

STEPS AND DISTRICT LOCAL PLACE PLAN 2025 - ONLINE SURVEY RESULTS

STEP UP AND HAVE YOUR SAY FOR STEPS AND DISTRICT



We're creating a Local Place Plan – a powerful tool to guide development and investment in Stepps and District over the next 5–10 years.

From housing, schools, and green space to healthcare, heritage, and local economy – your views will shape the priorities.

- 📍 Make your voice heard.
- 📍 Help set the vision for our area.
- 📍 Influence real decisions.

Get involved. Be part of the plan.

👤 secretary.sdcc@gmail.com🌐 steppsc.com





Full survey



'3 wishes'
survey

HAVE YOUR SAY

Scan the QR Codes to complete the surveys, or visit one of these locations to complete a card:

- Stepps Co-Op
- Colliery Cafe
- Delricos Cafe
- Stepps Library
- Stepps Parish Church
- St Joseph's Chapel
- Behind the Scenes Hairdressers
- Cardowan Community Meadow Hub

Poster promoting the Stepps and District Community Council's Local Place Plan online survey

This document sets out the results from the **Stepps and District Community Council's Local Place Plan online survey**. The online survey was open over May, June and July 2025, with the questions posed based on the place standard themes and categories identified by the [Scottish Government Improvement Service](#) as underpinning place and wellbeing outcomes. These survey results have informed and shaped the development of [our community's Local Place Plan](#).

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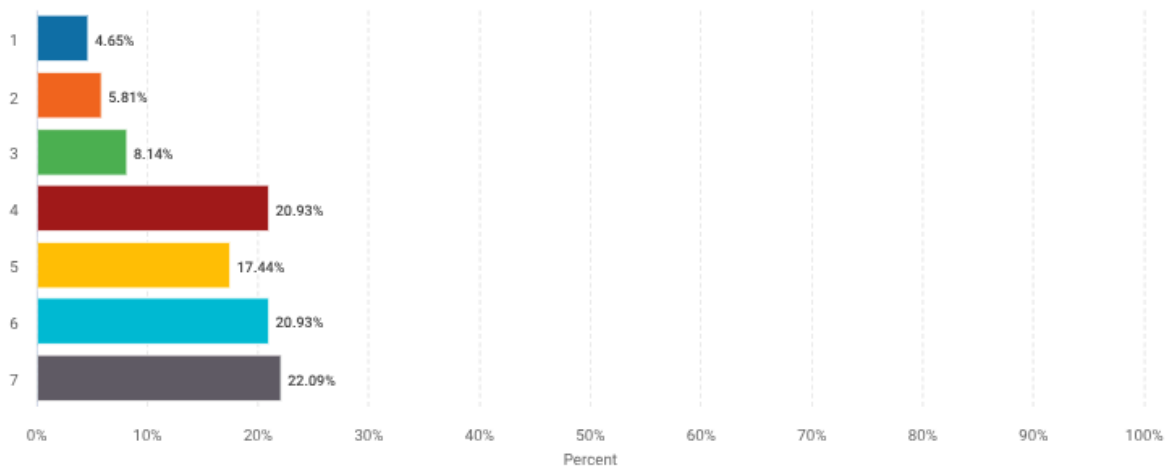
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THEME 1 - MOVEMENT

Moving Around

Question 1

How easy is it to move around the community (e.g. on foot, on a bike)? (Please rate from 1-Least positive to 7-Most positive)



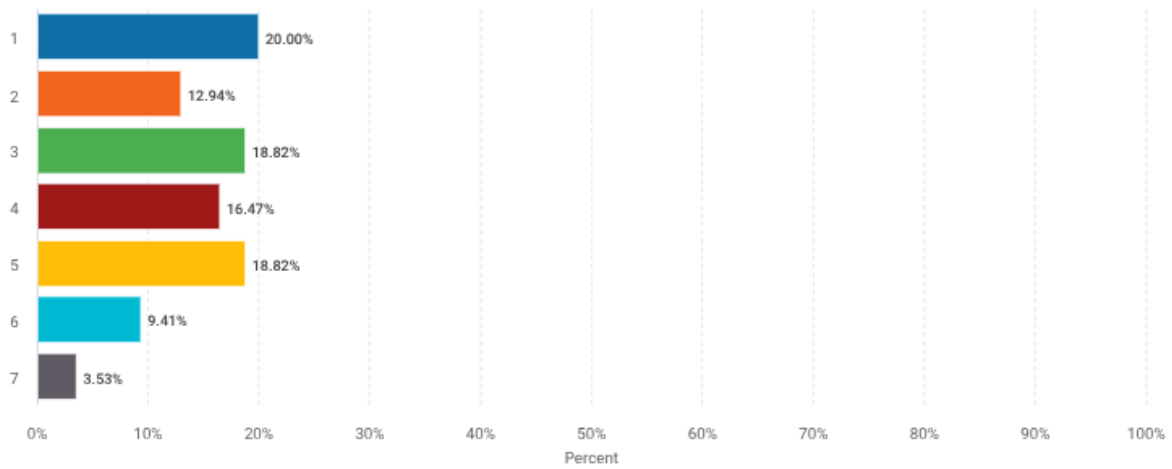
Answer Choices	Responses
1	4.65% 4
2	5.81% 5
3	8.14% 7
4	20.93% 18
5	17.44% 15
6	20.93% 18
7	22.09% 19
Answered: 86 Skipped: 1	
Response Total: 86	







- General infrastructure concerns: Issues such as overflowing bins, dog fouling, overgrown vegetation, flooding due to uncleared drains, and poor road conditions affect the overall experience of moving around the area.

Public Transport

Question 3

Do the bus and train services into the community meet my needs? (Please rate from 1-Least positive to 7-Most positive)



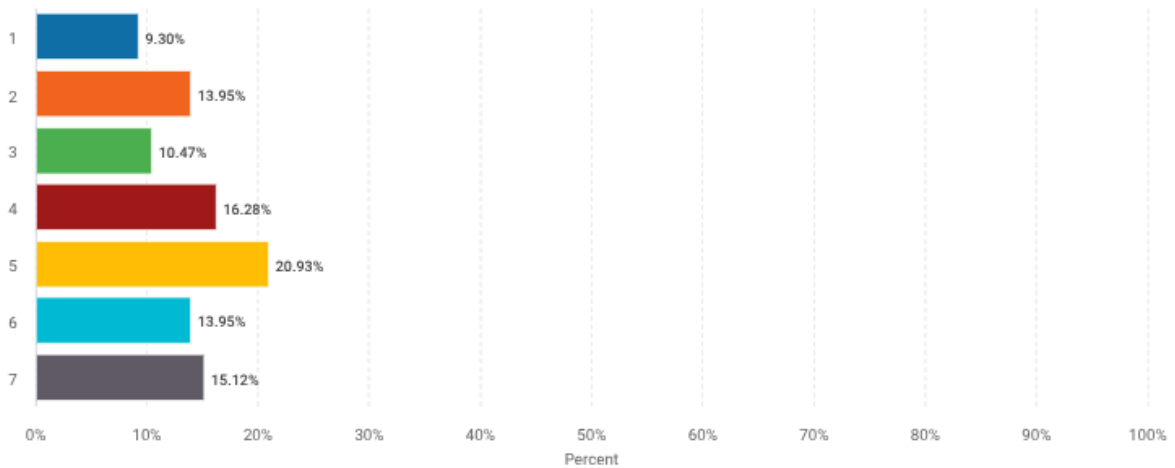
Answer Choices	Responses
1	 20.00% 17
2	 12.94% 11
3	 18.82% 16
4	 16.47% 14
5	 18.82% 16
6	 9.41% 8
7	 3.53% 3
Answered: 85 Skipped: 2 Response Total: 85	






- Impact on school transport: The reduction of bus travel for schoolchildren has created challenges, with overcrowded buses and unreliable service affecting students' punctuality and safety.
- Infrastructure concerns: Bus stops often lack shelters or benches, and some are in poor condition or vandalised, negatively affecting the waiting experience, especially during adverse weather.
- Cost and convenience factors: Public transport fares are perceived as high compared to driving, and walking distances to bus stops from some areas are long, further discouraging use.

Traffic and Parking

Question 5

Do traffic and parking arrangements allow people to move around safely and meet the community's needs?
(Please rate from 1-Least positive to 7-Most positive)



Answer Choices	Responses
1	 9.30% 8
2	 13.95% 12
3	 10.47% 9
4	 16.28% 14
5	 20.93% 18
6	 13.95% 12
7	 15.12% 13
Answered: 86 Skipped: 1 Response Total: 86	

Question 6

Please provide further details on your response



Community members express widespread concerns about insufficient parking spaces and unsafe parking practices in Stepps, particularly near schools and the Cumbernauld Road. Pavement parking and double parking are common issues causing safety hazards and accessibility problems. There are calls for improved enforcement and infrastructure changes to address these challenges.

- Parking shortages near schools: Stepps Primary School lacks adequate parking, leading to dangerous pavement parking and congestion during school drop-off and pick-up times. Calls to reinstate a school bus service, to help alleviate this issue, were also noted.
- Limited parking at local shops: Many respondents report insufficient parking spaces near shops on the Cumbernauld Road, negatively affecting local shopping and convenience, including parking near the pharmacy.
- Unsafe and inconsiderate parking: Pavement parking, double parking, and parking on grass verges are frequently reported, creating hazards for pedestrians, prams, wheelchair users, and drivers. Enforcement is seen as insufficient.
- Traffic congestion and road safety concerns: High traffic volumes, speeding on main roads, and inadequate pedestrian crossings raise safety issues, especially near schools. Noise from speeding vehicles and quad bike use are also concerns.
- Parking near the train station and amenities: While parking at the train station is generally adequate, it becomes overcrowded during peak times, causing spillover into residential streets. Other amenities like gyms and libraries have sufficient parking.
- Infrastructure and planning issues: Recent roadworks and installation of bike lanes have reduced parking availability in some areas. There are suggestions to increase marked parking spaces, utilise verges, and improve parking planning during developments of local places.

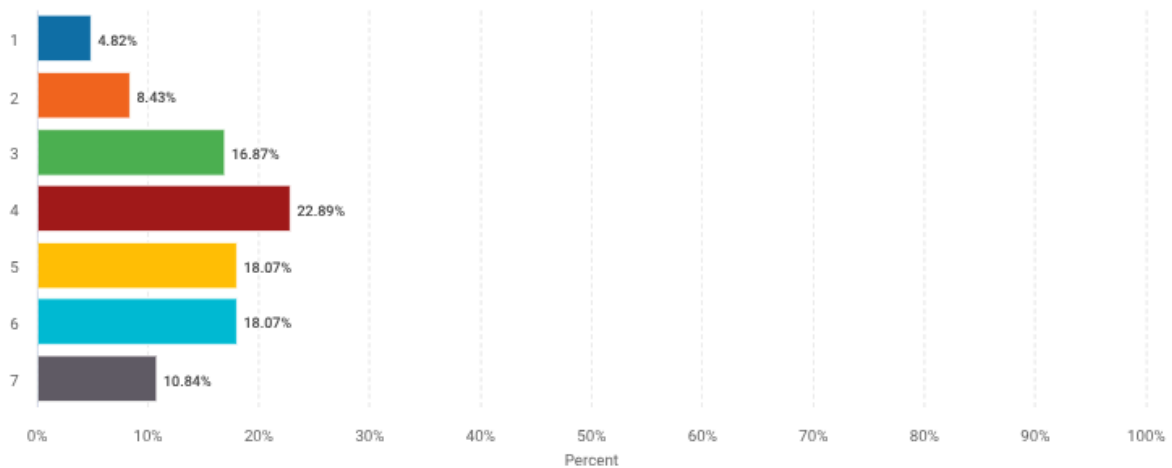
- Need for better enforcement and community awareness: Respondents suggest stricter enforcement of parking regulations, recruitment of more parking wardens, installation of planters to prevent pavement parking, and resident education campaigns.
- Impact on quality of life and sustainability: The increase in housing and car ownership has led to overcrowding, pollution, and reduced green spaces, raising concerns about the village’s sustainability and livability.

THEME 2 - SPACES

Streets and public spaces

Question 7

Are the streets and public spaces in the community attractive and accessible for people? (Please rate from 1- Least positive to 7-Most positive)



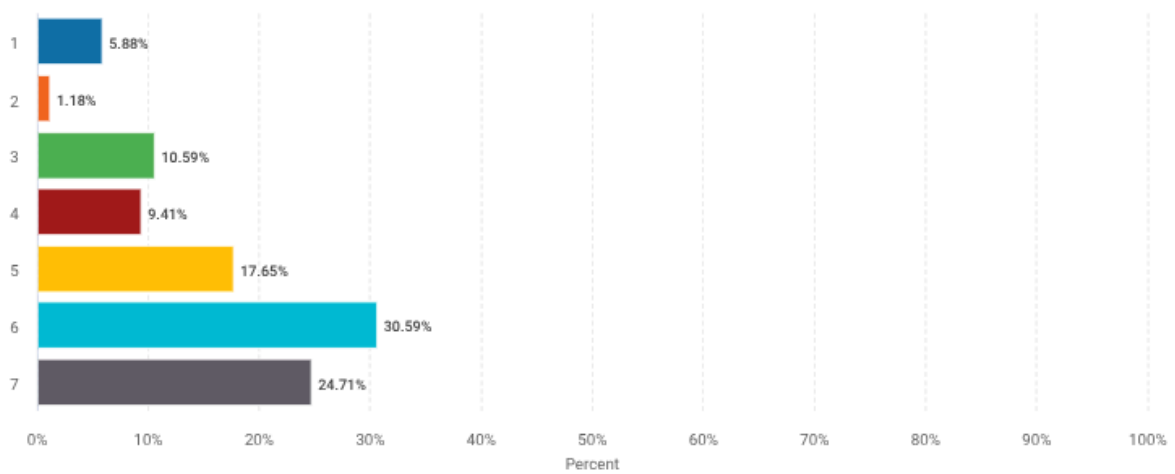
Answer Choices	Responses
1	4.82% 4
2	8.43% 7
3	16.87% 14
4	22.89% 19
5	18.07% 15
6	18.07% 15
7	10.84% 9
Answered: 83 Skipped: 4 Response Total: 83	

- Cycling infrastructure and pedestrian safety: Suggestions include better-defined bike lanes and guardrails along footpaths to enhance safety and encourage active transport.
- Positive remarks on certain areas: Some residential streets and parks are appreciated for cleanliness and accessibility, and the maintained flower pots on the Cumbernauld Road add colour to the community.

Natural Space

Question 9

Can I regularly experience good-quality natural space? (Please rate from 1-Least positive to 7-Most positive)

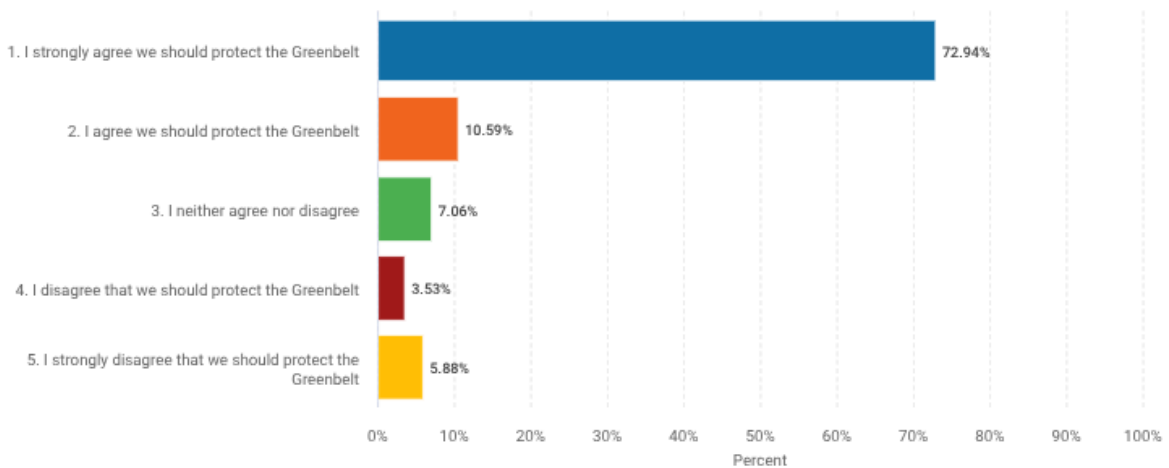


Answer Choices	Responses
1	5.88% 5
2	1.18% 1
3	10.59% 9
4	9.41% 8
5	17.65% 15
6	30.59% 26
7	24.71% 21
Answered: 85 Skipped: 2	
Response Total: 85	

- Community involvement: Local groups actively clean litter and advocate for protecting green spaces (like Cardowan Community Meadow), emphasising the importance and value of community responsibility.
- Preservation of distinct community identity: There are concerns about the potential suburbanisation of the countryside, and interest in maintaining green spaces between Stepps' and neighboring areas.
- Mixed views on development: While some acknowledge that housing often occurs on unused land, many stress that infrastructure must keep pace with development and that green belt protection is critical for climate and biodiversity.

Question 11

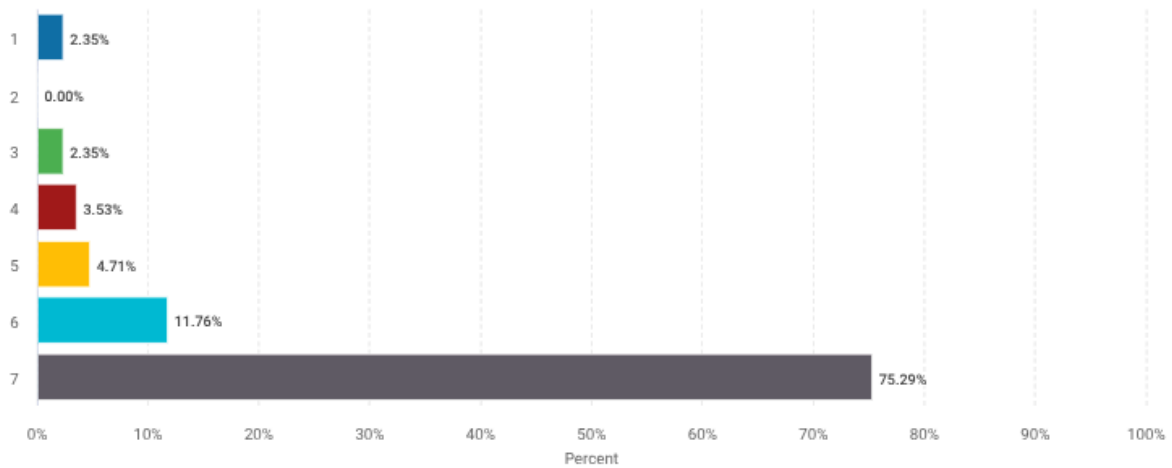
How important is it to you that our local community supports protecting the Greenbelt area from unsustainable development? (Please identify which statement you agree with most in relation to protecting the Greenbelt from development/building in the next Local Development Plan)










Answer Choices	Responses
1. I strongly agree we should protect the Greenbelt	72.94% 62
2. I agree we should protect the Greenbelt	10.59% 9
3. I neither agree nor disagree	7.06% 6
4. I disagree that we should protect the Greenbelt	3.53% 3
5. I strongly disagree that we should protect the Greenbelt	5.88% 5
Answered: 85 Skipped: 2 Response Total: 85	

Question 12

How would you rate the impact of natural space on mental and physical health and wellbeing? (Please rate from 1-Least positive to 7-Most positive)



Answer Choices	Responses
1	 2.35% 2
2	 0.00% 0
3	 2.35% 2
4	 3.53% 3
5	 4.71% 4
6	 11.76% 10
7	 75.29% 64

Answered: 85 Skipped: 2 Response Total: 85

Question 13

Please provide further details on your response



Community feedback highlights the importance of preserving green spaces around Steps for mental and physical wellbeing, while also flagging the impacts of

development on the natural environment and local infrastructure. Residents emphasise the value of natural areas for recreation, health, and biodiversity, alongside concerns about housing expansion and green belt protection.

- Green spaces are vital for wellbeing: Natural areas provide essential benefits for mental and physical health, offering opportunities for walking, exercise, and stress relief.
- Support for managed development: Some community members advocate for new housing development that brings investment and is managed in partnership with the community, rather than outright opposition.
- Concerns about greenbelt loss: A majority express worry over the loss of green belt land to housing or industrial development, emphasising the need to protect natural spaces to maintain the character, identity, and environment of Stepps and the surrounding district.
- Importance of biodiversity and wildlife: The green belt supports biodiversity and wildlife habitats, which residents value highly and wish to preserve from urban sprawl and development.
- Need for accessible green spaces: Accessibility to green areas for walking, cycling, and outdoor activities is crucial for community health and engagement, with suggestions for improved paths and community amenities.
- Green spaces support families and children: Proximity to natural areas contributes to healthier lifestyles for families and provides young people with opportunities to explore and develop environmental care.
- Green belt as a buffer and identity marker: The green belt prevents urban sprawl, preserving Stepps' unique local setting and community character.
- Role during COVID-19: Green spaces served as vital sanctuaries for mental health and wellbeing during the COVID-19 pandemic, especially for key workers and residents coping with stress.

Community members express mixed views on community play and recreation facilities, highlighting some strengths in outdoor spaces but significant gaps in indoor and youth-oriented amenities. Maintenance, accessibility, and affordability are recurring concerns, alongside calls for expanded and improved facilities to meet growing community needs.

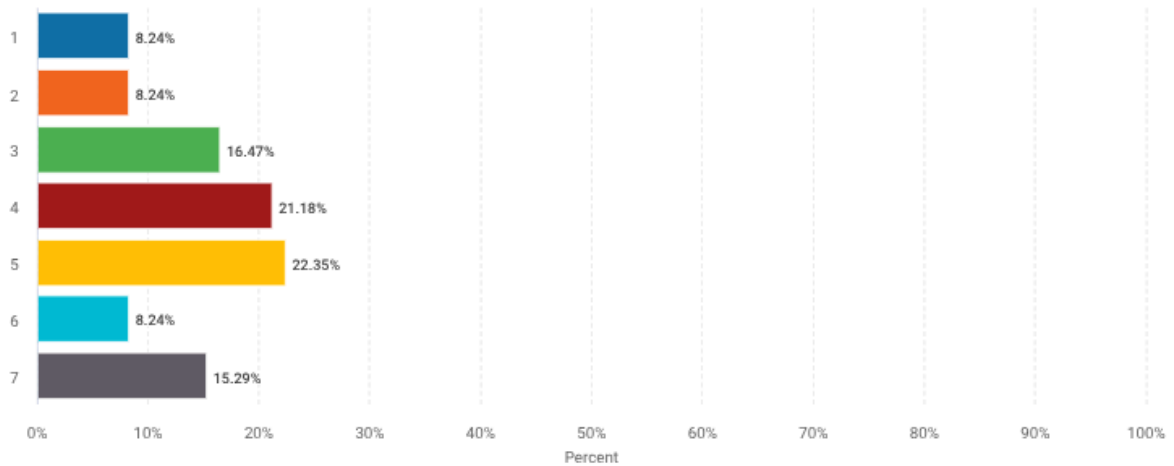
- Limited indoor facilities: The area lacks a council-owned gym and indoor sports centre, with the nearest gym under threat of closure and private gyms being costly. This limits year-round and youth access to recreational activities.
- Outdoor spaces are valued but need upkeep: Parks like Bluebell Park and Cardowan Moss are appreciated for outdoor leisure and walking routes, though some are overgrown or poorly maintained, reducing usability and safety.
- Youth facilities are felt to be insufficient: There is a notable shortage of community centres, youth clubs, and free access to football pitches, with long waiting lists for existing youth groups and locked sports fields limiting opportunities for local children and teenagers.
- Demand for better sports amenities: Requests include free football pitches, outdoor gyms, running tracks, improved maintenance of hockey and football fields, and better walking routes connecting to nearby villages.
- Community engagement and spaces: There is a desire for a community hub to foster social cohesion and provide varied activities, with suggestions for classes and events to engage different age groups.
- Concerns over facility closures: The potential closure of the Nicholson Centre and withdrawal of mobile library services raises worries about affordable access to recreational and community resources.
- Mixed maintenance and accessibility: While some parks are well-maintained, others suffer from neglect, with issues such as jagged wood in play areas, overgrown paths, and poor drainage affecting usability and safety.
- Positive aspects for young families: New play parks and baby groups are noted as beneficial, indicating some progress in catering to younger children's recreational needs.


THEME 3 - RESOURCES

Facilities and amenities

Question 16

Do the local facilities and amenities meet my needs? (Please rate from 1-Least positive to 7-Most positive)



Answer Choices	Responses
1	 8.24% 7
2	 8.24% 7
3	 16.47% 14
4	 21.18% 18
5	 22.35% 19
6	 8.24% 7
7	 15.29% 13
Answered: 85 Skipped: 2 Response Total: 85	

Question 17

Please provide further details on your response



Community members express a strong desire for improved amenities in Stepps, highlighting a lack of dining, shopping, and social spaces that limits community engagement and convenience. While basic services exist, there is a clear demand for more variety in food, retail, and social venues to better serve the growing population.

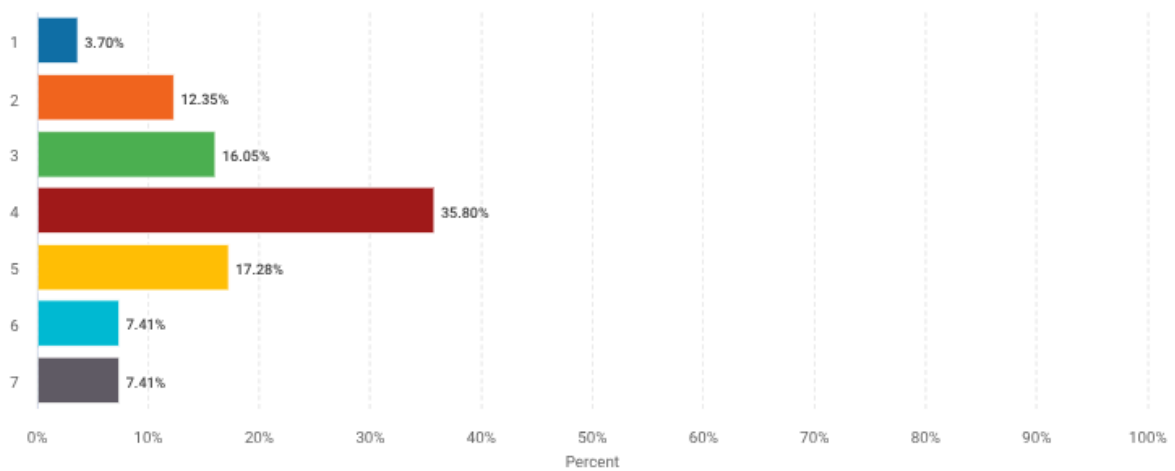
- Limited dining and social venues: The community notes a shortage of sit-in restaurants, pubs, and cafes, with existing options being small or not amenable to families.
- Insufficient retail options: There is a lack of supermarkets and diverse shops, with residents often traveling to nearby towns for groceries and other needs. The community desires more independent shops and a fruit and vegetable store.
- Healthcare and education pressures: Local healthcare facilities, including doctors and dentists, are reported as over capacity, and schools are at or near full capacity, causing high concern given recent population growth.
- Need for community spaces: Residents highlight a lack of informal meeting places and community spaces, such as larger cafes or bars, to foster social connections and a stronger community feel.
- Desire for diverse hospitality: Suggestions include adding bars, restaurants, and even a local wine bar or brewery to enhance nightlife and dining variety.
- Transportation and accessibility: Some mention the need for improved bus services and safe walking routes to support access to amenities and schools.
- Mixed satisfaction with existing amenities: While some residents feel basic needs are met and appreciate current cafes and shops, many also agree that the range of choice could be improved significantly.

- Concerns with overdevelopment: New housing has increased population without corresponding growth in facilities, leading to strain on shops, schools, and healthcare.
- Suggestions for specific improvements: Proposals include better choice of supermarkets (such as new ALDI or LIDL), a public gym and swimming baths, disabled parking at GP surgeries, and more planters to prevent parking issues near shops.

Work and local economy

Question 18

Is there an active local economy and the opportunity to access work opportunities? (Please rate from 1-Least positive to 7-Most positive)



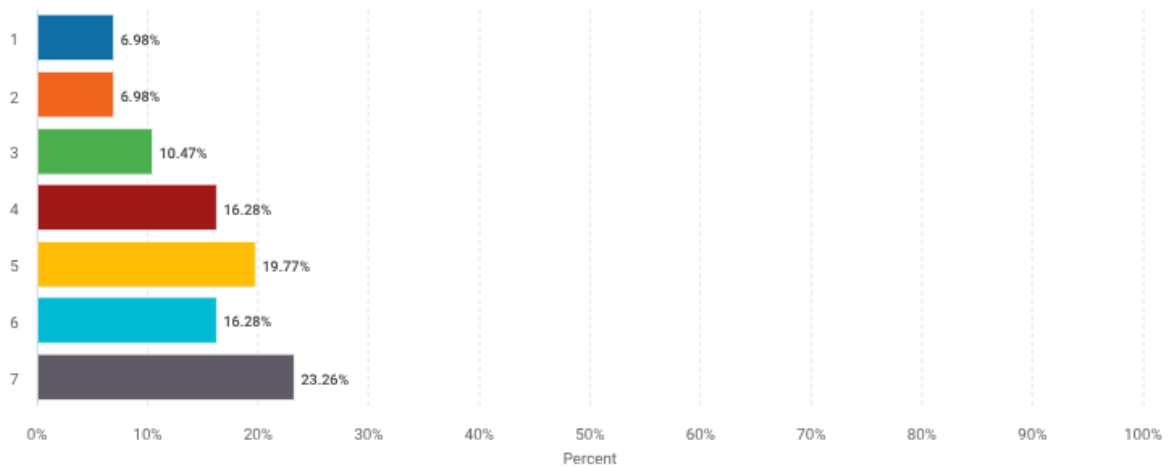
Answer Choices	Responses
1	3.70% 3
2	12.35% 10
3	16.05% 13
4	35.80% 29
5	17.28% 14
6	7.41% 6
7	7.41% 6

Answered: 81 Skipped: 6 Response Total: 81

Housing and community

Question 20

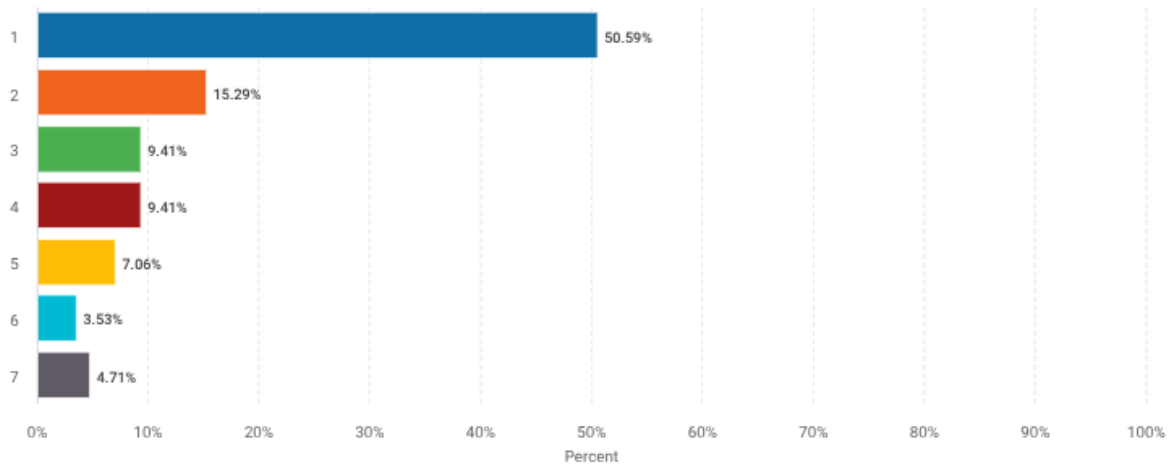
Does housing provision in the area support the different current and future needs of the community?(Please rate from 1-Least positive to 7-Most positive)










Answer Choices	Responses
1	6.98% 6
2	6.98% 6
3	10.47% 9
4	16.28% 14
5	19.77% 17
6	16.28% 14
7	23.26% 20
Answered: 86 Skipped: 1	
Response Total: 86	

Question 21

What would the impact of additional house-building be in the areas surrounding the community (i.e. on traffic, preservation of the Greenbelt, local schools and facilities)? (Please rate from 1-Least positive to 7-Most positive)



Answer Choices	Responses
1	 50.59% 43
2	 15.29% 13
3	 9.41% 8
4	 9.41% 8
5	 7.06% 6
6	 3.53% 3
7	 4.71% 4
Answered: 85 Skipped: 2	
Response Total: 85	

Question 22

Please provide further details on your response



Community members express strong concerns about further housing development on green belt land in Stepps, highlighting significant strain on local infrastructure and services. The community emphasises the need to balance housing demands with preserving green spaces and improving amenities.

- Green belt protection a high priority: Many residents oppose building more houses on green belt land, to preserve natural spaces and community character.
- Insufficient school capacity: Local schools are reported as overcrowded and unable to accommodate more children from new housing developments.
- Healthcare services under pressure: Difficulty in securing doctor and dentist appointments reflects inadequate healthcare capacity for current and potential residents.
- Traffic and road congestion concerns: Increased housing is linked to worsening traffic, road safety issues, and insufficient public transport.
- Need for infrastructure investment: There are calls for house builders to contribute to schools, healthcare, roads, and community facilities to support population growth.
- Housing affordability challenges: The lack of affordable housing forces young people to move away, while current developments favour high-priced homes.
- Community identity and amenities: Residents note loss of village character, lack of amenities, and limited green spaces amid dense housing estates.
- Environmental and drainage impact: Concerns about local drainage systems unable to cope with more development and negative effects on wildlife habitats.
- Balanced housing approach needed: Some acknowledge the necessity of additional housing but stress it must be accompanied by substantial infrastructure upgrades and protection of greenbelt areas.

Community engagement in Stepps is perceived as limited compared to other areas, with a sense of transience and lack of a strong community feeling. While some community activities and groups exist, awareness and participation remain low, and there is a desire for more inclusive and accessible shared spaces.

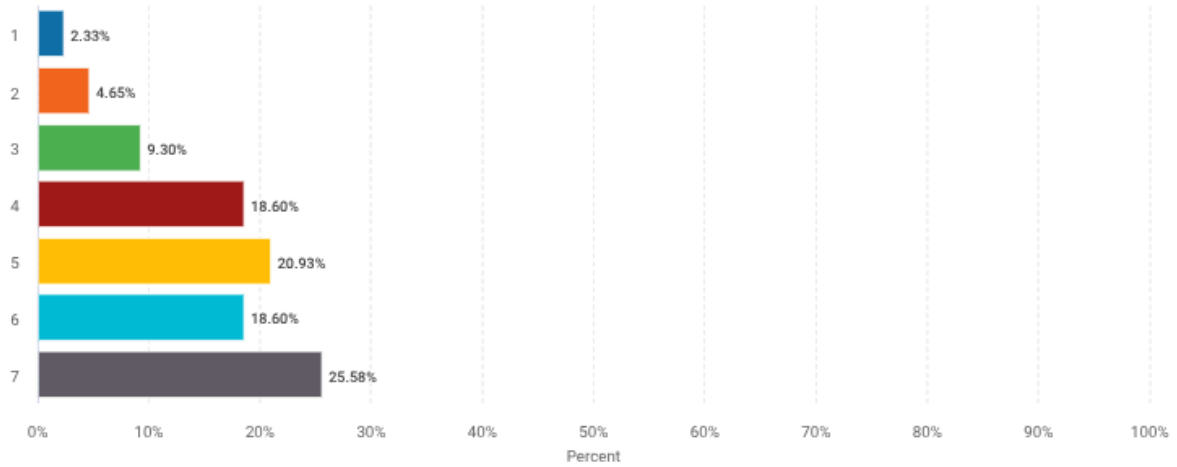
- Limited community feeling: For some in the community, Stepps lacks the strong community atmosphere seen in other suburbs, feeling transient and less connected.
- Existing community activities: Local baby classes, sports clubs, and events like the Stepps food market foster some engagement, especially for families and adults.
- Community spaces needed: Residents express the need for larger, non-school-based shared community spaces, such as a community centre or café, to support social interaction.
- Communication gaps: Many activities are poorly advertised, often relying on word of mouth or social media, which limits awareness and inclusion.
- Role of local groups: The local community council and Cardowan Community Meadow are active but may lack broader support and funding; other groups have folded due to low participation.
- Social opportunities for youth and older residents: There is a call for more youth clubs and better facilities for older residents, as current options are limited or inadequate.
- Fragmented community sense: Social interaction opportunities exist through churches and sports, but the community can feel divided among different areas.
- Positive foundations and room for improvement: Stepps benefits from a cultural hub at the local school and outdoor spaces - but could enhance visibility, inclusivity, and consistency of community engagement events at such facilities.

THEME 4 - CIVIC

Identity and belonging

Question 25

Does this place have a positive identity and do I feel I belong? (Please rate from 1-Least positive to 7-Most positive)



Answer Choices	Responses
1	2.33% 2
2	4.65% 4
3	9.30% 8
4	18.60% 16
5	20.93% 18
6	18.60% 16
7	25.58% 22

Answered: 86 Skipped: 1 Response Total: 86

Question 26

Please provide further details on your response



Community members express mixed feelings about the community's identity and sense of belonging. While some appreciate the area's history and community spirit, others feel disconnected due to demographic changes and limited engagement opportunities for younger adults.

- Limited engagement for younger adults: Opportunities for people aged 25-35 to participate in community activities are scarce, with most events targeting families or the elderly, leading to feelings of disconnection.
- Mixed sense of identity and belonging: Long-term residents note a loss of village feel and community cohesion due to new housing developments and commuter town dynamics, while newer residents sometimes feel welcomed yet experience a fractured community.
- Historical awareness varies: Some residents value the local mining and coal heritage and appreciate information boards and heritage trails, but many are indifferent or unaware of the area's history, with suggestions for improved signage and educational talks.
- Community spirit and social integration challenges: The community is described as friendly and welcoming, especially through local activities, but social mixing between new and old residents is limited, potentially due to economic and social factors. Calls for more communal spaces like cafes and shops to foster interaction have been made.

Community members express mixed feelings about safety, noting both a generally safe environment and concerns about recent crimes and anti-social behavior. Lighting and police presence are recurring themes in community safety discussions.

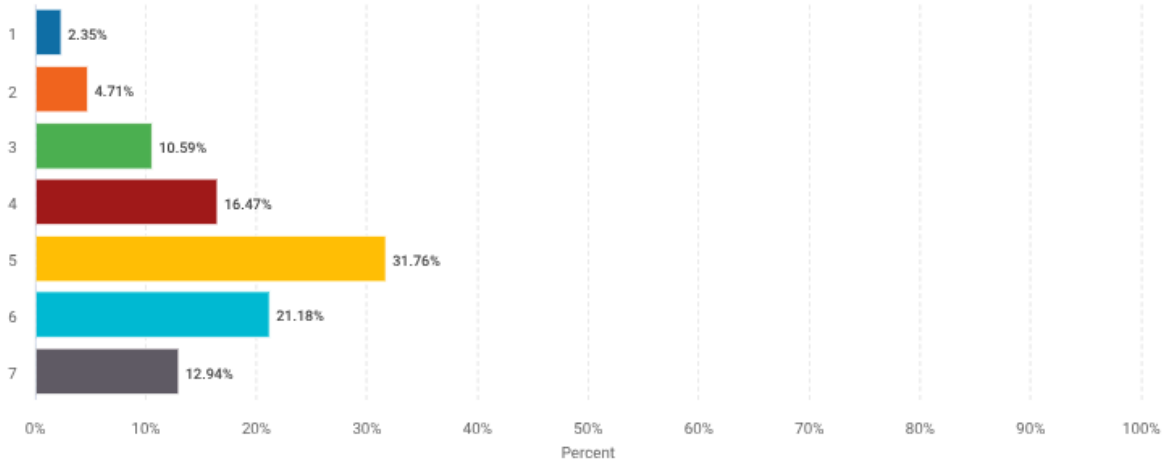
- Perceptions of safety vary: Many residents feel safe due to low crime rates and a close-knit community, while others express concern over increasing incidents such as break-ins and gang-related violence.
- Lighting improvements needed: Several comments highlight the lack of lighting in areas like Bluebell Park and walking routes, suggesting that better lighting would enhance safety, especially during darker evenings.
- Concerns about anti-social behavior and traffic: Issues raised include nuisance from fast electric bikes, quad bikes, dangerous driving, and noise from vehicles, which contribute to a sense of unsafety for some residents, particularly pedestrians and vulnerable groups.
- Community vigilance and policing: While neighborhood watch schemes and community support are valued, there is a call for increased police presence and better response to local intelligence to address crime and anti-social activities effectively.








THEME 5 - STEWARDSHIP

Care and maintenance

Question 29

Are buildings and spaces well cared for? (Please rate from 1-Least positive to 7-Most positive)



Answer Choices	Responses
1	 2.35% 2
2	 4.71% 4
3	 10.59% 9
4	 16.47% 14
5	 31.76% 27
6	 21.18% 18
7	 12.94% 11

Answered: 85 Skipped: 2 Response Total: 85

Question 30

Please provide further details on your response



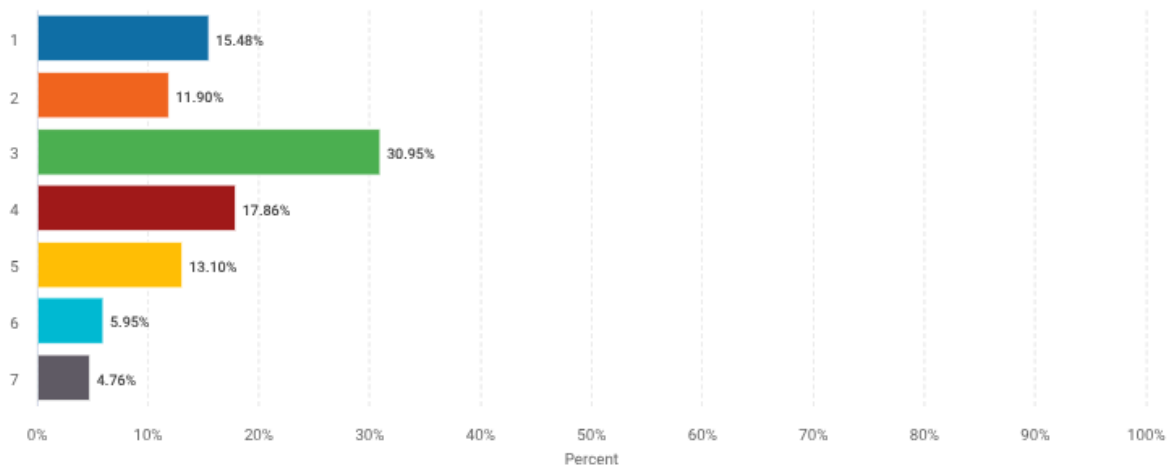
Community feedback highlights mixed perceptions of maintenance in Stepps, with private properties generally well cared for, while public spaces and council-maintained areas often fall short of expectations. Concerns include inconsistent grass cutting, weed control, litter, dog waste management, and road conditions. Suggestions for improvement focus on better upkeep of parks, roads, and public facilities, as well as increased community engagement and clearer reporting channels.

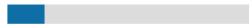

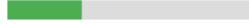
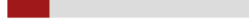
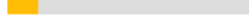


- Private vs Public Maintenance: Private gardens and properties are mostly well maintained, but council-managed spaces like parks, war memorial areas, and roads require more care and attention.
- Grass and Weed Control: Grass areas and weeds often receive insufficient maintenance, with issues such as overgrown verges and ineffective weedkiller application noted by the community.
- Litter and Waste Management: Bins, especially dog waste bins, are sometimes insufficient or infrequently emptied, leading to litter and dog mess problems on streets and in parks.
- Park Conditions: Parks are perceived as under-maintained, with overgrown grass and unkept areas that reduce their appeal and safety.
- Road and Pavement Issues: Local roads, particularly the Cumbernauld Road, suffer from potholes, uneven paving, poor lighting, and inadequate street sweeping, impacting safety and aesthetics.
- Community Engagement: There is a desire for more community involvement alongside council efforts to improve maintenance and cleanliness, including local initiatives and better communication channels.
- Building and Facility Maintenance: Most buildings are well cared for, though specific structures like the Scout Hall and hockey pavilion were raised as places that could be improved to benefit the community.
- Unoccupied Properties: Some properties have been left unoccupied and deteriorating for years, with suggestions for compulsory purchase to improve neighborhood upkeep.
- Additional Suggestions: Recommendations include adding more planters on main roads, reinstating Christmas decorations, maintaining cycle routes, and addressing communal grass areas neglected due to withdrawn council services.

Influence and sense of control

Question 31

Do I have a sense of control and influence over what happens in my area? (Please rate from 1-Least positive to 7-Most positive)






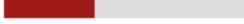
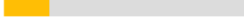
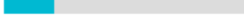
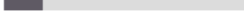

Answer Choices	Responses
1	 15.48% 13
2	 11.90% 10
3	 30.95% 26
4	 17.86% 15
5	 13.10% 11
6	 5.95% 5
7	 4.76% 4
Answered: 84 Skipped: 3 Response Total: 84	

ABOUT YOU - DEMOGRAPHIC QUESTIONS

Respondent age

Question 33

Please indicate your age band

Answer Choices	Responses	
17 or younger	 1.16% 1	
18-20	 0.00% 0	
21-29	 4.65% 4	
30-39	 37.21% 32	
40-49	 18.60% 16	
50-59	 20.93% 18	
60 or older	 16.28% 14	
Rather not say	 1.16% 1	
Answered: 86 Skipped: 1		Response Total: 86

Respondent link to the community

Question 34

How would you describe your link to the community?

Answer Choices	Responses	
I live here	 100.00% 86	
I work here	 2.33% 2	
I visit friends, family or places in the area	 10.47% 9	
I pass through the area	 1.16% 1	
Answered: 86 Skipped: 1		Response Total: 86

Respondent location

Question 35

If you live in the area, which part of the community do you live? (Please select one)

Answer Choices	Responses	
Stepps	53.49% 46	
Stepphill	1.16% 1	
Cardowan	16.28% 14	
Craigendmuir	0.00% 0	
Crowwood Grange	16.28% 14	
Coshneuk	1.16% 1	
Millerston	2.33% 2	
Frankfield Loch	9.30% 8	
Answered: 86 Skipped: 1		Response Total: 86