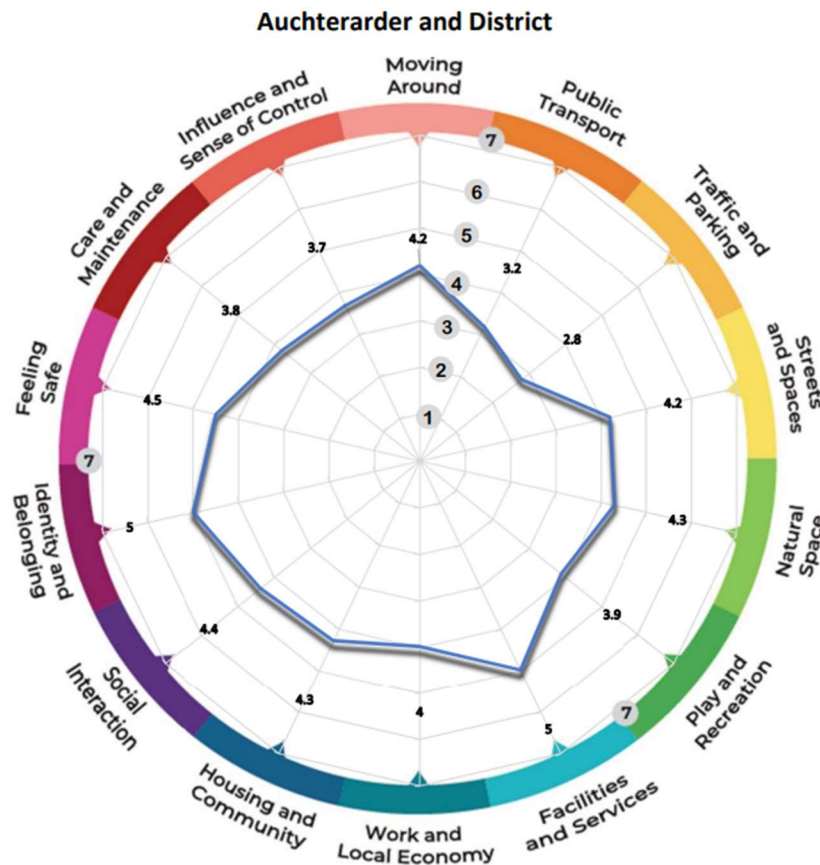


Community Council: Auchterarder and District

A total of 48 responses were received for Auchterarder and District Community Council. 17 of these correspond to Auchterarder, with 31 received from the village of Aberuthven. All feedback from Aberuthven was given by primary school pupils.

Place Standard Scores

Note that due to the tailored nature of conversations not all participants completed scores, this includes drop in events. Note that place standard scores are out of 7. Seven is where the least improvement is needed, and 1 the most.



Moving Around (4.2)

Responses from residents of Auchterarder combine positive and negative elements. While some comments highlight a suitable environment for people walking and cycling, others raised several issues. A lack of safe crossing points and the high volume of traffic were seen as deterrents for people walking. Additionally, some residents found that narrow and poorly maintained footways, and the presence of cars parked reducing visibility, difficult movement for moving through the village.

Suggested improvements on this topic include the creation of additional crossing points in busy parts of Auchterarder and improvements to the existing infrastructure both in terms of provision and maintenance. The possibility of reducing traffic volumes through the High Street to encourage active travel modes was also raised.

Comments from children from Aberuthven show an appreciation for the opportunities to walk and cycle to school safely. Negative feedback pointed at the need for improvements in path surfacing around Aberuthven for people cycling or on horse.

Public Transport (3.2)

Comments received on the topic of public transport were mostly negative. Responses point at poor service provision both in terms of frequency and reliability, making bus and rail a less attractive option for local residents. The lack of wider bus connections beyond Perth and Stirling was also raised as a concern.

There were positive comments about the local bus service, but the lack of coordination with the rail timetables make it less attractive.

Suggested improvements raised the need to make Gleneagles train station a better connected asset for the community. Improving infrastructure for people to walk to the station, with safe crossing over the A9, was seen as an opportunity for people to access public transport. With regards to the provision itself, comments pointed at the need to create a hub where bus and train services are coordinated and easily connected, with more robust timetables and increased frequency.

Feedback from children in Aberuthven regarding public transport in the area show that, while the good number of bus stops available is appreciated, the reliability and punctuality of the services was raised as a concern.

Traffic & Parking (2.8)

Comments from residents of Auchterarder are mostly negative. Feedback focus on the lack of parking capacity, with the increase in local population creating additional stress on the current provision. The use of parking spaces by people during their work hours was raised as a concern, with a reduction of capacity available for visitors and residents accessing local businesses. Other negative comments point at poor parking practices and a lack of enforcement, localised congestion and narrow streets that difficult the circulation of vehicles.

Suggested improvements include the enforcement of parking restrictions, and the provision of additional capacity. The possibility of developing a bypass road to reduce traffic on the High Street was also presented.

Children from Aberuthven provided feedback with a contrast between the appreciation for drivers observing the zigzag yellow lines near the school and safety concerns related to vehicle speeding through the village.

Streets, Squares & Buildings (4.2)

Residents of Auchterarder raised a variety of opinions about the local streets and public spaces. Positive comments appreciate the quality of the built environment, the presence of attractive public areas and the good condition of existing features. The contribution by the Core Paths Working Group was seen as a valuable asset for the community.

Issues raised include the presence of uneven footway surfaces, the lack of a town square for public gatherings, and the poor condition of some buildings.

Suggested improvements include the increase in greenery across the town, including upgrades to smaller greenspaces. Comments also suggested the creation of additional seating areas, the expansion of the path networks and the strengthening of maintenance works.

Feedback from Aberuthven, provided by school pupils, praised the mixture of buildings and the quiet nature of the village.

Natural Spaces (4.3)

Feedback from residents in Auchterarder is generally positive. Comments show an appreciation for the quality of available spaces such as Provost Walk and Primrose Park, and the presence of attractive walks nearby. The good condition of these assets was also praised, as well as the positive contribution of well kept gardens and trees within private properties.

Negative comments point at dog owners failing to keep animals under control, hindering the experience for other users. The relative shortage of natural spaces on the Feus area compared to the western edge of Auchterarder was also raised.

Suggested improvements recommend the strengthening of the path network, increasing connectivity and joining the different sections to create a more attractive environment for residents accessing natural spaces. Comments also pointed at the need to preserve natural areas across Auchterarder, with the hope that not all available land is used for housing development.

Comments from children from Aberuthven show an appreciation for the availability of play parks and other natural spaces, while other feedback raised concerns about the lack of clearing of sites prior to the planning process.

Play & Recreation (3.9)

Residents from Auchterarder showed an appreciation for the available provision, with mostly positive feedback on this topic. The upgrades to Primrose Park, with high quality facilities for children, was highlighted as a valuable asset. The wide range of activities available for different age groups was also valued.

There were also some negative comments on the topic. The lack of high quality facilities in other parts of Auchterarder was raised. The poor condition of facilities within school premises was reason for concern, as well as the delayed delivery of sports facilities associated with new housing development.

Suggested improvements include the creation of additional facilities, including table tennis, and a running track. Comments also raised the need to provide opportunities that cater for young people, and the expectation for developers to deliver the community facilities agreed during the development consent process.

Responses from Aberuthven were provided by children in the area, highlighting the quality of parks and playing fields available. Negative feedback pointed at the need for better maintenance of facilities, while suggested improvements included the need for swings suitable for disabled people and the possibility of adding a swimming pool or water park was suggested.

Facilities & Services (5)

Feedback regarding facilities and services in Auchterarder was generally negative, with comments pointing at the shortage of food shopping options in different parts of town. Responses also point at the strain that additional development is putting on existing community services such as schools or doctor surgeries. The need for developers to engage with communities to deliver service was raised.

There were some positive comments on this topic, with residents appreciating the current provision of shops and community services available locally.

The majority of suggested improvements focus on the need to manage the increase in population in the area. Upgrades to community services and facilities was raised as a necessity. Other suggestions include the possibility of accessing more affordable food shopping options. One comment pointed at the need for council waste management services to include the collection of glass for recycling in their residential coverage.

In Aberuthven, responses from children pointed at the lack of doctor surgery or a dental clinic, and suggested improvements such as a second village shop, better equipment in the park or the addition of a forest kindergarten.

Work & Local Economy (4)

Feedback from residents of Auchterarder combine positive and negative aspects. Some comments point at the availability of options for residents to access work, train and volunteering locally. Others perceive the job market to be limited to hospitality or teaching, with a lack of opportunities within other industries.

Suggestions for improvement include better connections to Perth and Stirling to increase access to a wider range of opportunities.

Children from Aberuthven raised the possibility of adding an equestrian centre to the village.

Housing & Community (4.3)

Input from Auchterarder on the topic of housing is varied. Some comments point at the availability of suitable housing options, including the presence of large numbers of new build homes in the area providing choices. Negative feedback points at a lack of affordable options for both sale and rent markets. One comment highlighted the need for SUDs to be provided for individual plots.

Suggested improvements focus primarily on the need to limit housebuilding in Auchterarder, with a preference for natural and green spaces to be kept for the community. This was also seen as an opportunity to preserve the character of the town, and to reduce strain on existing infrastructure. Other comments suggested the provision of affordable residential units, specifically for the rental market, and improvements to the information available for new residents to access local services and community assets.

Feedback from children in Aberuthven is positive, praising the fact that local residents have a robust network within a short distance. Comments also pointed at the village currently being a good size.

Social Interaction (4.4)

Comments from Auchterarder are positive, with an appreciation for the availability of a good range of options. These include council premises and local cafes and pubs. The presence of a variety of organisations to join was also seen as a valuable asset for the local community.

Respondents submitted some suggestions to improve to social interaction in Auchterarder. These include more options for mums and babies, and improved communications for residents to be more aware of the available options. Some comments pointed at the option to have more hospitality outlets options , social spaces and bookshops.

Feedback from Aberuthven, provided by children in the area, highlighted the Smiddy Haugh as the only existing meeting place in the village, and suggested the creation of a café, restaurant or cinema.

Identity & Belonging (5)

Comments from residents of Auchterarder show a very positive sense of belonging, with a strong appreciation for the identity of the area. Respondents express their happiness and pride for living in the town, both from people that grew up in the area and from newcomers. One comment raised a negative opinion on the topic, pointing at the recent growth of the town impacting the sense of attachment.

Suggested improvements commented on the opportunity to raise awareness on the history of Auchterarder for residents and visitors to appreciate. Enhancements to public spaces and better communication with key services were also suggested.

Feedback from children in Aberuthven shows an appreciation for the village, seeing it as a welcoming place. Other positive responses point at the presence of the memorial war, and how this enhances the sense of pride for local residents. Suggested improvements included the celebration of a local fair in Aberuthven.

Feeling Safe (4.5)

Responses received from Auchterarder offer a generally positive view. Residents claim to feel safe in the town, but some comments raise concerns about specific situations. These include alleyways in the town feeling unsafe at points, and instances of antisocial behaviour seen in some public spaces.

A few suggested improvements were received, with a focus on providing options to occupy young people to discourage antisocial behaviour. Other ideas include the use of CCTV on the High Street to support police action after an incident.

Input from Aberuthven highlight the location of the local park near the main road as a positive safety aspect. Suggested improvements include enhancements to the lighting in public parks, and the possibility of building a path for people walking to avoid crossing the main road.

Care & Maintenance (3.8)

Comments from residents of Auchterarder is generally positive, with an appreciation for streets and public spaces being well maintained overall. Responses highlighted the valuable contribution of volunteering groups such as the Auchterarder Core Path group, and individuals that carry out cleaning in specific streets.

There were also negative comments on the topic, with some residents pointing at poor condition of buildings and footways. Parts of the High Street were considered to be unattractive and in need of better maintenance.

Suggested improvements include the need for Perth and Kinross Council to support owners with the maintenance and presentation of properties, and to improve the condition of footways and public areas. Individual comments point at responsible dog ownership, and the yellow lines on Benton Road needing refreshed.

Feedback from children in Abertuhven points at the consistent use of the available bins preserving the good condition of the village

Influence & Sense of Control (3.7)

Feedback from Auchterarder offers a contrast between positive and negative opinions. Some responses appreciate the availability of community engagement opportunities, and the role that the Community Council and Auchterarder Community Action Plan play to provide input in

decision making. Some negative comments point at the lack of effective change, with input not being taken into account by Perth and Kinross Council.

Children in Aberuthven commented on school pupils not having been consulted about their opinions and preferences for their place.