



CARROWDORE

Integrated Village Plan 2018-2023



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1 Introduction to Carrowdore Village Plan

1.1 BACKGROUND TO VILLAGE PLANNING

As part of the Rural Development Programme 2014–2020, Ards and North Down Borough Council provided support to help villages within the Council area revise and update their village plans. These plans identify the specific needs of each village and set out a range of agreed actions to be delivered over the next five years that will help improve the village for everyone.

The village plan is a working document that has been developed through a process of engagement with the local community. The plan sets out the key issues, concerns and priorities those consulted wish to see addressed in order to improve the quality of life within the local area.

The village plan sets out a clear vision for Carrowdore detailing the actions needed to build upon the unique strengths and distinctive qualities the area has, whilst also seeking to address the issues which need to be tackled.

1.2 A [REVISED] VILLAGE PLAN FOR CARROWDORE

A village plan for Carrowdore was first produced through consultation with the local community in March 2013. Progressing the actions contained within the plan has remained a focus for Carrowdore Early Years and Community Development Centre [CEYCDC] although with limited resources it has proved difficult to fully focus on the existing plan. A key aim for the revised plan is to establish a wider network of individuals, local groups and associations to help deliver the action plan.

Therefore, it is important to recognise that this new village plan (2018–2023) represents a continuing development of the initial plan and the ongoing efforts of the local community to help achieve the agreed actions. As five years have passed since the initial plan was produced it is important to now review, revise and update the village plan to ensure the actions remain relevant and consider any emerging issues or concerns.

1.2.1 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS FROM THE 2013 CARROWDORE VILLAGE PLAN

CEYCDC has progressed a number of actions from the current plan, especially in terms of programmes and activities for both young people and older people within the local area. There have also been several environmental improvements such as planting, greenery and increased provision of litter bins.

Much of the focus for the existing plan has been on lobbying to secure improvements to the village's appearance, address speeding, improve walking routes, public transport and tackle derelict sites. Many of these actions are under the responsibility of statutory agencies or indeed multiple statutory agencies which has presented a challenge for the local group to progress.

1.3 METHODOLOGY – OVERVIEW

The village plan for Carrowdore sets out a vision for how the local area can continue to improve and sustainably develop. Through in-depth community engagement a range of key actions and improvements has been identified to improve the overall physical, economic and social aspects of Carrowdore and help address local needs.

Agreeing priorities and developing a plan also provides opportunities for funding by providing a central point of reference for future investment throughout the area, whether this is through the public sector, private sector or community and voluntary sector.

Whilst the plan includes a range of actions, which assign priorities and timescales to the improvement projects, this document should not be treated as a final blueprint for development. Instead it should be viewed as a series of priorities and actions that will deliver significant benefits for the area. Each action will require to be developed to a greater level of detail, this will include any further needs assessment, consultation with stakeholders, consideration of any deliverability issues as well as outcomes and indicators of success.

2 The Village of Carrowdore



2.1 VILLAGE LOCATION

Carrowdore is a small rural village situated approximately 8.5 miles south of Bangor and 6.5 miles east of Newtownards, inland on the Ards Peninsula. It is centrally located between Newtownards, Millisle, Ballywalter and Greyabbey and is close to both the Irish Sea and Strangford Lough.

2.2 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

CEYCDC has an active presence in the village, helping support activities and programmes across the village for all residents. A Facebook page, “Carrowdore Community Events”, provides information to residents about activities taking place around the area.

Carrowdore Early Years Centre has spaces for 24 pre-schoolchildren and around 170 children attend Carrowdore Primary School. Strangford Integrated College is located next to the village and is earmarked for a major programme of redevelopment due to be completed by 2021. This will increase student numbers upward to 750 and greatly enhance the facilities available in the local area.

The community is served by a Eurospar and there is a sub-post office in the village. There are two churches, Carrowdore Presbyterian Church and Christ Church, Church of Ireland. Maranatha Mission hall (formerly Carrowdore mission hall) has had a presence in the village since 1907. Since then volunteers have carried on the work of the mission and services are open to all.

Carrowdore Community Centre hosts a range of community events and activities and has a small playpark to the front of the building. Carrowdore Football Team has a vibrant presence within the village and Newtownards and District Shooting Club is also located close by.

This quiet village was once famous for the Carrowdore 100 Motorcycle Race which first took place in 1927 with the last race held in 2000. Carrowdore regularly plays host to cyclists that now use the popular race course to practice and compete.

Carrowdore Castle was constructed as a country house with castellations, corner turrets and a large projecting tower; it is set amongst parkland and woodland trees. A substantial part of these lands is designated as a Park, Garden and Demesne of Special Historic Interest.











2.3 COMMUNITY PROFILE

Carrowdore village is a rural settlement captured within the Carrowdore1 and Carrowdore2 Super Output Areas¹. Information relating to the community profile for Carrowdore has been sourced from the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency² through the Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Information Service (NINIS). The NINIS³ website provides access to statistical and locational information about small areas across Northern Ireland. It contains datasets on a range of socio-economic themes at small-area statistical geographies – these area profiles can be used to provide a statistical information of a local area like Carrowdore.

¹ Northern Ireland is divided into 890 Super Output Areas which are relatively small scale areas containing on average just over 2,000 people. Super Output Areas are the core reporting geography of the NI Multiple Deprivation Measure (2010)

² Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (www.nisra.gov.uk)

³ NINIS (<https://www.ninis2.nisra.gov.uk/public/Home.aspx>)

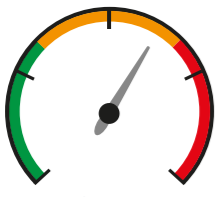

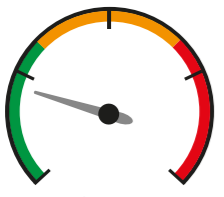

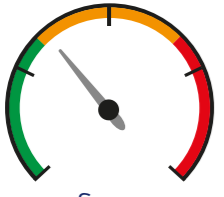

 POPULATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On Census Day [27 March 2011] the population of Carrowdore Settlement was 960, living in 382 households, giving an average household size of 2.5 The 2001 Census reported Carrowdore as having 816 residents, meaning the population increased by 144, which is 17.6%, over 10 years.
 AGE PROFILE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 23% of the population are aged 0–15 18% of the population are aged 16–29 23% of the population are aged 30–44 24% of the population are aged 35–64 12% of the population are aged 65+ The average age is 36 years old
 GENDER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 47.3% of Carrowdore residents are male 52.7% of Carrowdore residents are female
 RELIGION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Of the residents 2.7% belong to or were brought up in the Catholic religion 83.7% belong to or were brought up in a 'Protestant and Other Christian' religion
 HEALTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 21.9% of people have a long-term health problem or disability that limited their day-to-day activities 76.9% of people stated their general health was either good or very good; and 12.4% of people stated that they provided unpaid care to family, friends, neighbours or others
 EDUCATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14.3% of people had a degree or higher qualification 49.9% of people had no or low-level qualifications
 LABOUR MARKET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 69.1% of people were economically active and 30.9% were economically inactive⁴ 61.8% of people were in paid employment 4.8% of people were unemployed
 HOUSEHOLDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 64.1% of homes were owner occupied (24% owned outright) and 31.7% were rented 8.9% of homes were comprised of a single person aged 65+ years 10.2% were lone parent households 17.8% of households did not have access to a car or van
 SCHOOL NUMBERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2016/17 176 children were enrolled at Carrowdore Primary School and 23.9% of pupils are in receipt of free school meals In 2016/17 there were 637 students enrolled at Strangford College and 33.9% of pupils are in receipt of free school meals
 ECONOMIC ACTIVITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carrowdore has a total of 16 retail and business units of which 14 are currently occupied. The current vacancy rate is 12.5%

⁴ Economically inactive persons are defined by the fact that they do not have a job and are either not actively looking for a job or are not immediately available to work (or both). Unemployment is when a person who is actively searching for employment is unable to find work.

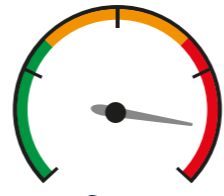

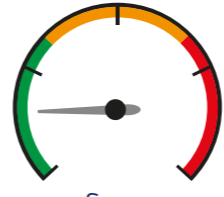

2.4 LOCAL DEPRIVATION

An indication into the level of deprivation local areas experience can be identified through the Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017⁵. This report identifies small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across Northern Ireland. All 890 super output areas in Northern Ireland are ranked with a score of 1 being the most deprived and a score of 890 the least deprived.

Carrowdore village lies within the Carrowdore1 and Carrowdore2 Super Output Areas (SOA), therefore the information from these areas has been used to reflect the community profile of Carrowdore, as shown below.

INCOME DEPRIVATION		
Carrowdore1 SOA	Carrowdore2 SOA	
 <p>Score 333</p>	 <p>Score 579</p>	<p>Carrowdore1 ranks 333 and Carrowdore2 ranks 579 out of 890 super output areas in Northern Ireland in relation to income deprivation.</p> <p>Carrowdore is 'mid-point' in terms of income deprivation when compared to all other areas across Northern Ireland. However, there is a disparity between both SOAs in relation to the actual level of income deprivation experienced.</p>
HEALTH DEPRIVATION		
Carrowdore1 SOA	Carrowdore2 SOA	
 <p>Score 688</p>	 <p>Score 565</p>	<p>Carrowdore1 ranks 688 and Carrowdore2 ranks 565 out of 890 super output areas in Northern Ireland in relation to health deprivation.</p> <p>Therefore, Carrowdore village ranks from around the middle to top third of areas across Northern Ireland which suffer least in relation to health deprivation.</p>
EMPLOYMENT DEPRIVATION		
Carrowdore1 SOA	Carrowdore2 SOA	
 <p>Score 573</p>	 <p>Score 446</p>	<p>Carrowdore1 ranks 573 and Carrowdore2 ranks 446 out of 890 super output areas in Northern Ireland in relation to employment deprivation.</p> <p>This means Carrowdore village can be considered around 'mid-point' when compared to all other areas across Northern Ireland in terms of suffering from employment deprivation.</p>

ACCESS/PROXIMITY TO SERVICES

Carrowdore1 SOA	Carrowdore2 SOA	
 <p>Score 120</p>	 <p>Score 152</p>	<p>Carrowdore1 ranks 120 and Carrowdore2 ranks 152 out of 890 super output areas in Northern Ireland in relation to poor or deprived access to key services.</p> <p>This means Carrowdore village is in the top third of areas which suffer most in relation to difficulty accessing services.</p>
CRIME AND DISORDER		
Carrowdore1 SOA	Carrowdore2 SOA	
 <p>Score 742</p>	 <p>Score 487</p>	<p>Carrowdore1 ranks 742 and Carrowdore2 ranks 487 out of 890 super output areas in Northern Ireland in relation to crime and disorder deprivation.</p> <p>Carrowdore 1 is in the top third of areas which suffer least from crime and disorder, whilst Carrowdore 2 is 'mid-point' in relation to crime and disorder compared to all other areas in Northern Ireland.</p>

To Summarise...

Carrowdore is 'mid-point' across a range of deprivation measures including employment and income when compared against other areas of Northern Ireland. The village scores slightly better than 'mid-point' for measures such as crime and health. Access to key services such as health, leisure or financial services is one measure in which Carrowdore scores less well - it is in the top 20% of areas across Northern Ireland which experience most difficulty accessing services.

Carrowdore has a slightly higher proportion of females living in the local area (52.7%) and the average age is 36 years old [compared to a Northern Ireland average of 37 years].

Population change for Carrowdore is +17.6% which is above the Northern Ireland average of +7.5%.

Fewer people in the local area, when compared to the Northern Ireland average, have a degree, rate their health as good and live in their own home. More people are economically active, and a greater proportion of homes are made up of a single person living alone aged 65+ years, or a lone parent household. More people in Carrowdore, when compared to the Northern Ireland average, have a long-term health problem or disability that limits their day-to-day activities.

⁵ <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/statistics/deprivation/northern-ireland-multiple-deprivation-measure-2017-nimdm2017>

2.5 CARROWDORE VILLAGE PLAN – WIDER STRATEGIC FIT

The Carrowdore Village Plan is very much focused on the specific issues and actions needed within the local area. However, it does not exist in isolation – the plan links closely to the focus and outcomes of the ‘Big Plan’⁶, and issues relevant to other statutory stakeholders including health, education, policing and public transport.

The village planning process ensures the involvement of local communities in agreeing actions to address local needs, which is essential to securing sustainable improvements and positive outcomes.

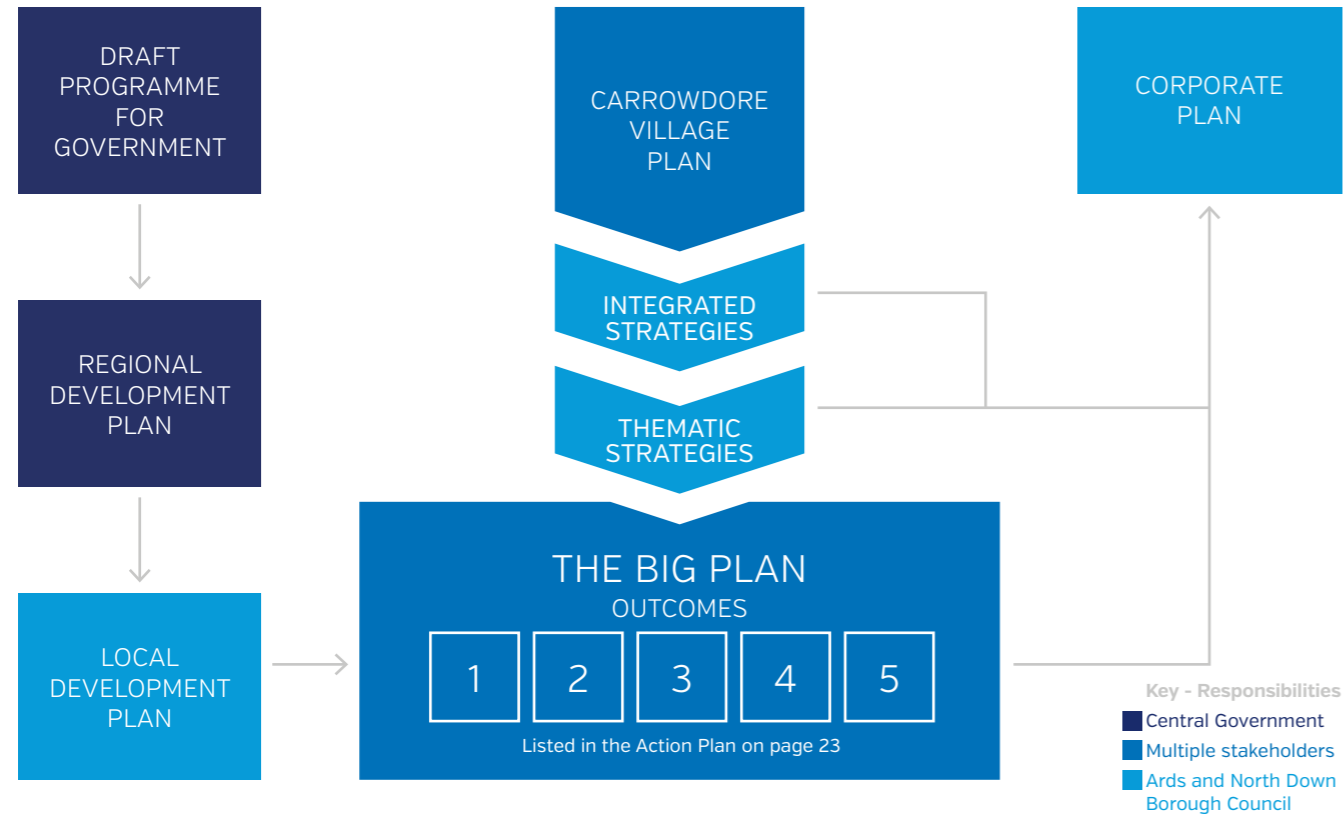


Figure 2: Strategic context for Carrowdore Village Plan

Engaging with local communities and supporting the development of village plans is a key activity for local councils. The actions contained in each village plan link closely to the broad remit of council in terms of supporting regeneration, facilitating economic development, promoting tourism, protecting the environment and encouraging participation in health and wellbeing activities.

The action plan for Carrowdore is structured around five key outcomes which match the outcomes contained in the Big Plan for Ards and North Down. The village plans also feed into the Council’s Corporate Plan and its three categories of People, Place and Prosperity.

The forthcoming Local Development Plan (LDP) will provide a 15-year framework that supports economic, environmental and social needs of the Borough while

providing for the delivery of sustainable development. It will guide development decisions within the Borough up to 2030.

There is also a range of thematic council strategies which provide a specific context for many of the actions contained within each village plan. These relate to key issues or sectors including food, car parking and recreation. As these are updated and revised, it will be important to ensure a strong link between each strategy and village plan.

Village plans also link to and help deliver wider government policy at a local level, this includes the the Draft Programme for Government, Regional Development Strategy, and sector specific policies for tourism, investment and regeneration.

3 Carrowdore Village Plan – Consultation Process

The key aim of village planning is to ensure the local community has a clear role and input into agreeing those issues that need to be addressed and actions that need to be taken forward as part of the plan.

As part of this process engagement took place with CEYCDC to ensure a partnership approach in the preparation and delivery of the village plan.

3.1 CARROWDORE VILLAGE PLAN – REVIEW AND UPDATE

The revised village plan for Carrowdore has been developed through several stages providing opportunities to consult with the local community. Engagement with a range of stakeholders including Ards and North Down Borough Council, statutory

partners, schools, community and voluntary groups was undertaken to help develop the final action plan.

The village plan has been shaped by a thorough assessment process including site analysis, village profiling, public consultation and the gathering of information through the distribution of questionnaires.

The plan seeks to build upon partnerships working and capacity building within the community by consolidating existing and creating new working partnerships. Through the plan, responsibilities are also placed on groups, organisations and stakeholders to lead on specific actions.

The key stages in developing the Carrowdore Village Plan are detailed in Table 1 below:

Table 1 – Community Consultation and Engagement Process

STAGE	ACTION/ACTIVITY UNDERTAKEN
1. Initial Community Engagement	Initial meeting with CEYCDC to secure engagement in the village planning process. The meeting provided an opportunity to review the current plan and achievements as well as emerging issues and priorities
2. Village Plan Review, Profiling and Analysis	An in-depth review of the current village plan was undertaken including an assessment of delivery against agreed actions. In addition, a review of all available statistical information was undertaken alongside a review of documentation and desktop research to establish a detailed profile of the area.
3. Community Consultation (Stage 1)	An open public meeting was held on the evening of Tuesday 28th November 2017 in the Carrowdore Community Centre. The meeting was facilitated by Insight Solutions and the Rural Development Council with assistance from the CEYCDC. Approximately 15 members of the local community attended the meeting. This meeting helped bring the local community together to share their views on the village and generated considerable feedback regarding the village strengths, weaknesses and future opportunities.
4. Community Survey	A community survey was developed to ensure that everyone in Carrowdore could partake in the village planning consultation process. The survey was designed to allow residents to comment on the key issues, concerns and priorities they felt existed in relation to the local village area. The survey was circulated online and hard copies were provided at key locations throughout the village shop. In total 97 responses were returned. Details of the findings from the community survey are contained in Appendix A.
5. Community Consultation (Stage 2)	Based on the initial profiling, consultation and community survey a draft village plan was developed. The draft plan aimed to shape up and reflect the issues raised by the local community. A meeting to agree the draft plan was held with CEYCDC to ensure it reflected local needs and was deliverable.
6. Final Village Plan	In the context of the feedback provided in relation to the draft plan, a final village plan was produced for 2018–2023.

⁶ The Big Plan for Ards and North Down April 2017–2032.

Want to have your say on Carrowdore's Village Plan?

Public meeting to review and update the current Village Action Plan

Tuesday 28th November 2017 at 7pm
Community Centre

- Have your say on issues affecting the local community
- Identify priority actions to help improve your local area
- Help develop a plan to secure funding and support

For more information and to complete the online survey visit www.ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk/village-plans



4 Analysis and Findings

A total of 97 surveys were returned (44 hard copy and 53 online) which provides a strong source of information for actions to be included in the final village plan. Details of the findings from the community survey are contained in Appendix A.

Over half (56%) of those consulted believe Carrowdore provides a good quality of life with a close knit and friendly community being key positive aspects. Other consultees reported a lack of crime and feeling safe in the area. The location of Carrowdore is a key strength – despite the rural location it is close and convenient to the larger towns of Bangor and Newtownards. Those consulted also commented on the quality of the local schools and pre-school facilities.

Community Facilities and Services

- Improved use of community hall [activities, opening times]
- Better sharing of information regarding events and activities
- Need for social/informal community hub
- Support for football team
- More activities and facilities for young people

Road Safety and Traffic

- Road safety and traffic calming
- Poor condition of many roads
- Poor quality/lack of footpaths
- Maintenance of hedges and grass verges
- Lack of public transport services
- Bus shelters

Village Appearance, Dog Fouling and Litter

- Improve village appearance
- Increased planting, greenery and street furniture
- Gateway signage and focal point
- Maintenance of hedges and grass verges
- Dog fouling bins and litter bins
- More investment in local area
- Tourist potential [castles, Millennium Wood, Carrowdore 100]

"The sense of community and the feeling of belonging."

"Togetherness of community and safe family environment to raise children."

Those consulted are less positive about other facilities available in the area with over 43% describing them as bad and 38% describing services as bad. The key concerns and issues raised have been summarised below.

"Village lacking a social/drop-in venue since the Tavern closed."

"The provision of greater sports facilities to ensure the survival of the football team."

"Just not enough services or local facilities, we're a growing village that requires more than it ever has."

"More activities for young people and investment in play park."

"Pavements! Being able to walk the entire length of the village without a pavement disappearing."

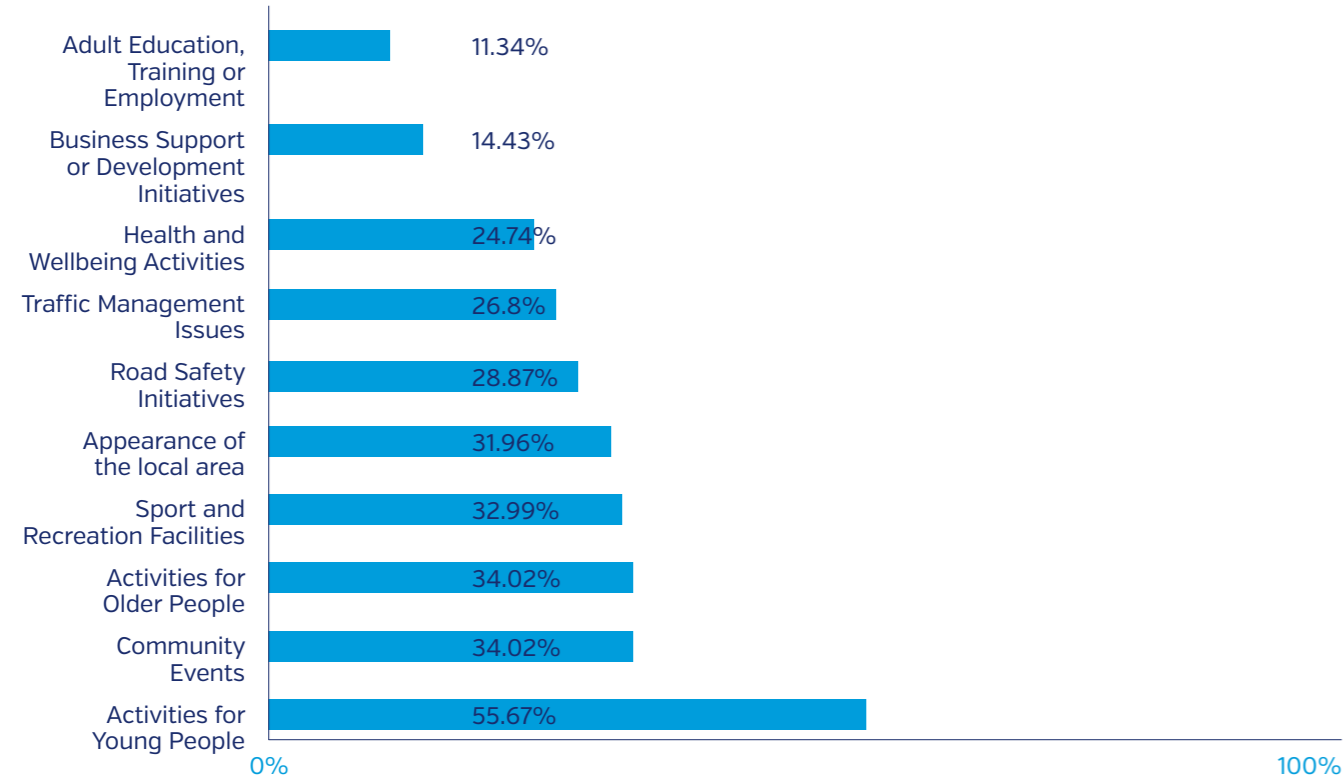
"Speed of vehicles on Main Street passing Strangford College."

"A more inviting village with nice planting areas, seating and updated street lighting."

"Millennium Wood – so much potential, the kids use it perhaps as eco."

4.1 IDENTIFYING PRIORITIES AND ACTIONS

Figure 3: Programmes, activities and service priorities



Those consulted were asked about the key issues impacting on the local area as well as the types of activities, programmes or services they would like to see in Carrowdore (Figure 3). This is to ensure the village plan includes actions that go beyond those relating to the physical environment or infrastructure improvements within the local area.

Given the strength of community feeling it is no surprise that activities for young people are a priority for many residents. This is followed by a range of related priorities including community events, activities for older people and sport and recreation facilities.

When survey respondents were asked to prioritise the key issues affecting the local area (see Figure 4), facilities for young people are ranked first, followed by road safety in second and additional shops/business units in third which relate to views regarding the need for an informal community hub.



Figure 4: Priorities for Carrowdore

5 Vision and Overarching Outcomes

5.1 CARROWDORE VISION STATEMENT

Carrowdore continues to offer a peaceful, family friendly and safe setting for residents and visitors alike and to provide quality opportunities for residents to develop and live sustaining, healthy lifestyles. The village has a strong and vibrant community spirit, excellent leisure, health, educational and community facilities and an attractive local environment.

5.2 OVERARCHING OUTCOMES

1. Carrowdore Achieving its Full Potential

- Community activities and programmes for young people
- Community activities and programmes for older people
- Community events and information sharing
- Establish a Carrowdore Community Forum
- Options to increase use of community hall
- Informal/Social community hub

2. A Healthy and Active Carrowdore

- Improved facilities at playing fields/football pitch
- Support for sports teams and youth football teams
- Enhance play facilities at play park
- Information and signage on trails/paths
- Improved use of Millennium Wood

3. A Connected, Safe and Secure Carrowdore

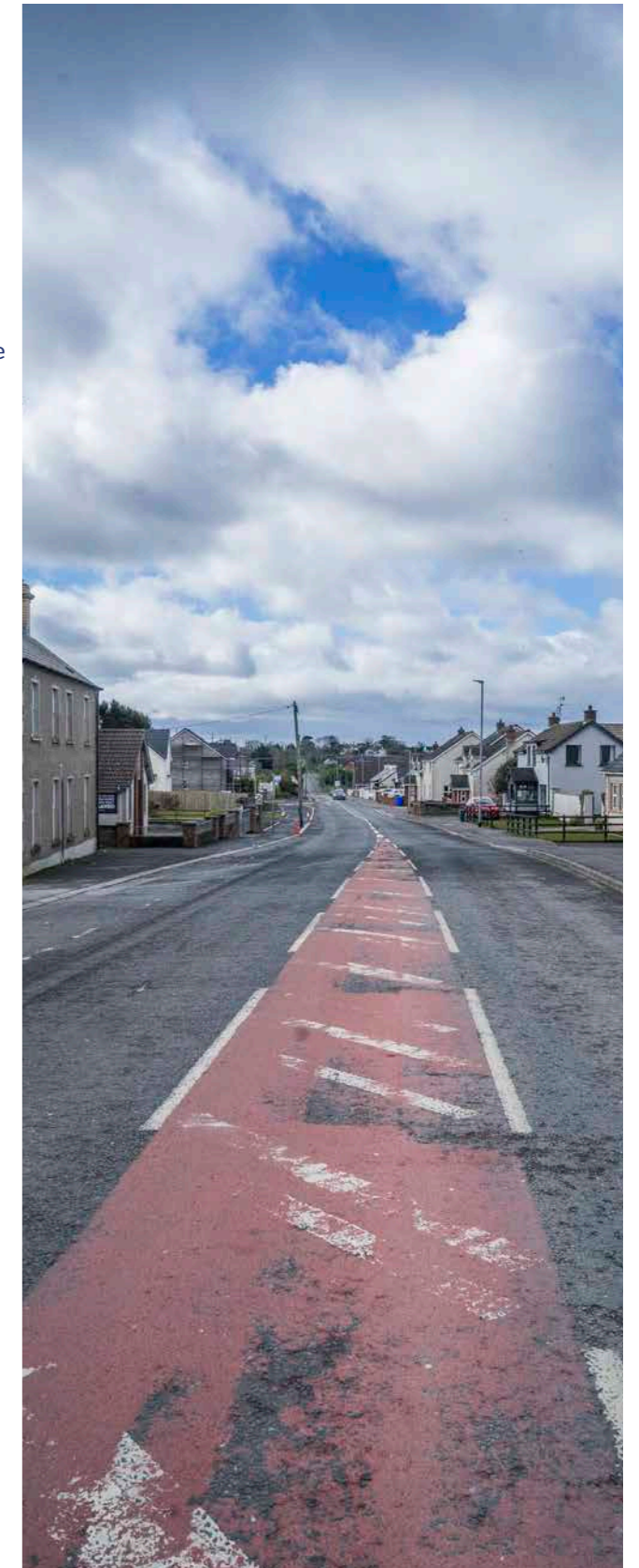
- Improved road safety and traffic calming
- Resurfacing of minor, access and connecting roads
- Improve quality of footpaths
- Maintain hedges and grass verges
- Improved public transport provision (and bus shelters)

4. Supporting the Local Economy and Employment

- Digital hub
- Employment and skills development






5. Supporting the Local Environment, History and Heritage

- Provision of gateway signage
- Environmental improvement schemes
- Dog fouling and litter bins
- Community planting schemes and street furniture
- Promotion of local assets
- History and heritage of Carrowdore 100



5.3 CARROWDORE – AT A GLANCE

The Carrowdore infographic summarises the key findings and issues emerging from the community consultation. It highlights positive aspects about living in the local area and summarises the key concerns of residents. It sets out the actions those consulted wish to see delivered over the next five years in terms of infrastructure, facilities and local services.

<p>At a Glance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 56% Rated Quality of Life as Good • 43% Rated Quality of Facilities as Bad • 38% Rated Quality of Services as Bad 		
<p>Key Issues</p>  <p>1. Road Safety</p>  <p>2. Community Facilities</p>  <p>3. Sports and Recreation</p>  <p>4. Facilities for Young People</p>  <p>5. Public Transport</p>	<p>Best Part of Living in Carrowdore</p> <p>Quiet; community spirit; countryside; people; location; good schools; beautiful walks; feel safe; friendly, close knit community, peaceful; Eurospar; good neighbours; healthy environment; good for families</p>	
	<p>Top 5 Physical Improvements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Facilities for Young People 2. Road Safety 3. Additional Shops/Business Units 4. Community Facilities 5. Village Appearance 	
	<p>Top 5 Service Delivery Improvements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Activities for Young People 2. Community Events 3. Activities for Older People 4. Sport and Recreation 5. Appearance of Local Area 	
<p>Priority Action: Environmental improvements along Main Street</p>		



6 Detail of Village Projects

OUTCOME 1: CARROWDORE ACHIEVING ITS FULL POTENTIAL

1.1 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SERVICES

1.1.1 Development of community activities and programmes for young people

In Carrowdore those consulted reported a lack of activities for young people across the local area. Activities should be aimed at supporting all young people in the area; with specific engagement in the 12 -18 age group.

This includes encouraging increased participation in sport and programmes to develop life skills, employability and personal development. A focused needs assessment with young people in the area could be undertaken to understand the range of activities and programmes delivered and the level of interest in establishing a youth club within the village.

1.1.2 – Development of activities to support engagement and inclusion of older people

Those consulted believe there are limited activities organised for the benefit of older people in the local area – which is an important issue given 12% of the population are aged 65+.

There are concerns regarding social isolation, wellbeing and loneliness for older members of the community. There is a desire to see development of services aimed at supporting engagement and inclusion of older people through activities such as a weekly coffee morning and exercise classes. IT classes were highlighted as a specific need which could support older people and help them keep in touch with family and friends, thus helping tackle social isolation.

1.1.3 – Community events and information sharing

It is suggested that the local community develop a programme of community type events and activities to take place throughout the year. This is in response to a demand for a greater range of programmes and activities to be organised and offered locally. The focus of events could be linked to sport and recreation, health and wellbeing, local history or community fun days.

Currently the noticeboard located in the Eurospar on Main Street is an important way to share information on local events and activities. The community is keen to ensure that other approaches, such as social media, are used effectively to share information and encourage participation in community-based activities.

1.1.4 Establish a Carrowdore Community Forum

Almost half of respondents to the survey feel that a new community group is needed to support the delivery of activities and programmes in Carrowdore. This was in response to the limited capacity of CEYCDC, due to resources and membership, to take forward delivery of the action plan.

Enhancing the capacity of local community groups and improving coordination between groups and building stronger links and relationships is key to successful delivery of the village action plan. This action should seek to ensure participation from all key organisations and groups within Carrowdore to support joined-up delivery of the village plan whilst helping strengthen community infrastructure and capacity.

1.1.5 Options to increase use of community hall

The community hall is recognised as an excellent facility for the local area. It provides for a range of activities and programmes delivered for the benefit of the local community. However, comments from the meeting and public survey reflect a view that it could be better utilised in order to benefit the local area. Opening times, the need to pre-book and cost were all issues emerging from the consultation work. Those consulted felt the structured approach to bookings and charges prevents it from being used as a more social, informal community setting.

A review of current usage of the community hall and further engagement with the local community should be undertaken to identify options to increase use, increase the activities on offer and understand how it may better respond to the needs of the local area.

1.1.6 Develop a community hub

As highlighted in action 1.1.5 those consulted would like to see a more informal, drop-in type resource for all groups in the local area. Currently there is work ongoing to establish a community hub within the village which could provide this type of facility.

Efforts to establish a community hub for the local area should be supported.

1.1.7 Lobby for key services

Over recent years Carrowdore has experienced a continued growth in population. However, those consulted believe the provision of local services has not kept pace with the increasing needs of people living in the area. The lack of a pharmacy and GP surgery within the village was a recurring theme from this consultation process.

Beyond specific health services those consulted want wellbeing services or programmes which focus on mental health, health promotion and supporting healthy lifestyles. With the roll out of Universal Credit there is a specific demand for regular outreach services by advice organisations such as Advice NI in relation to financial capability, debt advice and welfare reform.

OUTCOME 2: A HEALTHY AND ACTIVE CARROWDORE

2.1 SPORTS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

2.1.1 Improved provision of facilities at football pitch

At the public meeting much time was spent discussing the football club and issues related to the poor quality of the pitch, changing facilities and nets. As a result there could be a focus on securing improvements to the pitch, which is Council owned, in terms of the playing surface, catch netting, fencing, goal posts and changing facilities.

2.1.2 Support for youth football teams

Potential exists to support more young people to become involved with the football club, but the lack of equipment and poor facilities (see action 2.1.1) limit the quality of coaching that can be provided. Support could be sought for the local football team, including youth teams, in relation to training equipment, footballs and bibs, which could help increase participation.

2.1.3 Engagement with Strangford Integrated College

Strangford Integrated College is currently progressing through planning for a major redevelopment of the school on its existing site. As part of the plan there will be significant redevelopment of playing pitches, running tracks and other sporting facilities. It is proposed that the local community work with Strangford Integrated College to ensure plans to redevelop the school and sports pitches provide a wider community benefit.

2.1.4 Enhanced play facilities at playpark

A common theme emerging from the community survey and engagement related to the playpark at the community hall, in particular that it is run down with some of the equipment being unsafe. Comments focused not only on the need to upgrade play equipment but also on the need to increase the provision of equipment aimed at older children. The plan proposes that the playpark is modernised, and provision of safe, age-appropriate play equipment is improved.

2.1.5 Connected paths and walkways

Carrowdore is the only non-coastal village on the peninsula with a range of beautiful walks in the village and surrounding area. However, those consulted feel that improved information and signage would be beneficial for both residents and tourists.

Appropriate signage to provide information on walking paths should be erected along key routes throughout the local area. Further work should be undertaken to agree the information to be presented and identify where best to locate the panels. Information could also be provided on local history, heritage and nature. Those consulted are keen to examine whether walks could be linked or joined up with other villages so and provide a range of connected walking options in the local area.

2.1.6 Increased use of Millennium Wood

Carrowdore, in Carrowdore, is one of The Woodland Trust's Woods on Your Doorstep woodlands, created to commemorate the millennium. It was planted with a mixture of native shrubs and trees in 1999. In the previous village plan there was an action to lobby for improved access to Millennium Wood. As part of this plan the action is focused on examining the potential of the wood to support local eco and outdoor activities especially for young people.

OUTCOME 3: A CONNECTED, SECURE AND SAFE CARROWDORE

3.1 ROADS, ROAD SAFETY AND ACCESS

3.1.1 Improve the quality, surface and maintenance of key footpaths

A programme of footpath improvement works to identify and prioritise problematic footpaths in the local area is to be agreed following consultation with the local community and the Department for Infrastructure. This will seek to address the poor condition of many existing footpaths (i.e. clean surfaces and tackle overgrown hedges, spray weeds).

Concerns were expressed about the lack of or poor quality of footpaths in key locations including New Road, Woburn Road, Manse Court and Stables.

3.1.2 Resurfacing of minor, access and connecting roads

Consultation has shown that many roads within the village are in a poor state of repair, with numerous potholes and uneven surfaces being commonplace. Those consulted highlighted the poor condition of New Road, Ballyblack Road East and Main Street. The consultees wish to see a full roads condition assessment undertaken throughout the village and a prioritised programme of remedial works developed for future delivery.

3.1.3 Road safety and traffic calming measures

Excessive speeding throughout Carrowdore, in particular along Main Street and passing in front of Strangford Integrated College was a key concern for those consulted.

The village plan proposes that a range of traffic calming measures could be considered in order to mitigate traffic speeds. These could include the incorporation of speed warning signage, speed humps, and if required, the narrowing of the carriageway/road through the use of build-outs or chicanes.

3.1.4 Hedges and grass verges

Due to concerns regarding the poor maintenance of hedges and grass verges and resulting impact on road safety, there is a need to establish an ongoing programme for the cutting and maintenance of hedges and grass verges in and around the village. Specific comments relate to overgrown hedges and verges along Woburn Road and at the end of New Road/Main Street junction where grass can obscure driver visibility.

3.1.5 Improved public transport provision

A lack of public transport to surrounding areas including Newtownards and Bangor was highlighted as a key issue preventing access to local services and visiting friends and family.

Currently there is no direct bus service to Bangor, which is a major concern for parents, schoolchildren and commuters.

Parents commented that, as a result, schoolchildren often have to make multiple bus changes on their journey to and from school (for a trip that takes 15 minutes by car). Similarly, there is a view that the lack of a regular, direct service to and from Bangor does not support working people and is unacceptable.

It is suggested that engagement takes place with public transport providers including Translink and Down Community Transport to secure improvements to services where these are deemed to be required.

3.1.6 Provision of appropriate bus shelters

The village plan supports the installation of new and renovation of existing bus shelters in Carrowdore.

Those consulted felt that bus stops along Main Street should be the focus for initial action as these are often used by schoolchildren. The location of new bus shelters is to be determined through further consultation with the local community and Translink.

New and replacement shelters should be appropriately designed to reflect the rural character of the village, and incorporate seating and hardstanding waiting areas.

OUTCOME 4: SUPPORTING THE LOCAL ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT

4.1 SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

4.1.1 Digital hub facilities

Those consulted felt that a digital hub could help attract new businesses to the local area. A feasibility study could be undertaken to determine the benefit of developing a digital hub (potentially located in the community hall) which could provide space for small businesses as well as hot desk and co-working facilities. The facilities could also be used by the local community to support education programmes and skills development in relation to IT.

4.1.2 Employment and skills development

Employment, growing the local economy and supporting job opportunities are important issues for the local area. The village plan should support the delivery of programmes in partnership with statutory agencies, community and voluntary sector to increase employability and entrepreneurship amongst key groups such as young adults and the unemployed.

This will require a strategic approach, which involves all key stakeholders including statutory, private and community, to focus on supporting skills, employment and attracting investment to the local area.

As many people will not have accessed educational, skills or training opportunities in a number of years there could be support from community-based organisations to increase confidence and encourage participation in training and educational programmes.

**OUTCOME 5:
SUPPORTING THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT,
HISTORY AND HERITAGE**

5.1 IMPROVE VILLAGE APPEARANCE

5.1.1 Environmental improvement schemes

Priority Project

Those consulted felt that Carrowdore is run down and tired with many areas of the village requiring environmental improvements. The key focus area for the village is the Main Street and the need for improvement works to make this area attractive for both residents and visitors. Developing a heart of the village was also suggested through the consultation process.

Initially various concept designs for environmental improvement and landscaping works along Main Street could be developed with a view to a programme of capital works being implemented in the future.

5.1.2 Provision of gateway signage at key entry/exit points

Scope exists to improve the welcome that Carrowdore provides to people as they arrive in the locality at key gateway points. There are three main gateway points on Abbey Road, Manse Road and on Ballyblack Road East. New Road could also be considered a gateway arrival point for the village.

The provision of appropriate welcome signage and in addition, where appropriate, artwork, planting, lighting and other visual improvements.

5.1.3 Dog fouling

A key concern expressed by those consulted is the prevalence of dog fouling across the village. This could be addressed via the installation of additional bins along key pathways within the village supported by adequate enforcement and education.

5.1.4 Improved provision of benches/seating along Main Street

During the consultation it was noted that there are no benches or seating areas along the Main Street. Given the length of this street many felt seating is required especially to provide a place to rest for older people or those with mobility issues. There is a requirement for additional benches and seating along Main Street.

5.1.5 Community planting schemes

There is a desire to see a range of landscaping improvements in the form of planting, flowerbeds and hanging baskets especially during the summer period in order to improve the village appearance

Scope exists to enhance existing planters and introduce additional planters in the village as well as increasing the frequency of replanting to maximise floral displays throughout the year. Those consulted also suggest that wild flower beds are planted at overgrown or derelict areas as these will be low maintenance.

5.1.6 Protection of village character

Those consulted are supportive of developments that are in keeping with the character of the local area. To ensure that appropriate community consultation is undertaken for proposed village developments, the character and identity of the village is preserved especially in terms of proposed housing developments.



5.2 TOURISM AND PROMOTION OF LOCAL ASSETS

5.2.1 Information on history and heritage of Carrowdore

Carrowdore and the surrounding area have a long history, dating back many centuries with two castles in the locality. There is an abundance of information to share in relation to the village's history, heritage, location and local wildlife. The design and installation of a series of linked information panels about the history and heritage of Carrowdore could have potential tourism benefits for the village.

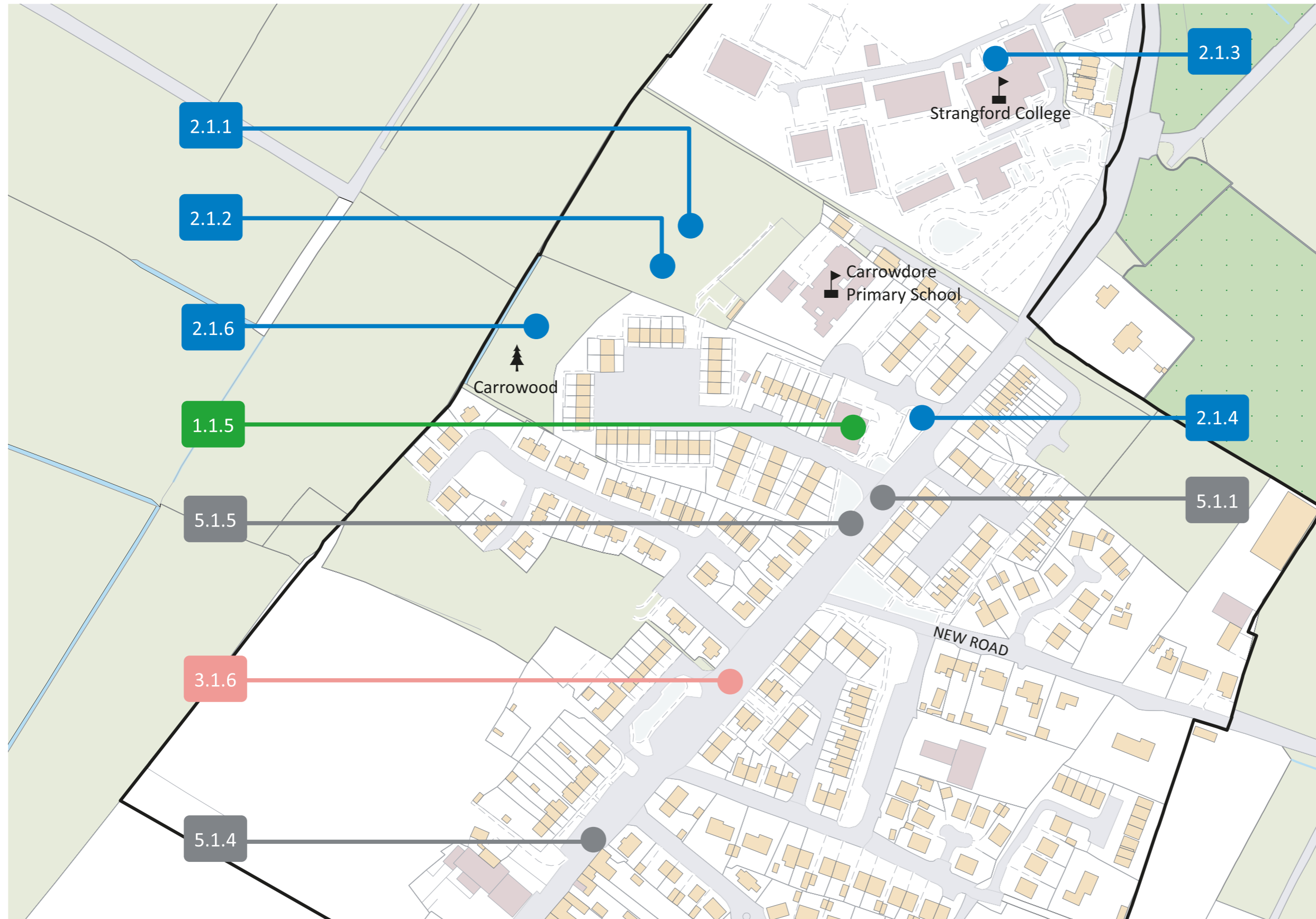
It is suggested that this is presented in the form of signage, information panels or print material that would provide details to visitors on the history and heritage of the local area, and local amenities.

5.2.2 Carrowdore 100

Those consulted believe the history and heritage of the Carrowdore 100 road race should be a focus for efforts to promote tourism and encourage visitors to the area. To identify and assess options to celebrate the racing history and heritage of Carrowdore. This may include signage or information along the route mile markers or a display of racing memorabilia, photographs and stories about the race.

Increasingly cyclists are using the local area to complete a lap of the old circuit, which provides an additional opportunity to build on the tourism potential and interest in the Carrowdore 100.

6.1 MAP OF CARROWDORE VILLAGE PLAN ACTIONS



OUTCOME 1 – CARROWDORE - ACHIEVING ITS FULL POTENTIAL

1.1.5 Options to increase use of community hall

OUTCOME 2 – A HEALTHY AND ACTIVE CARROWDORE

2.1.1 Improved provision of facilities at football pitch

2.1.2 Support for youth football teams

2.1.3 Engagement with Strangford Integrated College

2.1.4 Enhanced play facilities at playpark

2.1.6 Increased use of Millennium Wood

OUTCOME 3 – A CONNECTED, SAFE AND SECURE CARROWDORE

3.1.6 Provision of appropriate bus shelters

OUTCOME 5 – SUPPORTING THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT, HISTORY AND HERITAGE IN CARROWDORE

5.1.1 Environmental improvement schemes

5.1.4 Improved provision of benches/seating along Main Street

5.1.5 Community planting schemes

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*Wider Village Projects – Location to be agreed

7 Delivery of Carrowdore Village Plan

7.1 INTRODUCTION

The key aim of the Carrowdore Village Action Plan is to prioritise projects which have been identified through the community consultation process.

The successful achievement of these actions will require input from a wide range of organisations across the public, private and community sectors. A review of available funding streams will also be important on an ongoing basis to ensure that the actions in the plan are implemented and that Carrowdore can achieve its long-term vision for the future.

7.2 DELIVERY STRUCTURES

It is important that there are appropriate local structures in place to maintain a focus on delivering the plan and tracking its progress. This will ensure actions to be progressed by the local community are delivered, but also provide a mechanism to ensure actions led by statutory partners or other stakeholders are kept 'live' and progress reported upon on a regular basis.

It is proposed that a local steering group will be established with the support of Ards and North Down Borough Council. The key focus for this group will be on the delivery of the village action plan. The steering group will monitor and report on progress, whilst also considering any issues which may impact (or delay) the successful completion of actions within the plan, ensuring accountability across all stakeholders.

To support delivery of the action plan a monitoring framework has been included in Appendix B. This will allow the local steering group to agree priorities, identify key actions, oversee delivery, track progress and report on achievements over the lifetime of the village plan.

7.3 SUPPORTING DELIVERY OF THE ACTION PLAN

There is a wide range of funding sources available from public, charitable and corporate sectors which can help the local community maximise opportunities to deliver their village plan. Notable funding bodies and organisations include the Big Lottery Fund, Community Foundation for Northern Ireland, Children in Need, Comic Relief and Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust.

However, the eligibility criteria, application process, focus and money available will be specific to each funder and individual programmes. Each village will be supported, where appropriate, by the Regeneration, Development and Planning Directorate and any other relevant Council departments, including on how to track and identify suitable sources of funding available in Northern Ireland.

7.4 ACTION PLAN

The action plan links through to the outcomes of the Big Plan. This ensures that the plan is set within the context of the wider strategic fit.

Included within the action plan is the priority of each project (high, medium and low), based on the demand expressed by the local community, and likely impact it will have on the area. Each project has been allocated a short, medium or long-term timeframe which relates to the following timescales:

- Short-term projects are those actions the community would like to see progressed within 18 months;
- Medium-term refers to those projects which are to be taken forward within 18 months to three years;
- Long-term actions would be delivered over the next three to five years.

As previously highlighted this action plan reflects the ongoing work from the previous plan produced in March 2013. Some actions remain a priority so have been carried over into this plan, other actions have been amended to reflect the progress achieved (or changing need) whilst other actions will be new. Therefore, the action plan outlines the following indicators:

- Existing Action: an action which has been included (in full) from the original March 2013 plan;
- Amended Action: an action which had been included in the original March 2013 plan which has been amended or changed for the revised plan (due to changing needs or the action has partially been delivered);
- New Action: an action which was not included in the March 2013 plan.

The action plan is structured around the five key outcomes of the Big Plan for Ards and North Down. As part of the Big Plan an initial set of indicators has been identified to measure progress towards each outcome – these are the 'Agreed Indicators'. In addition, there is a series of indicators currently being progressed for which data is not yet available or robust enough – these are the 'Indicators to be developed'. In the Carrowdore Village Action Plan the 'Success Indicator' column links each action to an indicator (either agreed or to be developed) from the Big Plan. The keys used for each outcome and indicator are included in Table 2.

In addition, the action plan also identifies the stakeholders, including the lead partner, whose involvement in the relevant action or project would be necessary. It is important to note that the action plan should be used as a 'live' document to ensure progress is monitored regularly and updated accordingly (Appendix B). It is only natural that priorities may change over time or new projects and opportunities will arise in future, and these should be assessed against the overarching aims identified in the action plan where appropriate.

7.5 CARROWDORE VILLAGE ACTION PLAN [2018–2023]

OUTCOME 1: CARROWDORE ACHIEVING ITS FULL POTENTIAL							
Action	Plan Reference	Description	Timescale [S, M, L]*	Action Status	Lead Partner(s)	Stakeholders	Success Indicators
1.1 Community Engagement and Services	1.1.1	Development of community activities and programmes for young people	S	Amended	CCF	CDRCN, ANDBC	1.8, 2.4, 2.6, 3.6
	1.1.2	Development of activities to support engagement and inclusion of older people	M	New	CCF	CDRCN, ANDBC	1.4, 1.8, 2.4, 3.5
	1.1.3	Community events and information sharing	M	Amended	CCF	CDRCN, ANDBC	1.4, 1.8, 2.4
	1.1.4	Establish a Carrowdore Community Forum	S	New	CCF	ANDBC, CDRCN	1.8
	1.1.5	Options to increase use of community hall	M	New	CCF	ANDBC, CDRCN	1.8, 2.4
	1.1.6	Develop a community hub	S	New	CCF	CDRCN	1.8
	1.1.7	Lobby for key services	M	Amended	CCF	ANDBC, CDRCN, service providers	1.4, 2.3, 2.4

OUTCOME 2: A HEALTHY AND ACTIVE CARROWDORE							
Action	Plan Reference	Description	Timescale [S, M, L]*	Action Status	Lead Partner(s)	Stakeholders	Success Indicators
2.1 Sports and Recreation Facilities	2.1.1	Improved provision of facilities at football pitch.	S	New	CCF	CCF	1.8, 2.4
	2.1.2	Support for youth football teams	S	New	CCF	CCF, CDRCN	
	2.1.3	Engagement with Strangford Integrated College	M/L	New	CCF	CCF, Strangford Integrated College	1.5, 2.4, 4.1
	2.1.4	Enhanced play facilities at playpark	M	Amended	CCF	CCF	2.4, 4.5, 5.7
	2.1.5	Connected pathways and walkways	M	Amended	CCF	CCF, NIEA, PHA, ORNI	
	2.1.6	Increased use of Millennium Wood	M	New	CCF	ANDBC, Strangford Integrated College	

OUTCOME 3: A CONNECTED, SECURE AND SAFE CARROWDORE							
Action	Plan Reference	Description	Timescale [S, M, L]*	Action Status	Lead Partner(s)	Stakeholders	Success Indicators
3.1 Roads, Road Safety and Access	3.1.1	Improve the quality, surface and maintenance of key footpaths	S	Amended	CCF	CDRCN, ANDBC	1.8, 2.4, 2.6, 3.6
	3.1.2	Resurfacing of minor, access and connecting roads	M	New	CCF	CDRCN, ANDBC	1.4, 1.8, 2.4, 3.5
	3.1.3	Road safety and traffic calming measure	M	Amended	CCF	CDRCN, ANDBC	1.4, 1.8, 2.4
	3.1.4	Hedges and grass verges	S	New	CCF	ANDBC, CDRCN	1.8
	3.1.5	Improved public transport provision	M	New	CCF	ANDBC, CDRCN	1.8, 2.4
	3.1.6	Provision of appropriate bus shelters	S	New	CCF	CDRCN	1.8

OUTCOME 4: SUPPORTING THE LOCAL ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT IN CARROWDORE							
Action	Plan Reference	Description	Timescale [S, M, L]*	Action Status	Lead Partner(s)	Stakeholders	Success Indicators
4.1 Support for Local Business and Economy	4.1.1	Digital hub facilities	M	New	ANDBC	CCF, local business/college	1.5, 4.1, 4.3, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 5.3
	4.1.2	Employment and skills development	S/M	New	ANDBC (Econ Dev)	CCF, local business/college	

OUTCOME 5: SUPPORTING THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT, HISTORY AND HERITAGE IN CARROWDORE							
Action	Plan Reference	Description	Timescale [S, M, L]*	Action Status	Lead Partner(s)	Stakeholders	Success Indicators
5.1 Improve Village Appearance	5.1.1	Environmental improvement schemes	S-L	New	CCF	CCF, CDRCN, NIHE	1.8, 2.4, 4.2, 4.4, 5.4, 5.7
	5.1.2	Provision of gateway signage at key entry/exit points	S/M	Amended	CCF	CCF, DfI	
	5.1.3	Dog fouling	M	Existing	CCF	CCF	
	5.1.4	Improved provision of benches/seating along Main Street	S	New	CCF	CCF	
	5.1.5	Community planting schemes	S	New	CCF	CCF	
	5.1.6	Protection of village character	M	New	CCF	CCF, ANDBC, NIHE	
5.2 Tourism and Promoting Local Assets	5.2.1	Information on history and heritage of Carrowdore	S	New		CCF, ANDBC, TNI	1.8, 4.2, 4.4, 4.5
	5.2.2	Carrowdore 100	M	New		CCF, ANDBC, TNI	

Abbreviations:

- CCF** – Carrowdore Community Forum (to be established)
- DfC** – Department for Communities
- ANDBC** – Ards and North Down Borough Council
- DfI** – Department for Infrastructure
- CDRCN** – County Down Rural Community Network
- PSNI** – Police Service of Northern Ireland
- NIEA** – Northern Ireland Environment Agency
- NIHE** – Northern Ireland Housing Executive
- PHA** – Public Health Agency
- ORNI** – Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland
- RCTP** – Rural Community Transport Partnership
- TNI** – Tourism NI

***Timescales:**

- S** – Short (0–18 months),
- M** – Medium (18 months – 3 years),
- L** – Long (3–5 years)

****Actions Status:**

- Existing** – An action which was included in the March 2013 plan
- Amended** – An action which has been updated or changed since the March plan
- New** – A new action (not included in March 2013 plan)

Success Indicators

This is an indication of how individual actions may contribute to the overall Big Plan. NB: these indicators may change and evolve over time.

Table 2: Big Plan Outcomes and Indicators

The 'Big Plan' Outcomes	Agreed (Success) Indicators	(Success) Indicators to be Developed
<p>OUTCOME 1</p> <p>All people in Ards and North Down fulfil their lifelong potential</p>	<p>1.1 Gap between % of non-free school meal entitlement school leavers and % FSME school leavers achieving level 2 or above (In English and Maths)</p> <p>1.2 Percentage of babies born at low birth weight</p> <p>1.3 Number of further education regulated enrolments by age</p>	<p>1.4 Number of older people living independently or in care i.e. having the correct support to allow them to live as they wish</p> <p>1.5 Breakdown of types of skills and different demographics who are engaged in further education</p> <p>1.6 % of children at appropriate stage of development in the immediate preschool year</p> <p>1.7 % of schools found to be good or better</p> <p>1.8 Number of people formally and informally volunteering</p>
<p>OUTCOME 2</p> <p>All people in Ards and North Down enjoy good health and wellbeing</p>	<p>2.1 Number of anti-depressant drug items dispensed per head of registered population</p> <p>2.2 Number of admissions to hospital per 100,000 for drugs or alcohol-related causes</p> <p>2.3 Number of preventable deaths per 100,000 population</p>	<p>2.4 % of the population participating in exercise (sports and physical activity) one, three or five times per week</p> <p>2.5 Monitoring of extent of long-term health conditions such as diabetes</p> <p>2.6 GHQ12 scores as a measure of mental health</p>
<p>OUTCOME 3</p> <p>All people in Ards and North Down live in communities where they are respected, safe and feel secure</p>	<p>3.1 Number of hospital admissions due to accidents</p> <p>3.2 Number of road traffic casualties per 10,000</p> <p>3.3 Number of recorded crime offences</p> <p>3.4 Number of recorded anti-social behaviour crime offences</p>	<p>3.5 % of the population who feel safe in their community</p> <p>3.6 Opportunities for children to be involved in shared education</p>
<p>OUTCOME 4</p> <p>All people in Ards and North Down benefit from a prosperous economy</p>	<p>4.1 Working age population - skill levels</p> <p>4.2 GVA - Value of Estimate (£m) - Ards and North Down</p> <p>4.3 Proportion of working age population who are economically inactive (%)</p> <p>4.4 Total spend (£m) during overnight trips</p>	<p>4.5 Breakdown of visitors to local tourism facilities, public parks, nature and historic sites</p> <p>4.6 Breakdown of wages by sector e.g. tourism, arts and crafts, agri-food, technology etc.</p> <p>4.7 A skills barometer - matching skills of people to businesses and a better jobs index</p> <p>4.8 Breakdown of people who are economically inactive and proportions of those who don't want to work</p>
<p>OUTCOME 5</p> <p>All people in Ards and North Down feel pride from having access to a well-managed sustainable environment</p>	<p>5.1 Number of applicants on Social Housing Stress list</p> <p>5.2 Area of pollinator friendly plants by Ards and North Down Borough Council (m2)</p>	<p>5.3 Availability of good broadband and mobile phone coverage</p> <p>5.4 Number of people in urban areas who live within 1km of quality green space</p> <p>5.5 Number of designated sites in favourable condition and number of buildings at risk</p> <p>5.6 Number of biodiversity audits (habitat and species surveys) undertaken on publicly owned land</p> <p>5.7 Length of greenways, walking routes, canoe trails and cycle paths</p> <p>5.8 Extent of coastal changes and the economic social and environmental impacts</p> <p>5.9 Reporting of invasive species on publicly owned/managed land</p> <p>5.10 % of energy from renewable sources (generated or used within Ards and North Down)</p> <p>5.11 Investment in and use of transport infrastructure (private and public)</p>

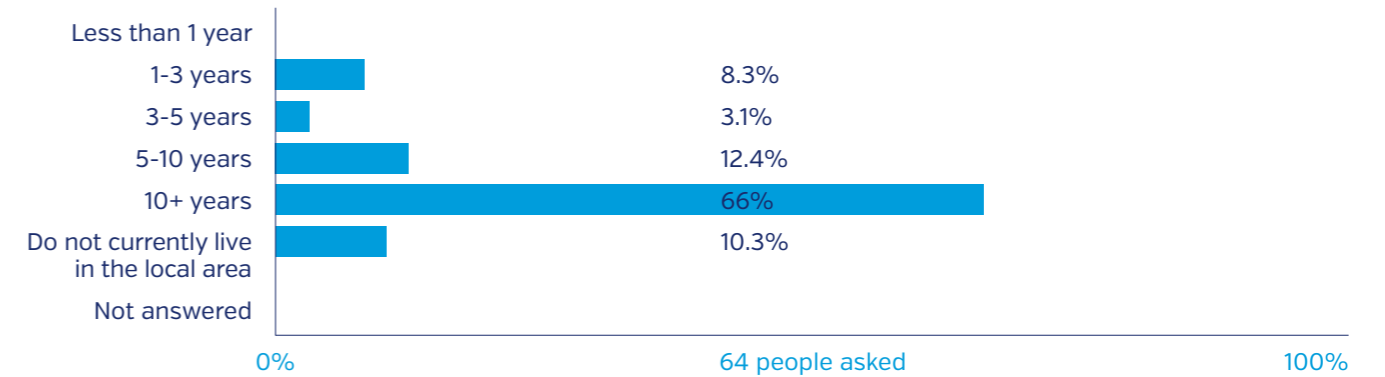
NB: these indicators may change and evolve over time.

8 Appendices

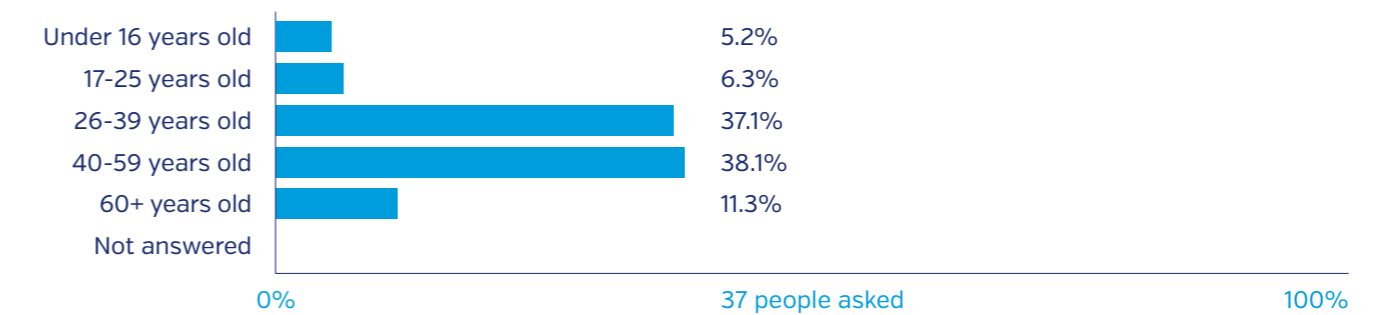
Appendix A. Carrowdore Community Survey Results

The summary results from all questions included in the community survey for Carrowdore have been provided in this appendix.

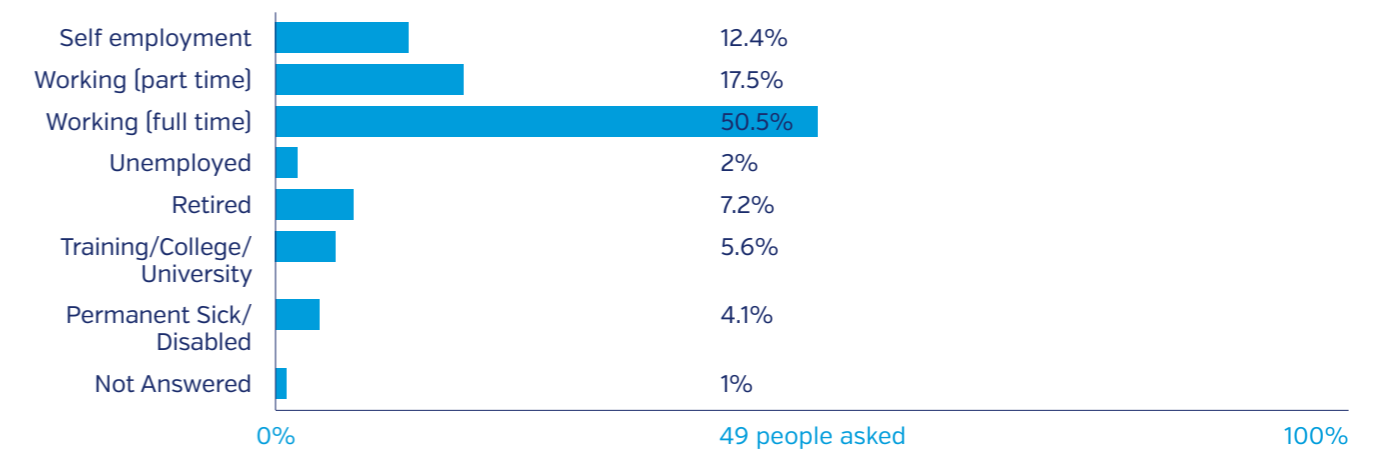
Question 1: How long have you lived in the local area?



Question 2: What is your age?



Question 3: What is your employment status?



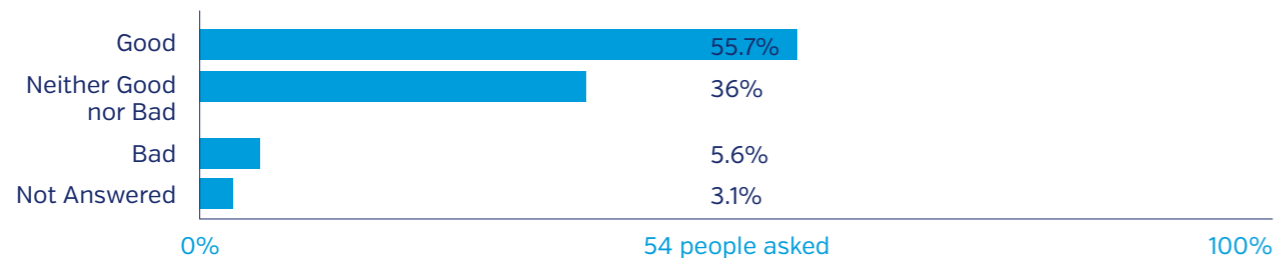
Question 4 & 5: How many people, including yourself, are there in your household in each of the following age groups?

Age Group		Number in Household										Not Answered
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10+	
0-4	Male	12	7	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	77
	Female	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	80
5-17	Male	20	4	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
	Female	24	5	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	65
18-35	Male	25	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	66
	Female	28	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	66
36-50	Male	47	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50
	Female	44	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	51
51-65	Male	11	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	85
	Female	15	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	81
65+	Male	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	93
	Female	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	92

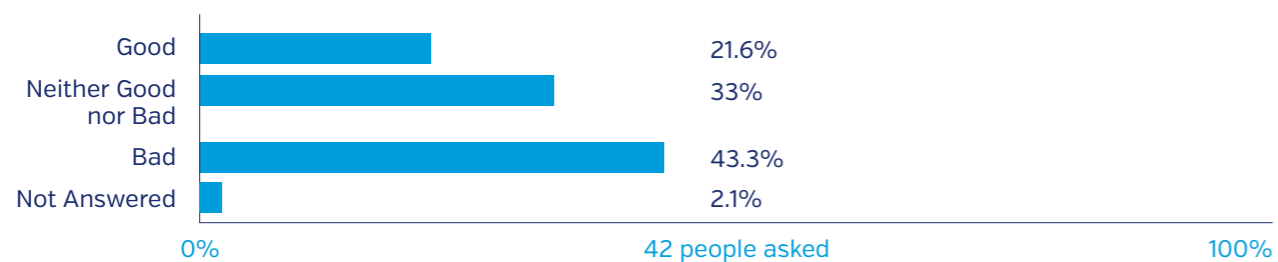
Note: The number of people in each household has been presented according to age and gender. For example, in 'Age Group 0-4' there are 12 households with one male child, and 17 households with one female child. Seven households have two male children aged 0-4 and one household has four male children aged 0-4.

Question 6: Overall, taking all into consideration how would you...

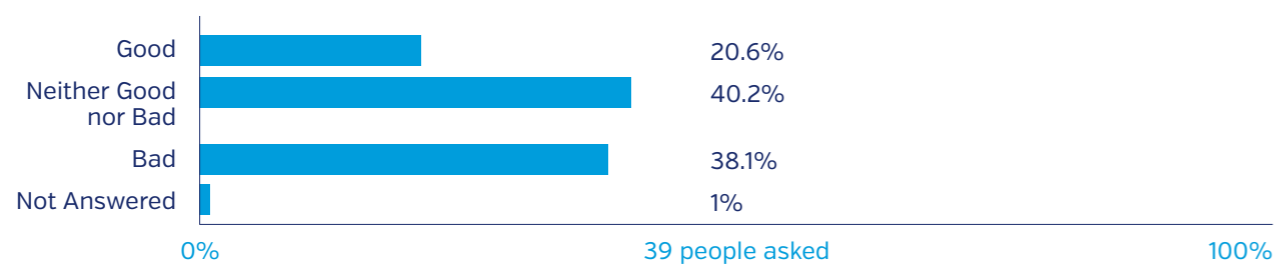
6.1 Rate the quality of life in Carrowdore



6.2 Rate the facilities available in Carrowdore



6.3 Rate the services in Carrowdore



Question 7: What do you feel is the best thing about living in Carrowdore?

- School so close to home.
- Good community.
- Location - close to Newtownards/Bangor, beaches and lots of things to do - Scrabo, Mount Stewart, playparks etc nearby.
- Schools, community centre, spar/petrol station/post office, fast food outlet, churches.
- Adequate street lighting, playing fields, situated close to shore and countryside yet short journey into towns.
- It has a nice environment, friendly atmosphere.
- Spar/School.
- Being in the countryside. Quiet.
- The good local shop.
- Primary school.
- Community centre - lots on offer, fitness class.
- Spar complex.
- Community feel. Friendliness.
- Togetherness of community and safe family environment to raise children.
- The togetherness of the community but above all the Carrowdore Young Men Football Club. They have been a breath of fresh air.
- School is near.
- Community is good.
- The quiet neighbourly aspect, and is relatively low for crime and anti-social behaviour means it is a good place for families.
- Within easy travelling distance of Belfast, Bangor, Newtownards.
- Good Eurospar.
- Reasonably safe environment to raise children, with excellent schools/nursery.
- Easy commute to towns and cities.
- Limited housing which maintains the feel of the village.
- Carrowdore woods.
- Quiet and friendly.
- Peace and quiet - good neighbours.
- The people.
- The people who live in the village and surrounding area.
- Quiet.
- Rural location, good neighbours.
- Don't live here, so can't comment.
- Properties value for money in a nice area close to main towns.
- Local school - within walking distance.
- The people of Carrowdore are on the whole friendly and helpful.
- A great sense of a tight knit community where everyone is very friendly and supportive of each other.
- Just far enough from a large town but still in countryside
- Very peaceful village to live.
- The sense of community, everyone knows everyone and are always willing to help each other out.
- Being in the country but close to main towns such as Bangor and Newtownards
- Peacefulness and quiet
- The rural area means minimal noise disruption. Close enough to Donaghadee and Newtownards if needed.
- It isn't overpopulated
- Living in a rural environment next to the country. Also close to Newtownards and Bangor.
- The warming sense of community.
- The sense of community is strong in Carrowdore. Most people who have lived here for a while know everyone...and the chip van is incredible
- The community spirit, everyone knows everyone and it's a small close knit community!
- Not much however the eurospar is very convenient
- Friendly community and nice balance of country life.
- Eurospar and Carrowdore Community Centre.
- Proximity to Newtownards and Bangor. If the roads to Carrowdore were widened and less twisty it would be an excellent place to live.
- The school, the quiet and the feeling of community.
- Family and sense of community.
- Quiet peaceful town, hardly ever any trouble.
- Me and my kids live in Greyabbey. We love the quietness of the surrounding area yet close to local amenities.
- I live outside the village itself but feel it is mostly a quiet and peaceful village.
- Community spirit.
- Affordable housing near the coast and countryside.
- The preschool and primary school and the Eurospar. The childrens park and community centre.
- The sense of community and the feeling of belonging. This is a very 'safe' place to live.
- Staying local to where I was born.
- Being part of a closely knit community.
- Feeling safe.
- Little crime.
- No bonfire.
- Community spirit and outstanding primary school.
- Generally quiet. Relatively close to Bangor and Ards.
- Community spirit. Good schools. Excellent spar/petrol facilities.
- It has a good Primary School
- It has a significant Integrated College [Strangford]
- It has a recently developed SPAR [EUROSPAR]
- Generally a peaceful community
- Newtownards and Bangor are relatively easy to get to [Although the Bus Service isn't great].

- Carrowdore has a fairly new community centre which is fairly regularly in use.
- Carrowdore has two/three active churches - with varied programs for all ages.
- Warm friendly community, fantastic Spar/garage, good schools and a few groups for kids though mostly church based
- Generally the kids are all well behaved we don't have problems with a lot of anti- social behaviour
- Community

- Peaceful and tranquil surroundings away from the hustle and bustle of city life. Being close to the country and part of a small community
- the sense of community
- It's quiet and everyone around you are a close unit.
- Country life but close to amenities
- Quiet and the folk are friendly.
- Good school
- Feels safe and quiet. My son can play in street safely. Local spar is great.

- Small and friendly village.
- Community
- I like that it is a calm and quite friendly area.
- The quiet countryside
- How quiet it is and how friendly everyone is
- Quiet rural location
- Local primary school and secondary school.
- Good Eurospar with excellent butchers counter.

- Sense of community has gone down since the loss of the local pub.. the Tavern. Plans supposedly made for a social hub but they aren't moving along quickly.. Sense of community dwindles with each push back and false hope that comes with the supposed opening of the social hub that has yet to happen.
- There is no longer a pub in the village (well small town now) a pub or a social club would be an excellent addition!
- A more inviting village with nice planting areas, seating and updated street lighting and new footpaths - a little investment would go a long way.
- 1. No direct public transport to Bangor.
- 2. Poor mobile phone coverage.
- Roads - speeding vehicles, route to Bangor needs improved, very dangerous crossroads where visibility is very poor.
- More activities for young people and investment in play park.
- Lack of facilities and services. One good shop and very poor transport links.
- Keep the chip trailer.
- A chemist and a good playpark required.
- Poor road surfaces.
- Lack of services.
- Speeding cars through the town/village.
- Footpath kerbs very high when using wheelchair.
- Tennis courts, pharmacy, campsite.
- Anti-social behaviour in play park. Drinking, shouting, urinating on equipment.
- N/A
- Empty sites and wasteland.
- There is no chemist in the village.
- Services.
- Broadband speed outside of village.
- Green areas in front of houses usually look terrible.
- Residents permanently parking cars/trailers/horse equipment and bins in community centre car park.

- More things to do for kids in area.
- More facilities and services. No bus route on New Road. Quality of road on New Road - very poor.
- More shops, e.g. chemist.
- Keep the chip trailer
- Lack of activities for youths. Rubbish left around the streets, no consideration for area
- Things for the kids/teenagers to do. More things to do in general as you have to travel to Ards or Bangor and not everybody drives.
- Needs a pharmacy
- Council pitch needs maintained
- Speeding and a footpath from the quarry to manse court Limited facilities for families Chemist plus better facilities. The bar used to be a great meeting focal place where you could meet people
- Too much traffic for a small village,buses delivery vans etc ie Strangford school
- Not enough shops.
- More for the kids.
- More for the company.
- My only concern would be the speed of traffic on the main street . Cars parking right on the corner of my street which reduces visibility.
- The village is lacking a social venue since the Tavern closed. While there is a community hall this is more suited to organised events rather than a drop in centre. Carrowdore Social Hub CIC is currently engaging with Hendersons retail group to lease the "Ice house" beside the garage. Funding is a fairly large problem with this venture. Initial engagement with the planners has begun but the lease needs to be finalised before payment for a planning application can be made.
- Access to health care
- There isn't a footpath near Manse Court so it is very dangerous. And too many houses are being built so the scenery isn't being able to be seen.
- Too much building going on and being planned for the future.
- Village presentation on arrival.

- Grassy areas not being cut regularly enough and together. One patch one week and neighbouring patch a week or two later.
- Especially noticeable this summer at the end of New Road and Main Steet junction where the grass was really long almost obscuring driver visibility.
- General kerbside weeding.
- Lack of footway opposite the quarry linking Manse Court and The Stables.
- Community spirit, hub for people to drop into for children teens elderly
- Coffee shop
- Pharmacy
- It's needs a pub/ club for social events
- Just not enough services or local facilities, we're a growing village that requires more than it ever has!
- More activities in the local community centre and information sent to local households to advise of what's on.
- There are too many unfinished developments and waste ground which the owners are not keeping in a fit state.
- Public transport is a joke and does not support working people, the lack of a regular direct bus service to and from Bangor is unacceptable.
- The bus service needs to be improved
- The area needs cleaned up ie rubbish from derelict areas removed
- Improve facilities in the town eg health services, public transport etc. As the population has grown the infrastructure has not.
- Poor social housing, not enough houses, new builds and private rents are dear for younger generation like myself. The social say "move to a one bedroom house". There are only a handful in Carrowdore which are already allocated so not any help.
- Millennium wood - so much potential, the kids use it [albeit not the way they should] perhaps eco clubs in schools or local eco club

Question 8: What is the key issue that needs to be addressed in Carrowdore?
If you have ideas on how this issue should be addressed please let us know.

- Doctors/pharmacy.
- Pharmacy.
- Attract new businesses.
- Family suitable social housing.
- Pharmacy, medical resources.
- Community bar/restaurant - no tourism.
- Provision of greater facilities for outdoor activities/clubs.
- The provision of greater sports facilities to ensure the survival of the football team.
- Park.
- The speed on the main road.
- Chemist.
- No chemist, lack of activities for kids.
- Council grass cutting.
- Chemist.
- Speeding of traffic.
- Fast traffic.
- Image of the village.
- Carrowdore woods is a mess.
- Speeding and dog fouling.
- Needs chemist and surgery.
- It needs more activities.
- A co-ordinated approach to the organisation of activities and services.
- More facilities - village is growing.
- Carrowdore has a large number of elderly and very young residents who would benefit from a pharmacy in the village. Our young people are also lost

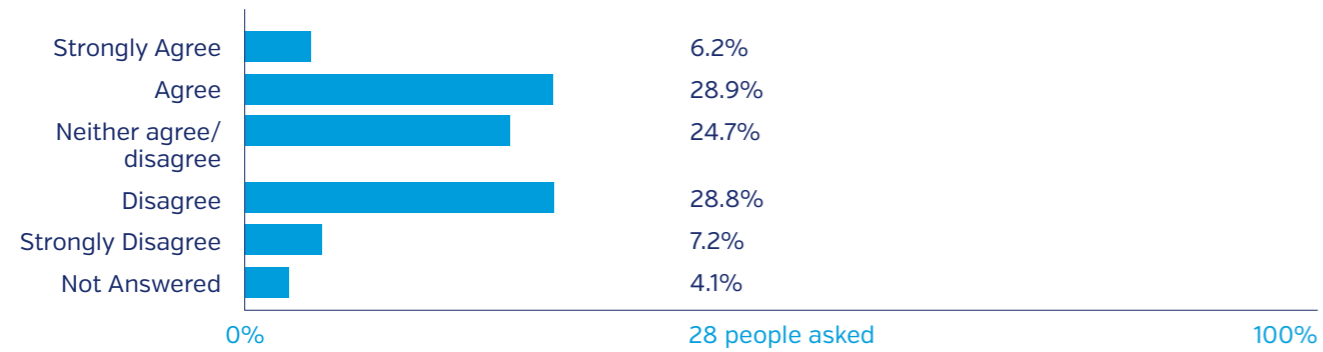
for activities such as youth groups etc. There are also quite a substantial amount of families caring for young children with additional needs, Autism spectrum disorder in particular. These families would benefit hugely from the use of facilities to gather for support groups and asd friendly activities for the kids. For such a small village the number of children living with asd is staggering.

- Kids/teenagers hanging about the streets.
- Pavements! Being able to walk the entire length of the village without a pavement disappearing. Bus routes need to be more frequent and extended to Bangor area regularly with Bangor schools in mind.
- Perhaps more could be done for the older people on a regular basis in the Community Centre; programs of interest to them.
- Park - needs a refurb, dirty covered in graffiti and soft matting is torn and ripped.
- Lack of community notice board - Spar has one but only for posters.
- No active community group
- No youth club
- Seating - nowhere apart from inside the park
- Hedges/pavements beside castle/ Woburn road are over grown
- Litter - a bin placed at Glastry bus stop

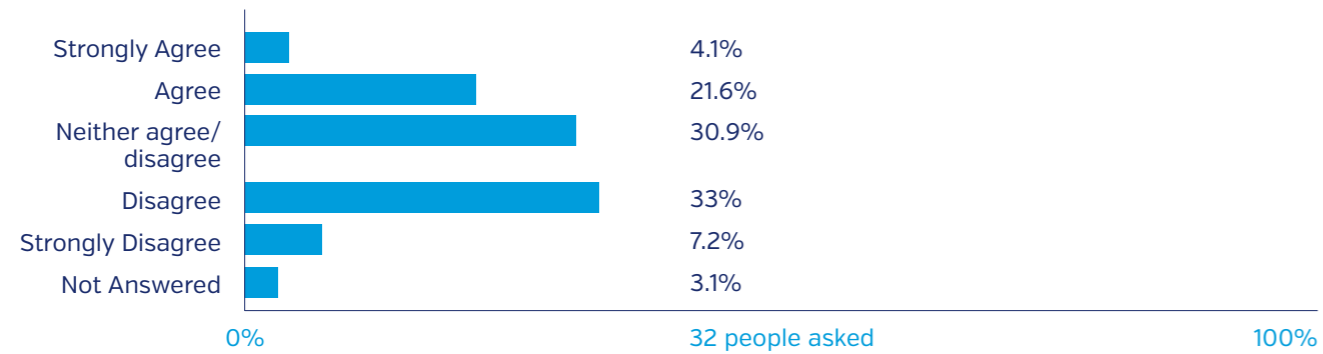
- Flower bed not maintained
- Medical facilities
- A better bus service wd b one of my top concerns as I use this transport for work and shopping. A pharmacy wd b handy. More activities and better use of community centre. Better care of verges
- very limited public transport, no longer a social venue to meet
- No chemist or doctors, we have to travel to ards weekly in order to get prescriptions and appointments. I believe plans were in place for this but turned down due to there being a chemist in Greyabbey..Not enough buses to get around.
-
- The poor state of the roads. Ballyblack Road East is like a patchwork quilt. Where is law enforcement? Never see a police officer. Also we desperately need a chemists. The state of footpaths is poor. Broken slabs jutting upwards outside pensioners cottage. Woburn Road footpath awful. It's filthy so I walk on the road. Lastly why is Carrowdore the only village in the Ards Peninsula with no direct bus service to Bangor? It can take my daughter up to 2 hours by bus to do a 15 minute car journey to and from school!!!!
- Better transport.
- More youth facilities.

Question 9: Please respond to the following statements regarding the facilities and services available in Carrowdore....

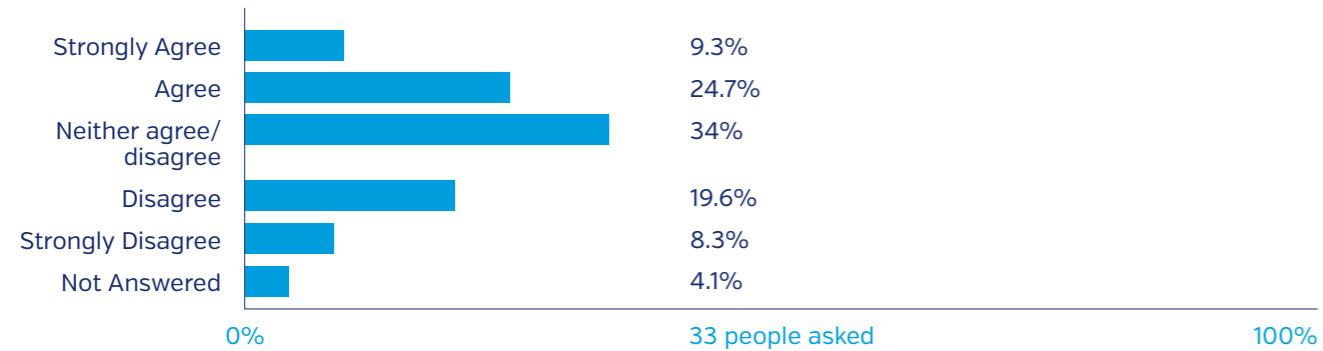
9.1 I am not aware of the range of services and facilities available in Carrowdore



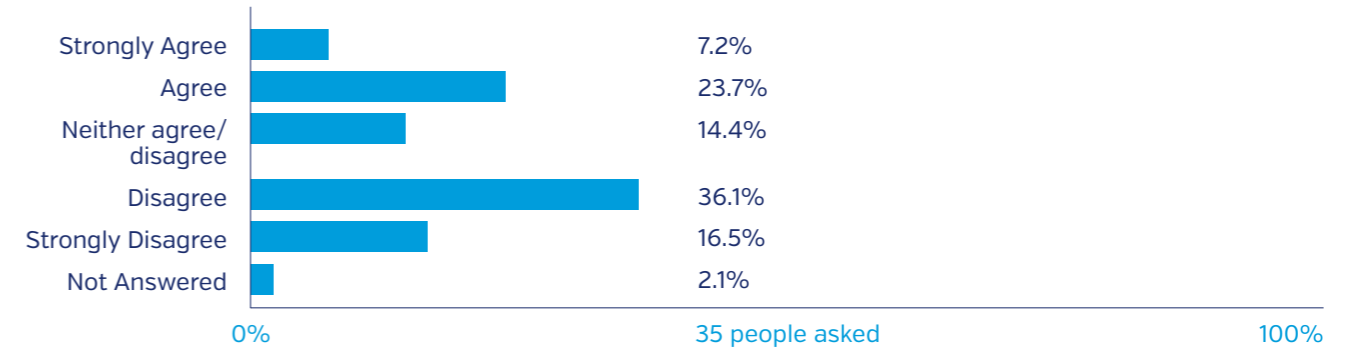
9.2 I feel that there is sufficient information about the services and facilities available in Carrowdore



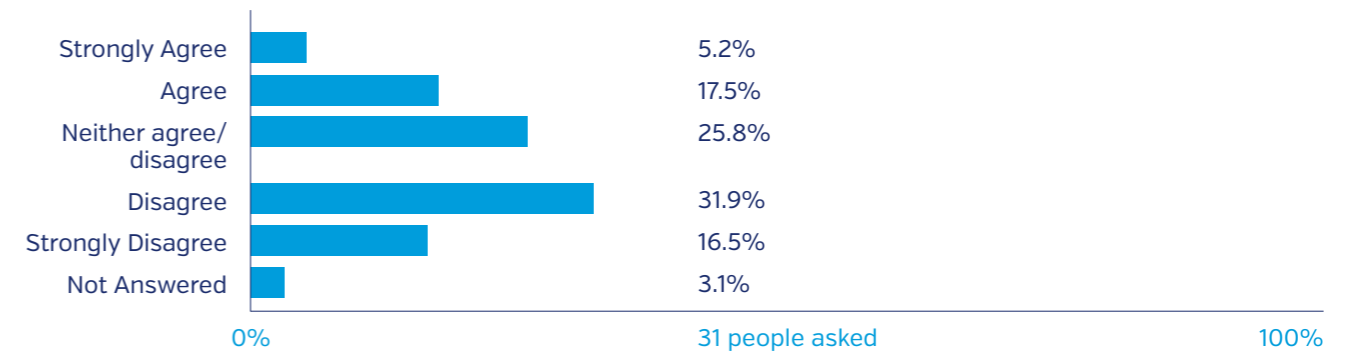
9.3 I find accessing services in Carrowdore difficult and rarely use them



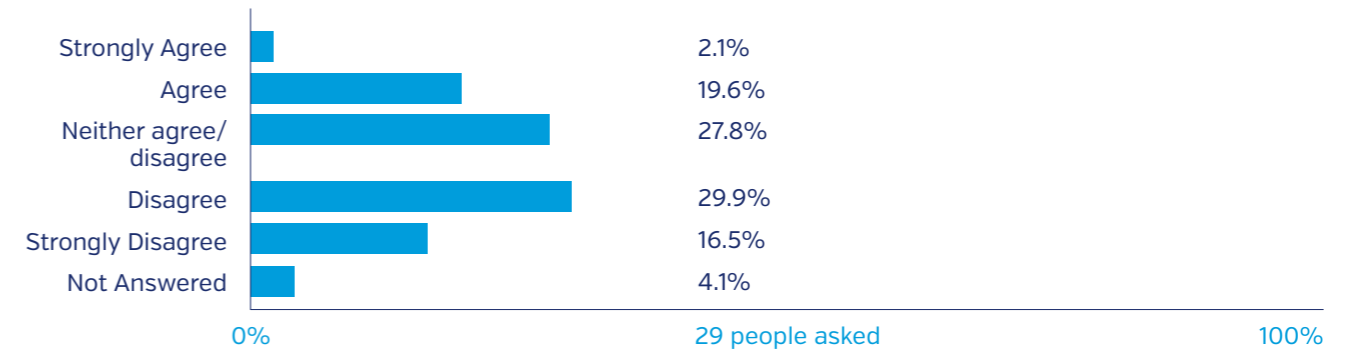
9.4 I access and use community facilities or services on a weekly basis



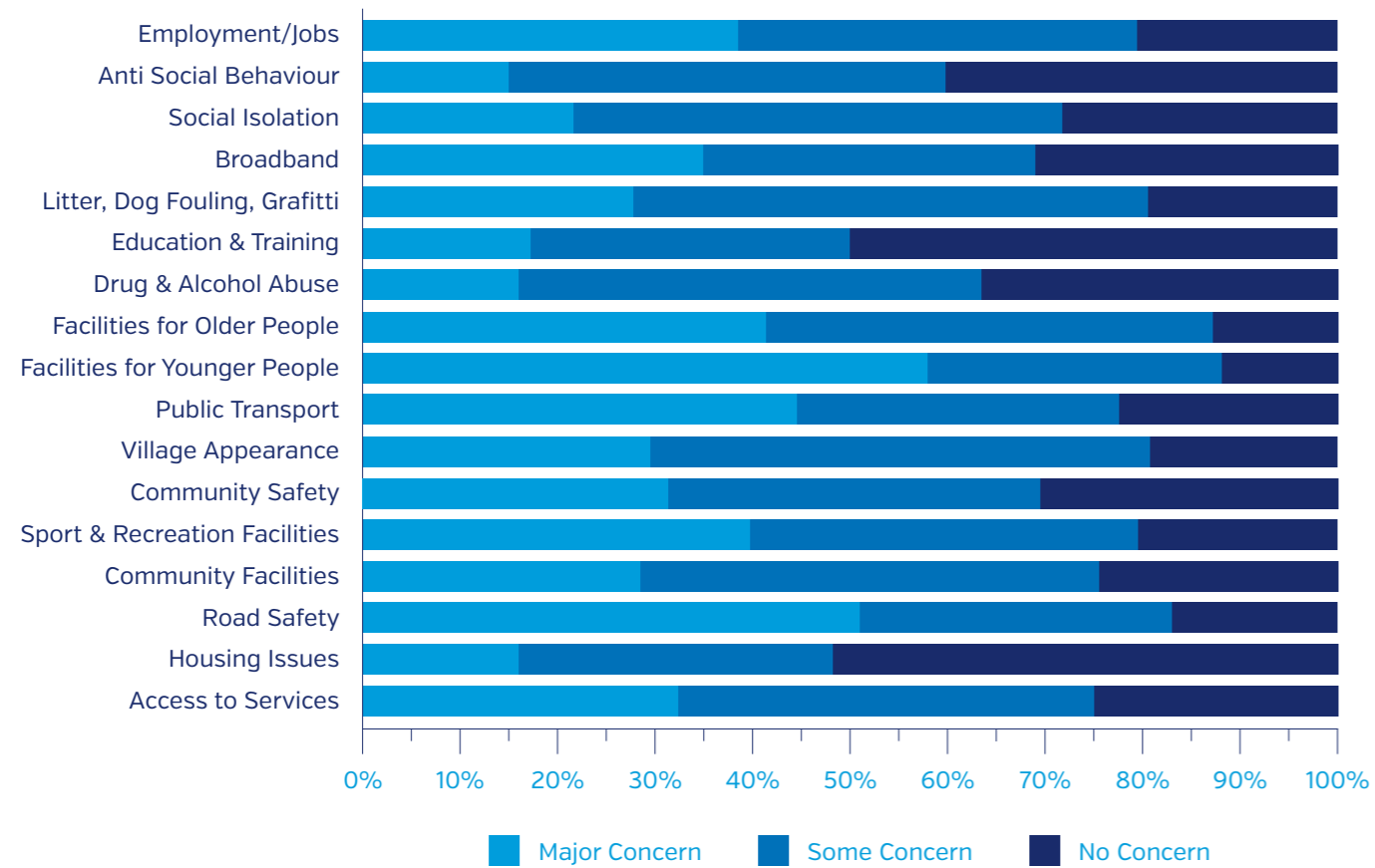
9.5 Services and facilities in Carrowdore are reflective of local needs



9.6 I feel community facilities are of a high standard and meet local needs



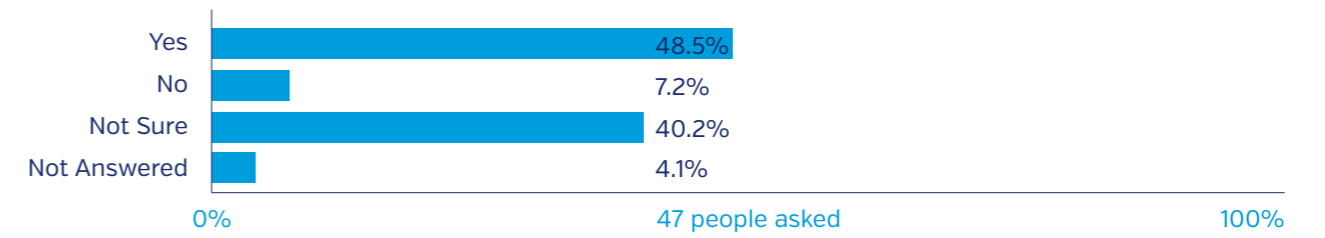
Question 10: A number of issues that may affect the local area are listed below - please respond to each of the issues listed as to whether you feel it is of 'No Concern', 'Some Concern' or 'Major Concern'.



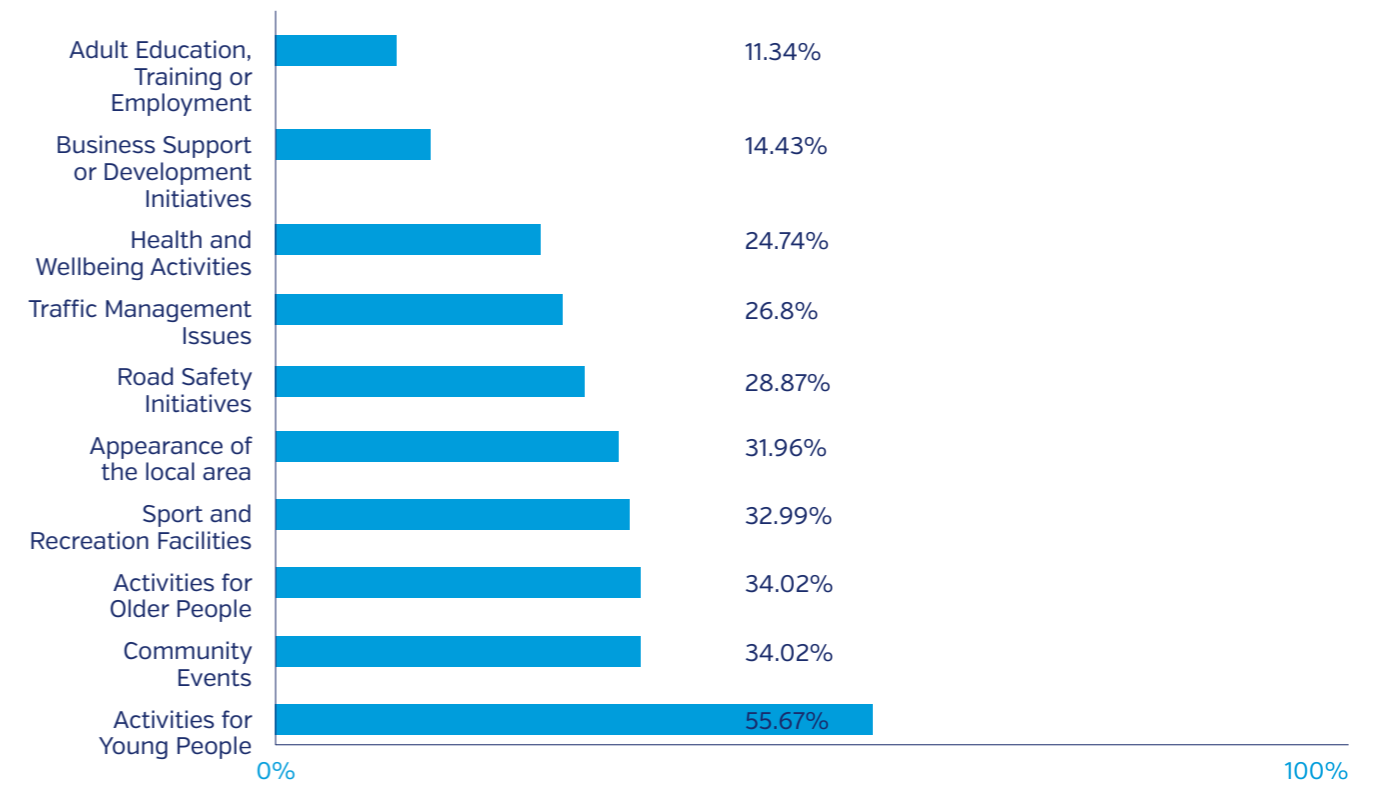
Question 11: Please consider the following list and RANK IN ORDER OF PRIORITY with 1 being the MOST important issue you feel should be addressed through to 7, which is the LEAST important issues to address for Carrowdore.



Question 12: Do you feel a new Community Group is needed to support the delivery of activities and programmes in Carrowdore?



Question 13: In terms of community services, programmes or activities please mark the ones that you feel should be prioritised for Carrowdore. Please select a maximum of 3.



Question 14: Are there any other needs, issues or actions you would like to highlight or feel should be prioritised for Carrowdore?

- Medical facilities- even a community drop in GP. Better transport links particularly to Bangor schools. Pavement issues which are slowly being addressed but need to be finished. Perhaps investment into the sports field would certainly address and open up much more opportunities for our youth.
- Seating throughout the town
- Community notice board
- Additional bins
- Youth club
- As mentioned before lack of sufficient bus service
- More bus services to Newtownards.
- Antisocial behaviour
- Improvement of the football pitch and the facilities, high netting behind each goal post, drainage to the pitch
- more for the young and old to enjoy perhaps a coffee shop/ restaurant
- Better street lighting as can be very dark at night time when walking
- Speed of vehicles on. Main Street passing Strangford College.
- Size of puddles near the old national school during and after wet weather.
- General road conditions are poor in the village. You ought to try cycling along the main street on a bicycle.
- Lack of litter bins. Only 2 on the roadside to my recollection.
- Bin ovation app not giving out accurate enough info regarding holiday arrangements.
- Speeding is a major issue, especially coming/going from Strangford College.
- The state of the football pitch needs addressed. Local football team pays good money every week to play there and at certain times the pitch is unplayable. Surely as being council owned property they should take more interest in the upkeep of it!
- The tech outside Carrowdore should be used more and have more up to date courses rather than "how to prepare flowers "
- Just some investment into the village as it is now thriving again especially with new builds and great to see waste land being sold for development.
- The need for better public transport.
- Health advice.
- Chemist.
- Chemist shop.
- Cafe.
- Transport services are dreadful! People who have no car only have Newtownards as their closest major town. If we had access to Bangor it would benefit pupils who wish to attend SERC or a Bangor school and access to the railway and shopping centres.
- These rates should be re-opened officially by council and managed also. Carrowdore is the only non-coastal village in the peninsula. All other villages have long walking routes. Walking is a great way to meet people and develop a sense of community.
- Full width speed ramps through village.
- Park is run-down and unsafe. There have been a number of children injured from falls from climbing frame and gate. Some children have fractured limbs.
- Remove loyalist propaganda/ flags.
- There are a lack of jobs in the area and public transport is poor (no bus to Bangor).
- More businesses could help with unemployment and anti-social behaviour.
- Bus shelter for children going to school.
- Traffic calming introduced, police with speed cameras.
- In need of a community chemist for young families and the elderly, this is important Carrowdore is a big community and getting bigger.
- Speed bumps on the main street to slow traffic down especially tractors.
- Something non-religious for kids.
- No pub - hub of any community.
- Tractors with heavy trailers (reduced stopping times) drive very very fast through village and past school.
- A few more shops, retail clothes, modern shops.
- A pharmacy is vital/essential.
- Seating in the main street - other villages have garden benches for enjoyment and not one seat is to be found. Totally ridiculous.
- Assistance from the council to get the 'social hub' up and running in the building provided by Hendersons (Spar).
- Assistance required from council to open the Carrowdore social hub in the building provided by Hendersons (Spar). Plans already underway.
- Better street lighting.
- Part time health centre several days a week.
- Local pharmacy soon as local people have to bus to Ards.
- All public rights of way reinstated.
- Local road/pavements repaired/ replaced and kept clean of overgrown plants etc.
- Can we please have a kickboxing club.

Question 15: Please make any additional comments that you feel would help to develop a village plan for Carrowdore

- Develop sports field.
- Finish pavements.
- Drop in GP
- Better and regular transport links.
- Better scrutiny over what type of business moves in to Carrowdore ie we would benefit greatly in the community from a cafe/ bakery/chemist etc. Rather than a winemakers etc.
- Better facilities so you don't have to travel to other villages/ Newtownards for a chemist a catch over a beer or a coffee.
- In the summer time there's not a flower to be seen (no planters or anything remotely nice to look at in the flowerbeds around the community centre.)
- The grass cuttings are not great as Carrowdore can be quite windy. Anyone with any respect for their own little area usually ends up at the mercy of the wind dispersed silage.
- Is there a village committee that one could address any issues at a local level?
- The local people need to come first, it's their needs that need met as the first priority.
- I'd like a ballroom and Latin dance class
- Our little village needs some TLC and it is very deserving. There is a great community spirit and the people living in Carrowdore deserve for it to be recognised as a lovely, quiet and friendly place to live. There are lots of young and aging families so it'd be good for everyone's needs to be addressed.
- There is nothing for teenagers in the area. No youth club.
- For minimal investment, schemes could be started - i.e. youth club, elderly coffee mornings etc. Church business would support.
- Difficulty walking alone to school with people parking on pavements blocking safe crossing areas.
- Public transport too infrequent. Should have a better service to stop isolation.
- General tidy up of the village, waste ground etc which has horses on it.
- Once Carrowdore was known for a village where many people from the surrounding villages came for to play music and sing - local songs and music - from this area - sadly this is no more - it would be good to revive it.
- Sports leisure centre.
- Carrowdore has increased in population over the past few years and I feel the facilities and services don't reflect this. Road infrastructure needed on New Road - very poor. No footpath on New Road - very unsafe, especially for kids.
- Plants/flower beds.
- Appearance of village really needs brought up.
- New houses at Manse Road on Derelict ground.
- Better facilities for kids (light sports pitch).
- Community planting spaces.
- Community picnic area.
- Less pavement advertising.
- Benches throughout village.
- Kickboxing club with punch bags to train on.
- A community group, which involves all the village.
- More shopping outlets.
- The park is run-down and football pitch is dull and uninviting.
- Nothing for the youth to do.

APPENDIX B. VILLAGE ACTION PLAN – TRACKING AND MONITORING TEMPLATE

OUTCOME 1: CARROWDORE - ACHIEVING ITS FULL POTENTIAL				
Outcome	Action	Output/Indicator(s)	Update on Actions/Outputs (date)	Status
Community Engagement (EXAMPLE)	Provision of services aimed at supporting engagement and inclusion of older people and specifically older men	Complete needs assessment with older people / men. At least one new programme for older people At least one new programme for older men	Completed needs assessment with 112 older people (including 47 men) providing views (Nov 18) 'Good Morning Service' established and running for two months. Work underway to establish 'mens shed' (Dec 18)	Ongoing (on track)
1.1 Community Engagement and Services	1.1.1 Development of community activities and programmes for young people			
	1.1.2 Development of activities to support engagement and inclusion of older people			
	1.1.3 Community Events and information sharing			
	1.1.4 Establish a Carrowdore Community Forum			
	1.1.5 Options to increase use of community hall			
	1.1.6 Develop a community hub			
	1.1.7 Lobby for key services			

OUTCOME 2: A HEALTHY AND ACTIVE CARROWDORE				
Outcome	Action	Output/Indicator(s)	Update on Actions/Outputs (date)	Status
2.1 Sports and Recreation Facilities	2.1.1 Improve provision of facilities at football pitch			
	2.1.2 Support for youth football teams			
	2.1.3 Engagement with Strangford Integrated College			
	2.1.4 Enhanced play facilities at playpark			
	2.1.5 Connected pathways and walkways			
	2.1.6 Increased use of Millennium Wood			

OUTCOME 3: A CONNECTED, SECURE AND SAFE CARROWDORE				
Outcome	Action	Output/Indicator(s)	Update on Actions/Outputs (date)	Status
3.1 Roads, Roads Safety and Access	3.1.1 Improve the quality, surface and maintenance of key footpaths			
	3.1.2 Resurfacing of minor, access and connecting roads			
	3.1.3 Road safety and traffic calming measures			
	3.1.4 Hedges and grass verges			
	3.1.5 Improved public transport provision			
	3.1.6 Provision of appropriate bus shelters			

OUTCOME 4: SUPPORTING THE LOCAL ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT				
Outcome	Action	Output/Indicator(s)	Update on Actions/Outputs (date)	Status
4.1 Support for Local Business and Economy	4.1.1 Digital hub facilities			
	4.1.2 Employment and skills development			

OUTCOME 5: SUPPORTING THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT, HISTORY AND HERITAGE				
Outcome	Action	Output/Indicator(s)	Update on Actions/Outputs (date)	Status
5.1 Improve Village Appearance	5.1.1 Environmental Improvement schemes			
	5.1.2 Provision of gateway signage at key entry/exit points			
	5.1.3 Dog fouling			
	5.1.4 Improved provision of benches/seating along Main Street			
	5.1.5 Community planting schemes			
	5.1.6 Protection of village character			
5.2 Tourism and Promoting 'Local Assets'	5.2.1 Information on history and heritage of Carrowdore			
	5.2.2 Carrowdore 100			

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The Council extends its thanks to all who have contributed to this plan and looks forward to continued collaboration through the course of its delivery. If you would like any more information about this plan or how to get involved please get in touch.



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