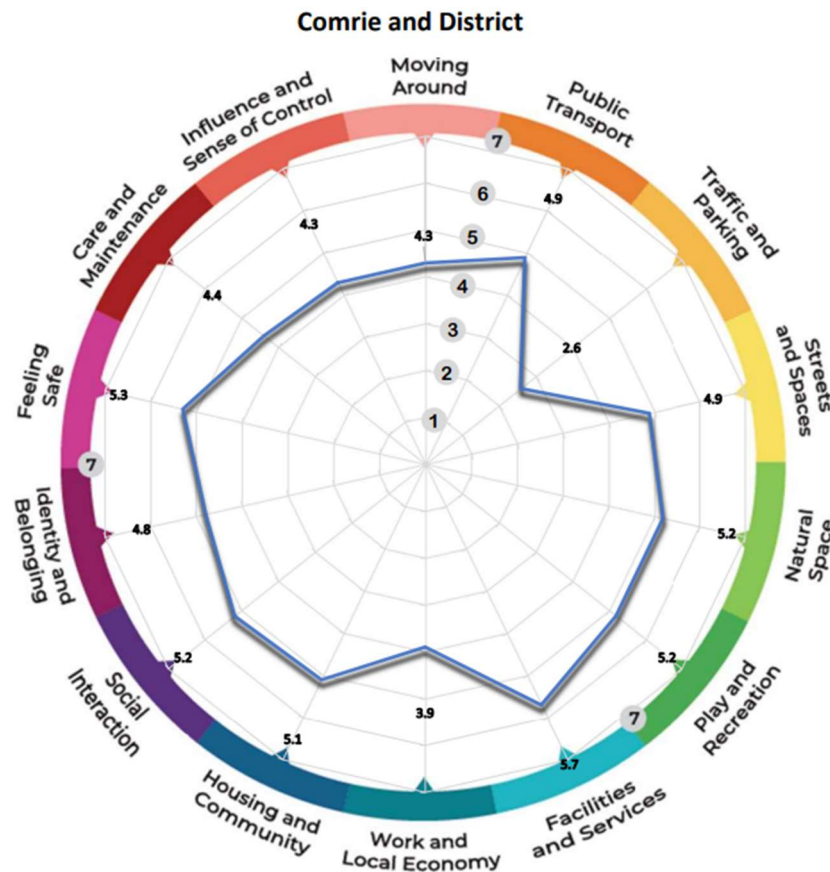


Community Council: Comrie and District

A total of 11 responses were received for Comrie and District Community Council. These are formed by seven responses collated during an engagement event held at Comrie Primary School, and four people filling in the online survey.

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 (4.3)

Positive feedback received focus on the variety and quality of the walking and cycling routes available in the area. These become more attractive feature for users of different age ranges.

Negative comments included criticism of the condition of the route along the river, and the difficulty to cycle on main and rural roads. The high volumes of motor vehicles were thought to impact the perceived safety for people walking and cycling. There were also comments highlighting the lack of a suitable path between Comrie and Crieff, which could support active travel for journeys between both settlements. Within the village, comments pointed at a shortage of crossing points and footways that do not protrude from the main carriageway, and the perceived danger for pupils traveling to and from school through Melville Square.

Public Transport (4.9)

While some of the comments received appreciated the reliability of bus services, the majority of the feedback received on this topic highlighted issues with the provision of public transport in

and around Comrie. These issues include a shortage of options at specific times of the day, specifically during the morning and late evening. Comments point that bus frequency should be increased in those windows to support commuters. Other negative comments pointed at the low temperature within the buses in winter, making travel more uncomfortable.

Suggested improvements included the provision of a more robust services beyond Crieff and Perth, with comments pointing at a potential link to Dunblane rail station to access Edinburgh and Glasgow.

Traffic & Parking (2.6)

The majority of comments received on the topic of traffic and parking are negative. These include concerns about road safety associated with vehicle speeding, particularly in the case of heavy vehicles. Responses raised the need to install traffic calming measures. Parking was also mentioned as a concern, with issues regarding drivers not observing double yellow lines.

The feedback collated includes diverging views regarding the availability of parking in the area. While some comments highlight the lack of parking impacting local businesses, others consider the current provision to be sufficient.

Other comments point at the dominance of road traffic in the area, with associated negative impacts regarding safety, noise and air quality. Feedback pointed at the possibility to improve conditions for people walking. These focus on the addition of pedestrian crossings, particularly for vulnerable users.

Streets, Squares & Buildings (4.9)

Feedback received showed a good appreciation for the quality of buildings and spaces within the area. These comments highlight the value of specific buildings of interest, bridges and squares, while appreciating positive examples of change of use such as the Institute being turned into residential units.

Negative comments pointed at several cases of buildings in poor condition, with several spaces in need of repair and impacting the overall attractiveness of the area. Feedback also mentioned antisocial behaviour affecting the built environment, and a lax approach to enforcement within the Conservation Area.

Natural Spaces (5.2)

Feedback on this topic was primarily positive. Comments highlighted the variety and quality of natural spaces, with several options available for leisure use. There were also some suggestions for improvements, including the removal of dog fouling on paths and the reduction of mowing and trimming of wildflowers. Other comments highlighted the negative impact of loud road vehicles on the enjoyment of natural spaces.

Some negative comments were also received. These focus on concerns surrounding erosion of the river banks, and a lack of pedestrian bridges to access other green spaces to the other side of the river.

Play & Recreation (5.2)

There were several positive comments on this topic. Responses value the presence of high quality facilities, such as local parks and Men's Shed. Some improvements were suggested, such as the creation of a Multi-Use Games Area or a community pub.

Negative feedback pointed at a lack of facilities for specific age ranges, such as 8-12 years old, as well as the absence of tennis courts that used to be available in the past.

Facilities & Services (5.7)

Feedback regarding the available facilities and services was mostly positive. Comments value how Comrie has a good range of facilities for a village of its size. The availability of appointments for medical and dental services was appreciated, as it was the presence of a local library.

Suggested improvements pointed at the possibility of extending the opening hours of the local library.

Work & Local Economy (3.9)

Comments regarding work and local economy show a wide range of opinions. Positive feedback highlight the presence of a good range of local businesses, but others mentioned a lack of work opportunities in the area. Negative comments point at the difficulties for local enterprises to secure staff, with a constrained economy that has impacted local businesses.

With regards to the local workforce, feedback received mention a significant number of retired people in the village, and the fact that many local residents do not work in the area.

Housing & Community (5.1)

The majority of comments received regarding housing in the area were negative, with a focus on affordability issues, the scarcity of units available to rent, and a lack of social or affordable housing. Responses highlighted how families struggle with the local housing prices, but this was also identified as a national issue.

Positive comments value the good mix of houses available, with suggested improvements pointing at potential new sites and the need for more affordable housing. With regards to the community aspect, responses pointed at a lack of presence of younger residents in community forums, with an excessive reliance on older generations to fulfil community council roles.

Social Interaction (5.2)

Feedback from the local community on this topic is mostly positive. Community facilities are highly valued and appear to be well used by local residents.

Identity & Belonging (4.8)

Positive comments on this topic highlighted the strong community feeling, and the welcoming nature of the village for newcomers. Other comments highlight some respondents that do not feel like they belong.

Several items of feedback pointed at perceived issues regarding a lack of inclusion and inclusivity in the area. These were raised around race and gender matters, with specific mention to the presence of a statue of Henry Dundas at Melville Monument. It was suggested that a plaque should be added to clarify Dundas' role in the delay of the abolition of the slave trade.

Feeling Safe (5.3)

Most of the feedback received show a positive feeling regarding safety in the local area. Comments mention residents feel safe and have no concerns to walk around the village during day or night. There was however mention of some instances of vandalism by young people, and criticism of the removal of local police presence.

Care & Maintenance (4.4)

The majority of comments surrounding this topic show concerns regarding the condition and estate of repair of housing and public areas. Feedback point at poorly maintained footways and overgrown hedges encroaching on the public realm, and restricting movement to people walking. Responses also pointed at the presence of buildings in disrepair.

Influence & Sense of Control (4.3)

A variety of negative comments were received for this topic. Some highlight the difficulty to engage and participate, with other comment pointing that, without access to social media, it is difficult to be up to date on what is happening in the area. Other negative feedback mentions a large volume of surveys and engagement opportunities, with limited visible change.

The local Community Council was seen as a positive asset to the village, acting in the interest of local residents. However, one respondent felt their views were not being taken into account during community discussions.