



The Community Partnership will:

Examine options for a new community space including a shop/café in Upper Fort William

Look into developing new - and improving existing - indoor social spaces for young people

Develop a 'what's on' for the area available in paper and electronic format; encourage the use of local noticeboards to let people know what's going on

Explore options to improve paths and cycle ways, recycling facilities and seating around hilly pathways

Further develop residents' associations

Support the Community Council to improve communications with the community it serves and encourage greater participation

Know what is happening already and plan together to improve outcomes in the short, medium and longer term

For more information contact: Dot Ferguson, Chairman, Fort William Community Action Group dot.ferguson@highland.gov.uk

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Heart and Soul event

Come along to hear and see how your voice is influencing change. Lots of opportunities to sample our free activities.

When?

Thursday 24th October 2019

Between 11am – 8pm

Where?

**Plantation Hall
Cameron Square
Lochaber Leisure Centre
The Buzz Studio
Fort William Library**

Pop along to any of the 5 locations where activities and demonstrations will be taking place throughout the day. Watch the press, social media and noticeboards for more information nearer the time



Lochaber Community Partnership

ACTION PLAN

FOR THE
PLANTATION, UPPER ACHINTORE &
FORT WILLIAM CENTRAL TOWN AREA

Nearly 500 residents, of all ages, living in Upper Achintore, Plantation and central Fort William town area completed the survey from which common themes were identified.

"Communities at the centre of change"

What's working well?



- 👍 Town Team doing great work
- 👍 The Town Centre is more vibrant
- 👍 Buses have improved
- 👍 Lovely walks and beautiful landscape
- 👍 The Parade area is attractive
- 👍 New cinema will be a bonus
- 👍 Lots of sporting opportunities
- 👍 The area generally feels safe
- 👍 Good to see more housing being built
- 👍 The planned STEM Centre will offer new opportunities for skills and business development.
- 👍 The new hospital will be a welcomed addition.
- 👍 The GFG (Liberty Aluminium Plant) ambitions will bring welcomed jobs.

What could be improved?

Spaces

- 👎 No community meeting/recreation space and shop in Upper Fort William.
- 👎 No seats in hilly areas and around bus shelters.
- 👎 Empty shops and back of Middle Street looks terrible
- 👎 Not enough play and green space recreational areas; lack of colour – area looks a bit 'dull' (particularly in winter months)
- 👎 Lack of a covered/shelter area in the High Street
- 👎 Lack of lighting, overgrown and neglected pathways and access routes

Community

- 👎 Some residents feel isolated
- 👎 Lack of things to do and places to go for young people particularly at weekends
- 👎 Some anti-social behaviour 'hot spots'
- 👎 Lack of recycling points
- 👎 Hard to take part in community discussion

Work

- 👎 Not enough job opportunities or apprenticeships for younger people or those requiring extra support
- 👎 Seasonal nature of work and often part time/ zero hours
- 👎 Rents and rates are expensive for those trying to operate businesses

Transport

- 👎 Poor Sunday bus timetable and local services don't connect to national services. Lack of real time information
- 👎 Insufficient parking in residential areas & not enough free parking in town
- 👎 Traffic congestion in summer

Housing

- 👎 Lack of housing - homes also unaffordable to buy or rent reasonably
- 👎 Some Plantation homes have unsightly staining on insulation cladding

