

## Maybole Active Travel and Public Realm Project

# Community Consultation Feedback and Next Steps Report

### Introduction

The Maybole Public Realm and Active Travel Project is part of the Maybole Regeneration Project, a partnership between the Maybole Community Council and South Ayrshire Council. The project is jointly funded by Sustrans, the National Lottery Heritage Fund and South Ayrshire Council.

Public consultation was held between the 2nd and the 22nd of July. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, design proposals were presented to the community through a virtual consultation hub developed by LUC. Visitors were asked to provide feedback and answer a series of questions.

The consultation feedback and wider engagement with local businesses has informed a series of changes to the proposals. The results of the consultation, the design team's response, and an outline of the next phase of the project has been summarised in this report.





October 2021

## Consultation Feedback

### Question 1:

Please rate the proposals for Maybole High Street; 5 being Excellent, 4 being Good, 3 being indifferent, 2 being poor and 1 being very poor

In total 69% of people rated the proposals as either Excellent or Good, while 8% rated the proposals as Poor or Very Poor.

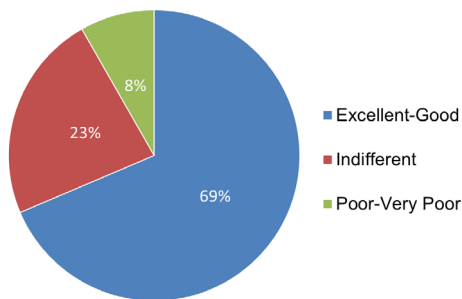


Figure 1: Graph showing responses to Question 1

### Question 2:

How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the proposals?

98% of people agreed or strongly agreed that the proposals will increase space for pedestrians.

87% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that proposals would create a safer environment. The respondents also largely agreed that the new layout will decrease the volume and speed of traffic on High Street.

There were 103 responses stating that the proposals would encourage a modal shift towards active travel. Of those, 76 people strongly agreed or agreed that the design proposals will encourage them to walk, and a further 27 people strongly agreed or agreed that the design proposals will encourage them to cycle to the Town Centre.

79% of people agreed or strongly agreed that the Town Centre will be more attractive

Responses were more varied on whether or not the proposals will encourage people to spend more time in the town centre if it will attract more visitors and tourists to Maybole.

### Question 3:

Which aspects of the proposals do you like?

62 people stated that they liked the wider pavements and felt it will be safer to walk in Town Centre.

37 people expressed support for reduced traffic along High Street.

23 people stated they felt the proposals would lead to a much more attractive town centre and commented positively about the choice of materials.

8 people expressed support for the proposed market square.

5 people remarked that they liked the increased amount of greenery in the Town Centre.

3 people felt that the improved cycle infrastructure was good.

6 people stated that they did not like anything about the proposals.

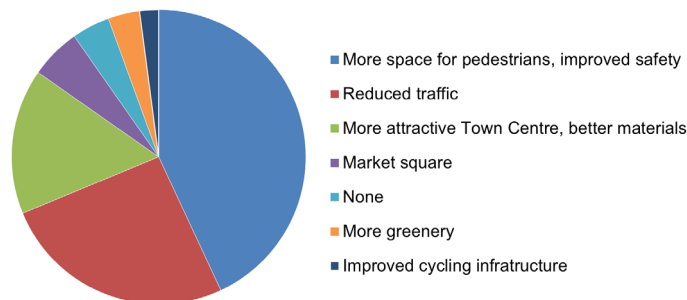


Figure 2: Graph showing responses to Question 3

### Question 4:

Do you have any particular areas of concern?

Respondents were asked to specify particular areas of concern with the design proposals:

44 people stated a lack of parking as the main point of concern.

26 people observed that they felt the one-way system would create pressure along diversionary routes.

19 people commented that the lack of shops and general absence of attractions within the town centre limit the effectiveness of the proposals in terms of attracting more people to spend time in Maybole.

2 people requested that the proposal should include more greenery.

1 person felt that the proposal should incorporate more opportunities for seating.

8 people did not have any concerns.

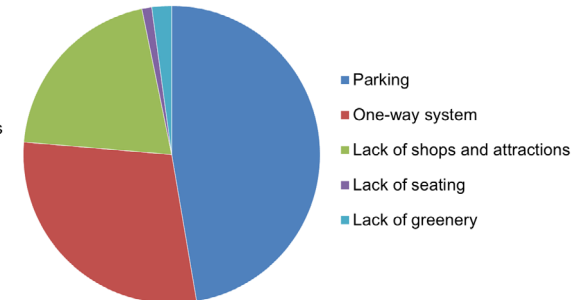


Figure 3: Graph showing responses to Question 4

October 2021

## Consultation Feedback

### Question 5:

#### Is there anything you would change, remove or add in?

- 29 people noted they would like to see more opportunities for parking.
- 14 people stated that they would like to see an improvement to shop fronts and an increase in opportunities for shopping locally.
- 7 people felt that the proposals should include more greenery to shop fronts and pocket spaces.
- 3 people questioned whether the one-way system is appropriate for the town.
- 3 people stated they felt that all traffic should be removed from High Street.
- 3 people remarked that CCTV should be increased to limit anti-social behaviour.
- 2 people felt that the proposal should incorporate more opportunities for seating.
- 2 people commented that they felt there should be some disabled parking spaces on High Street.
- 1 person stated that they felt cycle parking should be increased.
- 1 person observed that they felt the market square could be more appropriate on School Vennel.
- 1 person felt that loading time restrictions should be implemented.
- 1 person noted that the proposal could benefit from water bottle filling stations.
- 1 person stated they felt a tolled entry system should be implemented on High Street.

### Question 6:

#### When currently travelling to and from Maybole High Street, what is your usual mode of transport?

The survey showed that significant majority of people travel to the Town Centre either on foot or by car, although some people occasionally cycle or use the train and bus services.

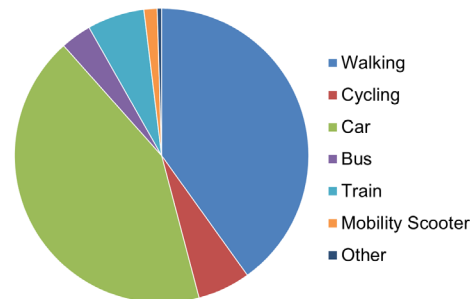


Figure 4: Graph showing responses to Question 6

### Question 7:

#### What influences your decision on your preferred method of travelling to and from Maybole High Street (Rank in order of preference, 1 being most preferred, 5 being least preferred)

Convenience was ranked as the most influential factor in making transport decisions, followed by safety concerns and the weather.

Common individual responses to "Other" included a lack of available parking, time of the visit, and distance from the High Street.

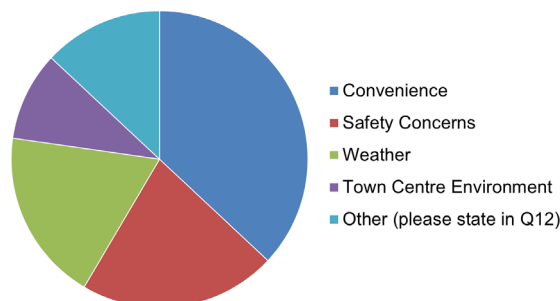


Figure 5: Graph showing responses to Question 7

### Question 8:

#### Do you have any questions about the proposals?

- 7 people wanted to know when construction is planned to start and finish.
- 6 people asked if the shop fronts will be renovated.
- 4 people queried where people will be able to park.
- 2 people questioned who will patrol the blue badge spaces.
- 1 person asked whether cycle lane markings could be omitted.
- 1 person questioned whether shop delivery periods could be restricted.
- 1 person asked for a clearer diagram of proposed diversion routes.
- 1 person wanted to know how many standard and disabled parking spaces will be provided.
- 1 person questioned how these works will fit into the wider town improvements.
- 1 person asked if there will be any improvements to local attractions to invite tourists.
- 1 person questioned why decisions are being made before the bypass is open.
- 1 person wondered if there are any plans for the currently empty shops.
- 1 person inquired if traffic calming measures will be implemented on diversion routes.
- 1 person wanted to know if there will be a theme to the proposed Town Centre.





## Conclusion

### Summary of Consultation Feedback

The consultation hub generated a significant amount of engagement with 145 people submitting feedback through an online questionnaire and further 13 on paper. 69% of respondents rated the scheme as excellent or good, with 103 people stating that the proposals would encourage them to walk or cycle into the town centre more often.

### Response to Questions Raised in the Consultation

**Parking** - Parking was raised by many as an issue. To respond to these concerns, additional parking provision has been added for Blue Badge holders, loading bays have been extended and better sited to serve local businesses. Discussions will take place between the Roads Authority and the Community Council to address parking issues outside High Street.

**Diversions Routes** - Respondents were concerned that the one-way system would create pressure along diversionary routes. Traffic modelling indicates that there will only be a small uplift in traffic on diversionary routes, as much of the traffic will simply divert along the bypass. The project team is working closely with Ayrshire Roads Alliance to help minimise the remaining impact.

**Shops** - Many people would like to see improvement to the High Street shop fronts, increased diversity in retail and more greenery. The Maybole Regeneration Project is working in partnership with a number of town centre shop owners to improve shop fronts and help enliven the High Street supported by increased outdoor seating. With these improvements it is hoped more businesses will be interested in locating to the High Street. Those looking to relocate will be supported and connected to Business Gateway to help bring their plans to fruition.

**Other Issues** - A number of respondents expressed that they would like to see the current CCTV system updated to help limit anti-social behaviour. Plans to install new CCTV in the centre are underway.

### Next Steps

The proposals are now moving into detailed design stage and will be presented to funders for approval. A final decision to proceed is expected in Spring 2022 and if approved, works would begin in the High Street in Summer 2022. The duration of the works is estimated at 12 months with completion in Summer 2023. The works will be disruptive but access to businesses and residential properties will be ensured throughout and all the necessary steps will be taken so that disruption is minimised for residents and visitors alike.