

community
enterprise

Dunscore Community Action Plan

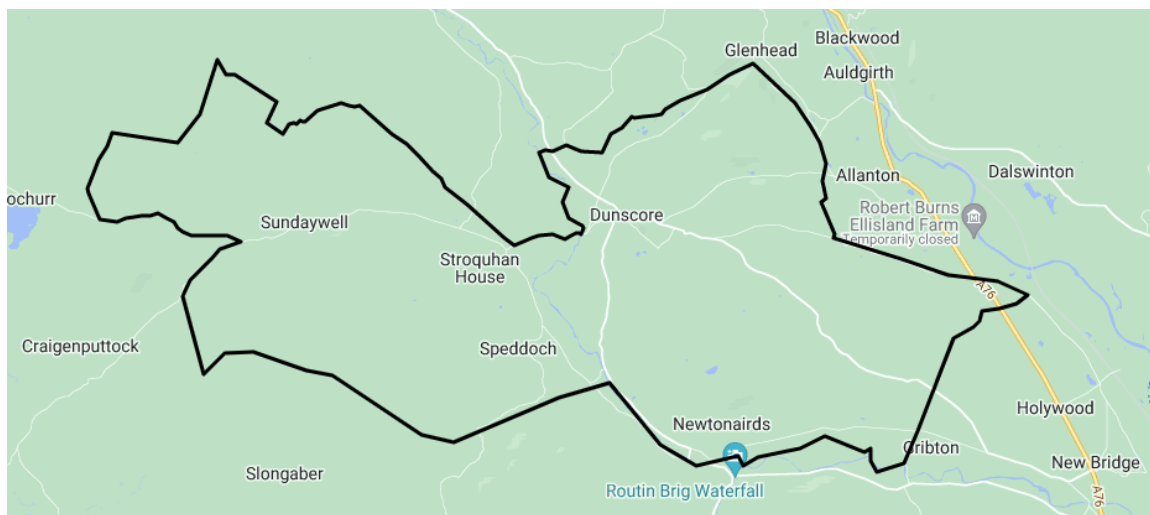
Brief Research Report and Action
Plan

Dunscore Community Council

December 2022

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1. Introduction

Background

The Blackcraig Wind Farm Community Fund provides around £250,000 a year for local community initiatives. The fund strategy and priorities align closely with the [Glenkens Community Action Plan](#). The Glenkens CAP covers the Balmaghie, New Galloway & Kells, Dalry, Balmaclellan, Corsock & Kirkpatrick Durham, Parton and Crossmichael Community Council areas. Commissioned by the Glenkens & District Trust and published in 2020, the Community Action Plan sets out an overall goal that:

The Glenkens will be a connected, resilient and carbon neutral place, where people will want to live, work and visit, to bring up their families, and to grow old.

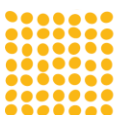
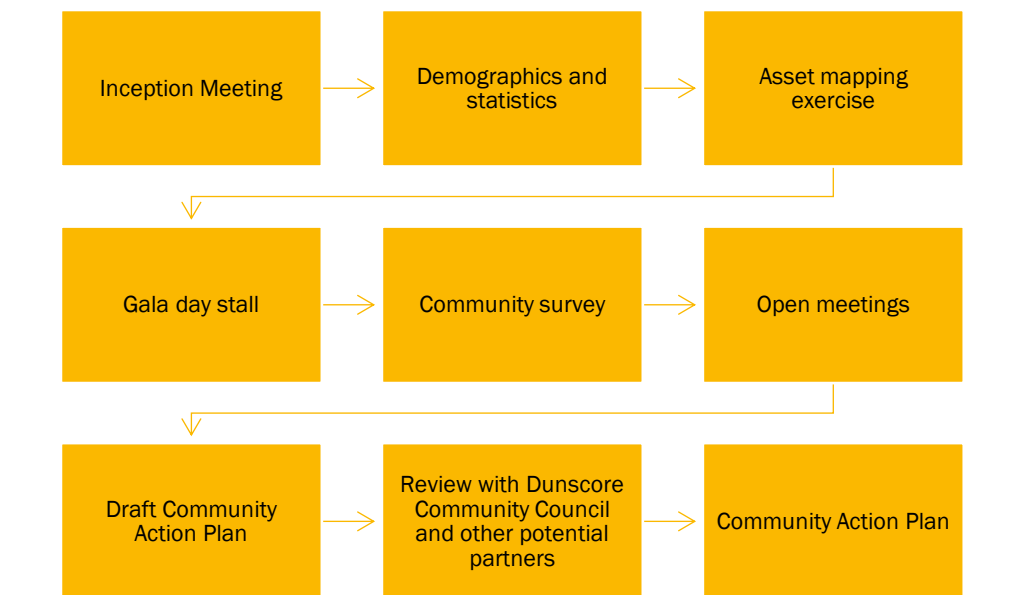
Dunscore Community Council area is one of three communities that are not covered by the Glenkens Community Action Plan, although they fall within the area that is eligible for the Blackcraig Community Fund. To extend investment from the Community Fund and guide spending according to local priorities, a focussed period of local consultation was needed in Dunscore and the surrounding areas.

With funding from the Blackcraig Wind Farm Community Fund, Dunscore Community Council has commissioned Community Enterprise to carry out research and prepare this Community Action Plan for Dunscore.

Methodology and scope of work

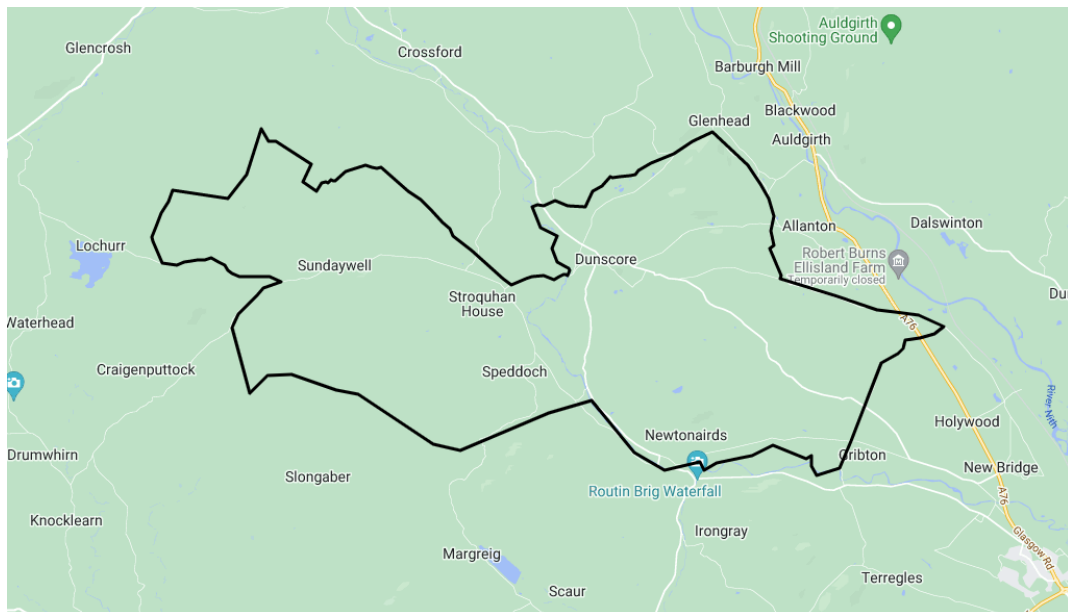
Community Enterprise carried out research between August and November 2022 to ensure that people in Dunscore had the plenty of chances to take part. Because this Community Action Plan is intended to build on the work already carried out in Glenkens, the background research has been slightly more limited. We have put together a statistical profile of the area and compiled information on local assets from consultation. Alongside this report, which contains all findings, a short Executive Summary document has been prepared.

The methodology can be seen in the graphic below.



2. Research

About the Community

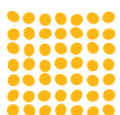


Dunscore Community Council area, shown on the map above, is made up of the village of Dunscore and the surrounding area of small settlements, farms and single dwellings. It is set within peaceful countryside about 10 miles northwest of Dumfries.

The area is home to 765 people. Its population has declined over the past two decades. Dunscore has a higher proportion of people of retirement age and a lower proportion of children and young people than average for Dumfries and Galloway, a region which itself has an older population compared to the rest of Scotland. Dunscore is not a community with high rates of deprivation in most respects, although it falls within the 10% most deprived areas in Scotland in terms of Geographic Access to Services on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD 2020).

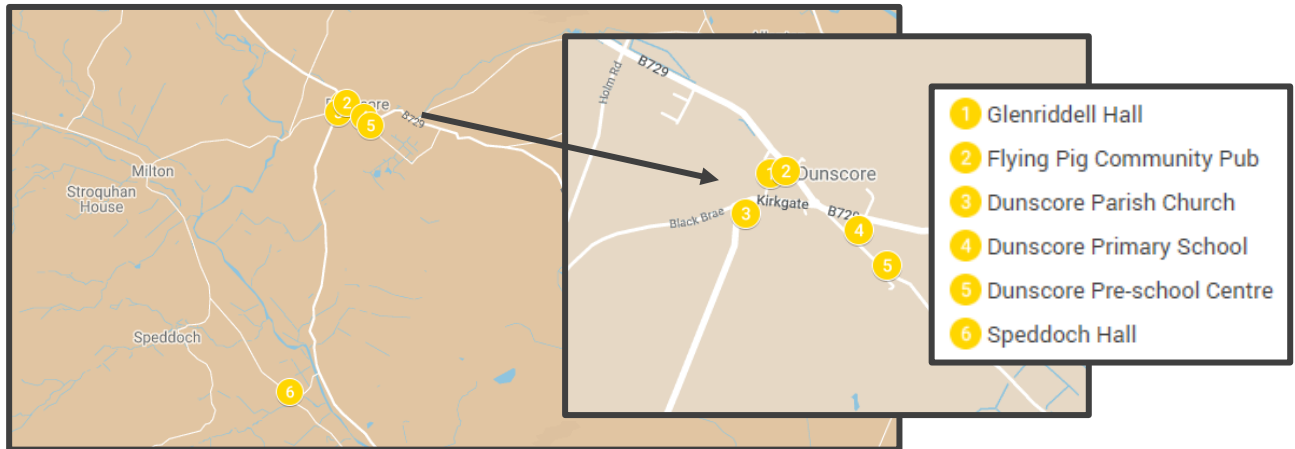
Dunscore has a school and pre-school, a community hall (and another outside the village), a visiting Post Office, a church with a heritage centre, a doctor's surgery and a volunteer-run community pub. Dunscore also has many active voluntary and community groups. It was the first Fairtrade Village in Dumfries and Galloway. Many people and groups in the community are involved in environmental action: the school, pre-school and church all have eco-friendly credentials.

More information on statistics for Dunscore and the main assets in the community can be found in the next sections.



Community Assets

The map below shows some of the main assets in the community:



1) Glenriddell Hall is centrally located and consists of a large main hall, kitchen and toilets. A Hall Committee made up of representatives from the Community Council and the Church runs the hall, and a representative of the committee manages all bookings. The Hall is available to hire at £6 an hour for local not-for-profit groups and £10 an hour for private hire. Glenriddell Hall is a historic building but has been well maintained and modernised. It offers disabled access, toilets and parking and a hearing loop system, and hosts a Post Office service on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The Hall is used regularly, although rising costs are a concern.

2) The Flying Pig Community Pub is run by a small committee and staffed by a group of volunteers. It opens from 7pm – late Thursday to Saturday and on Sunday afternoons, and hosts events such as a monthly quiz night, seasonal events and visiting food vans. The Flying Pig is also used by some small groups to meet (free of charge with purchase of drinks).

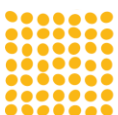
3) Dunscore Parish Church and Heritage Centre holds services every Sunday. It is a Fairtrade Church and several church members are active in the Dunscore Fairtrade Village Group. It is also an Eco-Congregation, meaning that it has completed a green audit, and has applied for and achieved a number of Eco-Congregation Awards. An Eco-Congregation group meets periodically and works collaboratively on initiatives like litter picks, climate talks and a Freecycle scheme. The Heritage Centre focuses on the life of Jane Haining, a missionary and educator who died at Auschwitz, as well as the history of the church and village.

4) Dunscore Primary School has 49 children on the school roll. It is registered with Keep Scotland Beautiful as an Eco-School, which is a global programme.

5) Dunscore Pre-school Centre has a maximum capacity of 20 children. It is a community-owned charity, funded by Dumfries and Galloway Council and through grants and donations. It is also registered as an Eco-School.

6) Speddoch Hall is outside of Dunscore. Its location away from houses means that it is used less for regular activities and meetings, but is a good place for private parties and fundraisers.

Play Park The Dunscore Playpark Project Group is developing a new playpark in the village. Fundraising for the first stage of the project was completed in 2022.



Demographics and Statistics

This report is based on the established boundaries of the Dunscore Community Council area, as pictured in the previous section.

Unless otherwise noted, the figures below are from Community Insight, a software package that collects data from over 30 databases including Census Scotland, Department of Work and Pensions, NHS and others. Community Enterprise does not own any of this data.

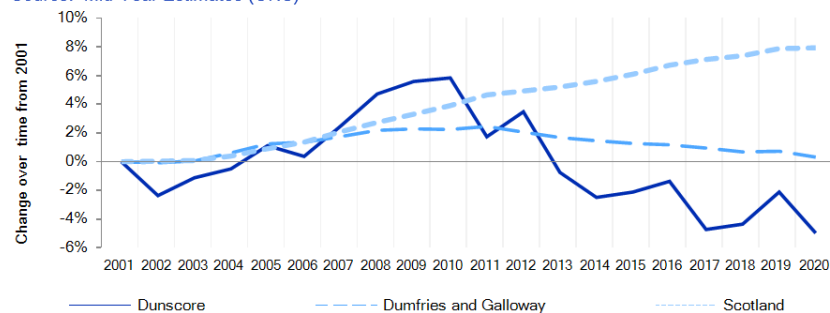


Population

The total population of the Dunscore Community Council area, based on the ONS mid-year statistics, is 765, with an almost even split between men and women (50.3% vs 49.7%).

Dunscore has seen a notable population decline over the past 12 years, despite Scotland experiencing a steady increase, as depicted in the graph below.

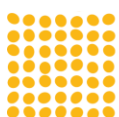
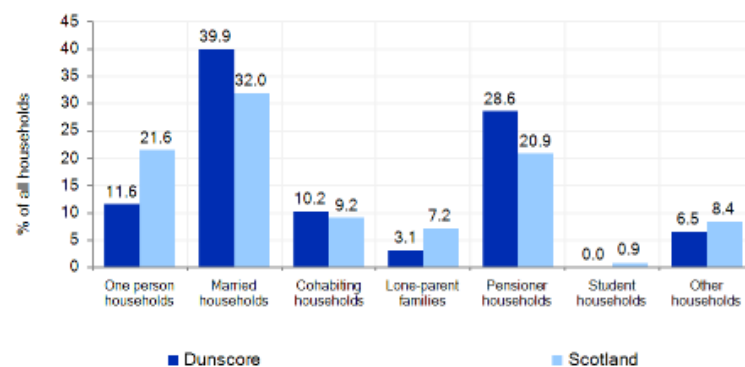
Figure: % change in total population from 2001-2020
Source: Mid-Year Estimates (ONS)



According to the same 2020 mid-year estimates from ONS, Dunscore has a larger proportion of population aged 65 or over (28.6%) than average for Scotland (19.3%) or Dumfries & Galloway (26.3%). Its working age population (57.8%) is lower than the national average of 63.9% but is on par with the regional average of 58.1%. Its population aged 0-15 is 13.9%, which is lower than average nationally (16.8%) or regionally (15.6%).

There are more married households (39.9%) and pensioner households (28.6%) in Dunscore than the national average (32%, 20.9% respectively). The breakdown of household composition in Dunscore can be seen in the graph below.

Figure: Population by household composition
Source: Census 2011

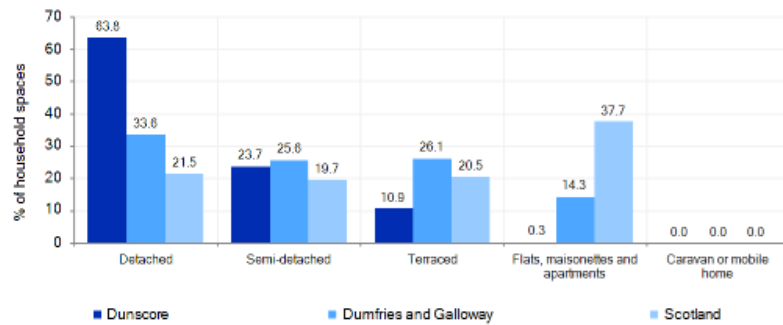




Housing

The majority of homes in Dunscore are detached homes (63.8%), followed by semi-detached (23.7%) and terraced housing (10.9%). How this compares to the regional and national standards can be seen in the graph below.

Figure: Dwellings type breakdown
Source: National Records of Scotland 2017/Census 2011

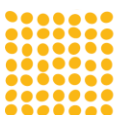
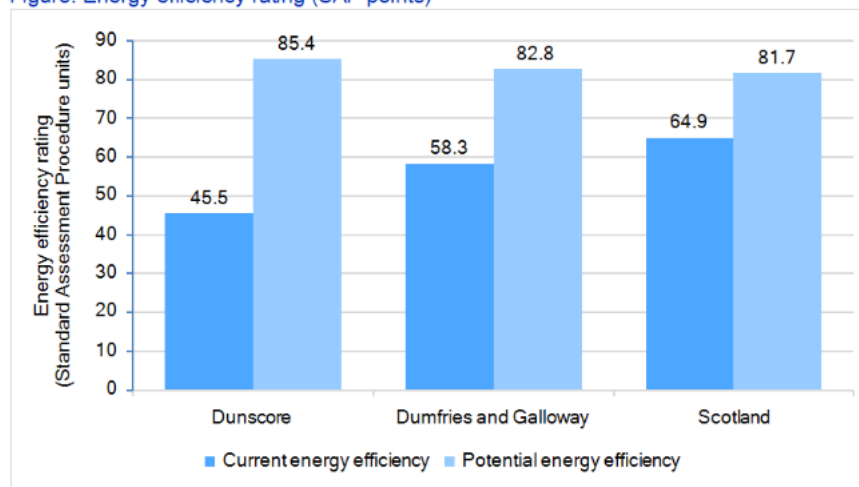


68% of homes in Dunscore are owner occupied, with 45% of these homes being owned outright. Only 7.4% of homes are rented from a housing association or social landlord, compared to the regional average of 19.6% and the national average of 11.1% (nationally, a further 13.2% of homes are rented from local authorities, these are not included under the social landlord label). 18.7% of homes in Dunscore are rented from a private landlord or letting agency, which is higher than the national average of 11.1%.

2.8% of homes in Dunscore lack central heating, on par with the national average of 2.3%. According to the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, homes in Dunscore do not consume any gas, so the rate of electricity use (5.2Mwh per meter) is higher than the regional or national averages (4.1Mwh and 3.7Mwh per meter).

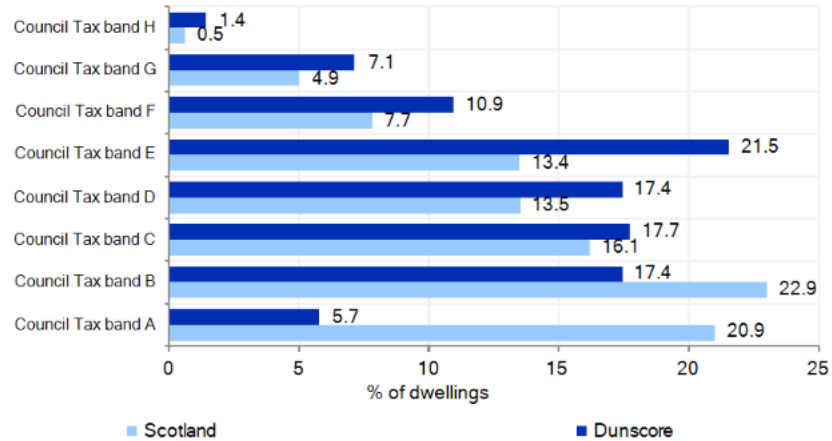
According to the Scottish Government EPC data, homes in Dunscore have an energy efficiency gap of 39.88 points, meaning currently homes are not very energy efficient and have the potential to be much more efficient. See the graph below.

Figure: Energy efficiency rating (SAP points)



There are significant number of homes in the Dunscore area that fall under Council Tax Band E (21.5%), suggesting that homes in the area are higher priced properties. Only 23.1% of homes fall within bands A and B, which is significantly lower than the national average of 43.8% of homes within these bands. See the graph below for further detail on council tax bands.

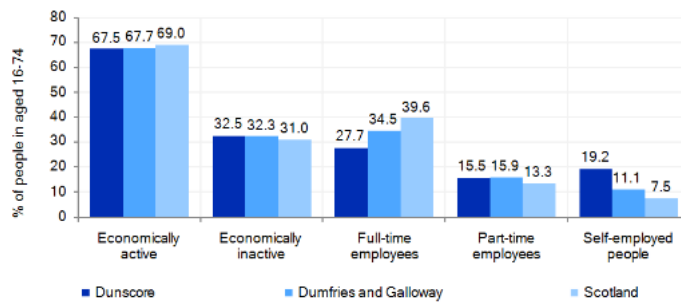
Figure: Dwellings by council tax band
Source: National Records of Scotland, 2018



Economy and Employment

According to the 2011 census, the residents of the Dunscore area are as economically active as the rest of Scotland (67.5% of the population of Dunscore, compared to national average of 69%). However, there is a lower rate of people in full-time employment (27.7% in Dunscore, compared to the regional average of 34.5% and the national average of 39.6%) and a higher rate of those who are self-employed (19.2% in Dunscore compared to the regional average of 11.1% and the national average of 7.5%).

Figure: Economic activity
Source: Census 2011



The top three largest employment sectors in the area are agriculture, forestry and fishing, health and social work, and retail. Of those in employment, 10.4% are in managerial positions, 30.5% are in professional or associate occupations, 8.6% are in administrative or secretarial occupations, 18.8% are in skilled trades occupation, and 10.9% are in elementary occupations. The graph below summarises the level of occupations for the residents of Dunscore and compares these to the regional and national averages.

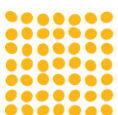
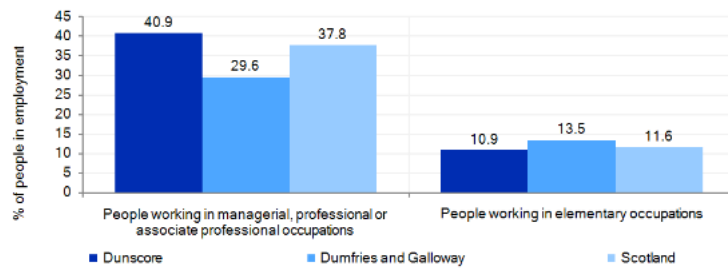


Figure: People in professional and elementary occupations
Source: Census 2011



Dunscore has a significantly lower job density at 23.1% (jobs as a percentage of the working age population) than the rest of Dumfries and Galloway (75.4%) and Scotland more broadly (74.9%).

According to the UK Finance, residents in the Dunscore area carry less personal debt (an average of £333 compared to £502 nationally), less mortgage debt (average of £7534 compared to £27,173 nationally) but more SME lending debt (an average of £2360 compared to £1881 nationally).



Education

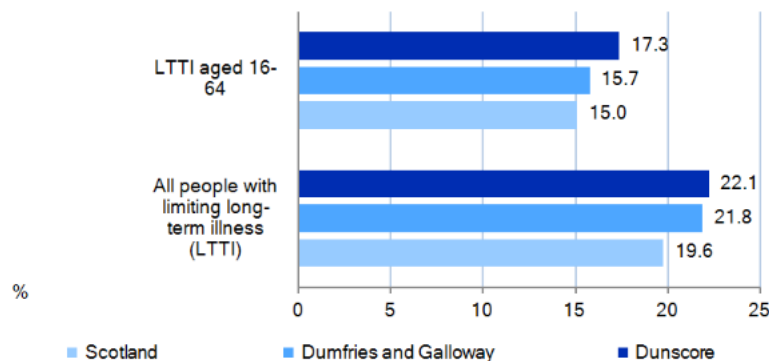
According to the 2011 census, the percentage of the working age population in the Dunscore area with no qualifications (26%) is on par with the national average (26.8%). Dunscore has a slightly higher percentage of the population with a degree or higher (30.2%) than the national average (26.1%).



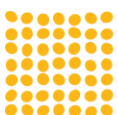
Health

In Dunscore, there is a slightly higher proportion of the population with limiting long-term illness, both within the working age population (17.3%) and across the entire population (22.1%), than the regional or national average, as depicted in the graph below.

Figure: People with a limiting long-term illness
Source: Census 2011



According to ISD Scotland, Secondary Care Team 2012 statistics, the residents of Dunscore have fewer emergency and accident related hospital admissions, as seen in the graph below.



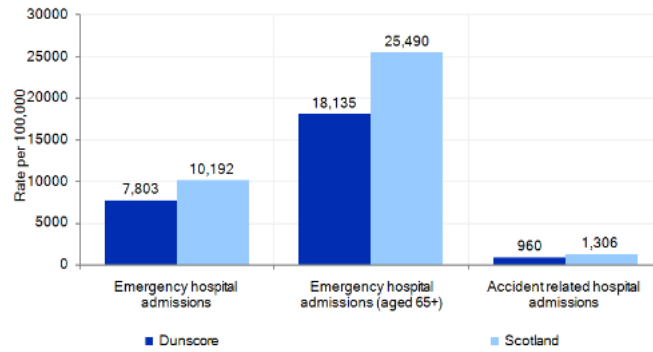
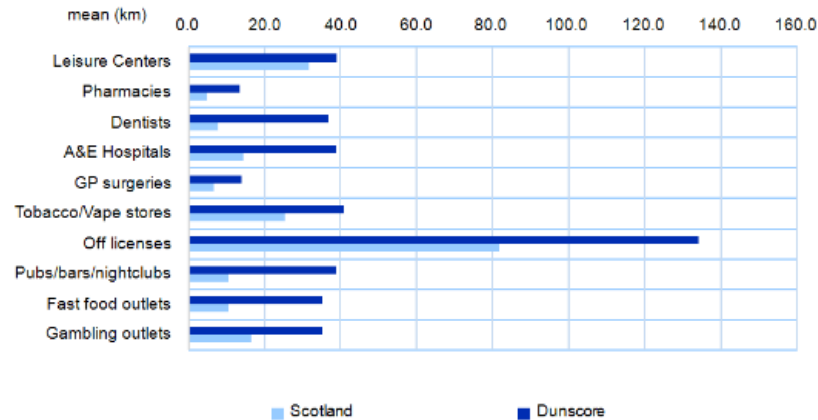


Figure: Emergency and accident related hospital admissions
Source: ISD Scotland, Secondary Care Team, 2012

Additionally, according to the ‘Access to Health Assets and Hazards’ index by CDRC, which measures how healthy a community is based on the community’s accessibility to determinants of health, residents of the Dunscore area are farther away from dentists, pharmacies, A&E hospitals, leisure centres and GP surgeries than the national average across Scotland (although there is a medical centre in Dunscore). Residents are also equally farther away from off licenses, pubs and bars, fast food outlets, gambling outlets and tobacco stores than the average across Scotland. Details are

Figure: Inputs for retail environment and health services domain
Source: CDRC (2022)



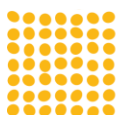
seen in the graph below.



Transportation

A large portion of the population own at least one car (41.6%) and a further 34% own two cars. However, 8.2% of the population said they have no car at the 2011 census.

There is one bus, route 202 Moniave to Dumfries, which runs through the village of Dunscore. This route runs every 2 hours Monday to Saturday, with the last bus leaving the village at 3:15pm and returning from Dumfries at 6:22pm.



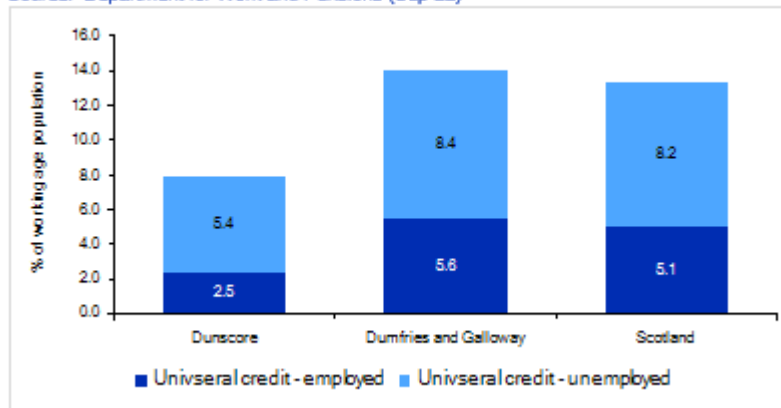


Vulnerable Groups

According to the DWP, as of October 2022, 1.6% of the working age population in the Dunscore area receive jobseekers allowance (JSA) or universal credit (UC) and 3.2% receive incapacity benefits, both of these statistics are lower than the national averages (3.1% and 5.6% respectively). Universal Credit recipients in Dunscore include households receiving carer entitlements, child entitlements and housing entitlements (which are used in both private housing and social housing).

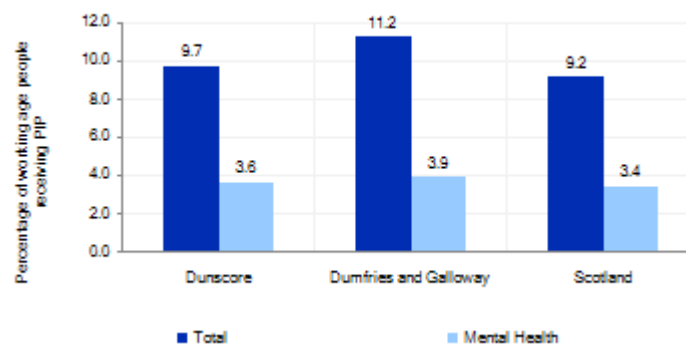
Of those who receive Universal Credit in the Dunscore area, a large proportion of them are unemployed, as depicted in the graph below.

Figure: Universal Credit claimants employment indicator
Source: Department for Work and Pensions (Sep-22)



11.4% of the population of Dunscore receive attendance allowance, this is payable to people over the age of 65 who are so severely disabled, physically or mentally, that they need help with personal care or supervision (11.7% nationally). Also, 9.7% of the population receive personal independence payments (PIP), this helps with some of the cost caused by long-term disability, ill-health or terminal ill-health (9.2% nationally). The graph below shows the percentage of those receiving PIP for mental health reasons.

Figure: Personal Independence Payment (PIP) recipients
Source: Department for Work and Pensions (Jul-22)



In Dunscore, 14.2% of pensioner households are classed as a household of one pensioner, which is when a pensioner is living alone. The national average of pensioners living alone is 13.1%.

Residents of Dunscore are providing unpaid care at a higher rate than the regional or national averages across three measures: those providing unpaid care (15.1%), children providing unpaid care (2.6%) and people providing unpaid care for more than 50 hours per week (3.8%). This can be seen in the graph below.

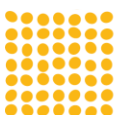
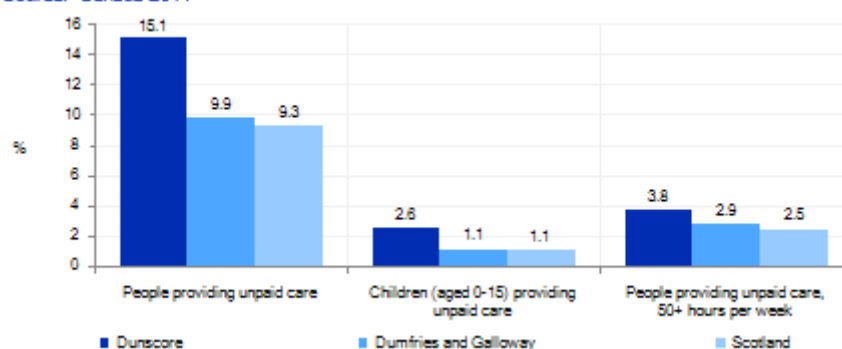


Figure: People providing unpaid care
Source: Census 2011

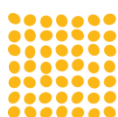


SIMD¹

Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) is a measure of multiple deprivations, because different types of deprivation exist and are therefore measured. There are seven types, or domains, of deprivation. All neighbourhoods in Scotland are grouped into ten equal sized groups/deciles.

Generally, the Dunscore area does not experience very high or very low levels of deprivation. Across 6 of the 7 domains, the area generally ranks in the least deprived 20% to 50%. The one domain that is an exception to this is the Geographic Access to Services domain, where the whole of Dunscore ranks in the most deprived 10%.

¹ The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) identifies small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across all of Scotland in a consistent way. It allows effective targeting of policies and funding where the aim is to wholly or partly tackle or take account of area concentrations of multiple deprivation. SIMD ranks small areas (called data zones) from most deprived (ranked 1) to least deprived (ranked 6,976). The least deprived data zones are depicted in dark blue and the most deprived in dark red.



3. Community Consultation

The consultation aimed to gain wide representation from the community by using a variety of approaches including events, an online and paper survey and one-to-one conversations.

A range of communication channels were used to inform people about the consultation:

- Social media (Dunscore Community Council Facebook page and other village organisations)
- Posters at key points around the village
- School and parent council newsletter

Gala Day stall

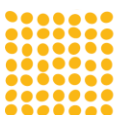
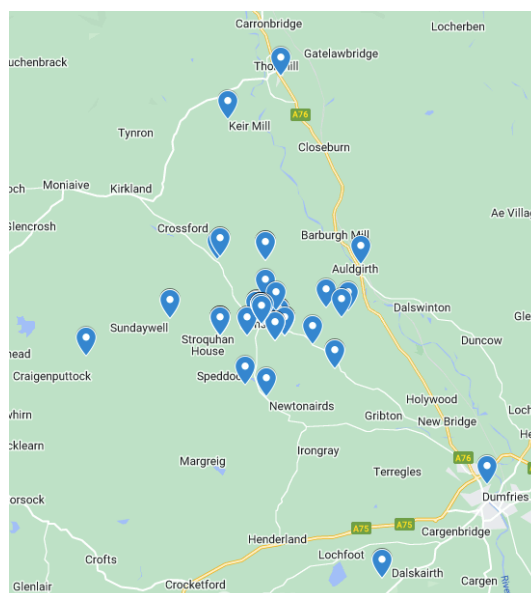
At the Gala Day Community Enterprise engaged with around 30 people. Most people said they lived in Dunscore, were visiting family who lived in Dunscore or lived just outside the village but still in the community council area. A few people did speak with us from slightly farther afield, mainly Moniaive.

Community survey

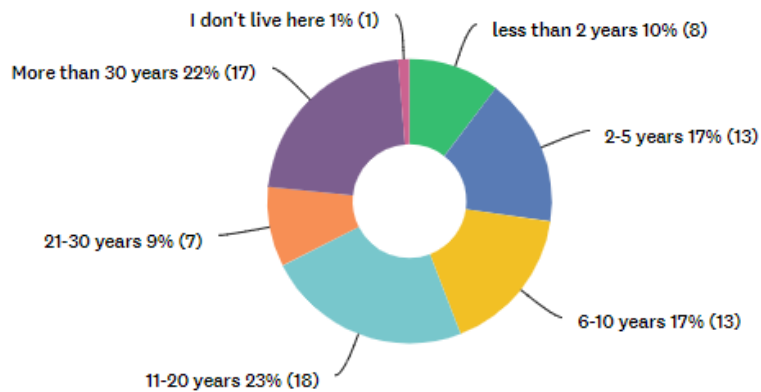
The community survey was available online from September to November 2022. It was also available in paper copy format at the Flying Pig Community Pub, with a drop-off box provided for completed copies, and was promoted at the Gala Day and Open Meetings.

A total of 77 survey responses were collected. Some responses represented family or household groups rather than individuals and altogether, the survey represented the views of 195 people, including children, young people and other adults in the household. Survey respondents were 60% female and 38% male. 45 respondents were 55 years and older, 15 were between 45 and 54 years old, 9 between 35 and 44 years old, and 6 between 25 and 34 years old. There were 2 respondents who were under 18 years old.

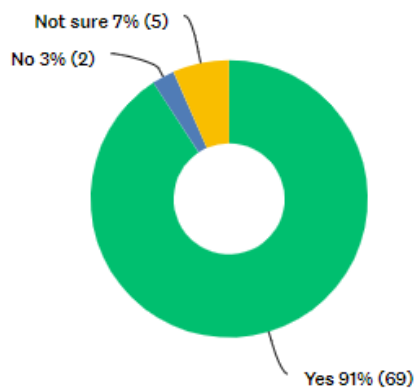
Almost all of the respondents were Dunscore residents (97%). Below is a map of respondent post codes:



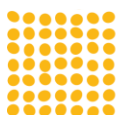
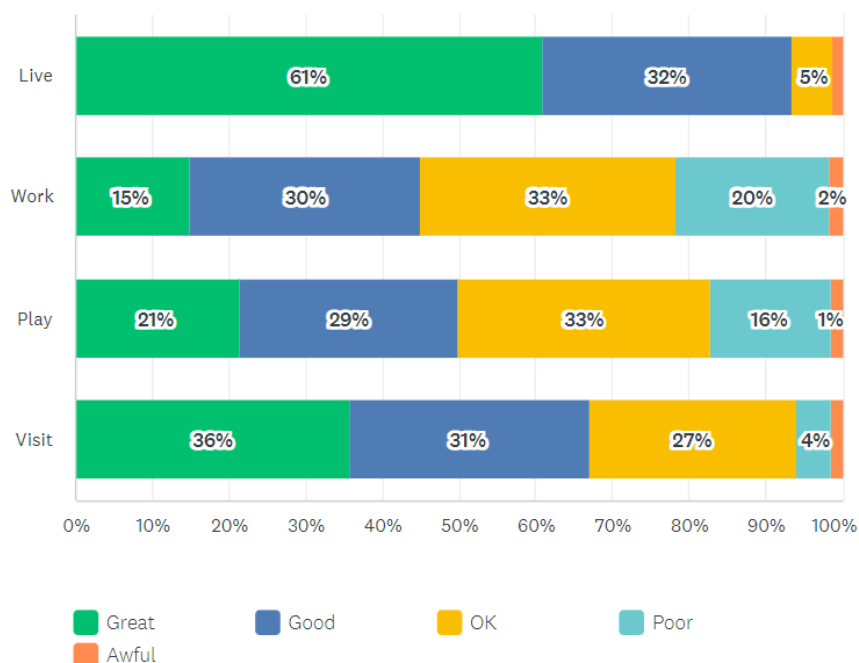
When asked how long they have lived in the area, there was a wide range of answers, but a slight majority (55%) have been in the area for more than 10 years.



The majority (91%) believe they will still be living in the area 10 years from now.

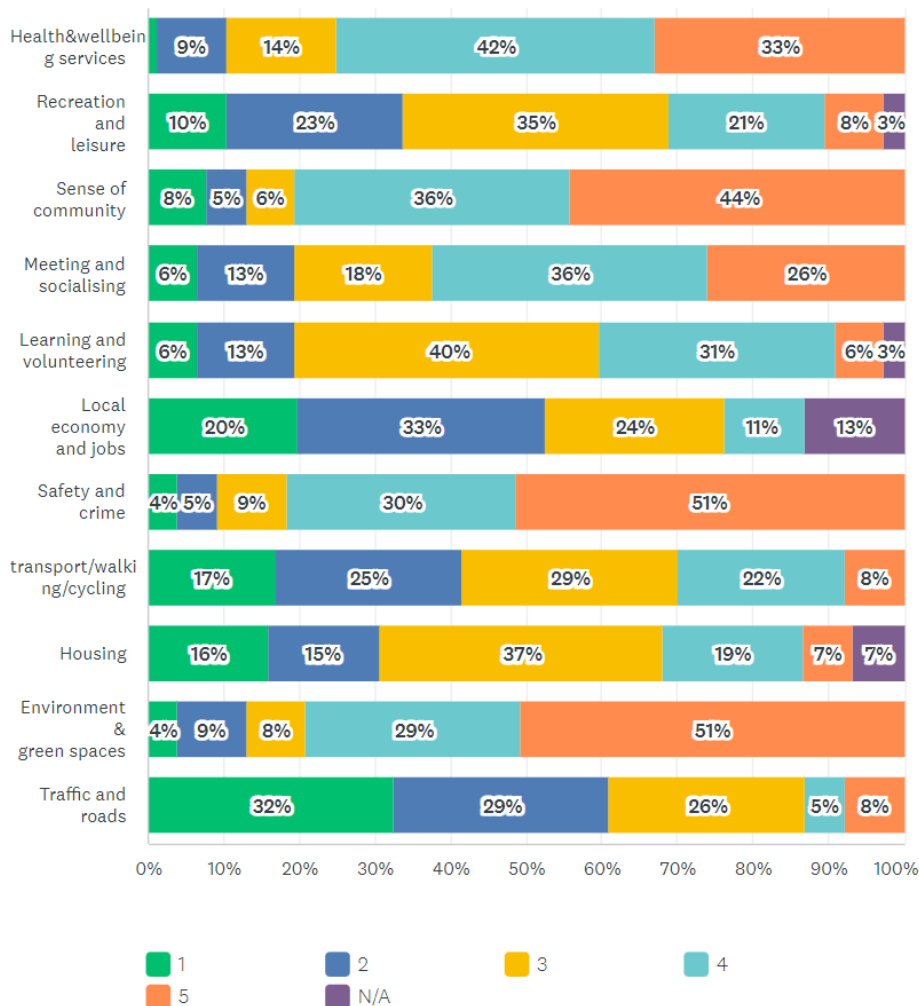


Respondents were asked how they would rate Dunscore as a place to live, work, play or visit. The chart below depicts their answers.



Generally, respondents feel that Dunscore is a great or good community to live and place to visit. However, respondents felt Dunscore was a less appealing as a place to work and play.

Respondents were then asked to rank specific aspects of life in the area. 1=poor, 5=excellent.



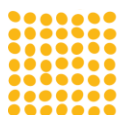
The aspects of life in Dunscore that rank highly (4/5) amongst survey respondents are:

- Safety & Crime (82%)
- Sense of Community (81%)
- Environment & Green Spaces (79%)
- Health & Wellbeing Services (75%)
- Meeting & Socialising (62%)

50% or more of respondents felt that life in Dunscore was poor (1 & 2) when it comes to local economy and jobs and traffic and roads.

The following aspects of life in Dunscore are viewed as relatively average or had split opinions:

- Recreation & Leisure
- Housing
- Learning & Volunteering



Public transport, walking & cycling is the aspect of life where respondents' opinions are most divergent – 42% feel it is generally poor, 30% feel it is generally good, and 29% feel it is average. The answers may have been different if the 3 modes of transportation were split into their own categories.

Majority of the comments left to this question are related to the roads; the potholes, the speeding traffic, issues walking or cycling on the roads, etc. The next most common topics covered public transportation, active transportation (walking & cycling) and housing.

Poor road maintenance is an issue for the area. As in the heavy vehicles (large) that do not adhere to the speed limits. There is not enough social housing in the area that would help populate both the school and preschool.

Number of potholes causing traffic to swerve and have caused car damaged.

Walking and cycling are excellent. Public transport is poor. Speed of traffic is a concern. State of roads is a serious concern.

Few local jobs. Walking and cycling excellent. Public transport not so good. Roads in an increasingly poor state

We need more housing in Dunscore and make it better for family to live here Afterschool care and childcare needs to be improved.

Lack of affordable housing Cycling good. Walking good but more signs would make it great. Public transport is poor.

Respondents were asked to list **3 things they like most** about the area.

The first thing listed by most people:

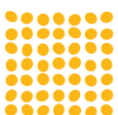
- The natural environment (42%)
- The community spirit/people of the community (37%)
- How peaceful & quiet it is (12%)

The most common things listed second:

- The natural environment (46%)
- The community spirit/people of the community (26%)
- How peaceful & quiet it is (10%)
- How safe it is (7%)

The third thing listed by most people:

- The natural environment (25%)
- The community spirit/people of the community (19%)
- How peaceful & quiet it is (16%)
- Activities & Events (10%)



- The school & preschool (7%)
- The lifestyle/quality of life in the area and location (6% each)

Other things that also featured in what people like most about the area are the Flying Pig, the church, the various activities and events in the area, and the location.

Respondents were asked to list **3 challenges for the area**.

The first thing listed by most people:

- The roads (30%)
- Lack of or insufficient public transportation (17%)
- Lack of jobs (15%)
- The lack of a shop or other general amenities (café, etc) (13%)
- Issues related to housing (10%)

The most common things listed second:

- The lack of a shop or other general amenities (café, public services, etc) (19%)
- Amenities and activities for children and young people (16%)
- The roads (14%)
- Lack of or insufficient public transportation (14%)
- Issues related to housing (10%)

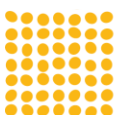
The third thing listed by most people:

- Lack of or insufficient public transportation (22%)
- The lack of a shop or other general amenities (café, public services, etc) (22%)
- The roads (20%)
- Issues related to housing (10%)
- An ageing population (10%)

Other things that also featured in what people thought were challenges for the area are Wi-Fi issues, a lack of things to do, issues getting volunteers, and a lack of paths or pavements.

Respondents were asked to list **3 project ideas**. There was a total of 170 ideas offered. The following themes/ideas were the most common.

- **A shop and café** (28%) - Some suggested putting in a wee shop or a café as part of the pub
- **An improved play park with more facilities** (11%). Work is already underway on this.
- **Paths and pavements** (10%). These included walking paths to the school, to paths to and from other villages, and better pavements along the roads
- **More activities for young people and children** (10%). Generally, these were things like an after school club, childcare facilities, various clubs and groups for young people, etc.



- **More activities generally (11%).** This included things for adults to do: walking clubs, evening classes, cinema nights (now being offered at Glenriddel hall), cycling clubs, etc.
- **A community space or better use of the hall (8%).** These ideas were specifically asking for a designated community space or better use of the existing village hall, better signage to community spaces, a space for people to go that isn't the church or the pub, a space for classes, a community owned co-working space, etc.

Other ideas suggested included wildlife/environmental projects, joined up working/supporting what is already in the village, housing, better roads and renewable energy projects.

Open meetings

Two public meetings took place on September 22nd, one at 5pm and one at 7pm to provide two options. 14 people took part in the first meeting, and 13 in the second – a total of 27.

The meetings began with an introduction to the idea of a Community Action Plan and a preview of results so far, particularly the main good things and bad things highlighted in the consultation.

Following this, participants discussed the project ideas suggested so far, organised into three discussion stations by theme:

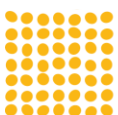
- Outdoor spaces and environment
- Amenities and things to do
- Transport and getting around

The aim was to gauge support for the project ideas and explore them more detail: possible sites and partners, barriers to implementation and potential solutions.

4. Key Findings

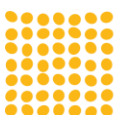
Analysis of the research and consultation has revealed the following key points:

- Traffic, roads and getting around are key concerns in Dunscore, identified by almost two thirds of survey respondents as one of the area's main challenges. Problems include potholes which cause damage and risk of accidents as well as vehicles coming through the village at high speed and insufficient pavements within the village. Limited public transport (for example, buses at times that suit workers and highschoolers coming back from Dumfries) means that people are particularly dependent on cars to get around.
- The natural environment is one of the things that people most value about living in Dunscore, as evidenced in this consultation but also by the strength of environmental groups within the school and Church congregation. Some project ideas from consultation align with the target of supporting efforts for Net Zero carbon emissions, which is part of the funding strategy for Blackcraig Windfarm, and contribute to targets across Dumfries & Galloway and Scotland. These include ideas focused on active travel, waste reduction and, in the long term, energy generation. Other project ideas focus on protecting the area's biodiversity, focusing on the Cairn Water. Making the most of nature through sustainable tourism could also be an opportunity for economic development.
- Dunscore's sense of community is another thing that most people rate highly. Most people think that Dunscore is a good place to meet and socialise. This is positive reflection on the efforts of the volunteer groups that keep the Halls and Community Pub



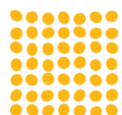
open. People are well aware of the importance of these assets, and want to make sure that they are well used and cared for. In the face of recent increases in running costs, financial sustainability is a concern. There is interest in a shop and café - somewhere to stock up on essentials and meet informally during the day. However, the emphasis is on options that would strengthen Glenriddell Hall and/or the Flying Pig Community Pub.

- Similarly, the school and pre-school are well regarded and valued but people are concerned about their future given a declining population and low number of children and young people in the village.
- Most homes in Dunscore are either owner-occupied or privately rented, and there is little accommodation available from the Council or social landlords. Following the Right to Buy Scheme, there are now only 11 social housing properties in the village. Housing in Dunscore tends to be large and is concentrated in higher tax bands. Availability and affordability of housing is recognised as a challenge – if families can't move in or can't stay, services like the school and pre-school which are key to a vibrant and sustainable future for Dunscore are at risk.
- Jobs and local economy were among the aspects of the community that had the worst rating from residents on the survey. Industries in the surrounding area, such as farming, forestry and wind power, tend to employ few people and well-paid, stable employment is hard to find locally. Across all of the actions identified, local employment and training should be prioritised wherever possible.
- The pattern of land ownership around the village has made it hard to promote new business or develop affordable housing and renewable energy generation. To make new projects possible, the community will need to enter into discussion with the major landowner to identify underused land and buildings and explore various routes to community ownership.



5. Action Plan

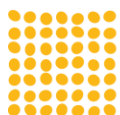
Theme 1: A Connected Community		
Timescale	Action Areas	Options for Implementation
Short term	1a. Assess demand to reinstate the walking group and set up a cycling club	With interested members of the community
	1b. Input into database of assets and services across the wider area	Submit relevant local events, groups and businesses to glenkens.scot using the 'update us' form.
	1c. Support young parents to set up volunteer-led activities, such as parent and toddler groups	
Medium term	1d. Continue to develop and promote dunscore.org.uk for information sharing and local news	With all community groups and organisations
	1e. Improve signage and information displays at Glenriddell Hall and inside and outside the Flying Pig.	In line with findings from 2a., review of community buildings
Long term	1f. Participation in cross-area networking involving community councils, organisations and groups	Join efforts to coordinate a network of community council chairs across Glenkens area.
	1g. Periodic updates on CAP	Community Council to have this as a standing agenda item



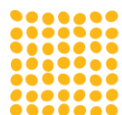
Theme 2: Well-used and maintained community assets

Link to Glenkens plan: An Asset Rich Community

Timescale	Action Areas	Options for Implementation
Short term	2a. Sustainability plan for current community buildings (Flying Pig, Glenriddel and Speddoch Halls) to explore potential for shared resourcing, joint promotion, maintenance and energy efficiency and new activities.	With the Flying Pig committee and Hall committees. Potential to tap into the Glenkens Community Spaces Network for learning and staff resource. Engage with Local Energy Scotland on energy efficiency of community buildings – funding available until March 2025.
	2b. Assess potential for the bar at the Flying Pig to be shut away to allow more multi-functional use such as a daytime shop/café, with outdoor seating.	Work with the Flying Pig committee and volunteers
	2c. Support ongoing improvements to the park and explore potential future additions such as exercise equipment.	Work with Dunscore Playpark Project
Medium term	2d. Make minor alterations to Glenriddel Hall to enable safe use for family and children’s activities	Promote use of local labour and link in with community DIY approach being promoted via Glenkens CAP – links to training and apprenticeships.
Long term	2e. Develop affordable housing for young people and families, working with partner organisations to develop properties that suit local needs while minimising the environmental impact and maximising the social benefits of new homes.	Contact South of Scotland Community Housing (SOSCH) as a starting point. Properties could combine a mix of private and shared spaces to live, work and grow to enable sustainable lifestyles, similar to the ‘ Smart Clachan ’ being trialled elsewhere. Work with local socially registered landlords and/or SOSCH. Under D&G Council’s 10-year development plan, there is a site earmarked for 23 houses, but the council does not intend to develop it. Aside from this, the Glebe land has previously been investigated, and the Moss-side Steading (suggested in consultation) is for sale with planning permission to convert into four residential units.
	2f. Create sports facilities such as a MUGA in the village to cater to multiple age groups.	Potential site alongside the Play Park.



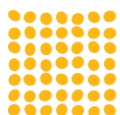
Theme 3: An economically flourishing community		
Timescale	Action Areas	Options for Implementation
Short term	3a. Identify opportunities for sustainable, eco- and heritage tourism in the area	Support start-up micro businesses by signposting to Business Gateway, Strengths identified during CAP consultation include rural crafts (dry stone dyking, spinning, hedge laying) nature studies/bird watching/aquatic life; painting; natural dyeing; eco-living, upcycling, whittling; responsible foraging; Scottish country dancing weekends/holidays
	3b. Assess need for after-school care or club	See Feasibility Study into childcare in Glenkens for information on challenges and potential solutions
	3c. Approach the estate to identify any empty and underused buildings and potential sites for energy generation (see action 4k). Scope out opportunities for the community to take ownership.	If the community wishes to own land and/or buildings, a suitable legal structure will be needed. HIE's Ten Steps to Community Ownership toolkit has useful information and templates (mostly relevant to anywhere in Scotland). Support in approaching landowners for negotiated sale may be available from Community Land Scotland.
Medium term	3d. Identify potential sites and assess demand for small business and light industry workshop units	Approach to South of Scotland Enterprise for possible funding and support.
	3e. Compile and promote a booklet of walks and cycle routes around Dunscore, taking in natural and built heritage sites as possible	Walking group (if this is restored) Link in with Dumfries & Galloway Council, Visit Scotland / Visit South West Scotland
Long term	3f. Build identity of Dunscore and Cairn Valley as a destination for sustainable tourism	Possible branding and joint promotion with with Moniaive and other Cairn Valley communities



Theme 4: Protecting the environment

Link to Glenkens Plan: A Carbon Neutral Community

Timescale	Action Areas	Options for Implementation
Short term	4a. Liaise with council about traffic safety measures in the village which affect people's ability to use active travel. Issues identified through CAP consultation include road resurfacing, reduction of speed limit between Throughgate and Dunscore, 20mph limit in village centre, traffic calming measures and speed limit signage in village, and a path along the B729 through Dunscore.	With Dumfries & Galloway Council
	4b. Commission feasibility study into new walking and cycling routes: old Cairn Valley railway line from Dumfries to Moniaive and Cairn Valley off-road route from Irongray Church to Moniaive.	Link in with Dumfries & Galloway Active Travel Forum. Contact Sustrans and Paths for All regarding additional funding and support.
	4c. Identify sites for provision of bike racks and repair equipment	Could be part of 4b.
	4d. Identify small pockets of biodiversity around the village to be protected	With Eco-School and Eco-Church groups
	4e. Investigate setting up a school uniform exchange	With Primary School, particularly Eco-School group
	4f. Identify suitable charging points to support sustainable transport	EV charging points, E-bike hire and community bike library are short-term actions in the Glenkens CAP. Dumfries & Galloway Council has installed EV charging points in some villages.



Medium term	4g. Develop a project to celebrate and protect biodiversity of the River Cairn and protect against flooding.	With Dumfries & Galloway Council and SEPA
	4h. Promote car sharing	Link in with Glenkens & District Trust, Galloway Glens and Loch Ken Trust. Sustainable social transport such as car sharing, community car hire or electric community vehicles is a medium-term action in the Glenkens CAP.
	4i. Potential small fund for community-led environmental and conservation work. Could also be used to promote early-stage eco-tourism projects based on findings from 3a.	With Glenkens & District Trust
	4j. Explore potential for community garden or allotment site, and continue improving village planters.	With Eco-School and Eco-Church groups Investigate potential for sponsorship of planters by local businesses
Long term	4k. Explore potential for community energy generation in Dunscore	Old Dalgonar Mill has been identified as a potential site. Liaise with Local Energy Scotland on funding and support, and with other communities who have undertaken similar projects, such as Kier, Penpont and Tynron. Land ownership has been a previous obstacle so outcome of 3c will be key.
	4l. Development of a nature reserve, building on findings from 4d and 4g.	

