

Our Place – Living in Fife 2016

Fife Council Research Team recently published a new report on [Place](#), which provides insight into how people living in different areas of Fife view their place, and where need for improvement has been identified.

Using the Scottish [Place Standard Tool](#) – developed by Architecture and Design Scotland, NHS Health Scotland, and the Scottish Government - Fife People’s Panel members rated 14 different aspects of Place from Moving around, to Work and local economy.

Place results for each area feature in the [Local Strategic Assessments](#) which are being used to inform a refresh of the Local Community Plan in each of the 7 Areas.

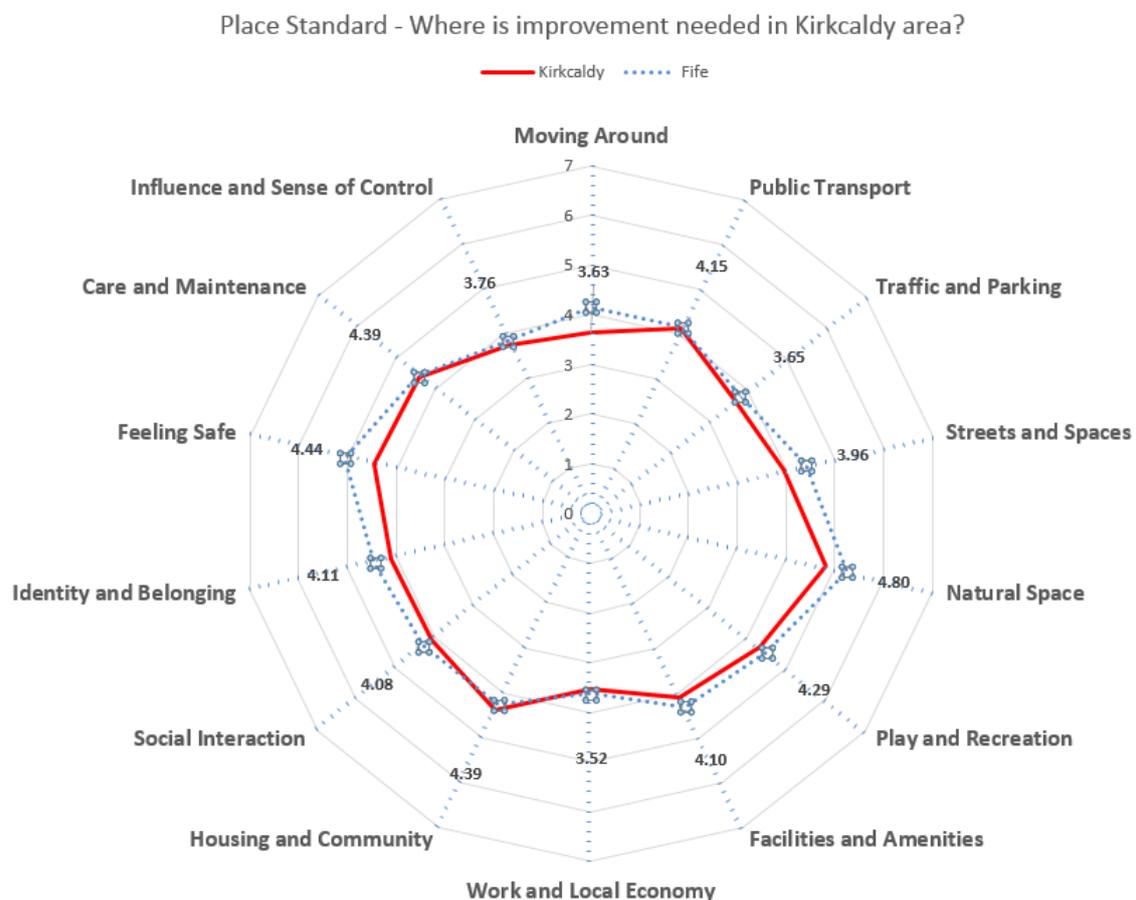


Figure 1 - Community perceptions of where improvement is needed in Kirkcaldy using the Place Standard. The outer part of the diagram (score 7) means little room for improvement, while the inner part (score 1) represents most need for improvement (Fife People’s Panel, Survey 26, 2016)

Differences in perceptions of Place across Fife are considered in the Fife Strategic Assessment, due to be published by the end of the year:

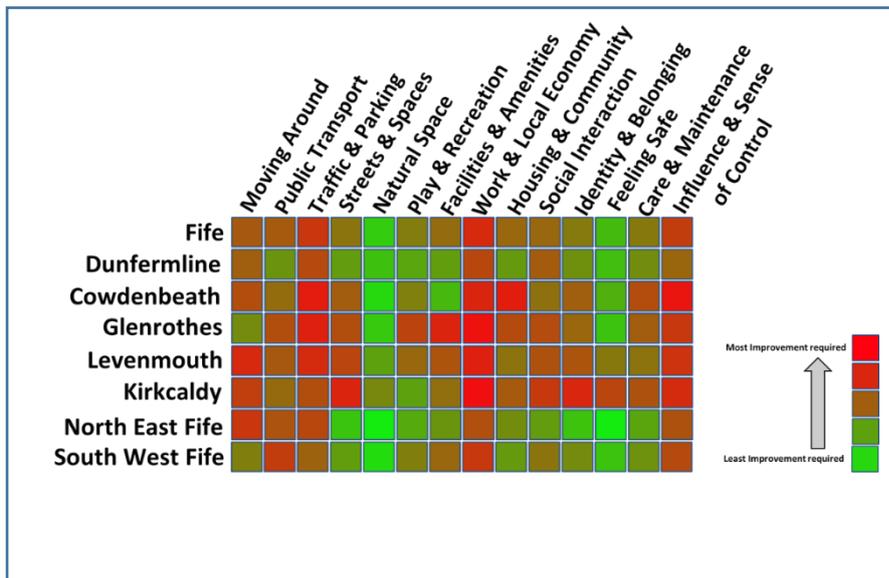


Figure 2. Colour Shaded Diagram of how different aspects of Place are viewed across Fife

People living in North East Fife, Dunfermline and Levenmouth generally rate their area most positively, while those living in Kirkcaldy or Glenrothes tend to rate their area less positively. There is variability within communities, and there are some significant differences between groups of people. For instance, women have a more positive view, and perceptions of place vary with age, while those with disabilities find it more difficult to move around. As expected in such a diverse area, there is significant difference between different parts of Fife. Note there is no obvious link between how people rate their place and the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD).

Generally the trend is towards people holding similar views across all of Fife, but modified by the particular views of each area. Notable exceptions are:

- People in Kirkcaldy and Levenmouth areas feel less safe than might be expected.
- People in Glenrothes and South west Fife find it easier to get around than elsewhere.
- Public transport is viewed more positively in Dunfermline.
- Kirkcaldy's streets and spaces are seen to have the most scope for improvement.
- Glenrothes' play, recreation, facilities and amenities are thought to need more improvement than may be expected looking across Fife as a whole.
- Housing and community have most room for improvement in Cowdenbeath
- North East Fife appears to do better for social interaction and identity, and belonging