Kirkcaldy Area Surveys' Analysis 2022

Please click on the survey analysis you are interested in below:

- Have Your say on the future of Fife's places analysis
- Disabled persons and place survey analysis
- Businesses & organisations survey analysis

If you'd like to comment on this analysis email Fife Council at <u>Fife.Devplan@Fife.gov.uk</u> by **midnight** 29th November 2023 or write to:

Policy & Place Team Planning Service Fife Council Fife House West North Street Glenrothes KY75LT

We would appreciate it if you would provide the name of the survey and town/village/location on which you are commenting on in your response, thank you.



Have your say on the future of Fife's places survey analysis - Kirkcaldy Area 2022

In 2022 we asked you what you what you thought was good and bad about where you live and the challenges these places face due to things such as the climate emergency and food resilience. The online survey provided an opportunity for people to have their say in helping shape where they live by highlighting the issues that they think need to be tackled by the next Local Development Plan for Fife.

1.0 What's good about your area?



Figure 1 - What do you think is good about where you live?

Kirkcaldy Area residents think access to green space is good (8.2%) as well as access to nature and the countryside including the coast (9%). Movement around Kirkcaldy was seen as good with the options 'getting around by walking or wheeling' (6.5%) and 'getting around by car' (6.5%) in the top 5.

2.0 What's bad about your area?



Figure 2 - What do you think is bad about where you live?

People consider local decision making (5.7%), access to healthcare (5.9%), getting around by public transport (6.1%), car parking around the town centre (7%) and the quality of the local shops (7%) as the worst aspects of the Kirkcaldy area.

Some people felt that it was easier to go out of town for a more diverse range of retail offering and restaurants. It has also been noted that a lack of parking within the Kirkcaldy town centre and at health practises was a concern. Getting around on public transport within the Kirkcaldy committee area was also seen to be bad.

3.0 Access

We asked you how easy it is for you to access local services and facilities in your area based on how easy it is to travel to the facility or service taking into account things like opening times, ease of getting appointments etc.





Figure 3 above shows the average rating for access to various services throughout the Kirkcaldy Committee area. Overall, access to parks, play facilities and open space had the highest average rating. Access to services, which includes hairdressers, pubs, libraries etc, had the second highest percentage with an average rating of 3.87%. The lowest average score was access to healthcare facilities. Feedback highlighted that getting appointments at GPs etc is difficult.

4.0 Challenges in Your Area



Figure 4 - What do you consider to be the biggest challenges facing where you live?

Meeting the housing needs for everyone is seen as the Kirkcaldy Area's biggest challenge (8%). Access to healthcare (7.1%) is also considered a challenge as well as access to public transport (6.3%). Some residents think that local infrastructure isn't up to what is needed, particularly when new housing estates are being built.

Fife Local Development Plan - Disabled Persons and Place Online Survey (2022) Analysis – Kirkcaldy Area

The survey was carried out late 2022 and aimed at finding out about the issues facing disabled persons in relation to where they live and the places they visit. We wanted to know how people find access to things like local shops, sports/leisure facilities, parks etc and what they think can be done to make these places more accessible for everyone. We also wanted to hear about the challenges facing where people live which could be things like the climate emergency or future access to public transport.

1.0 Where you live

Q1 Where do you enjoy going when out and about?

The places people go tend to be mainly leisure related such as the cinema, parks and shops where access is generally good.

Q2 Are there places you would like to go but haven't been able to due to access issues?

The beach, Kirkcaldy leisure centre and train stations are highlighted as being particularly difficult to access in the Kirkcaldy area. Overgrown vegetation encroaching on paths can be an issue in some areas and the topography of some of the more historical areas.

Car parking for disabled people is located too far away from Kirkcaldy high street.

Q3 How easy do you find it to get around where you live by walking and/or wheeling?

Again access to train stations is an issue for some. There is a general feeling that it is difficult to get around the Kirkcaldy Area by walking and/or wheeling, and routes are not well maintained.

Q4 What improvements could be made to improve walking and/or wheeling routes in your area?

Accessible train stations.

Cars not parking on the pavements.

Maintain paths and nearby shrubbery so it doesn't spill over onto paths. Have different grass cutting - current way last few years means the cuttings are sprayed everywhere so in our wet climate it make paths very slippery.

Q5 How easy do you find it to access local shops and services? For example, grocers, hairdressers, council offices, libraries, restaurants etc.

There was a mixed response to this question with some finding access to local shops and services easy, and others having some difficult getting to them.

Q6 What improvements could be made to improve access to local shops and services?

Increased and more appropriate disabled parking at local shops etc was suggested by some respondents.

Improving the condition and more disabled friendly routes to these places could help remove some barriers to accessing local shops and services..

Q7 How easy do you find it to access parks, green space and countryside?

Some swing parks in the area are not suitable indeed non-existent for disabled children.

Again, a lack of disabled car parking is seen to be an issue in the area, particularly at parks.

Q8 What improvements could be made to improve access to parks, green space and countryside

More disabled parking generally and better lighting on path networks were highlighted as ways of making improvements.

Providing more play areas for disabled people were mentioned as a way to improve access.

2.0 Challenges

What do you consider to be the biggest challenges facing where you live?



Figure 1 - Challenges

Meeting the housing needs of everyone and accessing healthcare are seen as the two biggest challenges facing the Kirkcaldy Area. Access to activities relating to quality of life in the shape of sport and leisure facilities, quality shops and parks and open space are also seen to be challenges.

Please comment further on what you consider to be the biggest challenges facing where you live.

Parking near homes was highlighted as a challenge and there appears to be a lack of disabled parking generally across the area.

Access to the harbour area in Burntisland has now been closed off and this is seen as a challenge to well-being and appreciation of nature.

Wheelchair access to the beach In Kirkcaldy for wheelchair user is considered problematic for some.

Public transport is considered to be poor by some respondents and believe it will only get worse.

Fife Local Development Plan - Businesses and Organisations Survey Analysis – Kirkcaldy Area 2022

This consultation was carried out late 2022 and gathered views on important issues like the local economy, modern business properties, availability of employment land to develop and renewable energy. We also asked for views on key future challenges for Fife.

1.0 How would you rate your premises?



Figure 1 - Premises

The majority of respondents rated their premises as good, very good or excellent with no premises rated as poor.

2.0 Please tell us what is good and/or bad about your premises.

Respondents located in Mitchelston Industrial Estate feel it is good for their business growth but could do with some improvements in appearance.

3.0 How would you describe the condition of the Industrial Estate/Business Park/town centre/other location your business/organisation is based?





4.0 Please tell us what is good and/or bad about the Industrial Estate/Business Park/town centre/other location your business/organisation is based.

The condition of Mitchelston Industrial Estate was rated as poor and as previously mentioned needs investment. Also has poor signage highlighting which businesses are located within the industrial estate.

The location of Mitchelston Industrial Estate is considered good as it is sited just off the A92 trunk road. While it is in a good location that is offset by congestion at Redhouse Roundabout.

5.0 What issues do you want the next Local Development Plan to look at?



Figure 3 - Challenges

The top 5 challenges that respondents want the next local development plan to look at are quality of public areas around businesses, attracting people to work, accessing a skilled workforce, the lack of high-quality premises and the lack of premises in the right locations.

6.0 Please tell us about any other issues not listed above that you want the next Local Development Plan to look at.

It was suggested that every decision made in the next local development plan must be done so with climate change at the core.