



Alyth Community Action Plan Young People's Survey Report October 2021



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Acknowledgements

The Young People's Survey was designed by the Community Connector for Alyth, with support from George Annan (Alyth Youth Partnership). This survey was approved by the Community Action Plan (CAP) Steering Group.

Funding for this work has been provided by LEADER.

This report is adapted from templates provided by STAR Development.

The cover photograph has been provided by Steve Taylor.¹

¹ Taylor, S., 2021. *View From The Top of Alyth Hill* [accessed 6 December 2021]

Introduction

This report summarises the findings of the Young People's Survey which was carried out in Alyth. The survey was carried out as part of the CAP engagement process and will inform the preparation of the finalised Community Action Plan 2021-2026.

Several other methods of engagement were also utilised, including:

- Community Views Survey
- Children's Survey
- Community Event
- Pop-up Stalls
- Travelling Tea Party
- Focus Groups
- Stakeholder Interviews
- Social Media Engagement
- Visitor Survey

Organisation

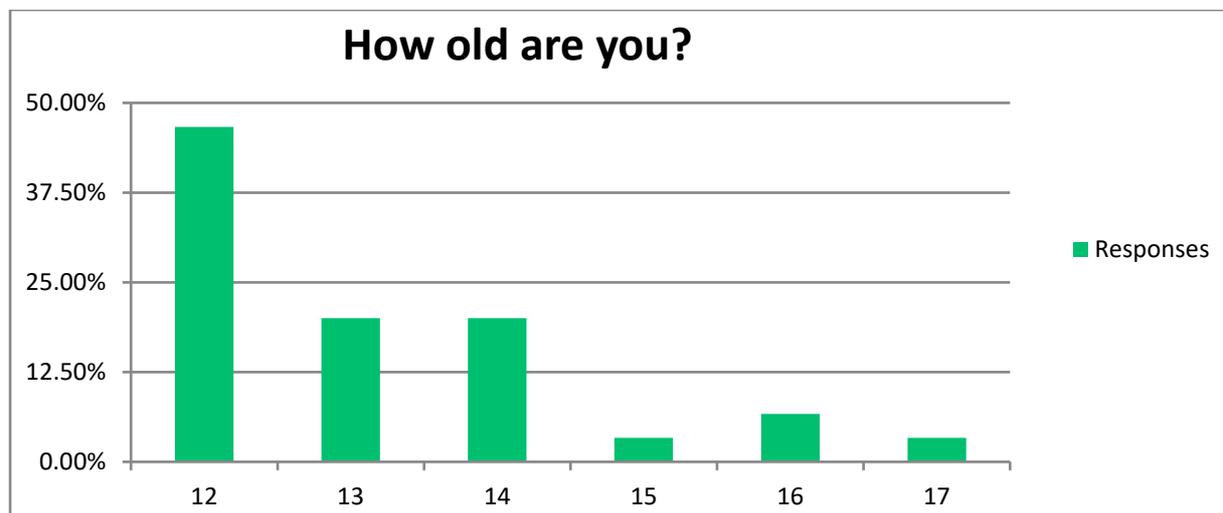
The Young People's Survey was approved by the CAP Steering Group. This was an online survey which was distributed by both the Alyth Youth Partnership (AYP) and the Scouts. The Community Connector and Grant Train (CAP Steering Group) also carried surveys out in

person at AYP meetings. The survey comprised 10 questions in an 'instant messaging' format. This design was chosen to try and increase young people's engagement.

Responses

A total of 30 Young People's Surveys were completed.

Age Demographics

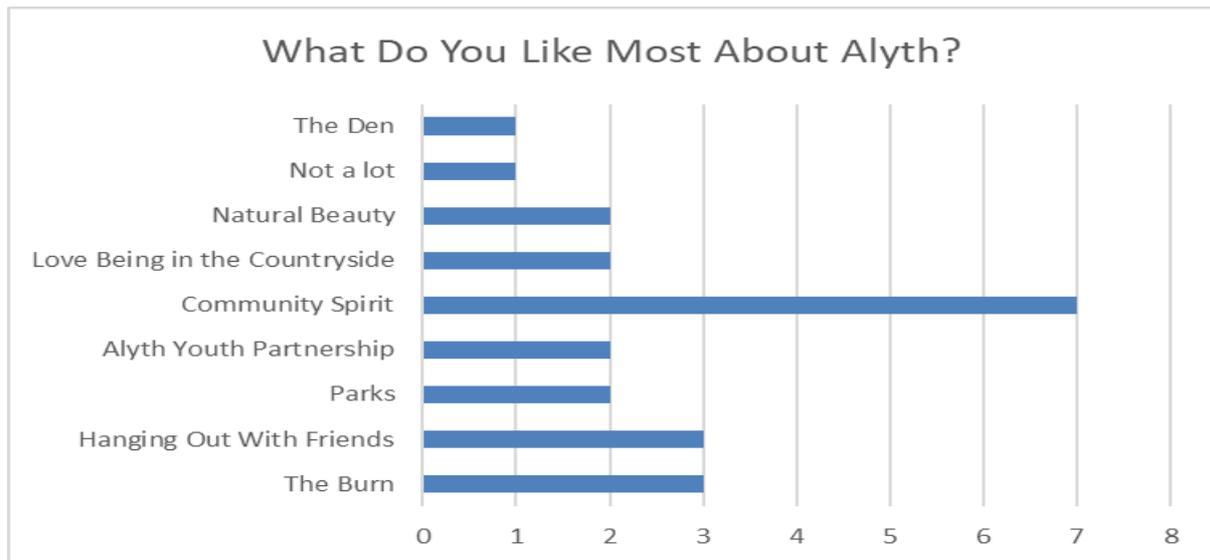


Over 85% of respondents were between the ages of 12 and 14. This was because most young people attending AYP fall into this age bracket. It should be noted that a focus group was held at Explorer Scouts to address the engagement gap of those aged 15-17.

Likes and Dislikes

Likes

Young people were asked to let us know what they liked most about Alyth. The chart below displays their responses.



The strong sense of community spirit in the town was the most popular answer. They also indicated that they enjoy the natural environment here in Alyth and activities in the town.

Quotes

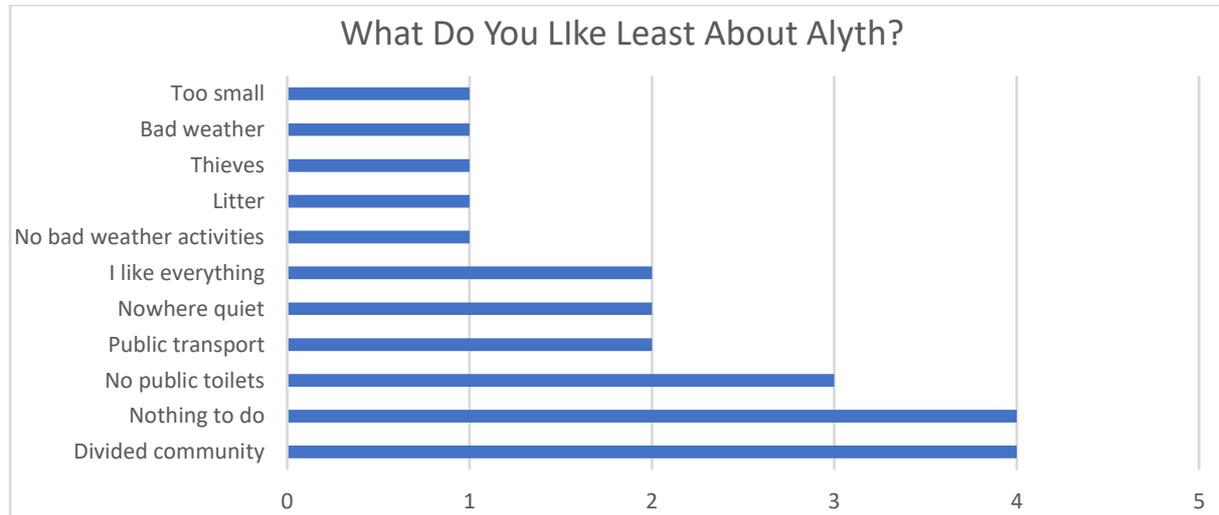
“There are lots of outdoor places to meet my friends.”

“How the community is so welcoming and is very nice to one another.”

“Always something to do in the countryside.”

Dislikes

Young people were also asked to let us know what they disliked about Alyth. This is demonstrated in the chart below.



In contrast to the previous question, many respondents commented that they disliked divisions in the community. Poor public transport, no public toilets and lack of things to do – especially in bad weather – were also highlighted as issues.

Quotes

“The buses don’t come often.”

“How the community is very divided.”

“Some people in the community are nice. Lack of things to do and public toilets.”

“There are not many places to go when the weather is bad.”

Where Young People Like to Hang Out With Friends

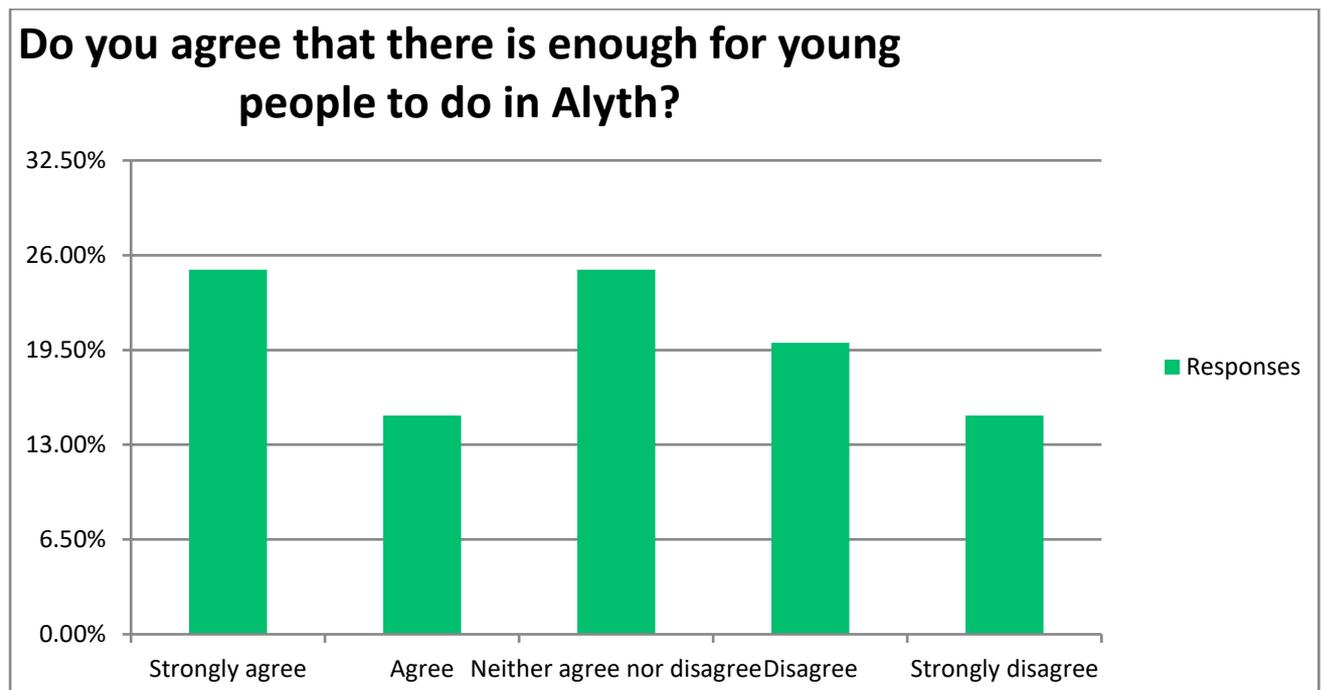
Young people were also asked where they preferred to hang out with friends in Alyth.



This indicates that most young people enjoy hanging out with their friends either at the parks or at the clubs they attend. However, responses may be skewed as these surveys were conducted exclusively amongst these groups.

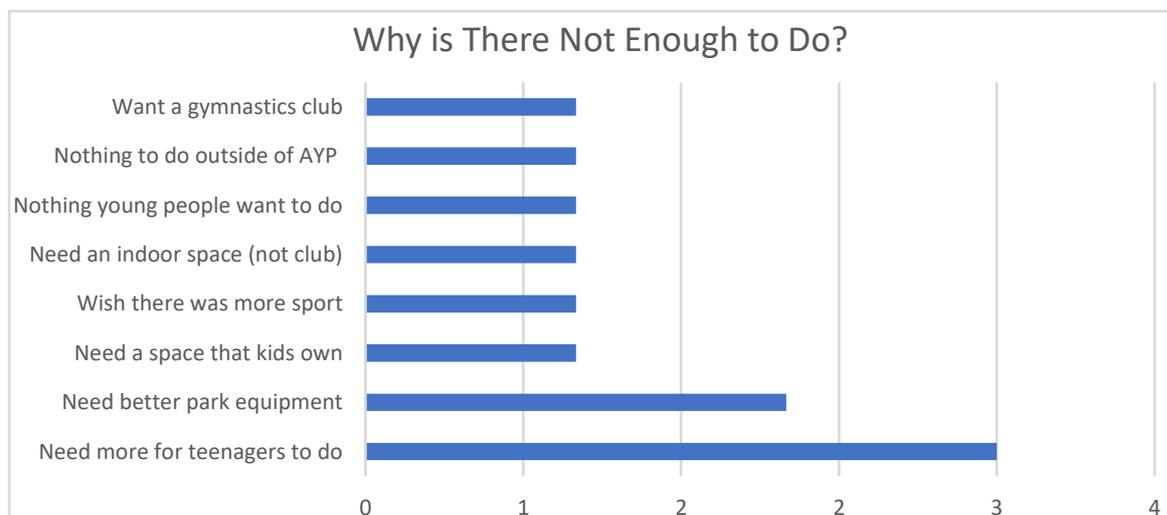
Things to Do

Questions 4 and 5 addressed the issue of whether there are enough things for young people to do in Alyth. Firstly, young people were asked if they agreed that there was enough for them to do in the town.



40% of respondents agreed with the statement. Conversely, 35% disagreed with this.

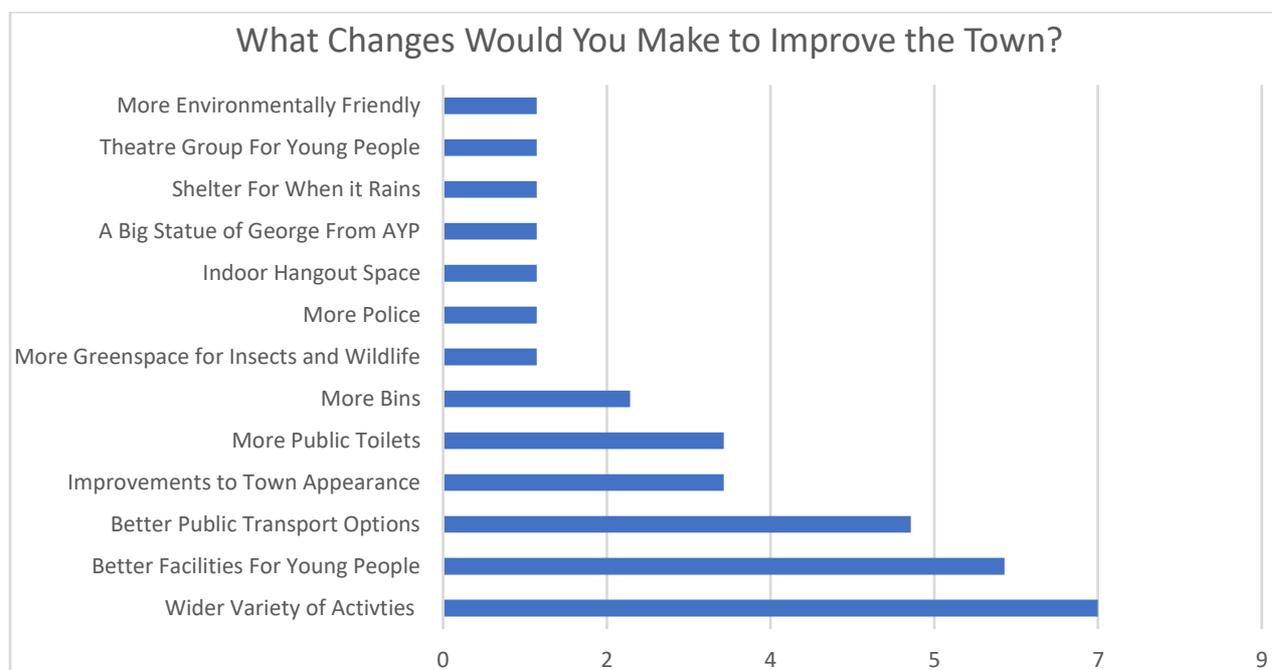
Those who disagreed were then asked to explain why. These reasons are detailed below.



Although there are various reasons for why young people did not agree with the statement, it is indicative of a consensus that although there are things to do in the town, there is nothing which is currently catering to their specific needs.

How Alyth Can be Improved

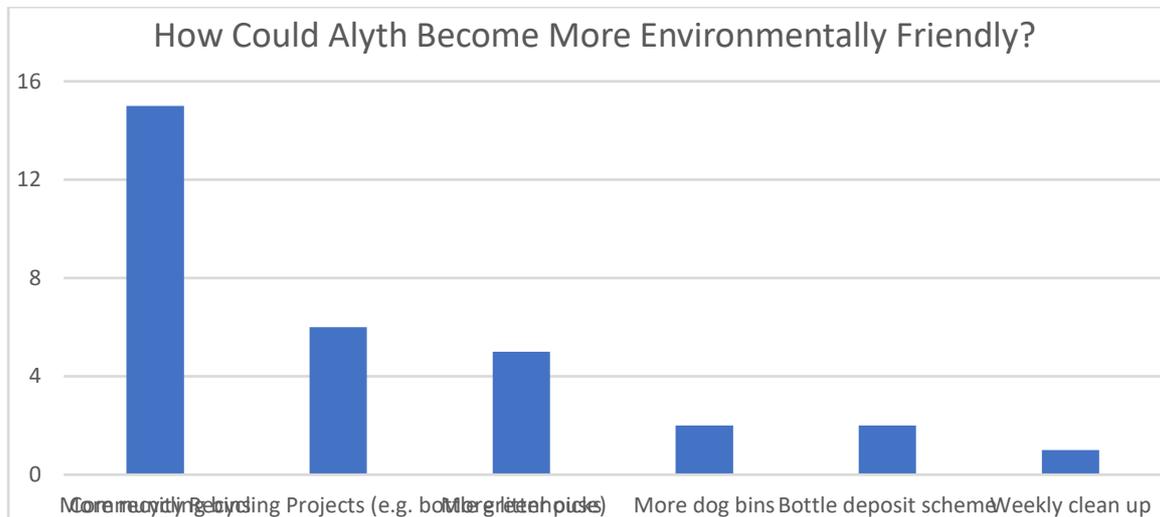
The survey also gathered opinions regarding what young people thought could be done to improve the town. The responses are detailed below.



The most popular responses given – better facilities for young people and wider variety of activities – go hand in hand and again illustrate that for some young people, their needs are not currently being met. However, young people also noted their concern for the town becoming more environmentally friendly and the need for improvements to services such as public toilets being provided and having access to better public transport.

Becoming a Greener Community

The survey also asked young people the ways in which they thought that Alyth could be more environmentally friendly. The findings of this are in the chart below.



This chart illustrates that young people are both passionate about recycling, but also that they have an interest in keeping the town clean.

Quotes

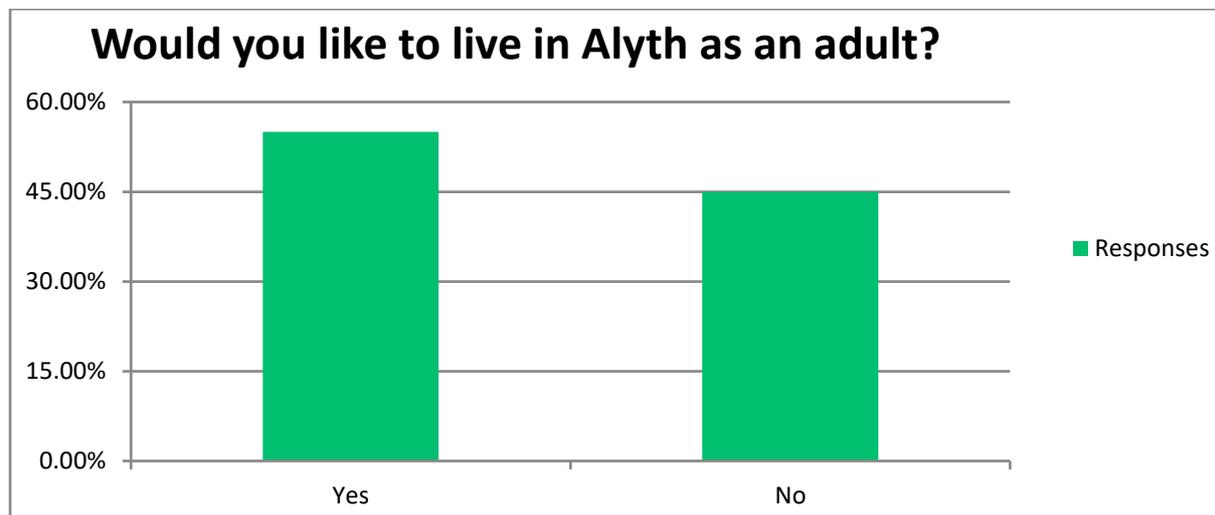
“More compartmented recycle bins and more dog bins.”

“One weekly clean-up around Alyth.”

“Bottle deposit scheme. Bins that are segmented by category (plastic, paper and rubbish).”

Long-term Plans

Finally, young people were also asked about what their future plans were regarding whether they would like to live in Alyth as an adult.



55% of the young people surveyed confirmed that they would like to stay in the town. In contrast, 45% stated that they would like to leave. Those who disagreed were asked their reasons for why and these are shown below. Please note that the numbers do not add up to 45% as some respondents did not answer this question.

Don't want to stay in same place forever	3
No jobs	1
Want to travel	1
Move to Spain	1
Need to leave for career choice	1
Rather stay in Perth	1

Due to the limited number of responses, it is not possible to come to a consensus on why young people do not wish to stay in Alyth as an adult. However, it may suggest that for those surveyed, they want to leave in order to experience new things and pursue different opportunities.

Contextualisation and Conclusion

Overview:

The Young People's Survey was carried out with the primary aim of establishing what the young people (ages 12-17) in our community thought would improve Alyth.

Secondary to this, it established:

- What they liked about Alyth
- What they disliked about Alyth
- How Alyth could be more environmentally friendly

A total of 30 surveys were carried out.

Data was gathered during the summer of 2021.

Age Demographics:

The overwhelming majority of respondents were between the ages of 12 and 14. Focus groups also took place to address the shortfall in the upper age bracket. Furthermore, some young people opted to fill in the main Community Views Survey.

Identified Improvements:

A wide variety of improvements which could be made in Alyth was identified. From the information presented, it is clear that young people would like to see the following key changes.

1. To have a wider variety of activities for young people.
2. For Alyth to take actions that will help Alyth to become a greener community.
3. For there to be better facilities for young people (including a space that they can call their own).
4. For Alyth to offer more opportunities to young people.

Process Evaluation:

The response rate for this survey was relatively low, with the likelihood being that results can not be extrapolated to be representative of all young people in the community.

However, it can still act as an indicator of the views which are held. Alyth does not have a high school and the wider context of this happening against the backdrop of a pandemic caused severe difficulties for youth engagement. This was because many clubs were not running. Additionally, those which were running had low attendance due to having to meet outside. Regardless, this report is important as it is platforming the voices of the young people who we did engage with. Furthermore, it must be emphasised that this was not the only method of engagement for young people. They were also able to have their say on social media, as part of Focus Groups and at the Community Event. As this is to be a living document, it could be worthwhile to run this survey among the other clubs for young people in the town once they have all safely re-opened.