

Midlothian Council MLDP2 Evidence Report

Participation Report: Volume 1



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1. Purpose

- 1.1 This Participation Report brings together the outcomes of the engagement which has been undertaken as part of the preparation of the second Midlothian Local Development Plan (MLDP2). It sets out how the relevant statutory requirements for engagement and stakeholder involvement relating to the different stages in the local development plan preparation process have been met. It also summarises the engagement activities undertaken by Midlothian Council, and the views, opinions and information gathered as a result. The outcomes of engagement carried out by others, for example the Midlothian Community Planning Partnership, which are relevant to the Local Development Plan (LDP) are also included.
- 1.2 This version (Volume 1) of the Participation Report covers the period from the formal commencement of MLDP2 (28 February 2023) to the submission of the Evidence Report to Scottish Ministers for "Gate Check" (July 2024). Further versions will be published at relevant stages in the plan preparation.
- 1.3 Midlothian Council publishes a Development Plan Scheme annually, as required by Section 20B of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997(as amended). The Development Plan Scheme includes the proposed timings of the various stages of local development plan preparation, details of what is involved in each stage of preparation, and a participation statement which outlines when consultation is likely to take place, with whom and its likely form. The latest Development Plan Scheme, (DPS16) was approved in in April 2024.
- 1.4 This Participation Report is intended to meet the requirements of Section 16B(4) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (see also paragraph 2.6 of this document).





Part 2 – Statutory Requirements

2 Statutory Requirements

- 2.1 The relevant primary legislation relating to local development plans is the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, as amended by the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019. The relevant secondary legislation are the Town and Country Planning (Development Planning) (Scotland) Regulations 2023, the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 (Commencement No.12 and Saving and Transitional Provisions) Regulations 2023 and the Town and Country Planning (Grounds for Declining to Follow Recommendations) (Scotland) Regulations 2009.
- 2.2 Appendix 1 breaks down the statutory requirements and demonstrates how the Council has met these in the preparation of the Evidence Report.

Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (amended)

- 2.3 Section 3ZA of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, as amended by the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 sets out that the purpose of planning is to manage the development and use of land in the long-term public interest. Section 15 covers the form and content of local development plans. The spatial strategy included in the plan must take account of the following matters:
 - The principal physical, cultural, economic, social, built heritage and environmental characteristics of the district;
 - The principal purposes for which the land is used;
 - The size, composition, health and distribution of the population of the district;
 - The housing needs of the population of the area, including, in particular, the needs of persons undertaking further and higher education, older people and disabled people;
 - The desirability of allocation land for the purposes of resettlement;
 - The health needs of the population of the district and the likely effects of development and use of land on those health needs;
 - The education needs of the population of the district and the likely effects of development and use of land on those education needs;
 - The extent to which there are rural areas within the district in relation to which there has been a substantial decline in populations;
 - The capacity of education services in the district;
 - The desirability of maintained an appropriate number and range of cultural venues and facilities (including in particular, but no limited to, live music venues) in the district;
 - The infrastructure of the district (including communications, transport and drainage systems, systems for the supply of water and energy, and health care and education facilities);
 - How that infrastructure is used; and
 - Any change which the planning authority think may occur in relation to any of the maters mentioned above.



- 2.4 Section 15A require planning authorities to, before preparing a local development plan, issue an invitation to local communities to prepare local place plans. Section 16 requires planning authorities to, when preparing a local development plan, take into account the National Planning Framework, and local outcomes improvement plan and any registered local place plan.
- 2.5 Section 16A requires planning authorities to make such arrangements as they consider appropriate to promote and facilitate participation by children and young people (aged 25 or under) in the preparation of the local development plan. Planning authorities must publish information about its arrangements to promote and facilitate participation by children and young people and keep the published information up to date.
- 2.6 Section 16B require planning authorities to prepare an evidence report before preparing a local development plan. In preparing the evidence report the planning authority are to seek the views of, and have regard to any views expressed by, the key agencies, children and young people, such other persons as may be prescribed, and the public at large. The Evidence Report (as set out in section 16B(4) of the 1997 Act) is to include a statement on the steps taken by the planning authority in preparing the report to seek the views of the public at large, including in particular the views of disabled persons, Gypsies and Travellers, and children and young people, the steps taken to seek the views of community councils, and the extent to which the views expressed have been taken into account in the report (the Evidence Report). This Participation Report, including appendices 1 and 2, constitute that statement.
- 2.7 Under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Council is required to undertake a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Local Development Plan. The purpose of the SEA is to assess the likely impacts of the plan on the environment and to seek ways to minimise any significant negative effects. The SEA process begins at the start of the LDP preparation process. During the preparation of the Evidence Report, environmental baseline information is collected for the SEA and a Scoping Report prepared and submitted to the Consultation Authorities for approval. The Consultation Authorities are SEPA, NatureScot and Historic Environment Scotland.
- 2.8 The Council is also required to undertake an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) of the Local Development Plan. Once completed, the IIA of the LDP will ensure that the Council has met its legal requirements to:
 - Undertake an impact assessment on equality, human rights, including the rights of children and young people;
 - Assess against our Public Sector duties to advance equality, eliminate discrimination and foster good relations;
 - Have due regard to reducing inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage when making strategic decisions (Fairer Scotland Duty); and
 - Ensure that public services and economic decisions promote human dignity for all.
- 2.9 During the preparation of the Evidence Report, an IIA steering group has been established to discuss potential evidence requirements, identify gaps in evidence, and consider how the plan will meet the needs of and impact on different groups of people including those with protected characteristics and those vulnerable to experiencing poverty and ill health.





Part 3 – Engagement Activities

3 Engagement Activities

- 3.1 This section sets out the engagement activities which the Council has undertaken to satisfy the legislative requirements set out in Section 2, above, and the table in Appendix 1 of this report.
- 3.2 On 28 February 2023, Midlothian Council's Planning Committee formally launched the review of the Midlothian Local Development Plan (Adopted by Midlothian Council in November 2017). Invitations to community groups to prepare local place plans were issued in March 2023. Development Plan Scheme 15 was published in March 2023, setting out the timetable for preparing MLDP2 and its Participation Statement described how and when people and organisation can get involved in the preparation of the new LDP. An Engagement Plan was approved at Planning Committee on 16 May 2023. The Engagement Plan explained how and when engagement would take place with the community, local businesses and organisations, developers, third sector organisations, Government key agencies and other stakeholders to collect information for the Evidence Report.

Community Engagement

- 3.3 To engage with the public at large, seven in-person drop-in events were held during May and June 2023 at local libraries (Gorebridge, Loanhead, Dalkeith, Lasswade, Newtongrange, Penicuik and Newbattle). The purpose of these events was to gather information from people who live and work in Midlothian on their lived experiences of Midlothian as a place. Across the seven events, 161 people attended, speaking with planning officers and recording their thoughts based around the following questions:
 - What is good about your community?
 - What and where are the assets in your place?
 - What and where are the issues of concern for your place?
 - What would you change about your place?





Photo 1: Display boards/sign-in station at Gorebridge Library drop-in



Photo 2: Example of comments collected at the Penicuik Library drop-in

- 3.4 An online survey was also published on the Midlothian Council website between 22 March and 31 August 2023. The survey was based on the Place Standard tool, and included twelve topics:
 - Moving around
 - Public transport
 - Traffic and parking
 - Streets and spaces



- Natural space
- Play and recreation
- Facilities and amenities
- Work and the local economy
- Housing and community
- Social contact
- Feeling safe
- Care and maintenance

For each topic, responders were asked to provide a rating between 1 (there is lots of room for improvement) and 7 (very little room for improvement) and to provide written comments. 243 responses were received overall. A summary of the score and issues raised by members of the public via online surveys is provided in Appendix 3 of this report.

3.5 A new mailing list for people and organisations interested in receiving updates about MLDP2 was created. The mailing list has 224 contacts (January 2024). The mailing list is used to circulate updates about plan preparation, including newsletters. Newsletters were circulated in April 2023 and September 2023. Update emails were also sent to the mailing list in November 2023 and March 2024. A new section of the Midlothian website was also created to provide information on MLDP2 Midlothian Local Development Plan 2 | Development plans and policies | Midlothian Council.

Community Councils and Community Organisations

- 3.6 Midlothian has fifteen Community Councils. Extensive engagement has taken place with them since the launch of the preparation of MLDP2. Steps to engage with Community Councils began with a Community Council training morning on Saturday 25 March 2023 which covered both the Local Development Plan and Local Place Plans.
- 3.7 The Engagement Tracker in Appendix 2 provides a full list of all Community Council and community organisation engagement exercises to reflect how the council accords with Section 16 B(4)(a) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended).

Children and Young People

- 3.8 Planning officers engaged with schools, youth groups and other youth organisations.
- 3.9 A separate participation report focusing on the engagement activities with children and young people has been prepared, to meet the requirements of Section 16 B(4)(a) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended). Please see this report for further information.

Specialist Groups

- 3.10 In line with legislative requirements of section 16 B(4)(a) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended), particular groups were engaged with throughout the preparation of the Evidence Report. For example:
 - Third sector organisations representing disabled persons;
 - Meeting with parents of disabled children;



- Third sector organisations representing Gypsy Traveller communities;
- Attendance at Council led group supporting older people (Ageing Well, Midlothian); and
- The Third Sector Interface.
- 3.11 Please refer to the Engagement Tracker (Appendix 2 of this report) for a full list of engagement activities carried out with specialist groups. Further details are also provided within Evidence Report chapters.

Businesses and Organisations

3.12 An online survey was conducted for Businesses and Organisations between 24th March – 31st August 2023 and engagement occurred with the Midlothian and East Lothian Chamber of Commerce. The survey received 24 responses asked respondents to identify relevant issues for MLDP2 to address. Separate engagement with the business community was undertaken as part of preparation of Evidence Report chapter 33 Business, Industry and Community Wealth Building. Evidence Report chapter 33 provides further information on that engagement. This included engagement with Midlothian's 40 largest employers, as identified by Midlothian Council's Economic Development section.

Key Agencies

- 3.13 Regular engagement has taken place with the Scottish Government Key Agencies collectively and individually. Liaison meetings have taken place with SEPA, Scottish Water, Scottish Forestry, Historic Environment Scotland, Nature Scot, NHS Lothian Public Health, NHS Lothian Primary Care, Midlothian Health and Social Care Partnership, Public Health Scotland, Transport Scotland, SEStran, Scottish Enterprise and Scottish Forestry.
- 3.14 The Council was selected to benefit from support from the Scottish Government Key Agencies Group (KAG). A group which is committed to building upon work undertaken to date through the Scottish Government's Green Recovery Offer, promoting a more collaborative approach to engagement in the planning system, in line with the <u>Place Principle</u>.
- 3.15 KAG facilitated internal Midlothian Council workshops to provide support to the Council planning team to start to establish a place-based collaborative approach with other Council and community planning partner service providers. The workshops were an important opportunity for the Council services and key agencies to collectively get together and discuss, for the first time in the new planning regime, strategic and local matters affecting Midlothian.

Elected Members

3.16 In 2023, two sets of workshops with Midlothian Council elected Members were held. Midlothian Council has 18 councillors, elected across six wards. All 18 Councillors are members of the Planning Committee. The first set of workshops were held in May 2023. The second set were held in November 2023. To maximise the opportunity for engagement, two sessions of each workshop were held, split on a ward basis. The purpose of the workshops was to capture elected Members ambitions and ideas for MLDP2 and to provide feedback on wider community engagement.



3.17 Further drop-in sessions were held with elected members in May 2024 prior to the Evidence Report being presented at Midlothian Council's 4 June 2024 Planning Committee.

Midlothian Council and Midlothian Community Planning Partnership

3.18 Planning officers informed the Midlothian Community Planning Partnership and one of its subgroups, the Midlothian Climate Emergency Group, of progress with MLDP2. The Midlothian Climate Emergency Group helped inform production of Evidence Report chapter 1 Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation. Full details can be found in the Engagement Tracker (Appendix 2).

Neighbouring Local Authorities & Regional Groups

- 3.19 The Council engaged with:
 - Edinburgh and Lothians Strategic Drainage Partnership
 - Forth Valley Local Advisory Group (Flood Risk and RBMP)
 - Lothian and Borders Planning Officers Group
 - Musselburgh Flood Risk Team
 - Lothian and Borders Geo-conservation Committee
 - Lothian and Borders Officers Biodiversity Group (local authority members)
- 3.20 Please refer to the Engagement Tracker (Appendix 2) for further information.

Development Interests

- 3.21 The following development interests engaged with the Council during the preparation of the Evidence Report:
 - Homes for Scotland
 - Scottish Land and Estates
 - Midlothian Science Forum and University of Edinburgh
 - Midlothian Housing Forum
- **3.22** A full list of when this engagement took place can be found in the Engagement Tracker (Appendix 2 of this report).





Part 4 – **Engagement Outcomes**

Engagement Outcomes 4

4.1 This section sets out the outcomes of engagement activities which the Council has undertaken to satisfy the legislative requirements set out in Section 2, above, and the table in Appendix 1 of this report.

Community Engagement

Online Surveys

- 4.2 There were 243 responses to online MLDP2 surveys received overall, though not all respondents answered every question.
- 4.3 Women were more likely to respond to the survey than men: of those that answered the question regarding their gender, 61% were female and 39% were male. This compares to female/male split of 52%/48% in the general population of Midlothian, according to the 2022 Census¹.
- 4.4 Table 4.1 below provides a breakdown of the sample by age group. Note that those under 16 were not included in this survey as there were other dedicated surveys for children and young people. It can be seen that, in comparison to Midlothian's overall population, the sample was lacking representation of 16- to 24-year-olds and those aged 75 years and over, while it was overrepresentative of 45- to 64-year-olds. The other age groups (25- to 44-year-olds and 65- to 74year-olds) made up a generally comparable portion of the sample as they do in Midlothian's population.
- 20% of the sample (47 people) that responded to the question on whether they have a disability or 4.5 not indicated that they did. This compares to 19% of respondents to the 2011 Census in Midlothian that indicated they had a long-term health problem or disability².



¹ Source: National Records of Scotland (NRS), licensed under the Open Government Licence - Scotland's Census 2022 - Rounded population estimates - data | Scotland's Census (scotlandscensus.gov.uk)

² Search | Scotland's Census - Area Overview - Results for 2011 (scotlandscensus.gov.uk)

Age Group	No. of Responses	% of Responses	% of Age Group in Midlothian's Population*
16 - 24	1	0%	11%
25 - 44	67	28%	32%
45 - 64	119	50%	33%
65 - 74	40	17%	13%
75 and over	13	5%	10%

Table 4.1 – Breakdown of respondents by age group	Table 4.1 – B	reakdown of res	spondents b	y age group
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* Excluding 0- to 15-year-olds.

- 4.6 20% of the sample (47 people) that responded to the question on whether they have a disability or not indicated that they did. This compares to 19% of respondents to the 2011 Census in Midlothian that indicated they had a long-term health problem or disability³.
- 4.7 Table 4.2 below provides a summary of the average score rating across topics by all respondent (rating between 1 (there is lots of room for improvement) and 7 (very little room for improvement). Entries in the table are ordered from highest average rating at the top to lowest at the bottom. Given that answers were provided across a range of one to seven, and that the mid-point of this range is 3.5, average ratings above this could be interpreted as that topic receiving 'net positive' responses, and vice-versa for ratings below 3.5.

Topic	Average Rating	
Natural space	4.34	
Play and recreation	4.03	
Feeling safe	3.94	
Social contact	3.82	
Housing and community	3.57	
Work and the local economy	3.45	
Streets and spaces	3.41	
Moving around	3.30	
Facilities and amenities	3.21	
Care and maintenance	3.19	
Public transport	3.09	
Traffic and parking	3.04	

Table 4.2 – Average topic ratings.

4.8 Respondents were asked to include the first part of their postcode, to allow an analysis of the results as they referred to particular locations. Postcode responses were then grouped according to their location. Table 4.3 below summarises the number of responses received for each of them. Since the number of responses varied strongly between locations and some had many more responses than others, it was decided to combine locations that were in close proximity to have greater numbers to work with in these cases. These were:

³ <u>Search | Scotland's Census - Area Overview - Results for 2011 (scotlandscensus.gov.uk)</u>



- Bonnyrigg and Lasswade;
- Mayfield, Easthouses and Newtongrange; and
- Loanhead, Roslin & Bilston.

Location	Number of Responses
Bonnyrigg	34
Dalkeith	45
Gorebridge	24
Lasswade	5
Loanhead	4
Mayfield &	8
Easthouses	0
Newtongrange	12
Penicuik	24
Rosewell	12
Roslin & Bilston	29
Rural east	43

Table 4.3 – Breakdown of responses by location.

4.9 Ratings summaries for each of the topics across the different locations are provided in Appendix 3 of this report.

Public Drop-Ins

4.10 Table 4.4 summaries the comments received from the public at large during the in-person public drop-ins. The most frequent matters raised during were very strong concerns on the impact of population and development growth in Midlothian.

Торіс	Public Engagement Comments
Natural Environment	 concern at loss of green spaces, trees and the natural environment concern at loss settlement identity and settlement coalescence
Infrastructure	 consider there is insufficient education and health care service capacity to meet needs of existing and new residents moving into new homes the need to ensure sufficient infrastructure in general is in place to support population and residential growth in Midlothian condition of play park facilities lack of facilities for younger people
Housing	 affordability of housing and the high prices of new homes being built predominance of larger low density detached/semi-detached family housing being built, rather than a variety of homes and smaller homes (in terms of numbers of bedrooms) being built for people of lower incomes to get on the housing ladder

 Table 4.4 – Summary of Public Engagement Comments



Transport	 concern at public transport service (including frequency) and availability of routes to connect different parts of Midlothian, and the directness of some routes into Edinburgh poor condition of roads and impact of new housing shortage of safe active travel routes for cycling
Town Centres/Retail	 poor condition of town centres people not using local and town centres poor car parking provision in town centres areas of anti-social behaviour (not limited to local/town centres)

Community Councils and Community Organisations

- **4.11** At the time of preparing this Evidence Report, eight Local Place Plans (LPPs) had been received from Community Bodies, with a further two draft LPPs submitted.
- 4.12 Officers are providing ongoing advice to groups preparing Local Place Plans and have attended meetings of the Midlothian Federation of Community Councils on local place plan matters. Meetings with the Federation and individual community councils are set out in Engagement Tracker (Appendix 2 of this document)).
- 4.13 Feedback on the LDP and LPP process has been given to the Federation of Community Councils.

Children and Young People

4.14 The outcomes of engagement with children and young people have been identified in the Children and Young People Participation Report and is therefore not repeated in this document. Please refer to that separate report for details.

Specialist Groups

4.15 The details of the outcomes of engagement with specialist groups are set out in section 3.10, above, and the engagement tracker in Appendix 2, have been incorporated as necessary within relevant Evidence Report chapters.

Businesses

4.16 The outcomes of engagement with businesses have been covered as necessary within Evidence Report chapter 33 Business, Industry and Community Wealth Building. .

Key Agencies

4.17 The outcome of discussions with individual Key Agencies has been included and referenced within Evidence Report chapters.



Elected Members

4.18 The outcome of elected Member workshops was to ensure Members were informed of the steps required to produce an LDP and the issues arising from Evidence Report preparation. Members have also been kept up to date with LDP progress through a sequence of reports to Planning Committee.

Midlothian Council and Midlothian Community Planning Partnership

4.19 The Council benefitted from support from <u>Architecture Design Scotland and the Key Agency</u> <u>Group (KAG)</u>. KAG facilitated internal Midlothian Council workshops, supporting the Council development planning team to start to establish a <u>place-based collaborative approach</u> with other Council and community planning partner agency service providers. This was done as part of their evidence gathering process for MLDP2. The workshop was an important opportunity for the Council services and key agencies to collectively get together and discuss, for the first time in the new planning regime, strategic and local matters affecting Midlothian. A draft report has been produced to support the workshops.

Neighbouring Local Authorities

4.20 The Council was aware of this engagement with neighbouring local authorities when preparing relevant Evidence Report chapters. The regular meetings held with surrounding local authorities are set out in the MLDP2 Engagement Tracker (Appendix 2 of this document).

Development Interests

4.21 As above, development interests captured have been included in Evidence Report chapters as appropriate. This included principles in relation to development and matters parties felt should be considered in the preparation of MLDP2. It did not include site specific matters.





Part 5 – Next Steps

5 Next Steps

5.1 Following 'Gate Check', the Council will move forward to prepare the MLDP2 Proposed Plan. Further engagement and consultation activities will take place in that process. Updates will be made to the <u>MLDP2 webpages</u> of the Council website in due course. To be added to the LDP mailing list and receive LDP updates, please email <u>LDP@midlothian.gov.uk</u> to request this.



Appendix 1 – Meeting Legislative Requirements



Requirements listed in the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended) and The Town and Country Planning (Development Planning) (Scotland) Regulations 2023	Section of the 1997 Act	How (and where demonstrably evidenced) 1997 Act requirements have been met
 Set out the matters listed in s15(5) - principal characteristics – the principal physical, cultural, economic, social, built heritage and environmental characteristics of the district; the principal purposes for which the land is used; the size, composition, health, and distribution of the population of the district; the housing needs of the population of the area, including, in particular, the needs of persons undertaking further and higher education, older people and disabled people; the availability of land in the district for housing, including for older people and disabled people; the desirability of allocating land for the purposes of resettlement; the health needs of the population of the district and the likely effects of development and use of land on those health needs; the education needs of the population of the district and the likely effects of development and use of land on those education needs; the extent to which there are rural areas within the district in relation to which there has been a substantial decline in population; the capacity of education services in the district; the district; the infrastructure of the district (including communications, transport and drainage systems, systems for the supply of facilities); how that infrastructure is used; and any change which the planning authority thinks may occur in relation to any of the matters mentioned above. 	S 15(5)	Reviewed and included in the Evidence Report chapters.

Seek the views of, and have regard to the views of: Key Agencies	S 16B(2) Reg. 25	 Regular, topic specific meetings with Key Agencies: Historic Environment Scotland; NatureScot; Scottish Environment Protection Agency; Scottish Water; Health Boards; Transport Scotland, and Scottish Forestry. The Council benefited from support from the Key Agency Group. Work with Key Agencies and their input is reflected in Evidence Report chapters. The Council has maintained a Key Agency Engagement Tracker to retain details of engagement.
Children and Young People	S 16B(2)	LDP specific - Online surveys for children and young people living in Midlothian; Primary and Secondary school workshops; workshop with youth councils. Play Sufficiency Assessment and Open Space Strategy related surveys for children and young people in Midlothian. The Children and Young People Participation Report provides specific details of engagement.

Others as prescribed	S 16B(2)	See Engagement Tracker (Appendix 2 of the Participation Report) and Participation Report for full details. Reflected in Evidence Report chapters.
The public at large	S 16B(2)	Public drop-in sessions and online 'Place Standard' surveys. See Participation Report for full details. Reflected in Evidence Report chapters.
Summarise the action taken to support and promote the construction and adaptation of housing to meet the needs of older and disabled people and an analysis of the extent to which action has helped to meet those needs.	S16B(3)(b)	Covered in Evidence Report chapter 18 Affordable, Disabled, Specialist and Other Housing.
Summarise the action taken to support and promote the construction and adaptation of housing to meet the needs of Gypsies and Travellers and an analysis of the extent to which action has helped to meet those needs.	S16B(3)(c)	Covered in Evidence Report chapter 18 Affordable, Disabled, Specialist and Other Housing.
Set out how communities were invited to prepare Local Place Plans and the assistance given.	S16B(3)(d)	Covered in Evidence Report chapter 29 Local Place Plans and reports to Midlothian Council Planning Committees of 23 January 2024 and 4 June 2023.

Provide a statement on the steps taken by the planning authority in preparing the report (the Evidence Report) to seek the views of the public at large, including in particular the views of: disabled persons; Gypsies and Travellers; children and young people; and steps taken in preparing the report to seek the views of community councils. 	S16B(4)	 This Appendix 1 document constitutes the "statement". See Engagement Tracker (Appendix 2 of the Participation Report) and Participation Report for further details. Reflected in Evidence Report chapters (including chapter 18 Affordable, Disabled, Specialist and Other Housing). With regard to disabled people, examples of engagement exercises include: Third Sector Interface Engagement with Forward Mid Parent Engagement Workshop (Saltersgate School) See Participation Report for full details.
• steps taken in preparing the report to seek the views of community councils.		

Provide/take into account a Play Sufficiency Assessment	S16D(1)	Completed and submitted in support of the Evidence Report.
Provide/ take into account an Open Space Strategy	Reg. 9	Completed and submitted in support of the Evidence Report.
Provide a site assessment/appraisal methodology – suggested in the Scottish Government Local development planning guidance (May 2023)		Not a requirement but forms the basis of Evidence Report chapter 19 Site Selection Methodology.

Appendix 2 – Engagement Tracker



Date	Engagement Activity	Venue	Time	Fulfilled requirement (e.g. LDP, LPP, IIA)	TCP 1997 People Groups
10 January 2023	SEA Steering Group	Online		SEA	
12 January 2023	Scottish Forestry	Online		LDP	Key Agencies
18 January 2023	Scottish Enterprise	Online		LDP	Key Agencies
20 January 2023	SEStran	Online	14:00-15:00	LDP	Key Agencies
25 January 2023	KA Liaison Meeting NHS Lothian, HSCP and PHS	Online		LDP	Key Agencies
30 January 2023	Midlothian Council Lead Officer – Planning Obligations	Online	14:00-15:00	LDP	
01 February 2023	KA Liaison Meeting HES & NatureScot	Online	14:00-15:30	LDP	Key Agencies
08 February 2023	Midlothian Council Active Travel	Online	14:00-15:00	LDP	
08 February 2023	Homes for Scotland	Online	14:00-15.30	LDP	
14 February 2023	KA Liaison Meeting SEPA & Scottish Water	Online		LDP	
15 February 2023	Midlothian Federation of Community Councils	Online	19:00-21:00	LDP	Community Councils

20 February	Midlothian Council – Landscape Officers	In person	10:00 - 12:00	LDP	Internal
21 February 2023	SEA Steering Group	Online		SEA	
21 February 2023	Midlothian Energy Ltd (MEL)	Online	10:00-11:00	LDP	
22 February 2023	Public Health Scotland	Online	13:00-16:00	LDP	Key Agencies
23 February 2023	LHS HA Forum	Online	10.00-12.00	LDP	
07 March 2023	MSZ Steering Group	Bush House	10.00-11.00	LDP	
08 March 2023	Local Place Plan (LPP) Invitation	Online		LDP/LPP	Local Place Plans
08 March 2023	KA Liaison Meeting Transport Scotland	Online	13:15-14:15	LDP	Key Agencies
10 March 2023	Scottish Power Energy Networks	Online	10:30-11:00	LDP	Key Agencies
14 March 2023	KA Liaison Meeting SEPA/SW	Online	14.00-15.30	LDP	Key Agencies
15 March 2023	NHS Public Health			LDP	Key Agencies
15 March 2023	Midlothian Federation of Community Councils	Online	19:00-21:00	LDP, LPP	Community Councils
20 March 2003	Scottish Government LHEES	Online / Midlothian House	11:00-13:00	LDP	
25 March 2023	Community Council Training Morning	Lasswade Centre	09.15-13.00	LPP, LDP	Community Councils

28 March 2023	Scottish Power Energy Networks	Online	14:00-15:00	LDP	
29 March 2023	Midlothian Council Education Service	Online	09:30 – 10:30	LDP	
04 April 2023	SEA Steering Group	Online		SEA	
06 April 2023	Buccleuch Estates	Fairfield House	10:00-12:00	LDP	
17 April 2023	MLDP2 Newsletter No.1			LDP	
19 April 2023	Midlothian Federation of Community Councils	Online	19:00-21:00	LDP, LPP	Community Councils
19 April 2023	Midlothian Council Active Travel Team	Online	14:30-16:00	LDP	
21 April 2023	Scottish Water Edinburgh and Lothians Strat Drainage Partnership	Online	11:00-12:00	LDP and FR policy	Key Agencies
26 April 2023	Forth Valley Local Advisory Group (Flood Risk and RBMP)	Edin Zoo	12:00-15:00	LDP	
30 April 2023	KA Liaison HSCP	Online		LDP	Key Agencies
02 May 2023	Ageing Well Midlothian Coffee Morning	Gorebridge Leisure Centre	10.00-13.00	LDP/IIA	Older People

04 May 2023	LDP Drop-in No.1	Gorebridge Library	12.00-19.00	LDP	Public at Large
04 May 2023	RSL Housing Sector	Online	11.00-13.00	LDP	
05 May 2023	Living Well Dalkeith and Woodburn Event		10.00-15.00	LDP	Public at Large
09 May 2023	LDP Drop-in No.2	Loanhead Library	12.00-19.00	LDP	Public at Large
10 May 2023	Taylor Wimpey	Fairfield House	09:30-10:30	LDP	
11 May 2023	Homes for Scotland - engagement	HfS Offices, Chesser, Edinburgh	10.00-12.00	LDP	
11 May 2023	LDP Drop-in No.3	Dalkeith Library	12.00-19.00	LDP	Public at Large
12 May 2023	Midlothian Energy Ltd (MEL)	Online	09:30-10:20	LDP	
15 May 2023	Scottish Land and Estates engagement – (Midlothian landed estates)	Fairfield House	10.00-12.00	LDP	
17 May 2023	Lothian Buses	Online	14:00-15:00	LDP	
17 May 2023	Midlothian Federation of Community Councils	Online	19:00-21:00	LDP, LPP	Community Councils
23 May 2023	Secondary School Engagement Workshop	Lasswade High School	11.30-12.00	LDP	Children and Young People

23 May 2023	LDP Drop-in No.4	Lasswade Library	12.00-19.00	LDP	Public at Large
24 May 2023	KA Liaison Meeting – NatureScot & HES	Online	14:00 – 15:30	LDP	Key Agencies
25 May 2023	LDP Drop-in No.5	Newtongrange Library	12.00-19.00	LDP	Public at Large
25 May 2023	Midlothian Local Housing Strategy meeting	Online	10:00-12.00	LDP	
26 May 2023	Primary 5-7 Engagement	Ladywood Youth Group, Penicuik	14:00-15:00	LDP	Children and Young People
29 May 2023	Primary School Engagement Workshop	Woodburn Primary School	09.00-10.00	LDP	Children and Young People
29 May 2023	Primary School Engagement Workshop	Stobhill Primary School TBC	11.00 -11.30	LDP	Children and Young People
29 May 2023	Primary School Engagement Workshop	Tynewater	13:30-14:00	LDP	Children and Young People
29 May 2023	Primary School Engagement Workshop	Moorfoot	14:30-15:00	LDP	Children and Young People
29 May 2023	Midlothian Council Elected Members Workshop	Midlothian House		LDP	Elected Members
31 May 2023	Primary School Engagement Workshop	Roslin	11:00-11.30	LDP	Children and Young People

31 May 2023	Primary School Engagement Workshop	Bilston	09.30-10:00	LDP	Children and Young People
31 May 2023	Email sent to Newbattle Abbey College students with survey links	Email		LDP	Young People/ Higher Education
31 May 2023	Network Rail	Online	10:00-11:00	LDP	
01 June 2023	Parent Engagement Workshop	Saltersgate School	10:00-11.30	LDP, IIA, PSA	Children and Young People - Parents disabled children
01 June 2023	LDP Drop-in No.6	Penicuik Library	12.00-19.00	LDP	Public at Large
02 June 2023	Midlothian Tourism Forum	Online	10:00-11:00	LDP	
02 June 2023	Secondary Age Engagement	Ladywood Youth Group, Penicuik	16:00-17:30	LDP	Children and Young People
05 June 2023	Gypsy Traveller Roma Forum	Online	14:00-15.30	LDP	Gypsy Travellers
06 June 2023	LDP Drop-in No.7	Newbattle Library	12.00-19.00	LDP	Public at Large
06 June 2023	Secondary School Workshop	Newbattle High School Secondary School	11.30-12.00	LDP	Children and Young People
07 June 2023	Bonnyrigg Primary School	Bonnyrigg Youth Club	18.00-19.45	LDP	Children
08 June 2023	University of Edinburgh / LDP liaison meeting	University of Edinburgh	11.00-13.00	LDP and DM interest	Young People/ Higher Education

13 June 2023	SEPA/SW Liaison meeting	Online	14:00-16.00	LDP	Key Agencies
16 June 2023	Meeting Dr John Boyle Retties. Discussion market trends.	Online	10:00-11:00	LDP	
16 June 2023	Midlothian Energy Ltd (MEL)	Online	09:00-09:30	LDP	
21 June 2023	Mid and East Lothian Chamber of Commerce	Dalhousie Castle	08:00-10.30	LDP	
21 June 2023	Midlothian Federation of Community Councils	Online	19:00-21:00	LDP, LPP	Community Councils
27 June 2023	Key Agencies Group	Online	10:30-12:30	LDP	Key Agencies
27 June 2023	Meeting with Danderhall Community Council	Danderhall Hub	19.45-21:00	LDP	Community Councils
28 June 2023	ScotRail	Online	12:00-13:00	LDP	
28 June 2023	Third Sector Interface –HSCP led	Kings Park Church, Dalkeith	14:00-16:00	LDP/IIA	Disabled persons Older People Inequality groups
06 July 2023	HSCP Strategic Planning Group	Online	14:00-15:00	LDP	Key Agencies
06 July 2023	Ec Dev and One Dalkeith (Jillian Simon) re Co- working space in Dalkeith TC	Online	10:00-11:00	LDP	

10 July 2023	Member of public with disabled child	Online	11:00-12:00	LDP	Disabled children
11 July 2023	Tillicoultry Quarries	Online	09:00-10:00	LDP	
14 July 2023	Retail consultant meeting (K Hargest)	Online	9.30-11:00	LDP	
28 July 2023	Discuss LDP and college estate plans/student accom needs	Edinburgh College	10:00-12:00	LDP	High Education
28 July 2023	Scotia Gas Networks (SGN)	Online	14:00-15:00	LDP	
01 August 2023	Penicuik Estate	Fairfield House	10:00-12:00	LDP	
01 August 2023	Scottish Government – Geothermal	Online	14:00-15:00	LDP	
01 August	Midlothian Council Education Service	Online	14:00 – 15:00	LDP	
02 August 2023	Key Agencies Group	Online	09:00-11:00	LDP	Key Agencies
07 August 2023	Equally Safe in Midlothian Strategy Workshop	Newbattle High School	14:00-16:00	LDP/IIA	Women and gender
09 August 2023	HSCP Strategic Planning Group	Online	14:00-15:00	LDP	Key Agencies
09 August 2023	Key Agencies Group	Online	09:30-10:30	LDP	Key Agencies
16 August 2023	Crown Estates Scotland	Online	14:00-15:00	LDP	

23 August 2023	Shelter Scotland – Discussion on homelessness and accommodation needs in Midlothian	Online	14:00-15:00	LDP/IIA	Homeless people Women and children
23 August 2023	Midlothian Council Land and Countryside Service (burial ground requirements)	Online	10:00-11:00	LDP	
30 August 2023	Women's Aid – discussion on women's interaction with their environment, place, housing need	Online	09.30-10.15	LDP/IIA	Women and children
05 September 2023	MSZ Forum	Bush House	13.00-14.30	LDP	
05 September 2023	Lothian and Borders Planning Officers Group	Online	16.00-17.30	LDP	
05 September 2023	Midlothian Energy Ltd (MEL)	Online	09:30-10:15	LDP	
06 September 2023	Midlothian Energy Ltd (MEL)	Newtongrange		LDP	
07 September 2023	Homes for Scotland	Fairfield House	13.00-16.00	LDP	
08 September 2023	Scottish Land & Estates	Fairfield House	09.30-12.30	LDP	

12 September 2023	KA Liaison Meeting – HES & NatureScot	Online	10:00-11:30	LDP	Key Agencies
13 September 2023	Workforce Mobility Project	Online		LDP	
13 September 2023	MYSP, MYA, Young Champs	One Dalkeith	18.30	LDP	Children and Young People Care Experienced children and young people
20 September 2023	Midlothian Council – Lead Officer Planning Obligations	Online	11:00 – 12:00	LDP	
20 September 2023	Musselburgh Flood Risk Team	Online	13.00-15.00	LDP	
21 September 2023	Housing Association Forum	Online	10.00-12.00	LDP	
25 September 2023	Newtongrange Village Voices	Newtongrange Library	10.15am	LDP	Older People
26 September 2023	Scotia Gas Networks (SGN)	Online	09:30-11:30	LDP	
27 September 2023	Midlothian Tourism Forum – Sustainability Networking Event	The Secret Garden	09.00-11.00	LDP	
28 September 2023	Midlothian Council LHEES	Online	15:30-16:00	LDP	
02 October 2023	Vogrie Park Ranger Service Volunteers	Vogrie Country Park	10.30-12:00	LDP	Older People

04 October 2023	Midlothian Council Active Travel Strategy	Online	15:00-16:00	LDP	
04 October 2023	Midlothian Council – Planning Applications Team (trees and development)	Online	14:00 – 15:00	LDP	
05 October 2023	Edinburgh College	Midlothian Campus	11:00-14:00	LDP	Young People Students
09 October 2023	Key Agencies Group	Online	09:30-12:00	LDP	Key Agencies
11 October 2023	University of Edinburgh and Montagu Evans. Bush Campus masterplan.	UofE Campus, Bush	09.30-11.00	LDP	Economy
11 October 2023	Midlothian Council – Education Service	Online	14:00 – 14:30	LDP	
16 October 2023	St John' Dalkeith Community Café	St John's Church Dalkeith	10.30-12:00	LDP	Older People
17 October 2023	Lothian and Borders Planning Officer Group- discussion on Edinburgh green belt and cross boundary matters	Online	16.00-17.30	LDP	
18 October 2023	Scottish Government PARD (Climate Change)	Online	14:00 - 14:30	LDP	

24 October	Midlothian Energy	Online	14:00-15:00	LDP	
2023 31 October 2023	Ltd (MEL) Scottish Water and SEPA, discussion on ELSDP, BGN and LDP	Fairmilehead SW Office	13.30-15.30	LDP	Key Agencies
06 November 2023	Midlothian Council Local Transport Strategy	Online	11:30-13:30	LDP	
06 November 2023	Key Agencies Group – Session 1	Online	14:00-16:00	LDP	Key Agencies
09 November 2023	Key Agencies Group – Sessions 2-3	Online	10:00-12:00 14:00-16:00	LDP	Key Agencies
13 November 2023	Key Agencies Group – Session 4	Online	14:00-16:00	LDP	Key Agencies
14 November 2023	Midlothian Council Elected Members Workshop	Midlothian House	14:00-16:00	LDP	
22 November 2023	Midlothian Council Elected Members Workshop	Midlothian House	14:00-16:00	LDP	
20 November 2023	Gypsy/Traveller forum	Online	14:00-16:00	LDP/Integrated Assessment (equalities)	Housing/ equalities
23 November 2023	Midlothian Council – Lead Officer Planning Obligations	Online	09:30 – 10:30	LDP	
27 November 2023	Midlothian Council Education Service	Online	13:00 - 14:00	LDP	

27 November 2023	Midlothian Council Local Transport Strategy	Online	17:00-19:00	LDP	
28 November 2023	Midlothian Tourism Forum Business Networking Event	Dalhousie Hotel	14.00-16.00	LDP	Tourism EvR
28 November 2023	Lothian and Borders Planning Officer Group- discussion on Edinburgh green belt and cross boundary matters	Online		LDP	
30 November 2023	Newtongrange Community Council	Online	10:00-10:45	LPP	Community Councils
04 December 2023	Midlothian Council – Planning Applications Team	Online	09:30-11:00	LDP	
04 December 2023	Sustrans – NCN	Online	12:00-13:00	LDP	Key Agencies
05 December 2023	Bonnyrigg Community Council	Online	10:00-10:45	LPP	Community Councils
05 December 2023	Lothian and Borders Geoconservation Committee Meeting	Online	10.00-11.00	LDP	LGS
08 December 2023	Meeting with some members of Midlothian Tourism Forum	Rosslyn Chapel	11:00-12:00	LDP	
12 December 2023	MC-SW-SEPA KA Liaison	Online	14:00-15:00	LDP	Key Agencies
14 December 2023	Midlothian Local Housing Strategy- Housing Association liaison forum	Online	10:00-12:00	LDP	Housing
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18 December 2023	SBC, NHS, Workforce Mobility	Online	10:00-11:00	LDP	
20 December 2023	Midlothian Federation of Community Councils	Online		LDP / LPP	Community Councils
16 January 2024	Homes for Scotland	Online	14:00-16:00	LDP	Housing
16 January 2024	Scottish Power Energy Networks / HOPS	Online			Key Agencies
18 January 2024	Homes for Scotland	Online	14:00-16:00	LDP	Housing
19 January 2024	Lothian Health Rally	Fisherrow Centre	13.00-15.00	LDP/Integrated Assessment (equalities)	Housing
19 January 2024	Midlothian Energy Ltd (MEL)	Online	14:00-14:30	LDP	
24 January 2024	Midlothian Council Land and Countryside Service (allotments)	Fairfield House	10:00 – 11:00	LDP	
25 January 2024	Gypsy/Traveller engagement (visit to North Cairntow Site and conversations with residents	North Cairntow	12:30-15.00	LDP/Integrated Assessment (equalities)	Housing

29 January 2024	Esk River Improvement Group	Online	10.00-12.00	LDP	Flooding/ infrastructure
29 January 2024	SBC, Workforce Mobility Project	Online	10:00-11:00	LDP	
30 January 2024	Sustrans – NCN	Sustrans office	11:00-15:00	LDP	Key Agencies
31 January 2024	Damhead and District Community Council	Online	16:00-17:00	LPP	Key Agencies
02 February 2024	Eskbank and Newbattle Community Council	Online	11:00-12:00	LPP	
08 February 2024	Mayfield and Easthouses and Newtongrange Community Councils	Online	10:30-11:45	LPP	Key Agencies
13 February 2024	Lothian and Borders Planning Officer Group- discussion on Edinburgh green belt and cross boundary matters	Online	16:00-17:30	LDP	
21 February 2024	Homes for Scotland	Homes for Scotland offices, Chesser, Edinburgh	14:00-16:00	LDP	
20 March 2024	SBC, Workforce Mobility Project	Online	10:00-11:00	LDP	

Appendix 2 – Engagement Tracker

11 April 2024	Midlothian Council	Online	10:00-11:00	LDP	
	Land and				
	Countryside				
	Service (play)				

Appendix 3 – Place Standard Tool Summaries and Scores



Торіс	Average Rating	Summary of Issues
Play and recreation	4.05	 There aren't enough safe places for children to play. Need more activities for all children and young people (e.g. pump track) and social amenities for older people. Vandalism of factored play parks is problematic for residents who pay for repairs.
Work and the local economy	4.05	 Too many fast-food outlets which lead to more litter and are bad for health. Job opportunities are limited in the local area and many people are working from home or commute to Edinburgh for employment. Too many tanning salons and takeaways in town centre. Lack of opportunities also limited college places, especially for support needs. There is a local interest in spaces for community owned businesses, co-working spaces, and more small industrial units.
Moving around	3.90	• Need more, wider, cycle paths and shared spaces to create safe, traffic free routes. E.g. a cycle link into Edinburgh and better connections between places within Midlothian. This would prioritise pedestrians, cyclists, and other forms of active and sustainable travel.
Public transport	3.87	 Some respondents felt that Bonnyrigg well served by public transport, however buses can be slow and expensive. Other respondents disliked having only one service to Edinburgh and felt that more frequent buses to/from Edinburgh are needed. Also, more buses between Midlothian destinations. Far too many vehicles on the roads. More public transport services could alleviate this problem.
Social contact	3.69	 There is no cinema or leisure facilities like swimming pool, tennis, or squash court. The presence of a community hub in other settlements was acknowledged as being a positive asset and residents of Bonnyrigg would like to see something similar in their town. The point was made that there is good social contact through online papers and social media and events are advertised online. This was indicated as being a barrier to those who do not have access to or cannot use the internet.

Table 1 – Average topic ratings for Bonnyrigg & Lasswade.

(39 responses in total).

		• The local church was said to be an asset, with active members. Members are concerned that the church could close.
Housing and community	3.67	 Delay in facility improvements following housebuilding. More community facilities run by community would help build area - could be linked to drive to build 20-minute neighbourhoods. New housing is too car orientated. Respondents want communities where activities can happen locally. Coalescence was raised as being issue. Need more housing to suit different needs.
Feeling safe	3.59	 Anti-social behaviour was raised as an issue. Poor street lighting in areas of Bonnyrigg which residents, particularly women, attributed to feeling unsafe walking alone at night.
Natural space	3.49	 Very little attractive local greenspaces - all taken over by football. Great spaces in terms of the Esk Valley, Springfield Mill, Mavisbank, Roslin Glen, Dalkeith & Vogrie Country Parks, but could have better wildlife corridors and sustainable travel routes to join these spaces. Access to greenspaces and parks is limited for less abled. Not easy to access greenspaces/woodlands outwith urban areas without a car.
Facilities and amenities	3.46	 Concern at capacity of schools. Concern at capacity of GPs and other health facilities. There is a desire for spaces for younger children, including soft play or smaller park equipment. Road network was said to be inadequate for level of development. Some comments reflected that local services were adequate in meeting local needs.
Streets and spaces	3.36	 Poor town centre environment in Bonnyrigg. Limited attractive spaces. Long term lack of maintenance is leading to poorer environment. Nothing "special" in place to make streets/place more attractive. Too many cars parked on roads and pavement. Better sustainable transport options needed to reduce the car domination in streets.

		Increasing pedestrian only areas would revitalise many high streets and town centres.
Care and maintenance	3.00	 Litter, potholes, verge and pavement maintenance were mentioned as points of concern. Wildflower planting on the verges was suggested as an improvement. The pavements were described as being in a poor condition and as such are a safety hazard for the elderly who could trip and injure themselves.
Traffic and parking	2.95	 Distributor road at Dalhousie difficult to access as there are no roundabouts. Traffic accessing from housing sites in the opposite direction. Sheriffhall junction not fit for purpose. Too many cars in Bonnyrigg town centre / busy at peak times. Bonnyrigg Toll being single lane from High Street means it is often gridlocked. No upgrade to infrastructure to cope with the increased traffic. The roads are in poor condition.

Table 2 – Average topic ratings for Dalkeith.

(45 responses in total).

Торіс	Average Rating	Summary of Issues
Natural space	4.98	 Existing greenspaces are valued and should be protected from development. Not all greenspaces are maintained to the same standard. Need more greenspace in the town centre. Access to greenspaces is getting harder as more houses are built. Public transport to some green spaces is limited, making access car reliant. Issues on paths shared with cyclists and the number of professional dog walkers exercising large numbers of dogs at same time. Overall Dalkeith Country Park is a good resource, however, increase in cars in Dalkeith Country Park make walking and cycling less safe. Greenspaces and play parks are poorly lit, limiting their use during winter. Increase use of blue spaces such as Gladhouse Reservoir - but controls are needed to keep people safe. Newbattle Abbey grounds have potential to be a community resource.

Play and recreation	4.12	 More funding for youth work, play schemes etc. could help to reduce anti-social behaviour in parks. Good facilities, but don't always feel safe after dark. Women's only activities/groups are limited but plenty for preschool children. Current facilities such as playing fields, courts and sports facilities are not accessible to all particularly by public transport. Some areas need better facilities for young people. Need more recreation activities for people with disabilities, as well as toilets and paths suitable for wheelchairs. Need to work with communities as population changes. Large play parks could be improved. Parks get too muddy in winter so need spaces like astro turfs/basketball courses.
Feeling safe	4.02	 Most comments reflected those residents in Dalkeith and closely surrounding areas felt unsafe due to anti-social behaviour and a perceived rise in crime and a loss of Police presence. One respondent did feel safe in their area, apart from when walking to the bus at night for night shift. This was reflected in another comment about the feeling unsafe in the winter months. From a trauma informed perspective, it was recognised that the most unsafe place for some is inside one's own home. Public areas can offer a sense of safety but can also contribute to the feeling of being unsafe in specific areas like leisure spaces or public transport.
Social contact	4.00	 There is division in the comments in terms of the sufficiency of opportunities for social interaction to take place in Dalkeith. One respondent from Dalkeith recognised that the adequacy of opportunities for social contact has "a lot to do with the individual", reflecting the diversity of the needs of Dalkeith's residents. While many respondents acknowledged the library, arts centre, cafes, One Dalkeith and Miners Welfare Hall as being positive examples of places to meet, it is evident that these views are not universally shared. Aside from comments specifying a lack of community centres/spaces in Dalkeith, Eskbank and Newbattle, a cinema or theatre in Dalkeith, comments also highlighted the barriers that members of the public face when accessing venues which currently exist - namely lack public transport to and from surrounding rural areas which leaves residents feeling isolated and

		lonely, individuals with physical or mental disabilities, older people, women and those from an ethnic minority background.
Housing and community	3.73	 Concern at shortage of homes, including Council housing, lower priced market homes (e.g. flats) Quality of new affordable housing approved of, but more are required so older and more substandard properties can be demolished (Jarnac Court referenced). Concern that definition of 'affordable housing' is poorly defined and an inadequate solution. Lack of safe homeless/temporary accommodation for woman, hidden homeless problem as lack of safe options mean many women do not come forward for help. More shops/community facilities on new build areas with bus stops - lack of facilities in walking distance. Stringent requirements for energy efficiency etc mean many potential rural properties for let are being allowed to fall into decline as it is uneconomic to bring them up to required standards. Infrastructure and services not keeping pace with demand. Difficulty living upstairs in a flat with mobility problems. Council stock not adaptable. Lack of choice over where to live for disabled and/or aging population - want more variety of locations, less communal accommodation, and more single accommodation. Character of new housing is unattractive and bland and not well integrated into existing areas. Interest in land for self builds.
Public transport	3.58	 Some communities have no scheduled service. No services to new housing - west of Bonnyrigg Road. No bus from Mayfield to Dalkeith. Good routes in Dalkeith. Little availability, slow and no access to Edinburgh. More community buses, circular routes, accessing new build sites, community hospital, town centre.
Work and the local economy	3.48	 Most high paid jobs require travel to Edinburgh, which is becoming difficult due to population increase. Commuting flows to Edinburgh could indicate lack of job opportunities. Too much focus on housing, nowhere to support jobs or business.

		 Opportunity to join up small scale tourist attractions to create necklace of activity (with public transport or active travel). Need to attract large businesses with modern buildings and land for parking. More needs to be done to attract finance jobs to area - suggestion that City of Ediburgh Council ULEZ gives opportunity. Lack of public transport to get workers to jobs at start and end of day. Suggestion that implementing 20-minute neighbourhood and place-based Council service delivery model would be create better opportunities for training and paid employment. Mix of business in town centres not conducive to thriving economy. Need to regenerate town centre but difficult with online shopping, community uses a way of using empty spaces. One respondent had perception Dalkeith doing poorly compared to other towns further from Edinburgh. More range of course in local Colleges (at present mostly vocational) supported. Interest in setting up film studio and more media-based facilities. Lack of opportunities for people with learning disability.
Traffic and parking	3.45	 Traffic has increased with the new build estates so the roundabouts at Tesco and Eskbank are more challenging to cross. Too much heavy traffic cutting through Dalkeith. Town centre and along the Eskbank Road. town centre - lack of parking options. More disabled parking. More parking - free / accessible. More provision of child / family spaces in town centre.
Moving around	3.43	 Lack of maintenance/ overgrown bushes/ trees/ branches, etc. Pavements - poor condition in towns/ broken tarmac/ standing water. Pavements - more cleaning required. More seating on routes (e.g. Dalkeith to Musselburgh). Woodburn Avenue - not safe for pedestrians to cross. Narrow pavements and too much road space. Disjointed paths in Dalkeith. Poor off-road connectivity. No country walks at Mayfield.

		 Former active travel routes lost due to Borders railway development. Current routes do not connect to places where people want to go. Good cycle track from Rosewell to Eskbank train station. Few off-road active travel routes in and around Dalkeith. Key Services need to be in place before populations arrive. Concern over Education and
Facilities and amenities	3.36	 medical services. Need also for mental health centres. Capacity at MCH referenced. Need for new surgery at new housing in Dalkeith beyond Woodburn). Need for more community spaces, to be a requirement of developers. Kings Park PS referenced as a dated building needing investment. Need for more playgroup provision and Council nursery provision. Facilities not accessible by public transport. Particular lack of facilities in Eskbank-Newbattle. Lack of shops - one respondent refers to only facilities being part time PO and fish vans [location unclear but not near town centre]. Lack of variety of shops in Dalkeith TC, too much focus on barbers/charity shops Some respondents consider shops and services good (but minority of those expressing opinion on those topics). One comment to affect that skilled population that wants to volunteer and work in partnership with Council. Litter. Condition of roads pavements. Concerns about state of some bits of Dalkeith TC, particularly pathway behind library. Loss of mobile library remarked on, general sense that librarise should be kept. Dalkeith library needs upgrading, potential as a community space, but underutilised. Retain sports centres. More accessible public toilets required (with hoists). Interest in theatre for Mayfield as part of TC masterplan. In respect of sport considers that Midlothian does not have sports development officer or policy, has unhelpful charging policies, and lacks facilities for some growing sports.

Streets and spaces	3.34	 Maintenance of streets and public spaces is inadequate. Public buildings also poorly maintained which affects the appearance of spaces. Should have more art works, flower displays and trees in public spaces. Previous town centre investment has left some nice spaces. Jarnac Court should be improved. Shopfronts can detract from the street scene when using inappropriate colours or signs. Need more planting in the town centre. More public toilets needed. Spaces needed to be multi-functional and support access to a range of services. Need to increase designated "safe spaces" e.g. trauma informed spaces and women's spaces. On-street parking causes access issues for buses including special services for disabled. More bins are needed to help with the litter problems. Back court spaces in town centre are unpleasant.
Care and maintenance	3.18	 The consensus is that Dalkeith is not well maintained. Areas of concern are litter, graffiti and other forms of vandalism, poor upkeep of residential gardens, parks maintenance potholes and road maintenance. The Gorilla Gardeners and Dalkeith Church gardens were identified as being assets to the town.

Table 3 – Average topic ratings for Gorebridge.

(24 responses in total).

Торіс	Average Rating	Summary of Issues
Natural space	4.38	 Parks aren't attractive. Utilise no mow may on public spaces, creating designated spaces for nature. Paths and facilities in green spaces not suitable for people with accessibility issues. More advertising and signage about greenspaces needed. Quality of greenspace depends on the area.
Play and recreation	4.04	Lack of play parks which are easy and safe to access.Facilities such as pump tracks aren't large enough.

		Lack of variety beyond football.
Social contact	3.91	 There is division in the comments in terms of opportunities for social contact in Gorebridge. Many respondents responded positively, identifying The Beacon and Library as assets. Temple Village Hall was also highlighted as being an asset and as a model community facility to be available across the authority. Others felt that there was nothing available in the way of cultural venues such as a cinema or theatre. It was also felt that there was little available for the community outwith working hours. The Old Station building was identified as having potential for a cafe, art gallery, pub or restaurant.
Housing and community	3.81	 Lack of services to go with new housing. Area set aside for small builders to bring variety to house build types would be good. More single storey accommodation required for elderly and disabled. Residential areas look neglected. Some new developments feel detached from Gorebridge. Coalescence. Anti-social behaviour from young people.
Work and the local economy	3.48	 More training for over 25s. Considers that local business discouraged, no help to grow or expand. Lack of opportunities in community and Midlothian more generally. Lack of variety of shops. Improved broadband, full fibre to property would improve remote working opportunities especially in the smaller villages. Need more bars restaurants.
Streets and spaces	3.38	 Maintenance of roads and paths is poor. Signs also need maintenance. More planters in public spaces would be good.
Feeling safe	3.38	Antisocial behaviour.Female respondents do not feel safe walking around at night.
Moving around	3.04	No off-road routes between towns (Gorebridge, Newtongrange, Dalkeith, Mayfield).

		 Poor cycle links with rest of Midlothian and Edinburgh. Poor condition of roads/ potholes. Lack of lighting. Develop off-road cycling and walking paths network. Connect towns through paths network, including Gorebridge, Newtongrange, Dalkeith and Mayfield. Connect towns with Edinburgh. More safe cycle routes required. Improve road and path surfaces. Better signage required for paths.
Public transport	3.04	 Bus number 29/48 -frequency issues. Journey times are an issue, approximately 60mins to Straiton, Penicuik, Royal Infirmary. Few buses link Gorebridge, Rosewell, Roslin, Penicuik. Speeding up buses and creating new links locally will assist in helping alleviate congestion. Police presence required on routes - anti-social issues. Link Gorebridge and Straiton. Link Gorebridge Station and Pathhead. Operate a circular route around villages. Link to Haddington via Gorebridge, Dewarton and Pencaitland. Enhance access to Vogrie Country Park. Faster bus service to Edinburgh. More express buses/ more frequent. More buses on A7. 339 - Reinstate the 339 Border Bus.
Traffic and parking	3.04	 Road infrastructure not built for current amount of housing. Roads not repaired. Potholes issue. Adherence to 20mph limits is an issue. Speed on Vogrie Road/Lady Brae is an issue. Local parking not safe and secure.

		 Dewartown Village - Cars speeding through village to/from new developments in Gorebridge and Bonnyrigg. Parking on corners, footpaths, grass verges. Enforce pavement parking. Parking at Gore Glen PS needs to be addressed. More car parking next to parks.
Facilities and amenities	2.88	 Pressure on health facilities. More schools needed. Have to leave village to do shopping - price of Co-op mentioned, desire for a low-cost supermarket. Public toilets should be re-opened and better maintained. Concern at threat to Gorebridge library and leisure centre. Poor public transport. Desire for a food-based pub. Community hub welcomed. More gym facilities sought with swimming pool. Concern at parking in Gore Glen.
Care and maintenance	2.88	 Litter. Graffiti/vandalism, Potholes. Pavement maintenance issues. Overhanging trees onto pavements.

Table 4 – Average topic ratings for Loanhead, Roslin & Bilston.

Торіс	Average Rating	Summary of Issues
Feeling safe	4.44	 Loanhead respondents felt safe. Roslin feels safe, apart from large volumes of traffic cutting through the village centre. T Roslin needs to be public realm improvements that are designed to slow traffic and prioritise walking in the village - this would also benefit the tourists visiting the village and chapel. Feeling of segregation between newer and older parts of Roslin and Bilston. Do not feel safe walking out at night. Many settlements in Midlothian could be made far more pleasant and 'walkable' if public realm was improved/regenerated and active travel (and public transport) infrastructure was prioritised over other modes in planning, investment, and development decisions.
Play and recreation	4.19	 Little provision for young families in east Loanhead. BMX or MTB track provision could be improved. Roslin and Bilston open spaces need better maintenance. Greenspaces are dominated by football pitches and male dominated sports. Need more biodiversity in parks. Need more greenspaces in new housing development. Need more play facilities for older children. Gyms, swimming and other sports aren't affordable. Need toilet facilities near play areas.
Natural space	3.81	 Better access to Mavisbank needed. Lots of options for greenspaces by many only accessible by car. Need to retain greenspaces. Access to Roslin Glen needs to be improved from the village. Lack of growing spaces for communities. Greenspaces are very poor and there needs to be better access and maintenance. Greenspaces need to be better connected. Woodland connectivity should be improved. More seating needed. Many greenspaces are accessible only by car. Trees need to be conserved when development occurs. Loss of greenspace is leading to loss of wildlife.

(33 responses in total).

		 Need to have more wildflower meadows. Paths beyond the main routes need to be maintained also to support use.
Housing and community	3.64	 Housing is energy intensive. Concern at impact of new housing on facilities, lack of planning gain, coalescence, poor standards/lack of enforcement of BS, lack social housing, lack of consideration brownfield first, flooding. Concern at loss of farmland, loss of ability to sustain area. New estates should be less sprawling and better integrated into the area. View that densities should be higher, closer to communities and on brownfield sites. Concern that built in wrong places, not in places where active travel can be used and without facilities. Design of houses very generic. Pause in development in Bilston and Roslin until services have caught up. Housing built is too expensive. Housing aimed at incomers, not enough to address waiting lists for social housing. Lack of homes to downsize into. Lack of bungalows or houses for elderly and disabled. Suggestion that certain number of houses should be bungalows reserved for the elderly. Becoming harder to access countryside as development pushes it further away.
Work and the local economy	3.55	 Plenty of employment in Loanhead but better active and public travel required. Too much focus on shops, insufficient appreciation of sustainability or agriculture. More needed to encourage greater range in town centres. No need for more supermarkets. Greater depth and variety of business needed for 20-minute neighbourhood to work. Scale and range of jobs at nearby MSZ, and Bilston Industrial Parks noted. Lack of affordable workspace for local business. Scope to make more of the jobs people travel to in Edinburgh, local. Problems travelling by bus to work in Edinburgh, particularly if outside 'normal hours' i.e. NHS work/entertainment. Lack of bus from Roslin to MSZ. Lack of jobs in third sector, and constantly threatened by cuts.

		Need place for young people to develop skills.
Social contact	3.50	 In Loanhead, it was considered that there is a good level of venues offering opportunities for social contact given the population density. Limited community contact in Roslin and Bilston due to small number of voluntary organisations. Little community activity and locations for community activities to be held. Roslin Pavilion isn't working well as a community space and Roslin needs a proper community centre. More activities for children and adults are needed. Libraries are good centres but are under threat which is bad for communities and employees.
Public transport	3.48	Better public transport needed in Loanhead as an alternative to the car.
Streets and spaces	3.42	 More frequent buses. Community bus services. Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) (pilot in Berwickshire). Direct bus services to Edinburgh. Direct bus services to Royal Infirmary. Direct bus services to Edinburgh Park/ Herimston Gait. Buses along Edinburgh Bypass in both directions. Introduce better and more frequent public transport. Service to Auchendinny. Services to Roslin (Lothian Buses and Borders Buses) rather than along Straiton Road. Connections to other parts of Midlothian (including Rosewell, Auchendinny, Glencorse Centre) Smaller buses during quiet times. A decent bus service would help stop people driving. All developments should prioritise active travel and public transport. Investment should prioritise road space reallocation in favour of active travel and public transport options. Combine contactless payment systems for bus and tram. Develop tram network.

Care and maintenance	3.41	 Potholes, litter - particularly a major problem along the verges of A768 between Loanhead and Lasswade and near bus stops and vegetation maintenance along active travel routes were highlighted as points of concern. Poorly maintained roads, pavements and dog mess. Litter and vandalism is becoming an increasing problem. Poor drainage at top of Roslin Glen and top of B7003 and also past bend by country park. Verges should be cut more regularly. The green space needs to be protected. Local people do a great deal to try to keep this area free from litter, garbage, and other rubbish.
Facilities and amenities	3.13	 Concern about new A701 High School and potential for active travel to Gowkley Moss. Concern at active travel and bus links between Loanhead and Bonnyrigg-Lasswade. Facilities have not expanded at rate commensurate with population increase. Medical facilities under pressure. Concern about social care. Schools not big enough, new facilities already oversubscribed and lack of nursery provision. Concern about provision for special needs. Access to most Edinburgh College campuses is difficult from Roslin. Libraries, recycling centres mentioned as having shut/reduced opening hours. In case of Auchendinny, only Glencorse Centre, no other facility. Lack of shops in neighbourhood where people live, need to use car. Bus service has deteriorated (number 47 mentioned) Community centre too small for expanding area. Limited access to community and cultural centres. Loss of trees and countryside to development.
Moving around	2.94	 Introduce better active travel and better provision for cyclists. Cancel A701 alignment and build cycle routes from Penicuik to Edinburgh. Road space re-allocation at Seafield Road, A701, Straiton Road, A702 and A7. All developments - should prioritise active travel and public transport. New developments - should link to broader active travel network. Connect new housing estates to Roslin centre and primary school. Safer cycle paths to Edinburgh, Pentlands, Gladhouse and Bonnyrigg.

		 Too many cars. So many new builds without better active travel routes exacerbating the problem.
Traffic and parking	2.18	 Too much traffic on roads but no improvement to roads infrastructure in Loanhead. Too many cars on A768.Midlothian has too many cars going into Edinburgh. Too many cars due to the amount of house building. Traffic has grown considerably in Roslin - the B7003 has become a commuter rat run from all homes built in Rosewell/ Bonnyrigg. Too much traffic on it for the type of road. Traffic lights on the B7003 Roslin end to gunpowder factory works. The A701 was never intended to deal with the volume of current traffic. Traffic lights are required at the three-way junction at Hillend. The road is far too busy now. The main road (A701) between Bilston and Straiton is often extremely busy and congested.

Table 5 – Average topic ratings for Mayfield, Easthouses & Newtongrange

(20 responses in total).

Торіс	Average Rating	Summary of Issues
Natural space	4.56	 There should be more access to parks and cycle paths without the need to drive. These spaces aren't always safe or easy to access. Good greenspaces but accessibility limited without a car. More benches in parks and along paths would help accessibility for those who require option to stop and rest. Spaces not always well maintained. Not enough is being done for biodiversity in public spaces - just allowing grass to grow is not enough. Too much greenspace is being lost to housing developments.
Traffic and parking	4.42	 Potholes. Repair roads and pavements. Cars parking on both sides of roads and streets which leaves little space for safe cycling. Narrow pavements (e.g. at A7). Crossing of A7 at Newtongrange Bowling Club unsafe - not safe for children to walk or cycle to Newtongrange Primary School. Streets congested with cars.

		 More seating and bins required. Speed limits / signage / traffic calming at A7 near Newtongrange Bowling Club. Cycle route from Gorebridge - Newtongrange - Gilmerton Road. Improve roads and paths surfaces. Plenty of work and volunteering opportunities in Mayfield.
Work and the local economy	3.82	 Opportunities for work and volunteering referred to in Newtongrange. Potential for more variety in Main Street in terms of shops and business. Desire for larger and better proceed supermarket. Most work locally is low paid, lack of quality jobs especially for young. Poor internal links by bus in Midlothian, Nitten to Bonnyrigg and Straiton journey cited.
Feeling safe	3.79	 Teenagers hanging about (in Mayfield) due to having nothing to do can be intimidating. A youth bus was suggested as a solution. Litter, graffiti and fly tipping in areas. Mixed views on feeling safe in Netwongrange. One respondent feels unsafe on buses and avoids going to Tesco at night due to increased antisocial behaviour. Parking in streets near Newtongrange primary an ongoing problem but only at drop off and pick up times. Suggestion to install more CCTV on streets and in Newtongrange Park.
Play and recreation	3.78	 Lack of provision at top of Mayfield. Not enough for young children. Options limited beyond football and golf. More accessible play equipment needed at large play parks, and toilets in Newtongrange. Pitches, running tracks and basketball courts should be provided and free to use.
Public transport	3.68	Public transport in Mayfield is ok.
Social contact	3.61	 Mayfield Respondents suggested a community hub cafe and green spaces in the centre and the potential for community groups to come together as a means of getting people together to improve opportunities for social interaction. A youth bus to take young people to Edinburgh was also suggested. Libraries and leisure centres are "lifeblood" of communities - do not close these down as people will have nowhere to meet.

		 Theatre needed in Mayfield. Lots of opportunity for people to engage via social media 'what's on in Newtongrange', 'Village voices, gardening etc. For those not on social media, word of mouth has worked in the village. There is a waiting list for day care for elderly people.
Housing and community	3.56	 More bungalows for people downsizing in Mayfield. More housing allocated for young couples in Mayfield. Concern that the large housebuilders have pushed prices up and made land too expensive for social rented housing. Concern that not enough Council houses, private renting takes most of renters' money, no scope to save to buy. More provision for larger families, especially rental housing. Midlothian has a good mix of housing but would benefit from keeping flats to a minimum. Concern at run down nature of existing Council stock. Desire for more insultation, solar panels to reduce heating bills. Seek preservation of green space. Concern at coalescence.
Facilities and amenities	3.16	 More variety of shops in Mayfield. Concerns at future house building effect on services. Vandalised local square in Mayfield. Midlothian pools compare poorly with others (e.g. Dunbar). Need new leisure centre as facilities in school can't be used when school in operation. School and education facilities too small. Newtongrange PS needs modernisation. Library too small. General lack of community facilities. Lack of post office. Better commercial facilities (expense and range of Co-Op cited). Concern at loss of banks - desire for planning system to designate use as banks to prevent alternative use. Lack of a village hall - need to replace facilities provided by church hall.

		New housing to east of Newtongrange will need new facilities.
Care and maintenance	2.95	 Mayfield is poorly maintained with litter, weeds/overgrown areas, vandalism, poor pavement surfaces and potholes on roads. Unsightly disused buildings such as the Newtongrange pavillion in the park and beside the train station. Potholes in the roads. Litter and vandalism. Feels like there has been an increase in anti-social behaviour.
Streets and spaces	2.89	 In Mayfield, maintenance is poor, building design could be improved, improvements discussed previously not delivered. Increasing number of vacant units in town centres despite previous investment. Vacant and derelict sites around the town including in Newtongrange town centre detract from quality of place. On street parking is problematic. Need to create better high streets.
Moving around	2.47	 Local access to off-road paths. More cycle paths (use some of the road space). Separate cycling and walking routes alongside roads from Dalkeith to Mayfield and Pathhead. Condition - improve roads and paths surfaces. Crossing of A7 at Bowling Club unsafe - not safe for children to walk or cycle to Newtongrange Primary School. Streets congested with cars. More seating and bins required.

Торіс	Average Rating	Summary of Issues
Natural space	3.92	 Need more meadowlands to improve biodiversity. Connectivity in Cornbank woodland needs improving. Greenspace is being lost to housing. All parks need to be improved as part of a connected network. Need better connections to the surrounding countryside from within settlements. Coalescence will result in loss of greenspace.
Play and recreation	3.91	 Need a better central play space. Need parks rather than playing fields. A wider range of facilities is needed for young people and need to look beyond sport. Also need to reconsider locating facilities in schools so young people have alternatives. Park equipment is poorly maintained. Getting to parks on foot is challenging. Need more benches. Main park not accessible to wheelchairs. Difficult to access many facilities without a car. Need more facilities for teens.
Feeling safe	3.57	 Respondents commented that they would not feel safe going out at night. One respondent with visual impairment would not choose to go out at night unless they were being accompanied. The uneven pavement surfaces are not safe and result in people falling. While this is a maintenance issues, the uneven surfaces make those with visual impairments feel unsafe. Need a proper shared space which is easy for visually impaired to differentiate. Groups of young people hanging about make people feel uncomfortable. Drug and alcohol use is evidenced by the litter left behind in the parks and outside shops. Don't feel safe at night in winter especially around bonfire night when youths are letting off fireworks in the park. Penicuik park badly lit at night. A lot of bad parking in the housing estates, people parking on junctions meaning you can't see if it is safe to pull in/out of the street, double parking on narrow roads making it hard for big vehicles to get down the street or cars to turn out of driveways.

(24 responses in total)

		Cars parked over dropped kerbs (both driveways and crossing points) restricting access and forcing buggies/wheelchairs onto the road.
Social contact	3.50	 Penicuik has many community groups but getting information could be improved. The adult learning programme and youth work provision locally is under resourced and needs expansion to fit the scale of the town. It was felt that this could be made worse by Beeslack School moving out of the area. Coffee shop in town gives a nice community. The Glencourse centre is good for classes and family activities, but this is mainly accessed by car.
Moving around	3.30	 Poor road surfaces, including potholes. Markings on streets required for dropped kerbs. Cycling on roads unsafe. Paths need maintenance. Some paths feel unsafe - e.g. at old railway. More seating required - e.g. Cornbank Park. Better access required to surrounding rural villages - Auchendinny, Howgate, Loanstone, Ninemileburn and Silverburn. Better access to countryside. Current paths do not link up. Few dedicated cycle routes.
Public transport	3.08	 Reopen rail lines, and link Penicuik to Peebles with stations at Loanhead and Roslin. Tram to Penicuik, Loanhead, Roslin and Bilston. Bus 15 - reintroduce service to Penicuik and include night bus and link to Mauricewood area. Bus 37 - run more direct and express service. Bus 47 - run more direct and express service. Better timetabling to avoid 37 and 47 arriving at same time. Time consuming / too slow / too infrequent compared to car. Seven new estates in Penicuik with no bus connection. Some services stop at 5pm and don't operate at weekends. Penicuik not included in the Orbital Plan. More express buses.

		 Better night bus options. Regular buses to Royal Infirmary. Options which connect other places in addition to Dalkeith. New routes and services for - new estates, rural areas, commuting. New routes which connect Penicuik and Edinburgh (direct to Edinburgh, through Morningside, then stops in Edinburgh). Faster routes to Edinburgh. Lack of rural services.
Streets and spaces	3.08	 Main park is too focused on playing pitches. Lighting, planting and paths are poor quality. Path network in woodlands around Cornbank need better maintenance. New housing developments are not well integrated into existing settlements. Historic buildings are important to the quality of a place. Creating 20-minute neighbourhoods will require active support for the re-use of empty retail by businesses, community groups and other social purposes. Heritage regeneration project has helped the visual appearance of the town centre. Approaches to towns need to be improved. Walkways and cycle routes need improved, including lighting. Litter and dog mess are a challenge in spaces.
Care and maintenance	2.91	 Potholes are an issue. One resident felt that natural spaces were over maintained and should be left as wild spaces to encourage wildlife. Litter in the streets makes it difficult for visually impaired to navigate the pavements safely. Wouldn't have to think about this if eyesight had not been affected.
Traffic and parking	2.86	 Too many cars on the road in general. New houses being built and the roads are already very busy. Straiton and Hillend have huge tailbacks every day. Roads are not being improved. Roads are in terrible condition. Potholes. Town lacks free parking.

		 Car parking is inadequate. Too few parking spaces for the number of cars. More parking spaces to avoid people double parking/parking dangerously.
Facilities and amenities	2.75	 Town Centre poor, new mix of business, retail and community use required. Need to fill empty shop units. Feeling that rents too high. Very few commercial opportunities in the town, need more to cut the vast numbers that outcommute. Need more local employment, high proportion work in Edinburgh. Lack of bus access to the Bush from Penicuik. No buses in Auchendinny. Business in town centre moving out as they don't receive support they need, lack of footfall.
Housing and community	2.55	 Investment in insulation is needed for private as well as public housing, including renewables, community heating schemes, micro power generators. Need provision of additional supported housing for older people and disabled people. Too much expensive private housing. Concern that Council house drainage not properly maintained leading to flooding elsewhere. Better drainage needed in new developments. Car parking inadequate in new developments. Lack of provision for electric cars. Need hedgehog highways and biodiversity features built in. Too much of wrong sort of housing, not enough bungalows, or housing suitable for disabled occupants. Housing designs too generic. Not enough concern for existing towns or transport in considering new housing. Need more social housing. Not enough Council housing for first time potential occupiers.
Work and the local economy	2.24	 Town Centre poor, new mix of business, retail and community use required. Need to fill empty shop units. Feeling that rents too high.

 Very few commercial opportunities in the town, need more to cut the vast numbers that out-
commute.
 Need more local employment, high proportion work in Edinburgh.
Lack of bus access to the Bush from Penicuik.
• Business in town centre moving out as they don't receive support they need, lack of footfall.

Table 7 – Average topic ratings for Rosewell

(12 responses in total).

Торіс	Average Rating	Summary of Issues
Natural space	4.42	 Natural spaces need to be made more attractive to visitors. Loss of greenspace and effects of coalescence aren't good. Not enough seating in parks. Good access to greenspace and walking routes from Rosewell. Car needed to be able to access most greenspaces.
Moving around	4.17	 Good cycle routes in open countryside. Not enough connection points to the longer distance routes. Only one cycling path option to Edinburgh. Poor condition of roads, inc. potholes. Some routes not safe at night. More seating required. Provide connections to the longer distance routes. Better signage and more sign-posted walking routes. More seating along routes. Condition - improve roads and paths surfaces. Lighting - improve lighting.
Traffic and parking	4.00	 Insufficient infrastructure to cope with all the new housing. Traffic becoming a problem due to the amount of housing that is being built without any changes to the road infrastructure. Carnethie Street - traffic issues - amount of vehicles / school traffic/ parking.

		Investment in roads and parking in our towns has not followed the new house building.
Play and recreation	3.33	Not enough facilities for growing population.Not enough facilities for teens in villages.
Feeling safe	3.33	 Antisocial behaviour. More police presence needed. Public transport feels increasingly unsafe.
Care and maintenance	3.08	 Vandalism seems to be getting worse in Rosewell. Poor state of roads, outdated buildings. Roads in poor condition with potholes.
Social contact	2.83	 Public transport to access social venues needs to be improved. Expansive residential development with no supporting amenities. There's nothing for young adults or people to meet each other. There is nothing creative either.
Housing and community	2.75	 Lack of affordable housing. Concern that so called 'affordable housing' is not so. Need more social housing. Concern that Midlothian dumping ground for social problems of Edinburgh. Concerns about condition of older areas. New builds do not cater for elderly and disabled, in the main. Public transport does not serve new developments.
Streets and spaces	2.67	 Main streets and buildings are often poorly maintained, reducing attractiveness of villages and towns. Streets are narrow, making them too busy with cars. Lack of public art.
Work and the local economy	2.25	 More investment required to attract more employers to area. Most people travel to Edinburgh. Most job opportunities now need two buses with recent changes.
Facilities and amenities	1.75	 Service under pressure because of demand from new housebuilding. Health under particular pressure - Rosewell has no health facilities or pharmacy. Threat to both primary schools from Council and from state of repair.

		 Schools are overcrowded. Seek more financial support for communities delivering amenities. Role of community in providing services in Midlothian mentioned by many respondents. Very limited shopping. Divide in village between old and new - having a pub would be useful in this regard.
Public transport	1.67	 Poor bus service to Rosewell. Poor connections to local villages. Loss of direct service to Edinburgh city centre. Make public transport quicker and easier. Need a frequent and reliable service. Double decker at peak times. Commuting and night buses to Edinburgh. Half hourly service direct to Edinburgh. Better connections to local villages.

Table 8 – Average topic ratings for rural east Midlothian

(43 responses in total).

Торіс	Average Rating	Summary of Issues
Natural space	5.02	 Vogrie Country Park is excellent. Need better connections between greenspaces. Need to promote community ownership or management of greenspaces.
Feeling safe	4.56	• The rural areas feel generally safe however several comments identify a low police presence, anti-social behaviour and the need for more street lighting.
Social contact	4.46	 There is not a church or hall in every settlement. This means that people must travel to social activities by car or depend on public transport which is not always reliable. Not all activities are accessible or inclusive. The poor bus service operating in Pathead is a barrier to those travelling across Midlothian or in Edinburgh to meet. Lack of activities for young people in villages, however, they are unable to get home at night if they take public transport to an activity elsewhere.

Play and recreation	4.17	 Play park facilities need upgrading. More seating is also needed. Need play facilities for older children. No safe places for children to ride bikes.
Streets and spaces	4.07	 Need more public art in rural areas. Roads and roadside spaces need to be better maintained. Town centres could be more attractive. Need spaces in town and village centres for people to gather and socialise informally.
Housing and community	4.00	 Lack of social housing in area. Concern at climate resilience of Council and Conservation Area housing, query about fitting double glazing in Conservation Areas. Concern at too many new builds and new residents not making contribution to life of county. Old buildings difficult to adapt for elderly and energy efficiency. Range of new houses too focussed on three-five and not two bedrooms. More two beds would help people stay in village. Standard of new houses and landscape design is bland and uninteresting. Concern at lack of repairs to Council housing in village. Concern that Council houses that are promised are not actually developed.
Facilities and amenities	3.81	 Better play areas for kids. Support for village hall in Edgehead. Village shops offer limited range, and expensive - not practical for whole shop. Long waits to see GP, limited school space - will not be helped by more housing. Infrequent bus. Pathhead residents need car to access most services. Limited facilities in Pathhead. Better if Pathhead facilities were conjoined not spread across community. Concern that new houses in Haddington and Dalkeith had seen patients sent to Pathhead catchment. Better buses from Pathhead. Need school expansion and better parking.

		 Council provides nothing in rural Tynewater except school - third sector provides many services but under threat. Support for more rural retail in smaller communities including conversion of empty farms into hubs. Some support for quality of existing pub and shops in Pathhead.
Care and maintenance	3.62	 Poor pavement maintenance - physical repairs and winter gritting. The pavements can feel unsafe in winter due to being slippy and causing falls. Broadband is being introduced in villages; however contractors are leaving a mess behind/are not adequately reinstating the roads which were dug up to install the cables. It is felt that Pathead Main Street is not well maintained - pavement surfaces, weeds in flower beds and litter. Poorly maintained social housing. Road verges in Crichton could be maintained more. Gullies at Burnside cottages gets blocked and overflows onto the road and two gullies in the village at Castlemains/Tynehead Road gets blocked with leaves from trees. The drains in the road at Edgehead a flood in heavy rain.
Work and the local economy	3.54	 Many volunteering opportunities. Some counter view that volunteering opportunities are few. Limited scope to work locally in small villages with few facilities. Most work opportunities require a car. Young people suffer, need to be driven to work. Broadband provision poor, many people work from home now. More shared office opportunities in community would be good. Gym space in community.
Moving around	3.09	 Develop off-road cycling and walking paths network. Connect villages through paths network. Edgehead to Vogrie - new cycle route Ford to Vogrie - path needs to be improved. Develop pavements in villages. Improve lighting in villages and rural routes. More seating along routes. Better signage for paths and routes.

		 Reduce speed on country roads and in villages (20mph). Improve roads and paths surfaces. Better maintenance and control of vegetation and verges. No routes that could be considered universally accessible. Limited off road cycling routes. Paths and routes for walking and cycling do not connect. In rural Tynewater there are very few designated safe routes. Ford to Vogrie path not useable for disabled or low mobility. No direct route to other villages from Pathhead. Not many routes around Fala village. Poor signage for paths and routes.
Traffic and parking	3.00	 Getting more and more difficult to get out of the village (Pathhead) onto the A68 with the current level of traffic. Access to A68 can be difficult in Pathhead at the north end of the village where several roads converge and main access to primary school. Concern about the access to/from new houses/flats onto the B6367 at Tynewater Primary. Too much traffic on A68, including lorries that are diverting from the A1. Traffic on Chrichton Road. Reduce speed limit to 20mph in small villages. Include traffic calming measures not just at schools.
Public transport	1.74	 51 - crucial service, don't reduce further. Link to Borders Rail station. More buses and cheaper fares. Orbital bus to connect the area. Link Pathhead, Tynehead, Birkenside, Dewarton and Edgehead with Dalkeith. A shuttle bus service to link to the trains. Increase service to Pathhead - minimum every 30mins and to at least 10pm. There needs to be buses later at night to allow people to visit the village and get home safely. Pathhead needs more buses, has poor service. Decent integrated public transport could alleviate need for households with 2-3 cars. Provide a regular bus service running through the day.

	Getting across Midlothian (east-west) is almost impossible by public transport.
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Körler icin kabartma yazılar, kaset ve büyük nüshalar da dahil olmak üzere, istenilen bilgileri saglamak ve tercüme etmekten memnuniyet duyariz.

اكراب چام از ام خوش سے آب کور جد فراہم كر ملت بين اور معلومات اور دستان بزات د كر شكلوں ش مشلا بر بل (باجوا افراد كر لي الجرب بو سے عروف كالعماني) ش بني بريا بز ب تروف كو كلعاني شرفرا بم كر ستة بي -