

# OUT & ABOUT IN DUNOON



## *An Outdoor Activity Spaces Masterplan*

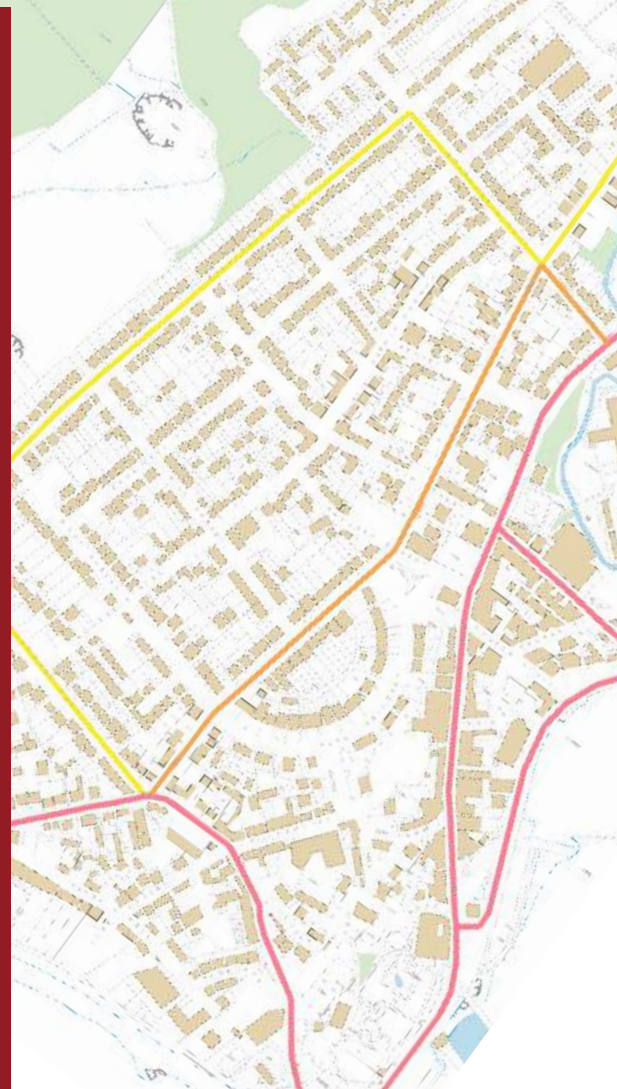
# The Brief

Dunoon Area Alliance aims to bring community groups, organisations and individuals together to achieve outcomes which are beneficial to the community and which are community driven. Dunoon Area Alliance delivered the Think Dunoon Charrette in 2017 generating the Action Plan which now informs the activities of the Alliance.

Dunoon Area Alliance was awarded funding from the Scottish Government's Making Places fund for community-led design. The award allowed the Alliance to bring in Alan Jones Associates to work creatively with the Dunoon community to consider the provision of play areas and outdoor activity spaces across the town. The aim is to design improvements or new developments that will suit all ages and abilities and encourage the community to be more active.

The project has the support of representatives of Argyll & Bute Council, Live Argyll, Argyll Community Housing Association, Dunoon Community Council and Dunoon Councillors.

Dunoon Area Alliance is supported by SURF, Scotland's Regeneration Forum, as part of its Alliance for Action area-based regeneration programme.



## Project Aims

- To work creatively with the Dunoon Community to consider the provision of play areas and outdoor activity spaces across the town.
- To design improvements or new developments that will suit all ages and abilities.
- To encourage the Dunoon community to be more active.
- To involve local people in the design process.

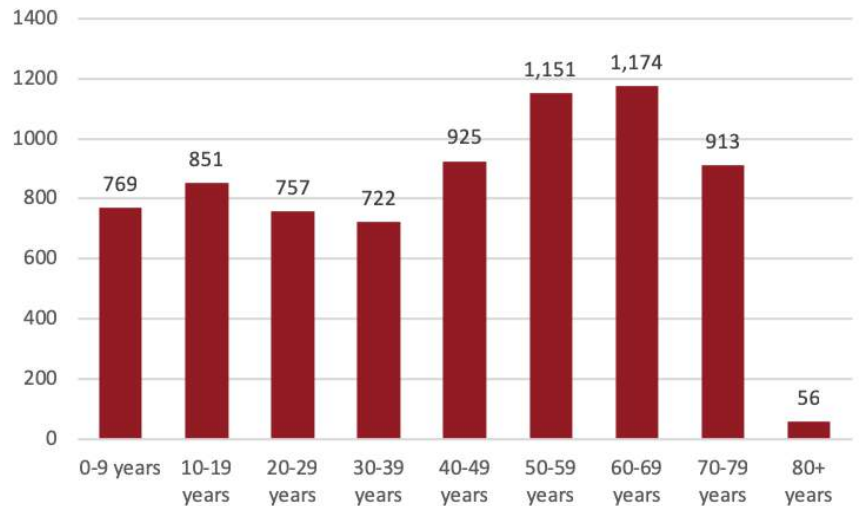
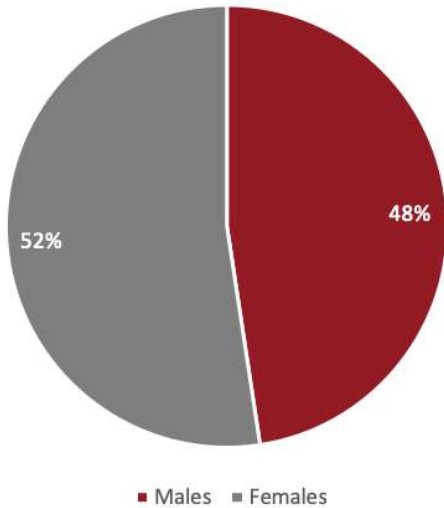




# Dunoon

Dunoon is the main town on the Cowal peninsula in the south of Argyll and Bute, Scotland, with a population of around 7,300 taking consideration of neighbouring areas such as Kirn and Hunter's Quay.

The information below demonstrates an ageing population, and highlights issues around health perception and key areas of deprivation in the town.



- On perception of general health, some 77.6% of the Dunoon population stated that their health was 'very good' or 'good'. This was below the rates for Argyll and the Islands (81.1%), the Highlands and Islands (83.8%) and Scotland (82.2%).
- 25.0% of the Dunoon population reported a limiting long-term illness or health problem that affected their day-to-day activities. This was above the rates for Argyll and the Islands (21.7%), the Highlands and Islands (18.9%) and Scotland (19.6%).
- 10.7% of the Dunoon population provided unpaid care on a weekly basis. This was above the rates for Argyll and the Islands (10.1%), the Highlands and Islands (9.1%) and Scotland (9.3%).

Source: Highlands & Islands Enterprise Dunoon Profile

## The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)

(SIMD) identifies small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across all of Scotland in a consistent way. SIMD ranks small areas (called datazones) from most deprived (ranked 1) to least deprived (ranked 6,976).

Dunoon comprises 9 Datazones, with two listing in the top 10% - Milton (SO1007366) & The Glebe (SO1007368), and a third - Ardenslate (SO1007364) in the top 20% most deprived in Scotland. The key figures relating to these datazones are noted in the adjacent table.

simd		Scottish Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2016		
		Milton (SO1007366)	The Glebe (SO1007368)	Ardenslate (SO1007364)
<b>Datzone:</b>				
<b>Income Deprivation</b>		33.0%	29.6%	22.6%
<b>Employment Deprivation</b>		16.5%	15.7%	14.5%
<b>Health Index Ranking</b>		Rank 412 1 <sup>st</sup> Decile	Rank 644 1 <sup>st</sup> Decile	Rank 1,069 2 <sup>nd</sup> Decile
<b>Overall Ranking</b>		349 1 <sup>st</sup> Decile	572 1 <sup>st</sup> Decile	923 2 <sup>nd</sup> Decile

# The Value of Open Space

The Scottish Planning Policy: SPP11: Open Space and Physical Activity notes that open spaces and sports facilities enrich our quality of life and our environments. Access to good quality open spaces and facilities which encourage people to play sports and to walk, run, cycle or ride horses are an essential component in the drive to get more of the population physically active and can contribute to The Scottish Government's objective of a Healthier Scotland. Physical activity can improve mental health and well-being and the presence of tranquil green spaces close to where people live and work can encourage relaxation.



Providing play space and other opportunities for children and young people to play freely, explore, discover and initiate their own activities can support their wellbeing and development. Open space can also provide a rich and accessible resource for education.



Rural areas support outdoor recreation in a wide range of settings including hills, forests, coasts and inland water. These places enable people to enjoy Scotland's natural heritage at first hand, and can provide rich experiences which greatly enhance quality of life. Outdoor recreation is often of considerable importance to the rural economy. Rural communities also require accessible path networks, open space and facilities for sport and recreation. Regional and country parks and some local nature reserves provide important destinations for various types of recreation close to larger centres of population.

Areas for horticulture, such as gardens and allotments, can be of great value to the local community and offer benefits for the environment. They create an opportunity for local food production, encourage physical activity and healthy eating, offer a place to relax and to learn, and contribute to local biodiversity.

Civic open spaces, whether providing pleasant places to meet, or through enhancing the street scene, can help to create well designed places for people. An environment which contains good quality, well-maintained open space is more attractive to investors, helping create a Wealthier and Fairer Scotland. Improving the open spaces within a community can help reverse patterns of decline, generate civic pride and help to establish cultural identity, all contributing towards a Safer and Stronger Scotland, while creating well designed places for people to meet together within their community.



# Links to Policies & Strategies



Led by Scottish Natural Heritage on behalf of the Scottish Government, The Green Infrastructure Strategic Intervention has been developed with the key aim to use green infrastructure to help address some of the issues faced by urban communities living in areas of multiple deprivation, and in doing so, to demonstrate how thinking about the many functions a place can have can provide solutions to lots of different problems at the same time. It works around the following key benefits and understanding of Greenspace.

- Greenspace becomes a central feature of people's lives and they recognise and welcome the role it plays in their day to day wellbeing and happiness. Communities' health and wellbeing improves through the use of greenspace.
- Green infrastructure close to where people live provides health and recreational benefits and enhances their quality of life through improving the quality of their local environment and their sense of place. People of all ages and abilities feel safe and confident to use and enjoy their greenspace. More people benefit from recreation and formal and informal exercise in greenspace.
- People's mental health and wellbeing is better as a result of increased contact with nature and with their community.
- The environment in which people live and the prosperity that they enjoy have significant impacts on their health and wellbeing. The way greenspace and places are planned, managed and used ensures that they provide a wide range of environmental benefits to local communities and helps them feel more secure and resilient.
- Barriers to advancement economically, socially and in outdoor workplaces are reduced for disadvantaged groups.
- All sectors within communities feel empowered and confident to use their local greenspaces. Greenspaces and places are designed and managed so that everyone feels welcome and that there is something for them. All sections of local communities have opportunities to get involved with and use their local greenspace in ways that suit them. The whole community feels more in control of their local environment, more influential and better connected.

## Let's Make Scotland More Active

The national physical activity strategy for Scotland (2002-2023)

Scotland's 'first ever Physical Activity Strategy' was published by the Scottish Executive in February 2003. The strategy was the outcome of 18 months' work by a Physical Activity Task Force, set up to implement a recommendation in 'Towards A Healthier Scotland'.

The strategy adopts new national targets on activity levels drawn up by the task force, to combat the fact that from age 11 onwards, the majority of people are inactive, with higher inactivity levels among girls and women of all ages. It is based upon 'two well-accepted health messages':

- Adults should build up at least 30 minutes of moderate activity (the equivalent of brisk walking) on most days of the week.
- Children should build up at least one hour of moderate activity on most days of the week'.



# Meeting The National Outcomes



Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
gov.scot

The Scottish Government's National Performance Framework works to five overarching aims

- Create a more successful country
- Give opportunities to all people living in Scotland
- Increase the wellbeing of people living in Scotland
- Create sustainable and inclusive growth
- Reduce inequalities and give equal importance to economic, environmental, and social process.

To achieve this framework, the Government sets out 11 national outcomes, with the following four resonating with environmental and outdoor spaces as noted in this plan.

## **“We are healthy and active.”**

The development of these facilities will increase the capacity for physical activities and exercise for residents and visitors of all ages. Such access to such facilities is vital to ensure longer healthier lives for local residents.

## **“We value, enjoy, protect, and enhance our environment”**

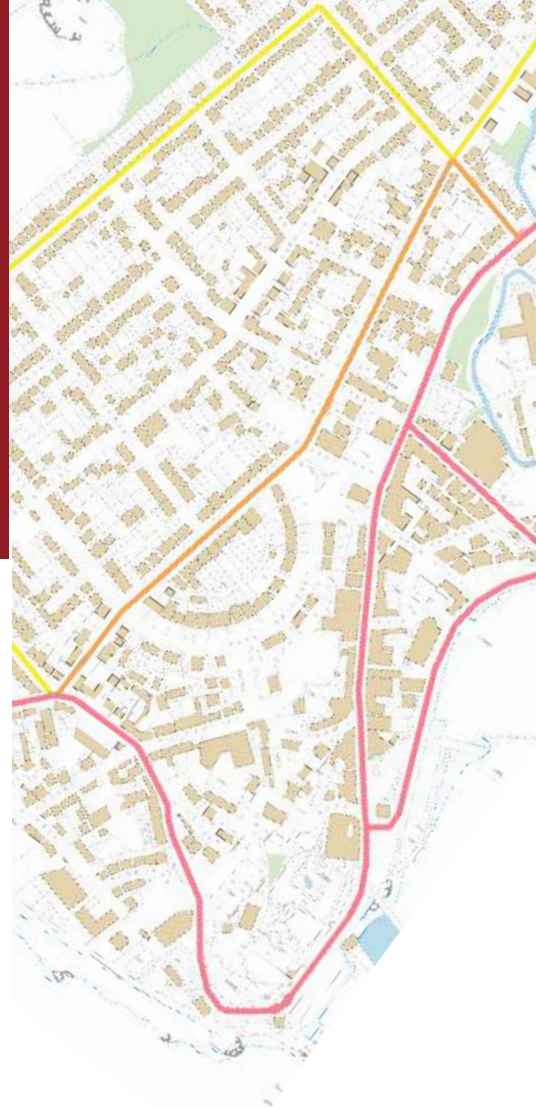
Developing local facilities dedicated to health and wellbeing will address the gap in access to amenities between those living in rural population hubs, and those in larger population centres. Giving the local residents access to play and open spaces on their doorstep will support this national outcome directly.

## **“We live in communities that are inclusive, empowered, resilient and safe.”**

Dunoon Area Alliance is an example of an organization with a purpose to highlight the need for more play and outdoor spaces.

## **“We grow up loved, safe, and respected so that we realise our full potential.”**

The importance of physical activity at all ages of childhood is fundamental to physical, social and emotional development. The development of Play and Outdoor Spaces and wellbeing facilities in Dunoon directly improves and encourages such behaviour in children of all ages.





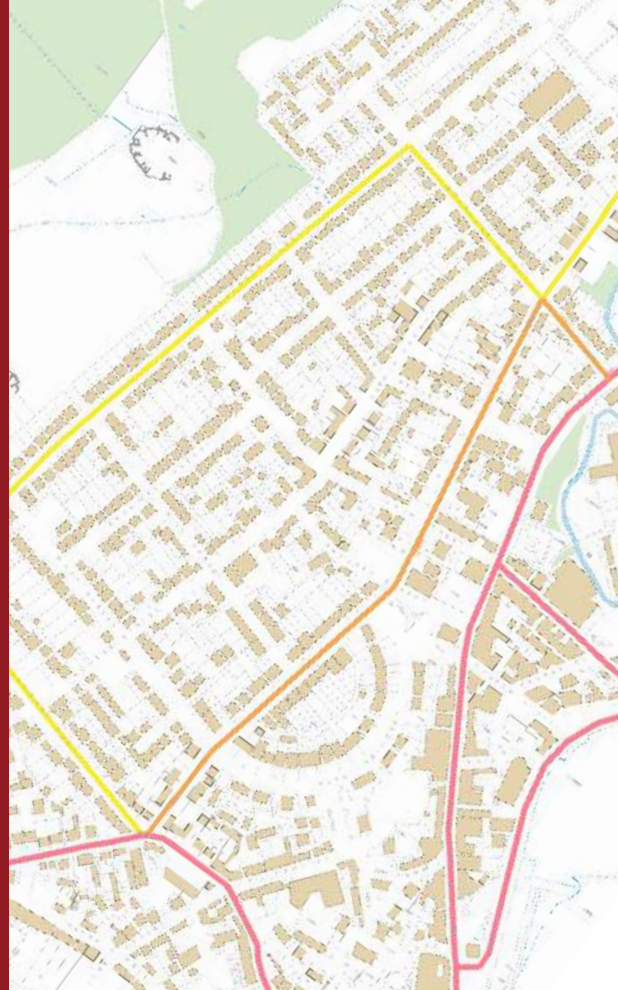
# Methodology

An assessment of local needs was carried out through an online survey "Out and About in Dunoon". This asked what local people felt about the current levels of play and open space provision, what they might like in future, and what barriers they were facing to making more use of outdoor spaces.

The survey was completed by 505 local people. This was augmented by a number of community consultation meetings:

Table Top Charity Event Dunoon Grammar School(35), Rotary Club Public Event Dunoon Burgh Hall(30), Dunoon Primary School(165) St Mun's Primary School(119) Kirn Primary School(204), Dunoon Grammar School(100), Patchwork and Cottage Nurseries (14), Morrison's Supermarket (40), 1000 Voices Groups, Dunoon Senior Citizens (36), Upcycling (7), Cowal Ladies Singers (6), Cowal Elderly Befrienders (10), Young Adult HELP(15), Guide Hall Group(15), Valrose Residents (14) High Street public(11)

In total the consultation responses were received from 1,326 local people. The results of these consultations are summarised in the next section.



General public consultation at Rotary Event drop in session.

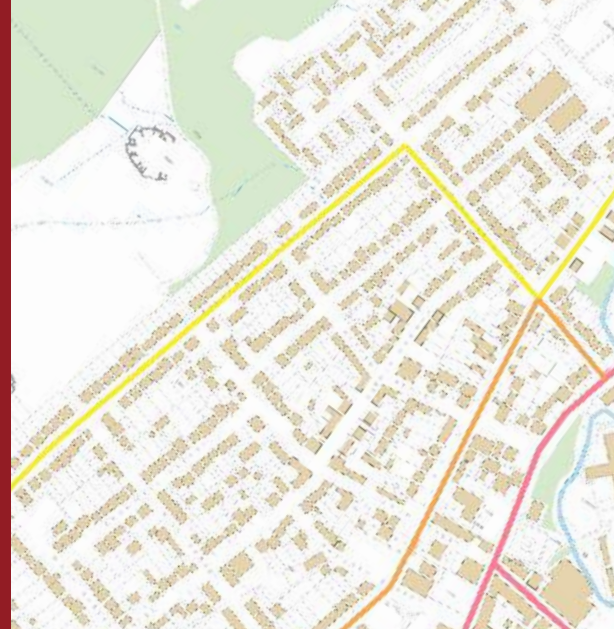
## Our Assessment Model

From our audit inspection of play and open spaces provision, and from feedback from Dunoon Area Alliance, it was determined that there is "reasonable provision" in Dunoon for play and public open spaces. We have therefore adopted the following model for **PROTECTING** existing provision, **PROVIDING** new suggestions and **ENHANCING** existing play and open space provision.



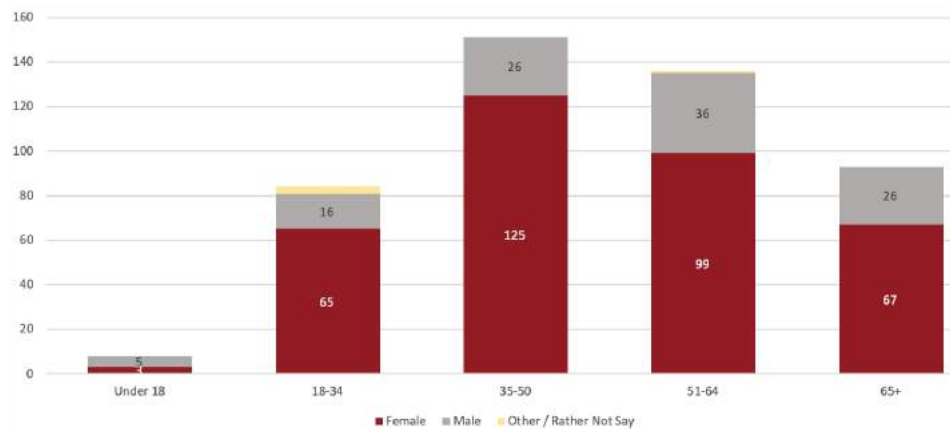
# Community Survey

An assessment of local needs was carried out through an online survey "Out and About in Dunoon". This asked what local people felt about the current levels of play and open space provision, what they might like in future, and what barriers they were facing to making more use of outdoor spaces.



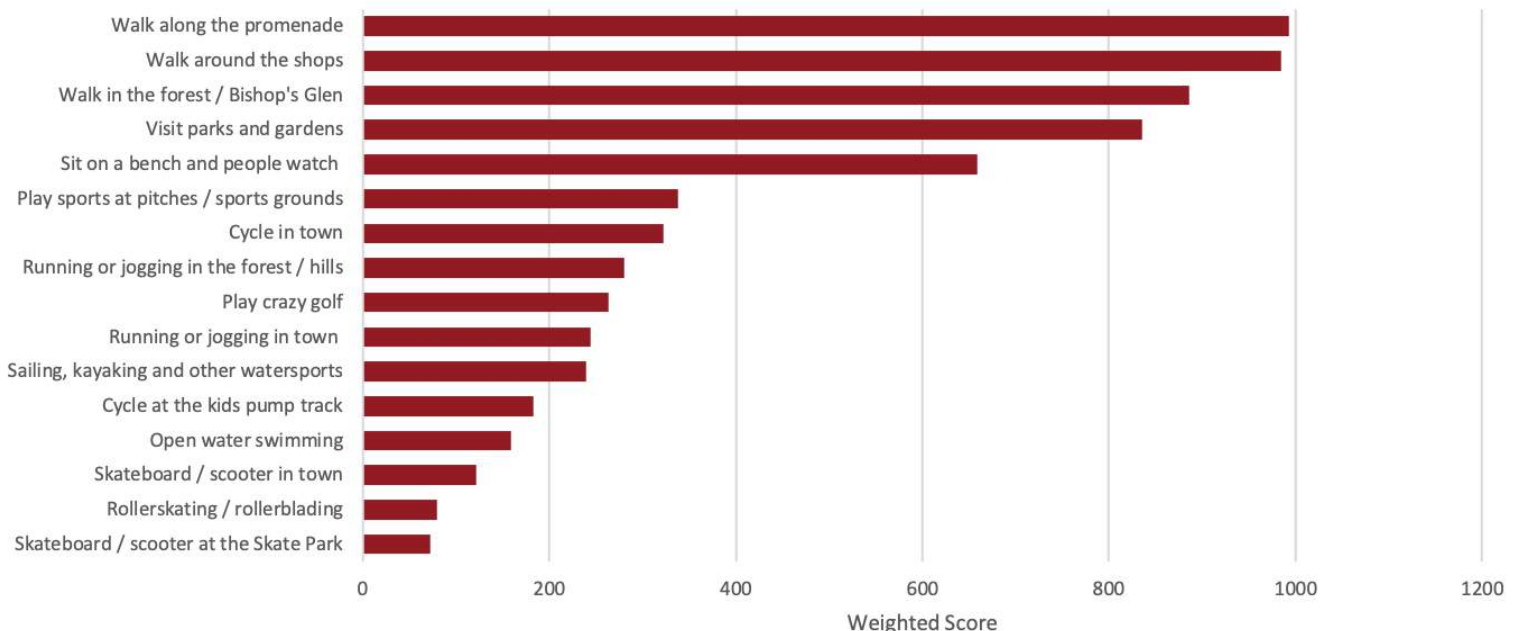
## Who responded?

The main survey was distributed online via Survey Monkey augmented by hard copies of the survey being completed at a variety of consultation events. There were 505 surveys completed. A summary of the results is shown in the graphs: Not everyone answered all the questions, hence the totals do not all come to 505.



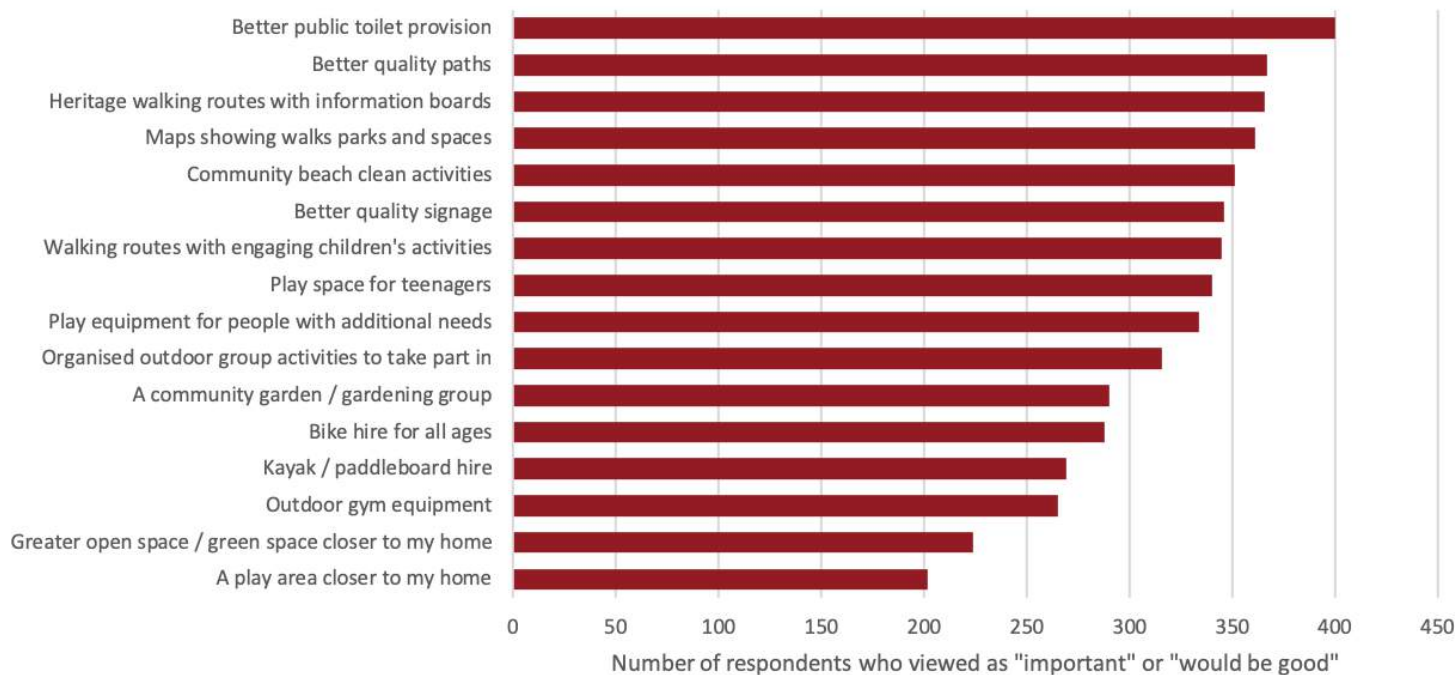
## What do people enjoy doing?

Respondents were asked what activities they and their families take part in in Dunoon, and how often. The table and chart below outlines the results, where weightings were given to each response (often - 3, sometimes -2, rarely -1, and never - 0) providing a weighted score with which to rank the popularity of each activity.

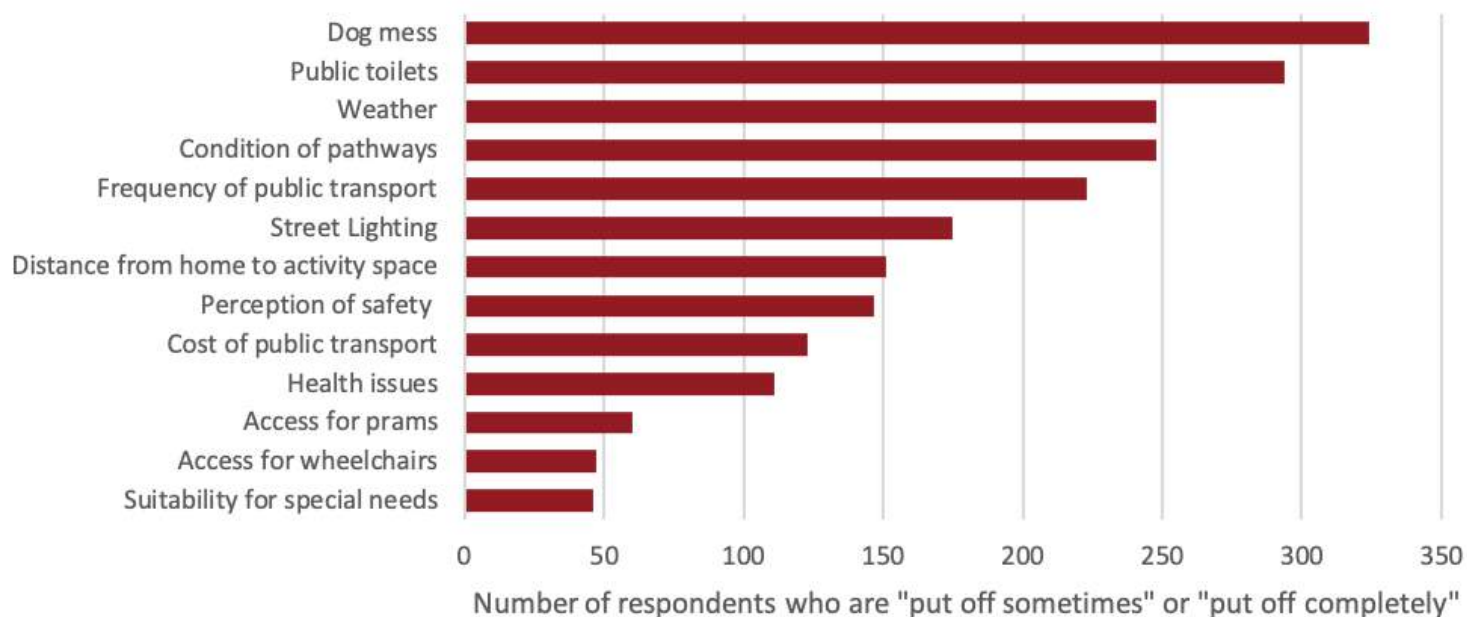




# What could it be improved?

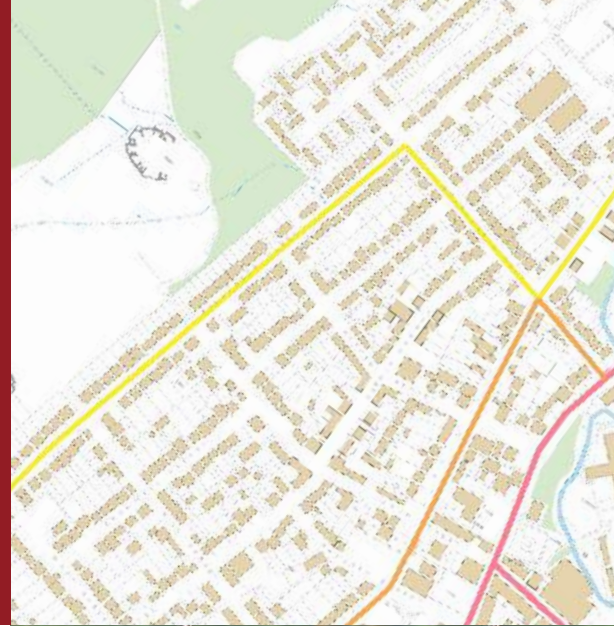


# Key Issues & Concerns?

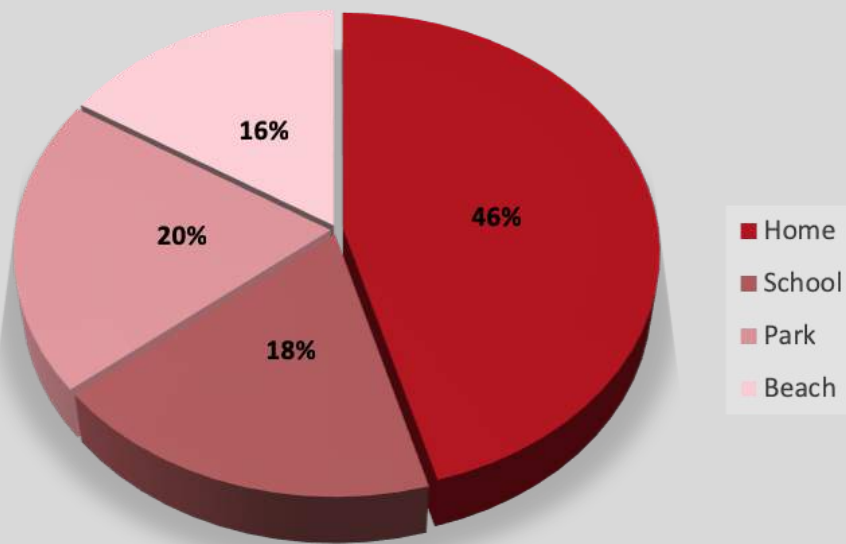


# Primary School Engagement

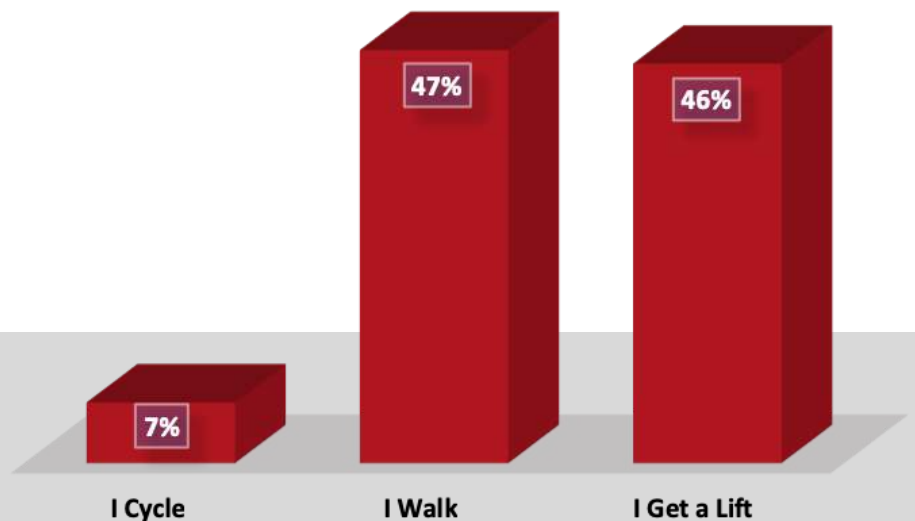
Our researchers visited Dunoon, St Mun's and Kirn Primary schools meeting all classes and engaging with approximately 488 primary school pupils and 2 Learning Centres in Dunoon. The results of these face to face consultations are outlined below;



## Where do you like to play the most?

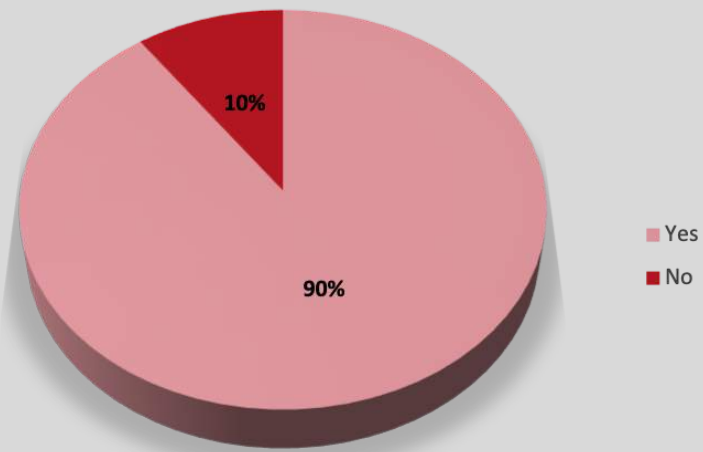


## How do you get to school?

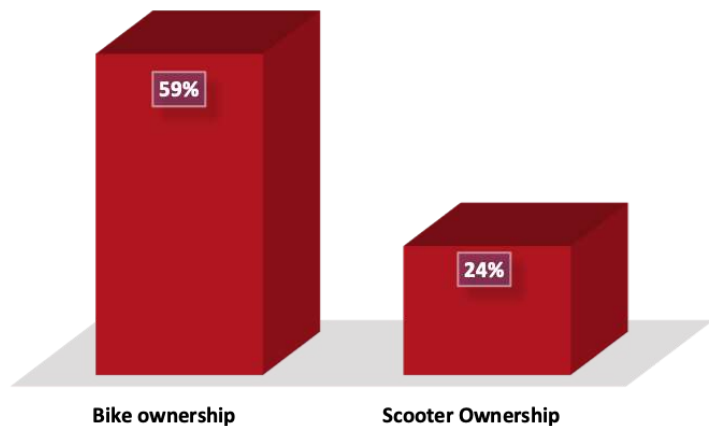




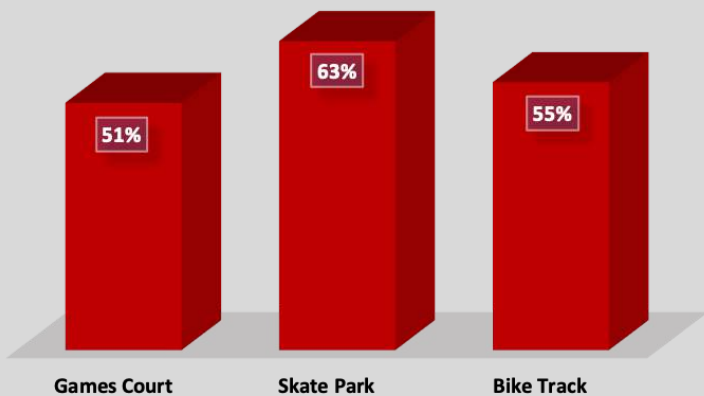
# Would you like more parks?



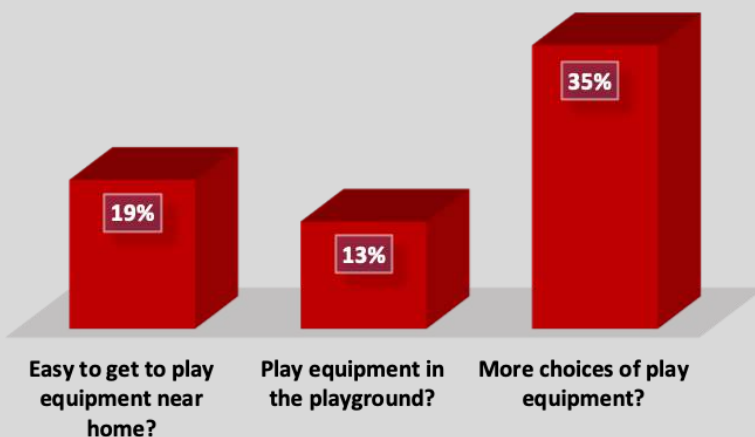
# Do You Own a Bike or Scooter?



# What new facilities would you use?

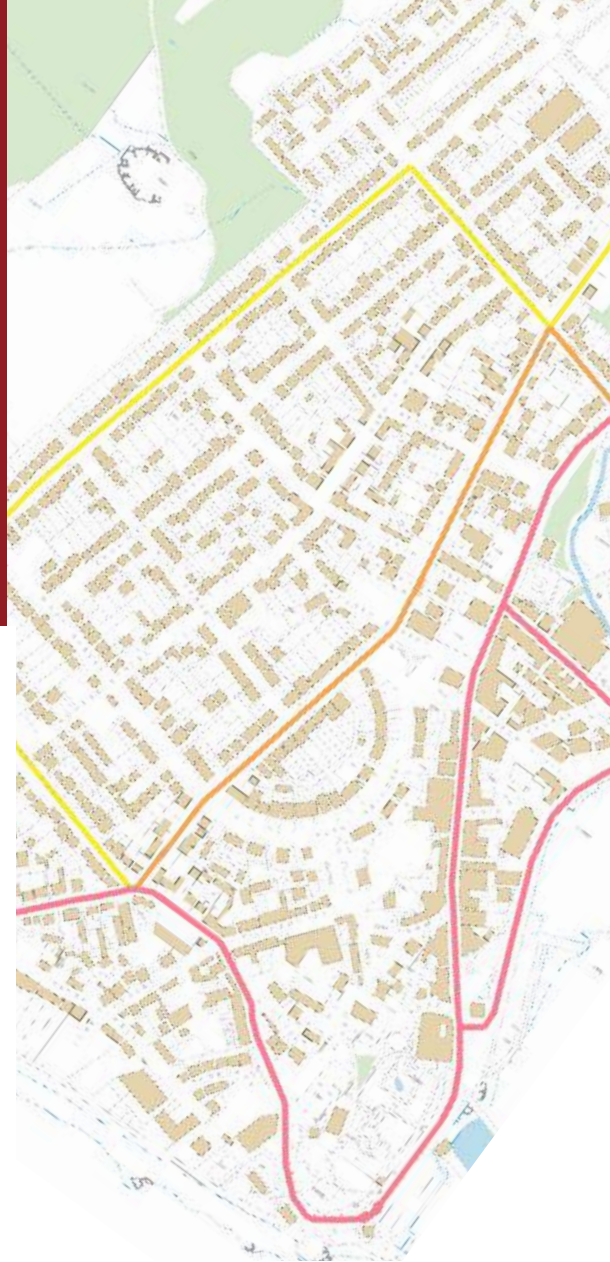


# What would make play better?

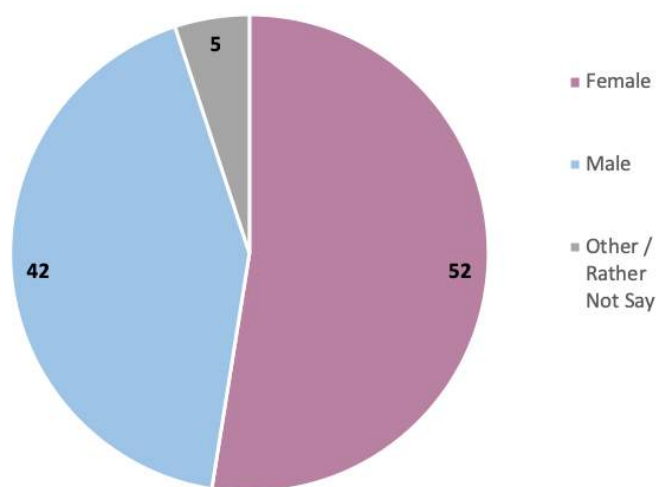


# Dunoon Grammar School

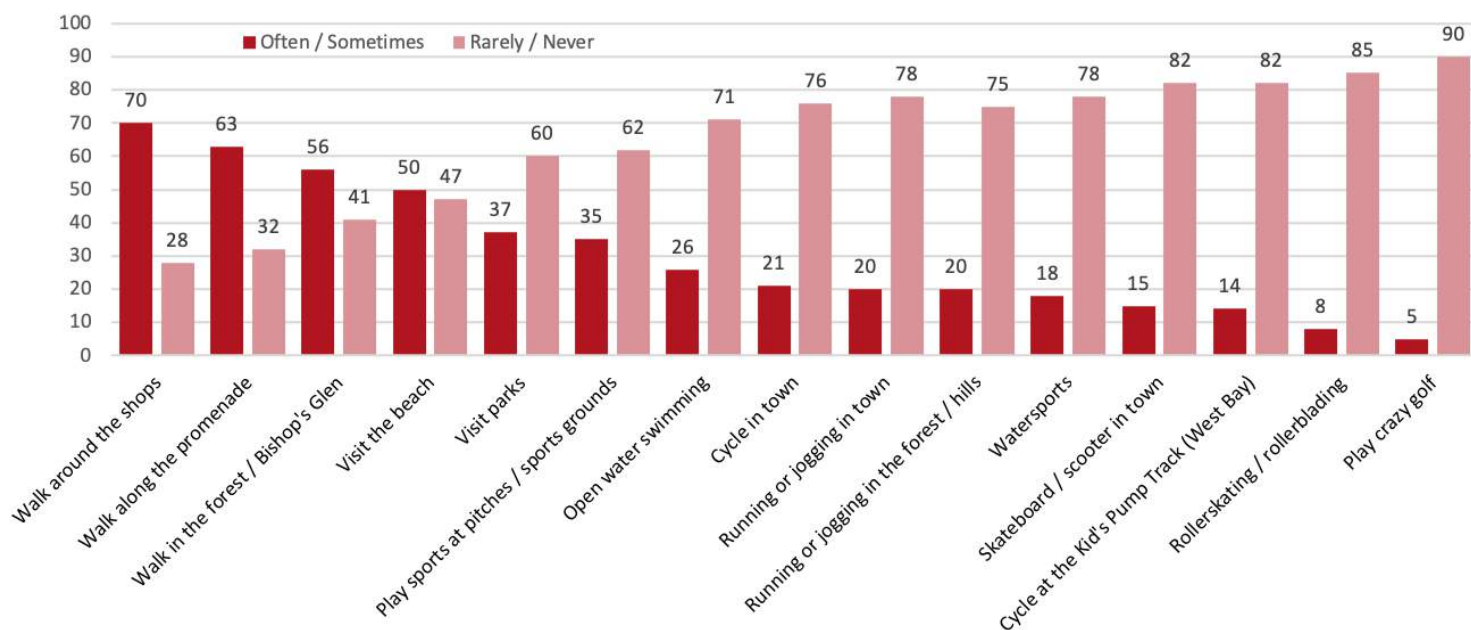
The consultation with pupils at Dunoon Grammar School was done using Quick Response (QR) codes to link to a survey which was considered more appropriate for young teenagers. 100 replies were received. The results are below:



## Who responded?

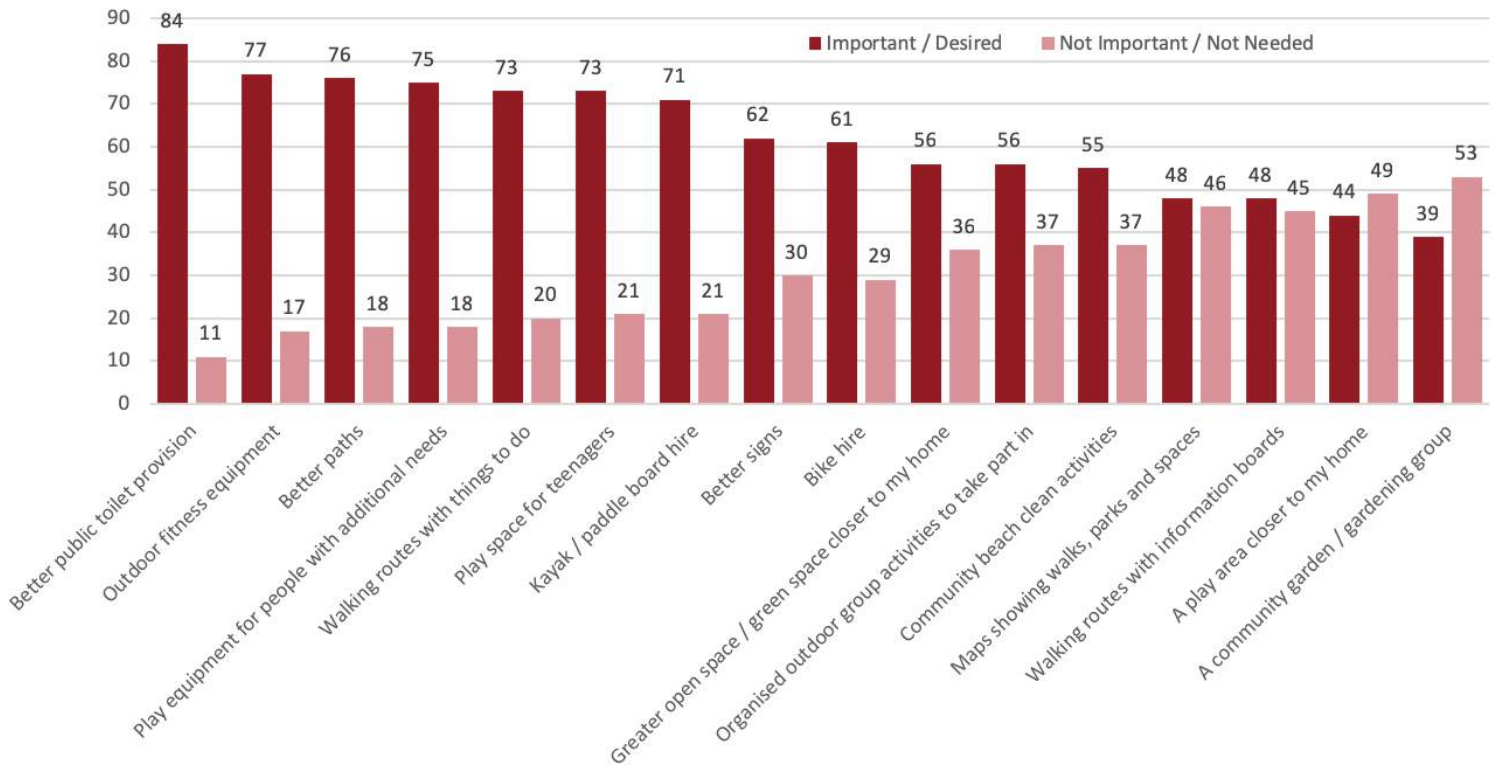


## What activities do you currently take part in?

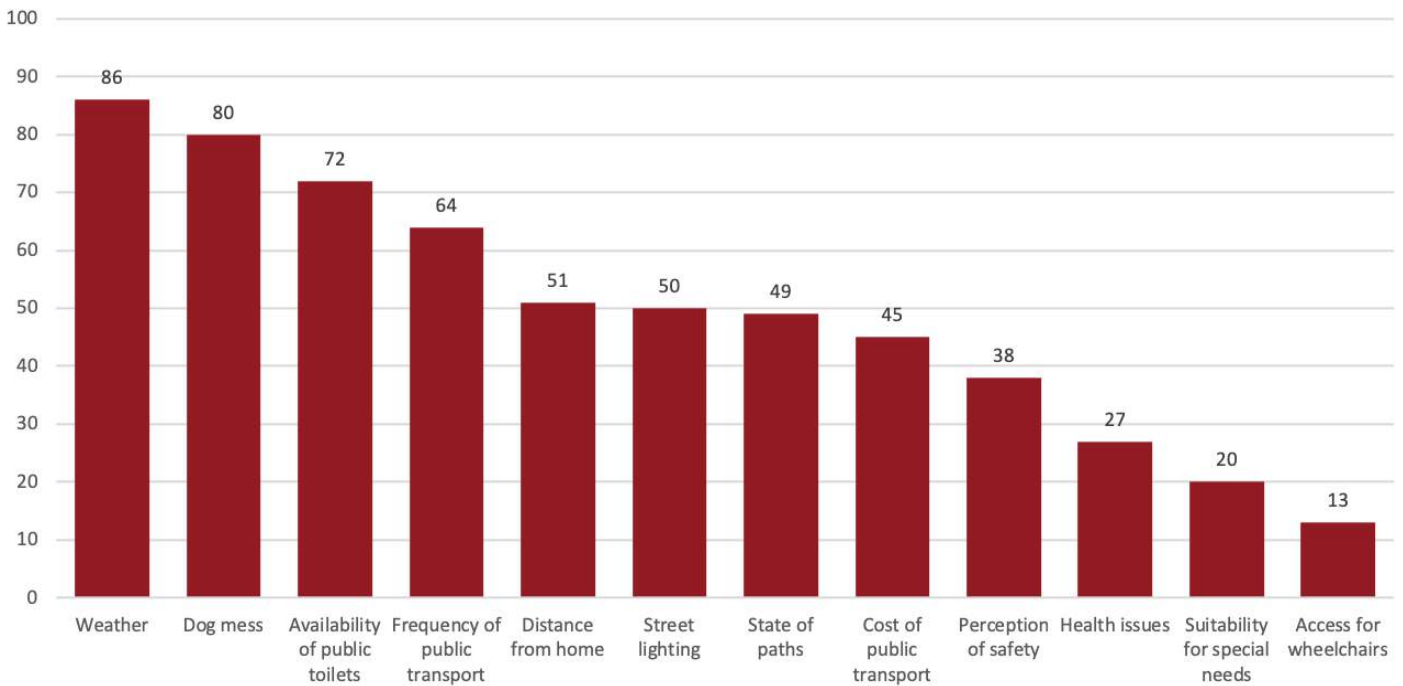




# What improvements would you like to see?



# What are the current barriers to enjoying Dunoon Outdoors?



# Engaging The Older Population

A range of comments and suggestions were made by those in the older age categories about the types of activities and improvements that they would like to see in the public open spaces in and around Dunoon. These include:

- Improved public toilets
- Improved footpaths, promenade and walkways
- Better public transport
- Walks and heritage trails for example Big Tree Walk (Black Gates), Puck's Glen, or Bishop's Glen.
- Better signage and maps



Run by The Conservation Volunteers(TCV), Green Gyms are free outdoor sessions where adults are guided in practical activities such as planting trees, sowing meadows and establishing wildlife ponds. Such is the positive benefit of the initiative, GPs now prescribe Green Gym sessions to patients to encourage them to improve their health and wellbeing. By taking part, participants are encouraged to make positive changes to their lifestyle, such as walking and cycling more.

Green Gyms also enhance mental wellbeing through increased contact with nature, the social benefits of group activity and helping people contribute something positive to their community. TCV work closely with partners, including mental health charity Mind, to continually innovate Green Gyms to ensure that they maximise the benefits for participants.





# Consideration for Inclusive and Inspirational Play



We recommend for any new play areas the Plan Inclusive Play Area (PiPA) principle is used. PiPA is broken down into 5 key areas. This helps you to understand what parents with disabled children have to consider before planning a trip to a play area and therefore how to design out the barriers to play.

1. Sensory Experiences are valued by every child, ensure your play area doesn't just focus on physical movement.
2. Areas for relaxation and downtime are great for children and their parents to relax. It also ensures that children who need a little 'me' time can choose to get away from the general noise.
3. Pathways may sound like a boring point, but imagine if you couldn't even get into a play area? Firm pathways for wheelchairs, children with walking aids and visually impaired children are important and must be at least 1.2 metres wide.
4. Ramped access points onto raised platforms or multiplay units open up play experiences to more children and their families. All children appreciate the feeling of height, it could be as simple as a raised decked area with some play features dotted around.
5. How are you going to let families know that the play area is accessible? Complete the PiPA Self-assessment to see if your play area qualified for PiPA status and promotion on our PiPA Map



Inshes Park Inverness Inclusive Play Equipment

## Natural Play

Natural play areas are outdoor spaces designated for play that are made from natural components such as plants, logs, water, sand, mud, boulders, hills, and trees. These components represent the larger wild environment in a way that feels safe and manageable to young visitors and their parents whilst inviting imaginative and exploitive play.





# Developing Key Spaces





# Protect, Enhance, Provide?

The following table summarises the assessment of the key areas undertaken as part of this study. For each site, consideration of the Protect, Provide and Enhance model has been made. Each site is further explored in the subsequent pages.



SITE	PROTECT	PROVIDE	ENHANCE	SUMMARY
The Promenade	✓		✓	A key feature of Dunoon is the extended waterfront promenade which is owned and maintained by Argyll & Bute Council, and this should be both protected and enhanced as an attractive outdoor space for residents and visitors to the area.
The Castle Gardens	✓		✓	The Castle Gardens should be protected and enhanced, with improvements to footpaths, furniture and outdoor recreational facilities meeting the expressed needs of the local community.
The Rose Garden	✓	✓	✓	The Gardens should be protected as a key town centre public open space, whilst further enhanced and provided for by way of a potential Community Asset Transfer to a newly formed Dunoon in Bloom group.
St Mun's Primary School		✓	✓	Located near to the Rose Garden, this town centre Primary has ample scope within the curtilage of the school to provide a new play area for pupils and the wider local community.
Kirn Primary School		✓	✓	As with the above, this school has scope to create a new enhanced play area to meet the expressed needs of the local community.
Dunoon Primary School	✓			Whilst located in the town centre, there is no obvious public open space within the boundary of the School.
West Bay	✓	✓	✓	As an expansive town centre beach, with traffic-free promenade, the West Bay offers a significant, but under-utilised, resource for the town. A local group – Kids at West Bay has taken on the responsibility for providing a range of outdoor activities for younger people in the West Bay area. This group should be actively encouraged and supported in their quest for further improvements to outdoor and public space provision.
Bishop's Glen	✓		✓	Owned by Forest & Land Scotland this idyllic natural feature on the outskirts of Dunoon is a very popular venue for walking and cycling. Improved signage from the town centre would help to promote better use of this significant asset.
Valrose Car Park		✓	✓	Argyll Community Housing Association are the owners of the public open space known as Valrose Car Park. There are currently split opinions on how this space could be used, and it is hoped that ACHA can take this forward with local residents in the near future.
Skate Park		✓	✓	The skate park was opened around 2005. This facility has served its useful life and could be replaced with a state-of-the-art new style concrete wheeled sports facility.

# Dunoon Promenade

Walking along the Promenade often or sometimes was the most popular activity selected in the main surveys with around 83% of those consulted selecting this activity. This was followed closely by walking around the shops (81%) and walking in Bishop's Glen (72%)

These results correlated closely with secondary pupils at Dunoon Grammar with walking around the shops (70%), walking along the promenade (63%) and walking in Bishop's Glen (56%).

The 3 key concerns from the main survey were (1) Dog Mess (2) Lack of public toilets and (3) Frequency of public transport.

What could be improved?(1) Better public toilet provision (2) Better quality paths and (3) Better quality signage.

The 3 improvements from Dunoon Grammar pupils were (1) Better public toilet provision(2) Better outdoor fitness equipment for teenagers and (3) Better quality paths.

## Potential Improvements:

Improve the overall appearance of the promenade by introducing new planters and soft landscaped areas. Themed signage should guide visitors around the area.

Amenity seating and litter bins could be provided and hanging baskets and floral decorations could be provided by the newly formed Dunoon in Bloom group.

A possible cycle route could be created using coloured dot markings denoting length of "in town" bike trails. In addition, given the nature and length of the promenade, this could be used to create a network of heritage walks, adequately signposted, encouraging walking and physical activity for all ages and abilities. Similar walks are a feature of other seaside towns such as Eastbourne and Swansea.

On the promenade at Kirn there are large pavement games like snakes and ladders and they have themed exhibits, anchors, planters and interpretation boards, which could extend along to Dunoon's promenade.

Dog fouling bins should be clearly marked and provided at 200m intervals.

The local community should be encouraged to follow the Kids at West Bay example of beach cleaning on a regular basis. The mini golf is of questionable quality and should either be removed or replaced with a quality themed mini golf layout and possibly franchised out to a local business.





# The Castle Gardens

The topography and layout of the gardens are inviting and interesting but offer scope for improving and enhancing. Quality of paths was a key concern in the consultations, and the footpaths here have suffered tree root heave and in many places are raised or broken, making them less likely to be used by wheelchair users or those with a disability or by prams. By repairing these paths the Gardens could become a more user friendly and safer facility for the above users, or for young children on bikes.

The garden grassed areas could benefit from new improved park furniture including themed amenity seating, picnic tables and BBQ areas. A small seasonal ice cream franchise opportunity could improve the garden's overall ambiance, and might also double up as the outlet to hire clubs for a new mini golf area or bike hire rental space.

Live Argyll is the Leisure Trust managing mainly indoor leisure services on behalf of the council. There may be the possibility of working in partnership with Live Argyll in delivering outdoor fitness equipment and physical activities given the proximity to their operations in Queen's Hall and the Riverside Leisure Centre.





# The Rose Garden



This garden in the town centre, near Morrisons supermarket, is a formal garden including public toilets. These toilets are owned by the council and are currently closed with limited prospects of being reopened by the council.

There are numerous examples of similar public toilets elsewhere in Scotland where local community groups have taken over responsibility from their local authority to manage and operate these. Examples include Kinlochewe (Wester Ross), North Kessock (near Inverness) Ticket Office, Portpatrick Harbour Benefit Society (Dumfries and Galloway) Biggar Community Toilets (South Lanarkshire) Kyle of Lochalsh Development Trust (Highland).

The Rose Garden also has a network of footpaths in need of some attention. The park appears poorly maintained, possibly as a result of council budget cuts. As a result of the consultation exercises discussions were held with a resident of Dunoon who advised that a loosely formed group of enthusiasts had expressed an interest in upgrading and improving the Rose Garden. Following discussions she is in the process of forming a new constituted group to be known as "Dunoon in Bloom". Thereafter this group may consider the improvements to the Rose Garden and subsequently further environmental improvement projects throughout Dunoon.

The Group is established to pursue the following objectives:

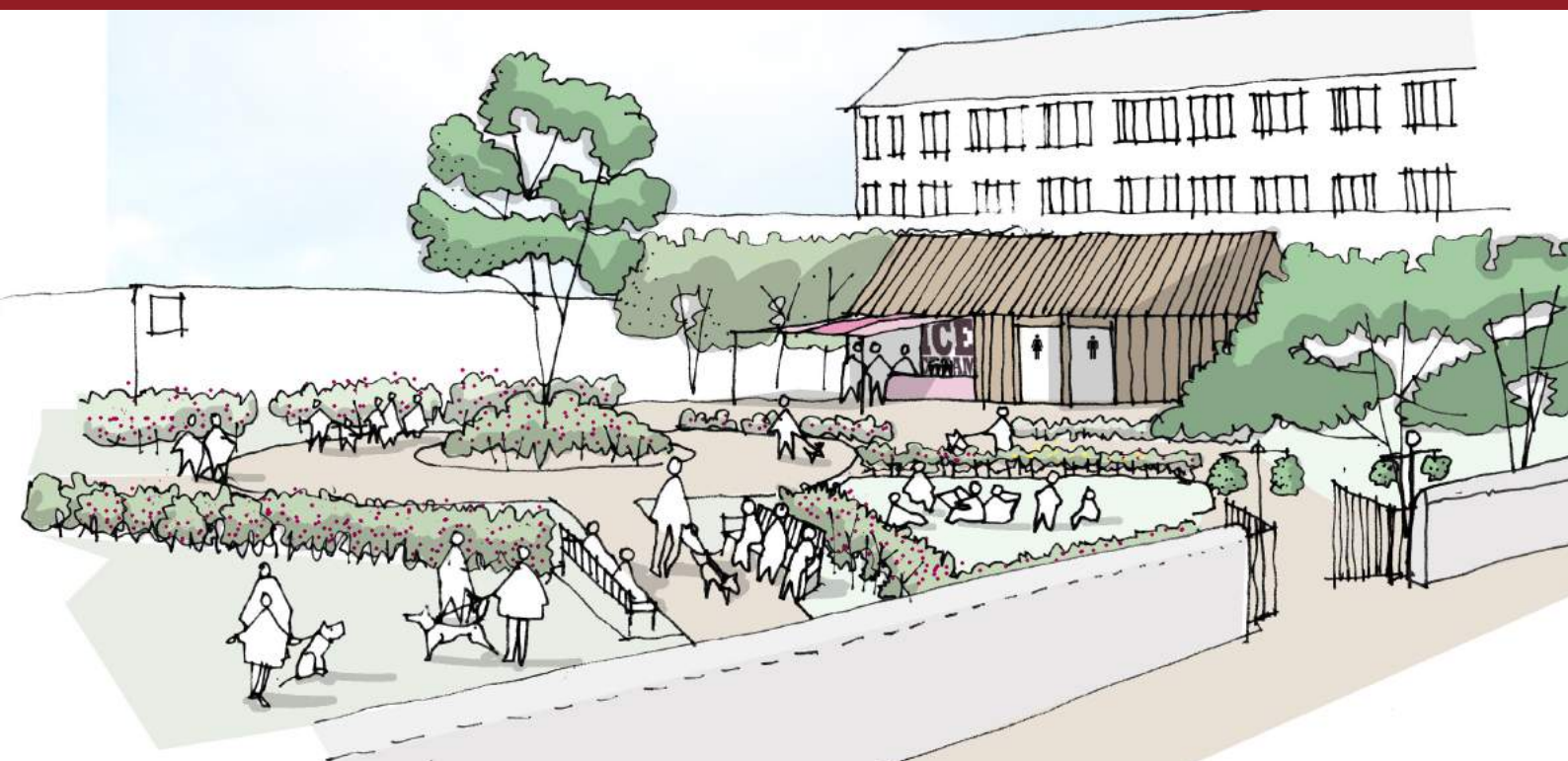
- a) Identifying and making environmental improvements to Dunoon and its open spaces
- b) Participation projects associated with improving the quality of the green and open spaces in Dunoon.

It is too early to suggest what the new group's plans might be, but clearly they have an overall vision in mind.

This group could create an interest in Community Gardening by using volunteers to care and tend for all aspects of grounds maintenance, planting, pruning, grass cutting etc.

In the public consultation, it was noted that visits to parks and gardens was one of the most popular activities. Respondents also noted the need for improvements to public toilets. By undertaking the Rose Garden project, this new group may address this, and should be actively supported.

Given the proximity of the Doctor's Surgery adjacent to the Rose Garden, discussions should take place regarding possible links to health and physical activity for their patients.





# The West Bay

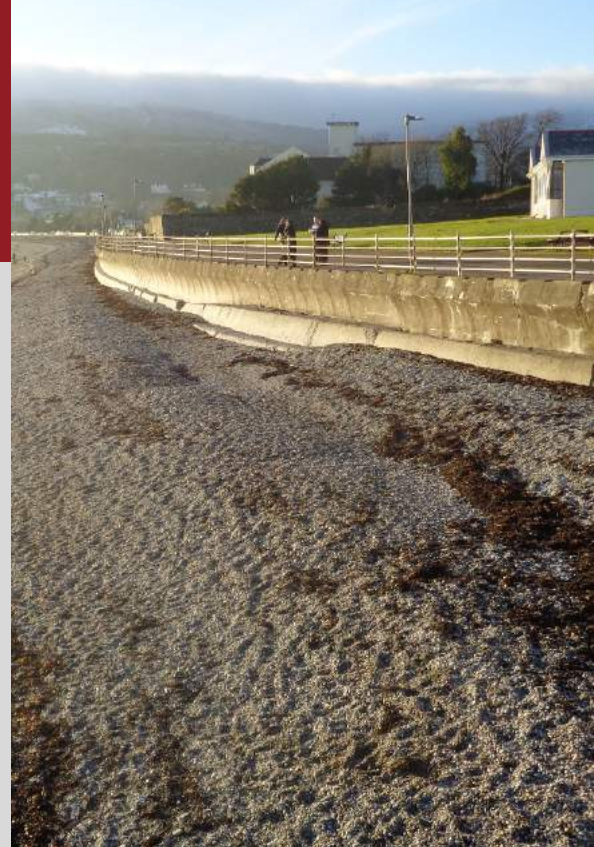
There is a good quality play area established at the southern edge of Dunoon and this was provided by CLANN (no longer active), a local voluntary community group. The quality and condition of the play equipment is good and fit for purpose. While the two areas are fenced in, there is however, the issue of a busy road over which parents and children have to cross from the adjacent car park. It is understood that the nearby pavilion provides toilet facilities, but these are seasonal.

Kids at West Bay is an active group of parents involved in promoting the use of the West Bay beach for families by organising regular play activities and beach clean sessions. This group should be actively supported, similar to the Dunoon in Bloom group.

The Kids at West Bay main concerns are around;

- Improved toilets within the area for parents and children when doing outdoor activities.
- More natural play areas and spaces, potential wood and water sensory areas. Social spaces, covered spaces for shelter areas.
- Fencing at the West bay area should be relocated to the road side for safety to enable the children to take advantage of the green area, the fences seem to be at the prom side of the green rather than road side.
- The council to take more responsibility for the dog owners as there is so much dog- dirt they have to constantly clean up areas before the children can play.
- Improved signage is required, and this is a common theme throughout the consultations.

For a short time during the summer months a portable wooden pump track is located in the area and it might be that a more permanent bike pump track could be constructed on the grassed area, thereby providing a safe traffic free cycling track all year round.





# The Dunoon Primary Schools

During the consultation process the head teachers at St Munns and Kirn Primary schools raised the question about whether each school could have a play area built in, or near, the school playgrounds.

Four play companies were invited to visit the sites and provide costed designs for both schools. Both head teachers have indicated these facilities, if provided, would be made available to the wider community all year round, and not just during term time for their pupils.

Both projects are under consideration.

Due to lack of open space around Dunoon Primary, and due to ongoing renovation works, it was considered limited improvements could be made to the immediate school open spaces.



# Valrose Car Park

Around 5 years ago a community consultation event was held with the residents of Cowal Place, MacArthur Road and Alexander Street who's houses back onto a large tarmacked area known as Valrose car park. Half of the houses are owned and half are rented by the Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA). The previous consultation resulted in no action being taken.

The feeling now from those residents who attended (14 of the 56) was that they would like the area lit at night and most use it as a car park. Some concerns were expressed if it's converted into a play area by those who put children to bed early, they would see it as a noise distraction if others are using it.

It was noted that the area often attracts anti social behaviour, and older people are afraid to go out.

Residents would welcome further discussions with ACHA to determine what might be possible. There were some concerns expressed about whether anything provided would be vandalised.





# Dunoon Skate Park

This skate park was built around 2005 as a direct result of a campaign and development work by young people, supported by local youth workers. The style of this facility with its steel structures has now been surpassed by new lower maintenance concrete designs and replacement could be considered catering for all types of wheeled sports.



Evidence gathered from the 3 primary schools suggests that 85% (419 pupils) would use a multi games court, 79% (386 pupils) would use a new skate park and 66% (322 pupils) would use a new bike park. Given the location of the existing skate park and the use of this by older children, it maybe that further consultation will be required to guage parents' attitudes towards allowing this younger age group to unsupervised access any proposed new facility.

76% of Grammar School pupils asked for better play facilities for teenagers.

- **Skate Boarding will become an Olympic Sport in 2020.**
- **Evidence suggests it is a highly physical activity with consequent health benefits.**
- **Despite some perceptions, providing wheeled sports facilities actually reduces the incidence of anti social behaviour.**



Other potential activities to benefit young people may include the provision of a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) - a cost-effective solution for schools and other facilities with a wide range of sporting demands. Additionally, the natural beauty and assests of Dunoon lend towards the promotion and inclusion of Watersports through local groups and clubs.





# Bishop's Glen

Bishop's Glen is used for walking and cycling and therefore needs to be protected and enhanced.

The signage directing participants to the Glen is poor and improving this, along with possibly marked and graded walks and cycle routes, could improve the visitor's overall experience.





# Possible Investment Considerations

The following table outlines the potential for capital investment in the key sites within Dunoon, noting ownership, public support, accessibility and indicative timescale and capital costs.

Location	Ownership	Priorities for Investment	Costs	Accessibility & Community Support	Maintenance & Insurance	Timescales
Dunoon Promenade	Argyll & Bute Council	Better public toilet provision, improvements to footpaths, improved signage, more dog waste bins	£200,000	✓	Argyll & Bute Council responsibilities	2020/21
Castle Gardens	Argyll & Bute Council	Upgrade and improve park furniture, picnic tables, improve quality of footpaths, provision of public toilets	£150,000	✓	Argyll & Bute Council responsibilities	2020/21
The Rose Garden	Argyll & Bute Council	A new group has been formed as a result of our consultation "Dunoon in Bloom" They plan to apply for a community asset transfer of the Rose Garden then upgrade and improve these facilities possibly including the old public toilets.	£100,000	✓	The new group will require a Public Liability Insurance policy and if owned they will set their own maintenance standards	2020/21
West Bay	Argyll & Bute Council	Improve natural play facilities, improve safety fencing along roadside, improved signage, dog fouling bins and possible pump track location.	£200,000	✓	The applicant group will require a Public Liability Insurance policy and if owned they will set their own maintenance standards	2021/22
St Mun's Primary School	Argyll & Bute Council	4 costed play area designs have been prepared by Proludic, Wicksteed, Sutcliffe Play Scotland and Kompan	£100,000	✓	Argyll & Bute Council responsibilities	2020
Kirn Primary School	Argyll & Bute Council	4 costed play area designs have been prepared by Proludic, Wicksteed, Sutcliffe Play Scotland and Kompan	£100,000	✓	Argyll & Bute Council responsibilities	2020
Valrose Car Park	Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA)	Mixed views expressed at consultation event. Some residents use as car park. Some ideas around community garden. Slight reluctance for active play area from possible noise.	£50,000	✓	ACHA will have their own insurance and will also have their own maintenance regimes	2022
Skate Park	Argyll & Bute Council	63% (307) primary school children want improved skate park facilities, 55% (268) want bike tracks and 51% (249) want games courts.	£200,000	✓	Argyll & Bute Council responsibilities	2022
Bishop's Glen	Forestry and Land Scotland	Improved cycling trails, signage and litter bins, countryside furniture way- markers, litter bins etc.	£100,000	✓	Forestry and Land Scotland will have their own insurance policies and maintenance regimes.	2021/22

# Potential Funding Sources

As with all potential grant aiding bodies, there is never any guarantee that funding will be secured. However the main sources of funding associated with outdoor open spaces are summarised below.



Funding Source	Description	Value	Likely	Possible
<b>Scottish Communities Landfill Fund</b>	FFC Communities Trust (Formerly WREN), Suez Trust, Viridor Credits, & EB Scotland - Projects must be physically located within 10 miles of a registered landfill site and will require applicant third party contribution of approximately 11% of total grant value.	Up to £50,000	✓	
<b>Argyll &amp; Bute Council Capital Programme</b>	Applications could be made to the local authority on a project by project basis, but particularly for those that relate to their statutory local authority responsibilities.	No Ceiling Value		✓
<b>Developer Obligations</b>	These relate to the Developer Obligation payments made to Local Authorities as a consequence of house building where the developer has an obligation to contribute to the overall provision of community facilities. These vary by area.	Various		✓
<b>Sportscotland</b>	As the National Agency responsible for assisting with the provision of sports facilities, sportscotland should be approached for any development of outdoor active spaces including skate parks, bike tracks, trails and water sports.	Up to £100,000	✓	
<b>Cashback for Communities</b>	Administered through Youth Link Scotland, this fund directs the proceeds of crime into community projects that meet key objectives for young people	Various		✓
<b>Big Lottery: Awards for All Scotland</b>	Awards for All offers up to £10,000 towards small scale community projects. Applications could be made by key local groups to move projects forward in different areas.	Up to £10,000	✓	
<b>Scottish Government Town Centres Fund</b>	This recently announced major capital investment in town centres provided by the Scottish Government has allocated Argyll and Bute Council £1,242,000 to improve town centres. Dunoon is likely to benefit from this funding.	Various levels	✓	
<b>Numerous smaller funds and Trusts</b>	Variable	Various	✓	

## In applying for grant funding you should have:

- A legal entity, constituted group or Scottish Charity
- A constitution or memorandum and articles
- A bank account with at least two unrelated signatories
- A bank balance that is not too healthy unless funds are ring-fenced
- Evidence of need in the form of a feasibility study
- A long lease or ownership of any site, or in some cases, a shared agreement being reached with the owners to allow third sector investment without taking on responsibilities for a lease / liabilities / maintenance, as demonstrated locally at Sandbank and West Bay.