."

"Would more facilities mean more traffic..?"

Balquhiddy: Community and Visitor Facilities and Spaces

Core and other paths

-  Core Path
-  Core Path Long Distance
-  Other Path

0 500 Metres 

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Community/Visitor Facilities and Spaces Actions:

Explore the need for public toilets and the feasibility of providing them.
 Encourage landowners to improve rundown buildings, walls, and fences.
 Consider the feasibility of the purchase community land for community recreation.



Continue to maintain the village hall and its facilities for future generations.



Investigate the feasibility of installing toilets at the Inverlochlarig parking area.



Explore what other facilities the Village might need.



Balquhiddar: Housing, Economy, Work and Services

What Residents Said:

Housing: We really could do with some more affordable homes for families and young people who want to stay or move into the glen for work. Nevertheless, this needs to be done in a way that doesn't spoil the tranquil nature of the glen, balanced with better public transport and year round job opportunities.

We would like to see fewer houses sold as holiday homes, allowing local families to stay.

Economy and Work: Farming, forestry and hospitality are the main employers locally, and some worry we are too reliant on tourism. The lack of jobs, affordable homes and poor public transport are pushing some younger folk away who might have stayed. Nevertheless, the new broadband has made a big difference and could be better harnessed to encourage business start-ups and growth, perhaps through a hub.

The lack of childcare can be a big issue for many families. It is very challenging but does need to be remedied.

Services: Many of us feel that accessing health services, especially the hospital, is very difficult. It is expected in a rural community, but it would be good to look at different ways to deliver health and social care locally.

What Businesses Said:

Housing: Some were concerned that increasing housing stock will put further pressure on the tranquillity of the glen, while others argued that more affordable homes are needed. This is especially for larger businesses who struggle to attract and keep staff through lack of family and seasonal housing.

What Young Families Said:

Economy and Work: The local fibre optic broadband is great for small businesses and has made a big difference. The hospitality industry provides a lot of local employment.

It can be difficult starting up a business, especially if you need land or a premises.

Services: The hospital is very far away, and even further now it has moved to Larbert. It would be good to find easier ways to access health care like telehealth.

What Young Families Said:

Economy and Work: We feel there are plenty of opportunities to get part time jobs in local hotels and cafes if we want them. Childcare, however, can be difficult for our parents.

Priorities:

Housing:

- To balance new house building without spoiling the glen with overdevelopment or increases in the number of holiday homes.

Economy and Work:

- Improve business and worker support across the glen to move beyond reliance on tourism.

Services:




- Improve access to health and social care services.


"We need more affordable homes."

"It's hard to find childcare."

Balquhiddar: Housing, Economy, Work and Services

Core and other paths

-  Core Path
-  Core Path Long Distance
-  Other Path

0 500 Metres 

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Housing Action:

Engage with the LL&TNP Planning Department to make sure any new housing does not detract from the special nature of the glen. In an area already well subscribed endeavour to restrict the development of new holiday accommodation.



Economy and Work Action:

Harness the new community broadband to support local businesses. Encourage new digital businesses with links into online digital support and training.



Services Action:

With available broadband and Village Hall facilities investigate telehealth opportunities for the glen to improve access to healthcare.





Balquhiddy: Identity, Belonging and Control

What Residents Said:

We live in a lovely community, there is lots of support and we feel well connected, with lots of opportunities to socialise, and events and activities. It is paradise!

We have a great local history and heritage, and it would be good to see this celebrated a bit more. Although the Community Council and Community Trust do a good job, it would be good if more people got involved. We feel that our voice is often not listened to by local authorities and agencies. We would like to have better communication with them.

What Young Families Said:

We are not sure if we are being listened to at community or regional levels. We feel that there needs to be better communications.

What Young People Said:

We do feel we are listened to and can make our voices heard to those around us. We are not sure if we are listened to by local authorities or agencies, and it would be nice to be a bit more involved.

What Children Said:

We feel safe and happy in our village, and the people around us listen to what we have to say.

Priorities:




- Keep and celebrate the great and supportive sense of community.
- Ensure that the CC and CT are supported and representative of the whole community.
- Better communications with local authorities and agencies.

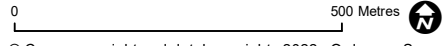
“There’s a great community spirit here!”

It’s great to be able to have our say about important issues.”

Balquhiddar: Identity, Belonging and Control

Core and other paths

-  Core Path
-  Core Path Long Distance
-  Other Path



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Endeavour to form a social group to hold more community events and activities celebrating the local natural and cultural heritage of the glen.



Ensure that the Community Council and Community Trust represent and listen to all views across the glen, and are fully engaged with the local community, including younger people.



Ensure that community views are properly represented when dealing with LL&TNP, Stirling Council and the Timber Transport Management Group.
 Ensure that the Place Plan is reflected in LL&TNP's Development Plan.





Lochearnhead



Lochearnhead: Roads, Parking and Transport

What Residents Said:

Roads and Parking: We really need a pavement along the A85 - we have been promised one for over 20 years! We would like to see further improvements of the A85 for safety, including widening some areas and increasing street lighting.

Too many vehicles speed through the village, especially motorbikes, which can be very dangerous. We would like to see better traffic calming measures on the A84 and A85, as well as extending the 30mph to the very edge of the village on the A85. Perhaps even a 20mph through the middle of the village?

The junction of the A84 and Craggan Road is really dangerous. Cyclists come out too fast, and people are driving too fast on the main road. There needs to be better signage to warn cyclists and drivers.

Public Transport: We could really do with better connections east and north, to Comrie and Crieff, and to Crianlarich. It would be good if the buses linked in with the train times from Crianlarich. The bus schedules are not ideal and don't fit in with people's working day – it's not easy to commute by public transport.

What Young Families Said:

Roads and Parking: We generally agree that more traffic calming measures are needed in the village, and it would be good to see a reduction of heavy, rural traffic, though understand this might not be viable.

We are also concerned about dangerous parking along South Lochearn Road, with visitors parking in passing places or along the road. We could really do with a car park, especially for walkers and fishermen, at the junction of the A84 and South Lochearn Road, though we don't think local landowners will be very receptive. How do we get them on board?

Public Transport: We do not feel we can access public transport when we need it, it needs to be better timetables. We would also like a Sunday Service.

What Young People Said:

Roads and Parking: There is too much traffic and speeding cars on the roads, which puts us off cycling around the village.

We could really do with some parking for South Lochearnside, as people parking along the roadside cause lots of problems for other vehicles.

Public Transport: We don't feel we can access public transport when we need to.

What Children Said:

Roads and Parking: Quite a lot of things need to be fixed, like stop signs and the bus stop. There is not enough parking; when the weather is good, people park on the grass.

Priorities:

Roads and Parking:

- Reduce speeding across the village.
- Provide good pedestrian access along the A85.
- Improve road maintenance and safety across the village.
- Reduce dangerous parking along South Lochearnside.

Public Transport:

- Improve publicly available transport options that fit in with people's needs.

"I would cycle more if access to cycle paths were easier and safer."



Lochearnhead: Roads, Parking and Transport

- Settlement boundary
- Allocated sites
- Core and other paths**
- Core Path
- Core Path Long Distance
- Other Path

0 500 Metres

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Average speed cameras across Glen Ogle

Investigate traffic calming measures across the whole village.

Extend the 30mph limit to the end of the village on the A85

Finish the pavement along the A85
 Lobby for a 20mph limit along Shore Road
 Lobby for improvements to Shore Road to increase vehicle and pedestrian safety: street lighting, better drainage, road widening.

Explore measures to improve safety at the junction of Craggan Road and the A84: better signage.

Investigate developing visitor parking at the junction of South Lochearn Road and A84 to reduce dangerous parking.



Lochearnhead: Recreational Access

What Residents Said:

We would really like proper access to the lochside at the former Watersport Centre for villagers and visitors. Including a public slipway and footpath to the Clachan and main road.

We could do with more information on local paths and trails for visitors, including signs, maps, and interpretation about local history and nature at key points.

We want the St Fillan's Cycle Path finished! And a link from the former Watersports site to Craggan would provide a safe, off-road route for walkers and cyclists. We have a great opportunity to develop a network of paths and trails that link to the village amenities.

What Young Families Said:

We love and appreciate all the paths and trails we have for walking and cycling, however we have some concerns.

There is a clash between logging lorries and walkers and cyclists on the path above Auchraw, and this makes it difficult for local children to cycle around safely. How can this be resolved? Plus, we really want to see the St Fillans Cycle Path finished; we are worried that landowners and elements of NIMBYism are delaying it. Sometimes we feel there is a lack of understanding about what young families need in a village.

What Young People Said:

We like the paths we have, but we would really like to see an off-road cycle path through the village, connecting the Shoreroad with NR7. There is a big clash between vehicles and cyclists which makes it scary to cycle round the village.

What Children Said:

We really like the paths and trails around the village, we often use them to go into the hills, and visit or meet up with friends. We would like to see more things to do around the lochside, especially for watersports.

Priorities:

- Improve access to the lochside for locals and visitors.
- Create a linked network of safe paths and trails, including the St Fillans Cycle Path.
- Improve trail and shoreside information for visitors.

"I would like a path to be able to walk round the loch."

I think we should have a sports field because it would get us more active.



Lochearnhead: Natural Spaces

What Residents Said

We have real problems with littering and waste, especially along the NR7 cycle path, the shoreline, and the A84. This has a really negative impact on villagers, visitors, and the environment. Who is responsible for the mess? And who is responsible for clearing it up?

Some of us would like to see the rabbit population controlled. How would we do this?

What Businesses Said:

Littering and antisocial behaviours along Loch Earn side are very bad, and although it doesn't seem to have a direct impact on local businesses, we are concerned that it could put off people returning to the area – it can be a bit embarrassing to explain to visitors.

What Young Families Said

We have really lovely natural spaces in our village and area. However, it can be difficult to enjoy them with the amount of litter and waste left by visitors. The village doesn't have the facilities to cope with the number of visitors, we need more support.

We feel that the village can feel a bit run down and some areas uncared for. The area needs more investment and better stewardship.

What Young People Said

We have lots of lovely natural spaces around us which we enjoy. However, there is a lack of things to do since the Watersports Centre burnt down.

What Children Said

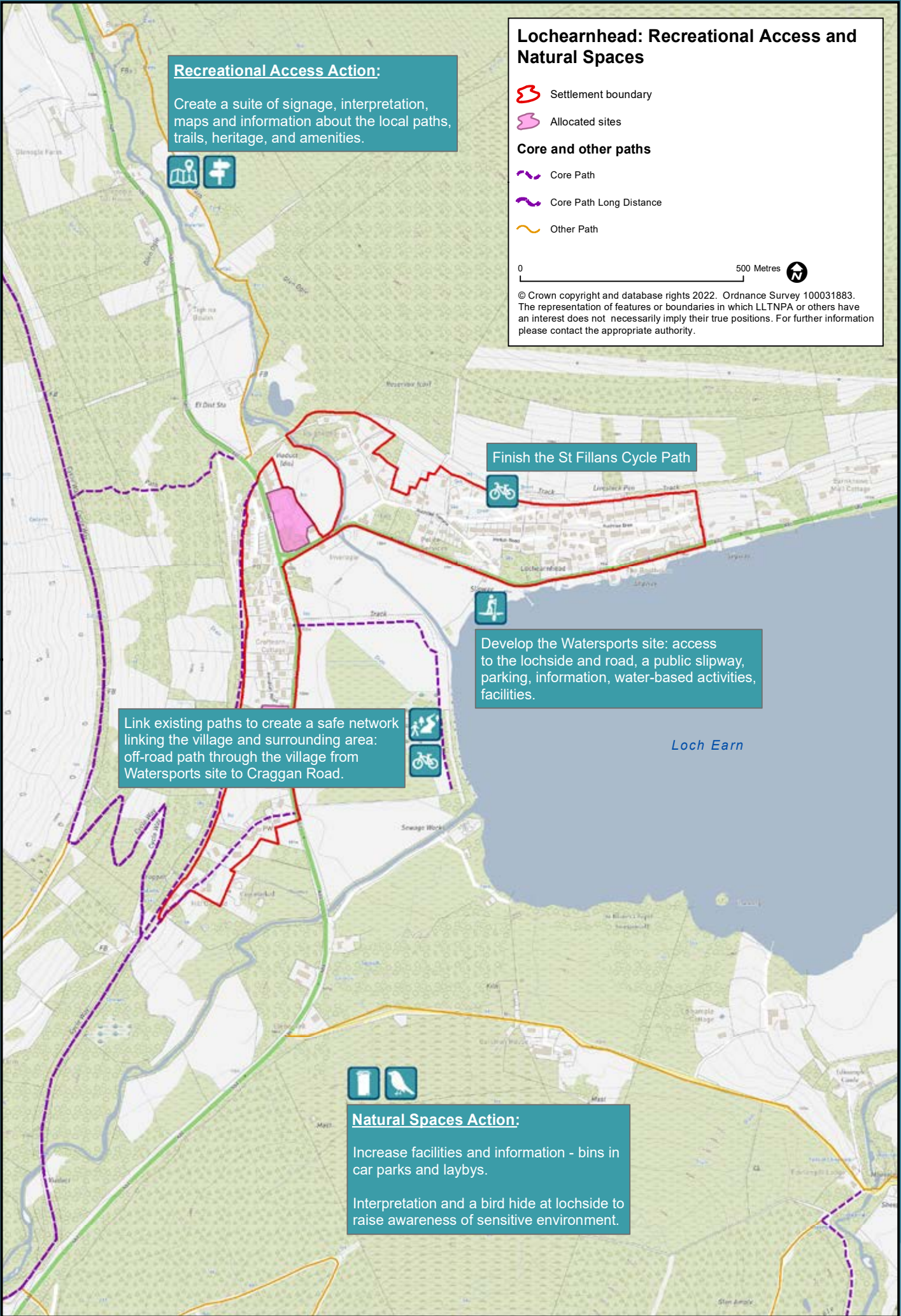
All our natural spaces are important to us, including the hills, river and loch. We would really like to see less litter and broken glass along the lochside.

Priorities:

- Reduce littering and antisocial behaviours by visitors.
- Control the rabbit population.

"The village doesn't have the facilities to cope with the number of visitors."

"The roads are too busy to cycle alongside traffic."



Lochearnhead: Recreational Access and Natural Spaces

Settlement boundary

Allocated sites

Core and other paths

Core Path

Core Path Long Distance

Other Path

0 500 Metres

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Recreational Access Action:

Create a suite of signage, interpretation, maps and information about the local paths, trails, heritage, and amenities.



Finish the St Fillans Cycle Path



Develop the Watersports site: access to the lochside and road, a public slipway, parking, information, water-based activities, facilities.

Link existing paths to create a safe network linking the village and surrounding area: off-road path through the village from Watersports site to Craggan Road.

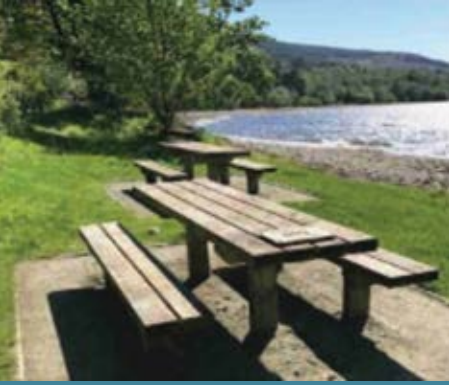


Natural Spaces Action:

Increase facilities and information - bins in car parks and laybys.

Interpretation and a bird hide at lochside to raise awareness of sensitive environment.

Loch Earn



Lochearnhead: Community and Visitor Facilities and Spaces

What Residents Said:

Community/Visitor Facilities: We feel there are insufficient facilities for both residents and visitors in the village. We hope that better infrastructure would draw more tourists for the economy and might encourage some visitors to behave a bit better. We would like to have a café or even a mini 'Green Welly Stop', somewhere for visitors to go, and a place for villagers to meet up. It would also provide more jobs.

A new toilet block at the car park would be good, perhaps with showers?

Community Spaces: Some areas, such as the Old Garage and Watersports site are unsightly and need to be developed. It would be good to see lochside access, a picnic area and other facilities at the Watersports site.

Our play park could really do with an upgrade and ideally moved to a flatter, more central point in the village, such as the old Watersports site.

What Businesses Said:

Community/Visitor Facilities: We really need better infrastructure to cope with rising visitor numbers: toilets, recycling and bins.

What Young Families Said:

Community Spaces: Our play facilities are not looked after and are often vandalised. There needs to be proper fencing, better security, and new equipment. Ideally, we would like to see the whole play park move to a flatter site near the Games Field or Watersports site.

Our other local facilities and areas are not well maintained, and derelict sites in the village have an impact on the feel of the community.

What Young People Said:

Community Spaces: Our play facilities could really do with being upgraded. They are not well looked after, and there is not enough for young people to do there.

Other spaces around the village are not very well maintained and derelict sites make the village unattractive.

What Children Said:

Community/Visitor Facilities: We really like the village shop, though sometimes the food is out of date.

Community Spaces: The play park is a really important place for us, it's where we meet friends and have fun. However, our play park could really do with some new equipment and better looked after.

Priorities:

Community/Visitor Facilities:

- Increase and improve amenities and facilities for locals and visitors.


Community Spaces:

- Provide better recreation facilities for younger people.
- Develop derelict sites that impact the feel of the village.
- Better general maintenance.

"Derelict sites make the village unattractive."


"Some areas need to be developed."


Lochearnhead: Community and Visitor Facilities and Spaces


 Settlement boundary


 Allocated sites

Core and other paths

 Core Path

 Core Path Long Distance

 Other Path

0 500 Metres 

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Community Spaces Action:

Establish a volunteer group to help maintain the village: regular tidy ups, maintaining flower tubs.



New or improved toilet block with showers.

More recycling and bins.



Upgrade the play park: more equipment and better security.



Investigate moving the play park to near the former Watersports site.

Develop the Old Garage site into a café, shop, information: a mini 'Green Welly Stop'.



Loch Earn



Lochearnhead: Housing, Economy, Work and Services

What Residents Said:

Housing: We are concerned that too many homes are sold as second homes and holiday homes, in some areas of the village up to 50% of houses are not fully occupied. How do we stop this, especially as there are people needing affordable homes? Perhaps we can develop the Old '45 Site for affordable housing?

The planning process can be very slow, especially when trying to do up dilapidated properties, which does not do the feel of the community any good.

Economy and Work: We don't have a very active economy that provides a variety of jobs, nor is it easy for businesses to start up or grow. We need more opportunities or support to create and support commercial development in the village.

Accessing suitable childcare is difficult.

Services: Our waste services are not suitable, due to high visitor demand public bins in car parks and laybys are overflowing, something needs to be done.

We would like to see mains water upgraded and extended to the end of the village.

Our healthcare services are generally good, but we would like to be able to access the hospital more easily.

What Young Families Said:

Economy and Work: The majority of us believe there are not enough job or training opportunities locally, nor for starting up or growing a business. Accessing suitable and affordable childcare is very difficult.

Services: We are generally happy with the health services we can access and can easily get to a GP or pharmacy. The hospital is quite far away but is not much of an issue at the moment.

What Young People Said:

Services: We feel that we cannot access our health care services easily; the hospital is miles away!

Lochearnhead Specific Priorities:

Housing:

- Enable the building of affordable homes for those who need them.

Economy and Work:

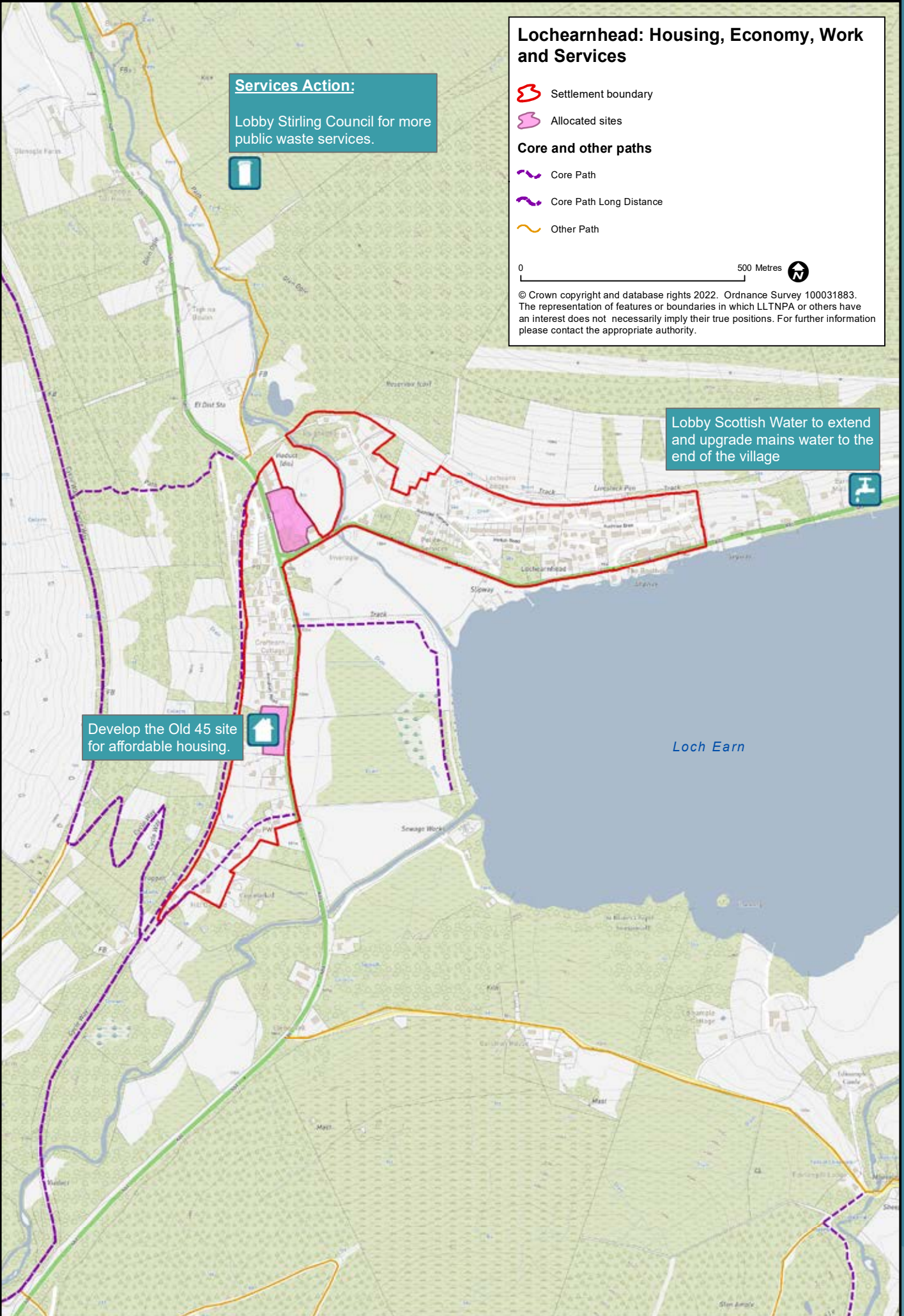
- See Cross-Community Priorities and Actions.

Services:

- Provide mains water across the village.
- Improve public waste services across the area.

“Accessing suitable childcare is difficult.”

“There aren't enough jobs locally.”

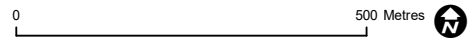


Lochearnhead: Housing, Economy, Work and Services

Services Action:
Lobby Stirling Council for more public waste services.



- Settlement boundary
- Allocated sites
- Core and other paths**
- Core Path
- Core Path Long Distance
- Other Path



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Lobby Scottish Water to extend and upgrade mains water to the end of the village



Develop the Old 45 site for affordable housing.





Lochearnhead: Identity, Belonging and Control

What Residents Said:

We are not sure whether we can contribute to local development, or if we are listened to when we try. We have made decisions about what the community wants but nothing ever happens - we feel that landowners, agencies, and local government don't take us seriously. Options to purchase and develop community land is very limited, as landowners and developers are not very receptive. To get anything done we have to get landowner buy-in and this is lacking. Some of us would like a concise list of landowner objections/concerns about the developments the community would appreciate.

We would like more get togethers, both inside and outside, including classes, coffee mornings, a lunch club, and walks and talks on the history and nature of the glen.

What Young Families Said:

Many of us feel unable or unsure if we can contribute or whether we are listened to, whether locally or regionally. We have some real problems with getting local landowners to listen to and talk to the community.

What Young People Said:

We are pretty sure that we are not able to contribute, and nor can many other people. We are not listened to, and local groups and agencies don't take us seriously or allow us to get involved. There are opportunities for the community to buy land or develop the village, but landowners always stop them. We haven't seen a new shop or café for over 17 years!

What Children Said:

We feel safe and happy in our village, and are listened to by those around us.


Lochearnhead Specific Priorities:

- Ensure that the local community is listened to, engaged with, and able to contribute to, and steer local development.
- Increase opportunities to socialise as a community.

"We'd like to encourage visitors to come."

"We would like more get-togethers!"


Lochearnhead: Identity, Belonging and Control


 Settlement boundary

 Allocated sites

Core and other paths

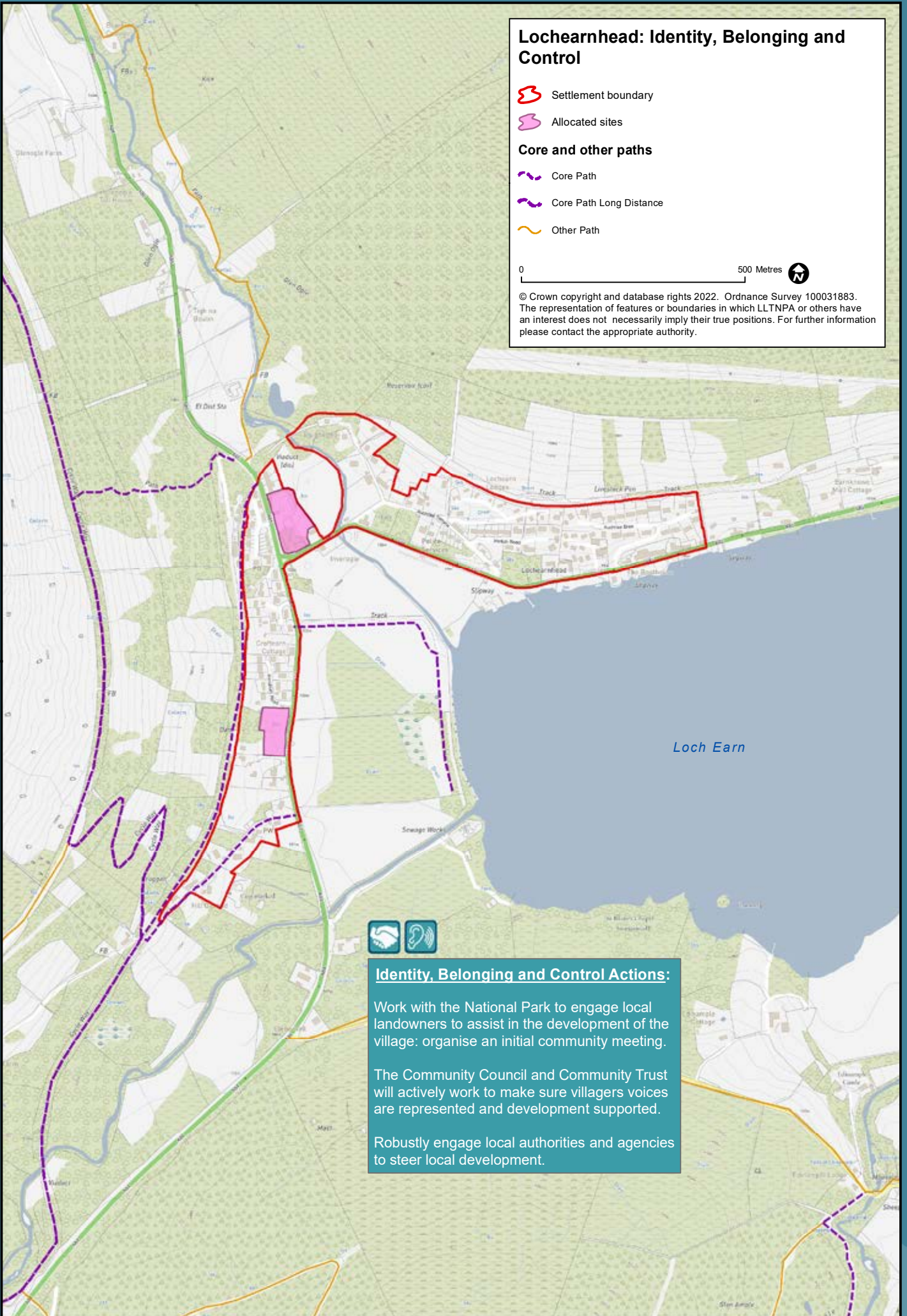
 Core Path

 Core Path Long Distance

 Other Path

0 500 Metres 

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Identity, Belonging and Control Actions:

Work with the National Park to engage local landowners to assist in the development of the village: organise an initial community meeting.

The Community Council and Community Trust will actively work to make sure villagers voices are represented and development supported.

Robustly engage local authorities and agencies to steer local development.



Strathyre



Strathyre: Roads, Parking and Transport

What Residents Said:

Too many cars speed through the village, especially at the entrances, and we are worried this will lead to a bad accident. We would like to see some more effective traffic calming measures.

We have been trying to get a safe road crossing installed, which will help people cross safely and help reduce speeding vehicles.

Some of our minor roads, Stroneslaney Road, Keip Road, and Balvaig Bridge are not as well maintained as they should be.

Our public transport should be more integrated, with links to other transport services, such as buses from Callander or trains from Dunblane, but it also should suit the needs of our younger folk.

What Young Families Said:

Speeding cars, especially at the entrances of the village, can be very scary when you have young children. We really need more effective traffic calming measures.

The need for a safe crossing in the middle of the village is also essential; we know there are difficulties with access and pavements, but something needs to be done before there is an accident.

What Young People Said:

We would like to see public transport better scheduled to fit in with after school clubs or evenings so we can see friends. We would like a Sunday service.

What Children Said:

We think there is too much traffic and some of the roads need fixing. The buses are okay, but they could be more comfortable.

Priorities:


Key Priority:

- To have good, safe, and well-maintained roads across our community.
- Increase traffic calming measures to reduce speeding across the whole village.
- Manage traffic volume through the village.
- Provide a safe pedestrian crossing over the main road.
- Improved care and maintenance of our roads, especially those off the A84.
- Alternative ways to provide publicly accessible transport.


“We need either a zebra crossing or speed bumps.”


“Public transport is very limited.”


Strathyre: Roads, Parking and Transport

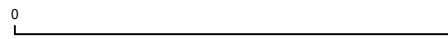

 Settlement boundary

Core and other paths

 Core Path

 Core Path Long Distance




 Other Path


0  500 Metres 


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
30 Extend the 30mph to cover all homes in the village.

General Road Actions:


-  Average speed cameras
-  Improved 30mph signs
-  Road survey towards pedestrian crossing

Better upkeep of Keip and Stronslaney Roads: infilling potholes, regular gritting in winter and better school signage 

Flashing school signs 

Strengthen Balvaig Bridge 

Pedestrian Crossing 

Better upkeep of Keip and Stronslaney Roads: infilling potholes, regular gritting in winter and better school signage 

Strathyre Transport Actions:

Explore a village car sharing WhatsApp and community electric cars for hire. 

30 Extend the 30mph to cover all homes in the village.



Strathyre: Recreational Access

What Residents Said:

We really need a safe, off-road path to Immervoulin and the campsite. We have explored this in the past; there were lots of issues with landowners, flooding, expense, and logistics with the busy main road. Nevertheless, lots of people are still walking down the main road which is very dangerous.

We have concerns about safety on the cycle path. Some areas are needing better maintenance, including tarmac wearing away, or obstructive foliage. We are also a bit worried about cyclists not being fully aware of pedestrians and going too fast through the village.

We would like to see more and better managed recreational access, including reducing the clash between young people mountain biking and walkers on the hill trails around the village. Perhaps we need a dedicated area with bike trails for local children. Having good information and maps available for visitors would also help improve access.

What Young Families Said:

We love the access and paths we have and use them regularly. We have some concerns with the clash between vehicles, bikes and walkers, especially on the Stronslaney Road. We would like to see some path upgrades, including reopening the riverside path, replacing the wooden footbridges near the recreation ground, and a barrier on the cycle path next to the road.

What Young People Said:

We love the paths and trails locally; however, we are concerned about the litter and waste that visitors leave behind. We need more bins - and signs to educate people.

What Children Said:

Being able to cycle and walk around easily is important to us - we really love the cycle path. Some of the paths need fixing though.

Priorities:

Key Priority:

- To have good, sustainable access to our beautiful, well-maintained environment.
- Provide a safe, pedestrian access from Immervoulin Campsite to the village.
- Improve path and cycle path safety and maintenance.
- Provide better information and signage for local paths and trails.
- Improve recreational access across the area.

"We could do with some public toilets!"

"Vehicles speeding through the village is still a problem."



Strathyre: Natural Spaces

What Residents Said

We are very concerned about the levels of litter and human waste and flouting of the Byelaws by some visitors to the area. We are worried about the impact on the environment, our livestock, and on the reputation of the area: will visitors find the area off-putting? We need better facilities to cope with all the visitors coming here.

We want to celebrate and look after our landscape and find ways to enjoy it further. We do, however, have concerns regarding forestry management and how this is contributing towards local flooding.

What Young Families Said

Although this is a lovely place to live we have too much litter. We could do with better education and facilities for visitors.

What Young People Said:

We love our local trails and paths, but litter is a big problem. We need more bins and signs to educate people.

What Children Said

We love the natural spaces around the village, especially the fields, hills, woods, and the beach at the Broch.

Priorities:


Key Priority:

- To have good, sustainable access to our beautiful, well-maintained environment.
- Reduce littering and antisocial behaviour by visitors.
- Sustainably develop and manage our community's natural spaces.
- Protect and improve the health and appearance of our beautiful landscape.

*"We love our woods
and mountains, rivers
and meadows."*


*"Visitors leave
an awful lot
of litter."*


Strathyre: Recreational Access and Natural Spaces


 Settlement boundary

Core and other paths

 Core Path

 Core Path Long Distance

 Other Path

0 500 Metres 

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Reopen the Riverside Loop.

Improve safety of the cycle path opposite the Village Hall by barrier or rerouting.

Upgrade the footbridges on community land behind the village.

Explore community livestock on a small area of community land.

Feasibility Study into bike trails on Black and Yellow Fields.

Recreational Access Actions:

Create a guidebook and map of local trails and paths – also make it available digitally.

Improve path signage and local interpretation with a view to improving cycling safety and understanding of the Outdoor Access Code.

Natural Spaces Actions:

Establish an Environmental Group to undertake activities and projects to improve education and interest in our local environment.

Develop Land Management and Flood Management Plans.

Lobby for and support sustainable land and forestry management to improve biodiversity, reduce flooding, and combat climate change.

Commission a Feasibility Study to explore alternative off-road routes from Immervoulin to the village.



Strathyre: Community and Visitor Facilities and Spaces

What Residents Said:

Community/Visitor Facilities: We would really like to see public toilets in the village. Human waste is becoming a real problem locally, especially for livestock.

Having good information on local amenities for visitors would be great: information, maps, and signage at key points, like the Broch or the shop. Perhaps it could be available digitally too. We really need to improve our local facilities to cope with rising visitor numbers, from expanding 4G to providing more waste and recycling facilities.

We would like to see some community improvements, such as new activities we can join with, or finding ways to create community income.

Community/Visitor Spaces: We want to see the village hall upgraded and used more; perhaps we need to look at alternative lets to improve hall income. We are also keen to see the village and community spaces better used and looked after, especially Victoria Gardens and the area around the play park, as well as more use of the Broch Field.

What Businesses Said:

Community/Visitor Facilities: We really need more facilities to cope with rising visitor numbers. We hope that developments at the Broch Field, such as toilets, will make a difference.

What Young Families Said:

Community Spaces: We would like to see our local recreation facilities better looked after, and more opportunities to socialise and get together. It would be great to upgrade the play park area and the village hall.

What Young People Said:

Community Spaces: We would really like a space where we can meet up. A covered seating area would be great.

What Children Said:

Community Facilities and Spaces: We love the village shop, and the play park and recreation ground are places we like to meet our friends. It would be nice to see a bigger play park.

Priorities:

Key Priority:

- To have enough, well-maintained facilities and spaces for locals and visitors.

Community/Visitor Facilities:


- Improve and increase tourist facilities, infrastructure, and information to cope with rising visitor numbers.
- Improve local communications, support networks and opportunities to socialise.
- Increase waste facilities on offer for locals and visitors.
- Explore community income generators.

Community Spaces:


- Improve our community spaces to make them attractive places to use and spend time.
- Increase and improve recreational space and opportunities.
- To have a good, well used village hall.


"It would be nice to see a bigger play park."


Strathyre: Community and Visitor Facilities and Spaces

 Settlement boundary

Core and other paths

 Core Path

 Core Path Long Distance

 Other Path

0 500 Metres 

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Community and Visitor Facilities Actions:

Key Action: Apply to the Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund to improve facilities across the village.

Increase provision of recycling, rubbish, and dog bins.

Look to establish new activities to bring people together such as Beavers/Cubs and a horticultural club.

Investigate an oil buying group to reduce prices.

Investigate income generation including: hydro electricity, bike/electric vehicle hire, community bike/car chargers



Finish renovations of the village hall.

Encourage better use of the hall through alternative lets such as: Community Trust office and group letting.

Improve the recreation ground by providing more equipment, seating, and a BBQ area.

Upgrade and improve the safety of the play park.

Renovate Victoria Gardens so they are safer and more attractive.

Improve signage and interpretation at key points - make available digitally.

Develop the Broch Field, including toilets, waste disposal, and community hub.

Support community use of the Broch Field: Music Festival, annual events, pop-up shops, farmer's market



Community Spaces Actions:

Install tubs and hanging baskets across the village.

Investigate sustainably developing unused parcels of land for community benefit: such as a covered seating area for young people, more recreational activities.



Strathyre: Economy and Work, Identity, Control and Belonging

What Residents Said:

Economy and Work: Job opportunities are limited locally and focus mainly on the hospitality industry. Perhaps expanding fibre optic broadband across the whole village would help expand local business opportunities.

Identity, Control and Belonging: Strathyre has a great community feel and we feel very safe here. However, we often feel that there is a lack of support and consultation by local authorities and agencies, and that they ignore our concerns.

It would be good to see more engagement by the community in the Community Council or Community Trust when the opportunities arise.

What Young Families Said:

Identity, Control and Belonging: We are not sure if our voices are actually heard and feel that often authorities or agencies are just paying lip service when 'consulting'. We would like to see the Community Council and Community Trust more representative of all views.

What Children Said:

Identity, Control and Belonging: We feel very secure and safe in our village, and it's easy to meet up with friends.

Priorities:

Economy and Work:

- Improve opportunities for increasing and supporting local job and business opportunities over the year.

Identity, Control and Belonging:

- Improved support and engagement from local authorities, agencies, and landowners.
- Improve engagement at community level.


“Strathyre is beautiful - but could be so much more, whilst still maintaining its village feel.”


Strathyre: Identity, Control and Belonging

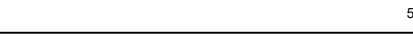

 Settlement boundary

Core and other paths


 Core Path


 Core Path Long Distance

 Other Path

0  500 Metres 

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The representation of features or boundaries in which LLTNPAs or others have an interest does not necessarily imply their true positions. For further information please contact the appropriate authority.

Expand fibre optic broadband to the westside of the village 

Expand fibre optic broadband to the westside of the village 

Identity, Control and Belonging Actions:

Community Council and the Community Trust to engage fully and robustly with local authorities, agencies, and landowners to make sure local voices are heard.

Better communications and consultation, when needed, from the Community Council and Community Trust using a mix of digital and traditional methods.

Encourage a more people to join the Community Council and Community Trust to improve representation.



Cross Community



Cross Community: Roads, Parking and Transport

What Residents Said:

Roads and Parking: We really want to reduce the volume of traffic in the area, especially large commercial vehicles. They make our smaller roads feel unsafe, especially for walking and cycling. This is exacerbated by speeding traffic, particularly through the villages and along single-track roads.

Public Transport: We really need an improved bus service across the whole area. A service that fits in with people's lives, especially young and working people, and that provides links to the east and north as well as the south.

What Businesses Said:

Roads and Parking: We are worried about the increase in volume of traffic on the roads and are worried that it will lead to more accidents. It would have been good if logging companies had found some off-road routes for their lorries to help reduce heavy traffic.

What Young Families Said:

Roads and Parking: We are concerned about speeding and the volume of traffic in all our communities. It would be good to see a series of traffic calming measures.

Public Transport: Current public transport arrangements are not suitable, we really need better scheduling to fit in with people's lives, such as after school clubs, or better weekend services so young people can visit friends more easily without relying on the 'taxi of mum and dad'.

What Young People Said:

Roads and Parking: There is too much traffic on the roads, and too much speeding. This means it's scary and difficult to cycle to see friends who do not live near the cycle path. We would really like to see the speed limits across all three villages enforced.

Public Transport: We need buses to fit into our lives better, such as a service that ties in with after school clubs, weekend evening service, and a Sunday service.

What Children Said:

Roads and Parking: There is too much speeding traffic on the roads, which can be scary.

Cross-Community Priorities:

Roads and Parking:

- Reduce impact of increasing volumes of traffic, especially commercial traffic.
- Stop speeding traffic across the whole community.

Public Transport:

- An improved bus service and timetable that meets the needs of the whole community: especially working and young people.

Roads, Parking and Transport



Public Transport Actions:

Key Action: Raise awareness of existing public transport services and improving access where needed.

Areas to look at:

- The C60 Bus
- Sunday Services.
- Bus scheduling to fit in with people's needs.
- Integrated transport links to other services.
- Integrated DRT services to Callander and Crianlarich.
- Bus services east and north.

To Killin (7 miles)

To St. Fillans (6 miles)

Lochearnhead

Loch Earn

Loch Voil

Balquhider

A84

30

Roads and Parking Actions:

Key Action: Improve road safety across the three glens:

Encourage logging companies to use off-road routes if available to reduce pressure on minor roads.

Lobby for better traffic calming measures on the main roads.

Strathyre

A84

Loch Lubnaig

To Callander (6 miles)
Stirling (22 miles)

0 1 2 Kilometres



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Cross Community: Natural Spaces

What Residents Said:

We are very concerned and upset by the impact that litter and waste is having on our communities. It has a very negative impact on the people living here, and the environment. We are also worried that we will get a reputation for having a 'dirty' community and good visitors will stop coming.

Another significant concern is the management of the hills and forests around us. We would like to make sure that the land is managed to improve environmental health and increase biodiversity, like more mixed, native woods replacing plantations when they are taken out, and to make sure that land practices do not contribute to flooding, which is already having an impact.

What Businesses Said:

We would like to see better communications with local landowners and agencies, especially in forestry, to make sure their activities do not impact the community and environment. We are worried that bad land management could increase localised flooding and increase insurance costs.

What Young People Said:

Although we love our natural spaces, we are worried about the amount of litter, broken glass, and waste across the area. We would really like to see more bins and recycling points in all three villages.

What Children Said:

We really love our area, especially the hills, rivers, fields, and lochs. We are worried about litter and broken glass, especially along the loch and riversides.

Cross-Community Priorities:

- Reduce littering and antisocial behaviour by visitors.
- Protect and improve the health and appearance of our beautiful landscape.

Natural Spaces

Natural Spaces – Land Management Actions:

Engage the local authorities to develop suitable Land and Flood Management Plans.

Engage with forestry sector to make sure extraction methods are appropriate and don't increase flood risk.

Engage with forestry sector to secure 'community benefit' from large scale planting.

Work with the National Park via their Visitor Management Forums.

Engage and work with local landowners to ensure the land is managed sustainably.



To Killin (7 miles)

To St. Fillans (6 miles)

Lochearnhead

Loch Earn

Loch Voil

Balquhider



Natural Spaces – Waste Management Actions:

Secure funding to employ seasonal rangers to maintain popular community and public spaces, enforce Byelaws, and provide information on the Outdoor Access Code.

Provide more rubbish bins and recycling points in each community.

Establish an Annual 3-Glen litter pick.

Strathyre

Loch Lubnaig

To Callander (6 miles)
Stirling (22 miles)



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Cross Community: Economy, Work and Services

What Residents Said:

Economy and Work: The economy is dominated by the hospitality industry, which employs lots of people locally, with farming and forestry playing significant roles. Otherwise, job opportunities are limited. It is not easy as a business to start or grow, however using improve digital services perhaps we have an opportunity to develop a local business hub?

Accessing suitable childcare is difficult, but how do we resolve it?

Services: Our main health care concern is access to the hospital in Larbert. It is far away and a multiple bus ride if you cannot drive. It would be good to have better access.

Access to social care at home is a smaller but important issue to those of us who need it, it would be good to see this improved.

What Businesses Said:

Economy and Work: We know that we have to balance the unique, rural area we live in with economic development, we don't want to spoil it. However, there is a disconnect between locals and tourists. We need tourists to support our economy, but we don't like their impact. Since Covid there has been a change in visitors, moving to short breaks, this seems to reduce their connect to the landscape. Perhaps we need a local strategy to educate and engage visitors with our heritage, which might reduce antisocial behaviours?

What Young Families Said:

Economy and Work: There is a real lack of suitable, affordable childcare locally. Killin Nursery only offers half-days, which is not suitable if you work full days, and getting to the nursery is impossible if you don't have private transport. It would be great to see a wee, local nursery, perhaps attached to the primary school. A Forest Nursery would be ideal. If this is not possible, then re-establishing the Nursery Bus to Killin would be great for parents, but how would we do this?

Childcare during the holidays is a big problem for parents with school aged children. Is there a way to use the new school hall to offer after school and holiday sessions? Perhaps we can link to the Callander Youth Project like Killin has?

Services: We are generally happy with local health care services, but the hospital is very far away, and it's difficult to get to if you don't have private transport.

What Young People Said:

Economy and Work: The local cafes, inns and hotels provide plenty of parttime jobs, so we find it easy to get weekend and holiday work. We generally accept that if we want to work outside the hospitality industry we have to move away.

Services: The hospital is too far away; it would be good if we could access it more easily.

Cross-Community Priorities:

Economy and Work:

- Improve opportunities for increasing and supporting local jobs, business, and training opportunities over the year.
- Increase access to suitable and affordable childcare.

Services:

- Improve access to health and social care services.



Cross Community: Housing

What Residents Said

Our main concerns focus on the lack of affordable housing available, especially for young people or families who already live or want to move to the area, and the number of houses built or sold as second or holiday homes.

We really need a mix of homes to rent and buy, but what is the full need and where would we put them?

And how do we reduce or stem the number of houses, which could be family homes, being sold as second or holiday homes?

What Businesses Said:

Housing: We generally feel that more affordable homes are needed across the area for young people and families. Several larger businesses struggle to attract and retain staff due to the lack of housing, and the lack of long-term rental properties means that accessing accommodation for seasonal workers is really difficult.

They also feel that the number of houses sold as second/holiday homes put additional pressure on the housing stock.

Cross-Community Housing Priorities:

- Increase affordable homes/ accommodation for those that need them.
- Reduce houses being sold as holiday homes.

Economy, Work, Services and Housing



Housing Actions:

Undertake a housing study to assess need for affordable homes with practical solutions.
Lobby to find ways to reduce needed family houses being sold as holiday homes.

Economy and Work Actions:

Re-establish the Nursery Bus to Killin Nursery.
Lobby for full days at Killin Nursery.
Maintain a sustainable hospitality industry to support local jobs.



Develop a 'Business Hub' by:

- Assessing the success of Balquhider Hub pilot at the village hall.
- Investigating links to Forth Valley College and STEP for digital support.

Investigate a Forest School Nursery attached to the primary school

Work with Callander Youth Project and the Primary School to provide after school and holiday clubs.



Services Actions:

Explore solutions to reduce access issues to Larbet Hospital: improved bus scheduling or a dedicated local health shuttle service

Lobby Stirling Council and Forth Valley Health Board to improve access to social care, including social care at home.

Explore options for telehealth opportunities with local GP and hospital services.



0 1 2 Kilometres

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Cross Community: Identity, Belonging and Control

What Residents Said:

We live in a great community, it's safe, welcoming, friendly, and supportive, we love living here.

We would like to feel that we are better listened to by local landowners, authorities and agencies. Sometimes we feel they do not take our concerns and needs and wants seriously. It would be good to see the Community Council and Community Trust more representative of the community, so decisions are not made by a small minority.

Our individual villages are very sociable, which is great, but it would be good to see some more cross-community events and activities.

What Businesses Said:

Sometimes we feel over-consulted! Though it would be good to have better communications with local landowners and agencies.

There is a lot of information about the community and what it has to offer if you look for it.

What Young Families Said:

We would love to see more shared events and activities across the whole BLS area, especially for young people, children, and families. Perhaps we could set up a Parent's Group to organise monthly activities, each community could take a turn.

Perhaps there could be a calendar of local events and activities to help bring the community together.

What Young People Said:

We feel we are listened to, most of the time, by the adults in our lives. However, we would like to see some more activities or a youth group with links to Callander Youth Project.

What Children Said:

We feel safe and happy in our villages, however, it would be nice to see our friends in other villages more easily.

Cross-Community Priorities:

- Better communications with local agencies, landowners, and authorities.
- Improve activities and social access for young people across the community.
- Build a stronger community across the Three-Glens.

Identity, Belonging and Control



Identity, Control and Belonging – Local Connections Actions:
Establish a Parent’s Group to host monthly activity sessions.
Work together to develop more shared events across the Three-Glens.
Create and promote a Three-Glen wide calendar of events/activities.

Lochearnhead

Loch Earn

To Killin (7 miles)

To St. Fillans (6 miles)

Loch Voil

Balquhider



Identity, Control and Belonging – Wider Connections Action:
Community Council and Community Trust to actively engage and work with landowners, authorities, and agencies in all three glens.

Strathyre

A84

Loch Lubnaig

To Callander (6 miles)
Stirling (22 miles)



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We would like to thank the following for their facilitation of the Community Place Plan:

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