

Community Council: Inchtute

Inchtute Community Council area is located in central Carse of Gowrie, between Dundee and Perth. It is centred around the village of Inchtute, which is situated on the A90 between St. Madoes and Longforan. This is a predominately rural area, with several small villages but only four designated settlements in the LDP: Inchtute, Baledgarno, Kinnaird, and Rait. There is currently no community action plan covering the area.

Feedback from the area during the Big Place Conversation was limited to two survey responses regarding Ballindean and the rural area around Rait.

Moving Around

Positive comments report a good provision of recreational walking and cycling routes in the area, with core paths being well-used for this purpose.

Negative feedback received was that due to the rural spread of settlements, it is not easy or even feasible to choose active travel other than for recreation. The main barriers are topography and safety concerns due to speeding vehicles.

Respondents suggest there should be more pedestrian-friendly back roads prioritised for active travel.

Public Transport

One response states that residents in the rural area have poor access to bus services, therefore driving is the preferred option for convenience and shorter journey times.

Traffic & Parking

One response states that there are many small country roads in the area that feel dangerous due to speeding vehicles frequently passing through.

Streets, Squares & Buildings

There were no responses to this question.

Natural Spaces

Positive comments report there is very good access to nature in the rural area.

Negative feedback focused on the shortage of greenspace with benches and other outdoor furniture where people can stop to enjoy being outdoors.

Play & Recreation

Opportunities for play and recreation are limited in the area, but as previously discussed the countryside is well-used for recreational walking and cycling. Respondents suggest walking routes should be better promoted and information on best practice when using them should be shared.

Ravenfield and Team Ranch (a Christian Outdoor Centre) were also mentioned as being good opportunities for play and recreation in the area.

Facilities & Services

Facilities and services in the area are limited. Residents are usually required to drive to access essentials, but some locations (e.g. Rait) have enough to meet the need of a small rural settlement, such as a shop, pub and café.

Work & Local Economy

There are limited employment opportunities in the area beyond a few local farms and shops. This is particularly an issue for young people, leading them to move out of the area.

Respondents suggest this could be addressed by improving support for small businesses and farms to expand their operations. Improving internet connection in rural communities was also suggested to provide more opportunities for online start-ups and working from home.

Housing & Community

Feedback suggests that housing does not meet the needs of the community. This is due to limited property on the market, especially for rentals. The respondents would like to see less monochromatic development and more opportunities for self-build instead.

At an event in Longforgan, Inchtute was given as an example of poor planning, where new developments have made the settlement feel like three separate villages because of housing type and how quickly they were developed.

Social Interaction

There are very limited spaces for social interaction in the area, with some of the more rural locations having no access to opportunities unless you drive. Furthermore, the closure of community spaces in the area, such as the Church in Ballindean, has reduced what little opportunities that are for residents. Isolation is a concern, and respondents suggest there is a need for more community outreach.

Identity & Belonging

Positive feedback was that people feel proud to live in the area and many have been there for generations.

Feeling Safe

One respondent states the area is very safe.

Care & Maintenance

The only issues reported were littering and fly-tipping on backroads, as well as derelict properties needing attention.

Influence & Sense of Control

Respondents do not feel they have many opportunities to have their say or that they are listened to. They suggest there needs to be improved communication from PKC regarding any planned development in the area.