

Girvan and South Carrick Villages

Feedback from Locality Planning Launch Events



The word cloud above illustrates the themes which emerged from the discussions which took place at the Locality Launch Event for Girvan and South Carrick Villages

Community: Used within the context of community involvement and participation links to community hospital Girvan, community facilities, community groups and community spirit.

Local: Similar to community local refers to resources, activity and assets in the form of services and peoples knowledge skills and strengths.

Services: Services cover a wide range of discussions including lack of knowledge of the range of services that exist in the area. Many saw this as linked to poor communication and information on what's available. It was acknowledged that there is limited access to services for many and gaps in services. This highlights the need to develop new services, such as community transport, locally. There was also much discussion around the joint delivery of services at a local level.

Transport: Transport was identified as a key priority by those who took part in the locality planning event. The lack of flexible transport further emphasises the rurality of Girvan and the South Carrick villages which impacts on employment opportunities, ability to make hospital appointments and participate in many groups and activities. The discussion around transport also tied in with a perception that the community hospital in Girvan could be used more to meet local peoples health needs.

Health: The general consensus around health was that the locality profile provided did not reflect health statistics – where are the positive health messages? It was recognised that adult mental health services are generally better structured than those for children and young people; however there was a general feeling that there was still limited access to services for those with poor emotional health and depression. Joint working with health visitors is an example of positive practice. Locally delivered training was suggested to both upskill and hold on to the health workforce.

Villages: It was recognised that issues for the villages may be different from Girvan and further locality planning on a village by village basis is required to better understand each areas aspirations and needs. The group identified alternative ways to support communities' participation such as teleconferencing being set up in each village. The lack of flexible transport was again identified as a barrier to participation for those living in the South Carrick Villages.

Social: Participants identified the use of social media as an effective way to communicate and engage with a large number of people. The social deprivation and isolation within many pockets of the rural community within South Carrick creates another barrier to participation. The social work structure does not appear to support the development of a continuing relationship, could there be a more joined up and local approach between social work teams?

Hospital: Access to hospital services is challenging for those who live rurally and rely on public transport. There is a perception that Girvan Community hospital is not fully utilised. Could there be more specialist clinics or other services delivered via teleconferencing? Girvan hospital was recognised as a great resource with real potential.

Care: A strong and robust primary healthcare team was identified as an important resource. The locality profile which was created by GPs has more detailed and accurate profile information on the area. There is a lack of affordable child care and registered child minders in the area. How do we support informal carers?

Access: This topic relates to lack of access to services and activities due to rurality, income, lack of information and flexible transport. It was agreed that we should make leisure services affordable and more accessible to all.