

Empowering Communities

These pages contain a range of performance information on the progress that the council is making towards the achievement of the following organisational priority:

To work collaboratively to enable strong, connected and empowered communities, particularly in areas of deprivation, so that residents have influence and control over the things that matter to them

The performance information provided here is taken from the high level indicators in the council's Corporate Plan and the council's key performance indicators.

The information on these pages relates to the following areas of performance:

- Feelings of influence and control in our communities
- Feeling safe in our communities
- Increasing community capacity
- Attendance in our schools

If you would like to become more actively involved in what's going on in your community you can find out more information by clicking on the links below:

Community Councils - [Community Councils](#)

Community Learning & Development - [Community Learning and Development](#)

CVS Inverclyde – <http://www.cvsinverclyde.org.uk/>

If you would like further information, advice and support on anti-social behaviour please follow the link below: [Anti-social behaviour](#)

More information on the council and its partners work in embedding locality planning can be found here: [Localities](#)

You can find out more about our Inverclyde Citizens' Panel here: [Citizens' Panel](#)

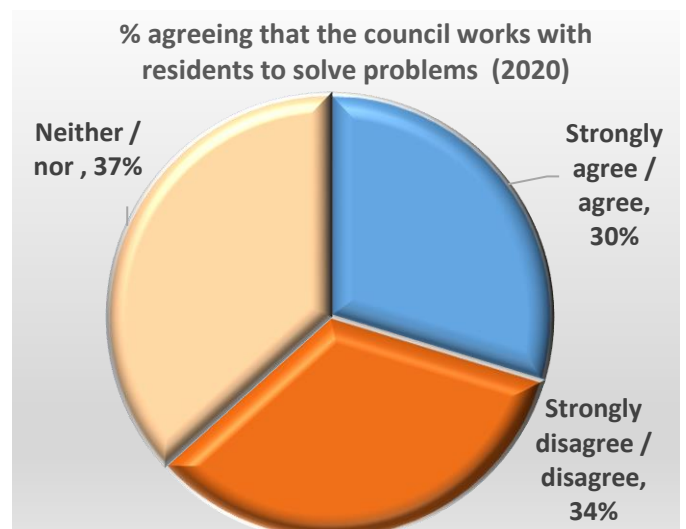
Feelings of influence and control in our communities

Solving problems

In the Citizens' Panel Spring Survey 2020, panel members were asked whether they agreed with the statement that the council works with local residents to solve problems.

30% of residents either strongly agreed or agreed that the council works with local residents to solve problems, this was the lower than the response rate in 2018 (46%) when this question was last asked.

34% of respondents either disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement. 37% of respondents did not have an opinion one way or another.



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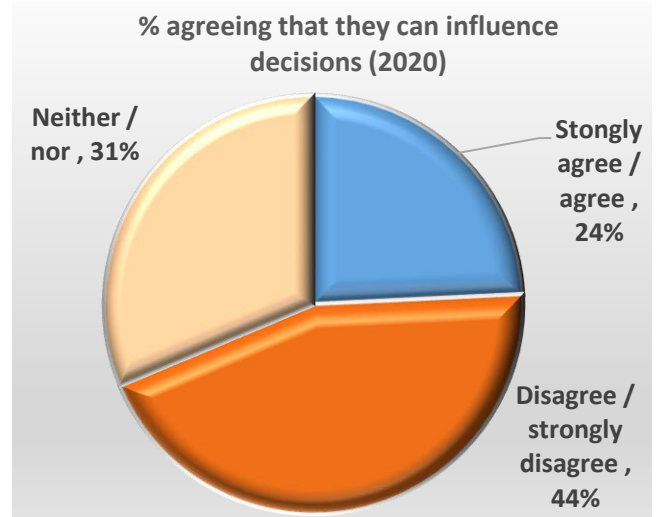
Influencing decisions

In the Citizens' Panel Winter Survey 2020/21, panel members were asked whether they agreed with the statement that they can influence decisions affecting their local area.

24% of respondents agreed that they can influence decisions affecting their area, which is 6% below levels in 2018. 31% of respondents neither agreed nor disagreed with the statement and the remainder disagreed or strongly disagreed.

Locality planning is when local communities work together with public and third sector organisations to improve residents' lives and the areas they live in.

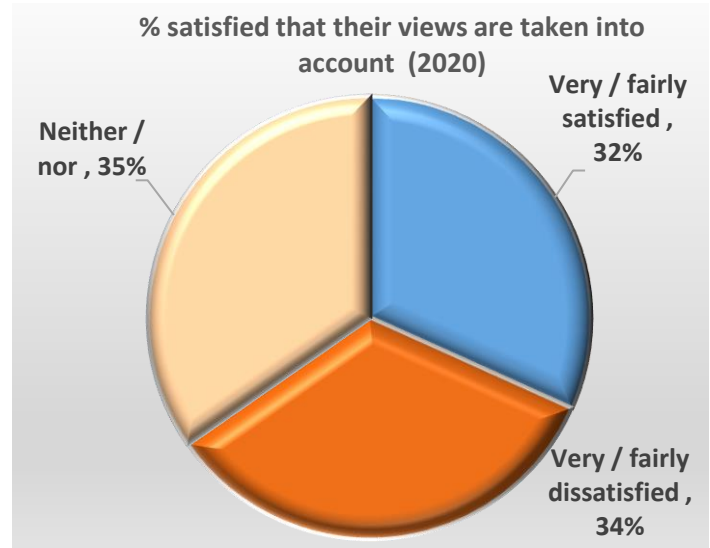
We anticipate as this work progresses and is embedded in our communities, there will be an increase in the percentage of residents that feel they can influence decisions in their local area and also that the council works with them in solving problems.



Satisfaction with views being heard

In the Citizens' Panel Winter Survey 2020/21 panel members were asked how satisfied they were with the way Inverclyde Council takes residents' views into account when making decisions affecting the local area.

Thirty two percent of respondents said that they are either very or fairly satisfied with the way Inverclyde Council takes residents views into account when making decisions that affect the local area. This is down from 40% in 2018. Just over a third (35%) said that they were neither satisfied/nor dissatisfied and a further 44% were dissatisfied.

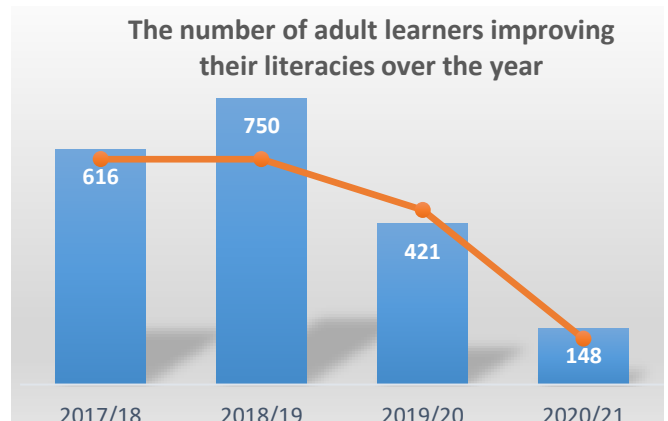


Increasing capacity

Adult learners and literacies

The number of adults that improved their literacies via the council's Community Learning and Development service decreased by 273 in 2020/21, falling from 421 to 148.

The decrease in numbers can be attributed to the Covid pandemic which meant that face to face learning was suspended. The introduction of an online learning platform later in the year, allowed allow service delivery to resume. The reduced target, 120, for 2020/21 reflects the impact of restrictions on service delivery.

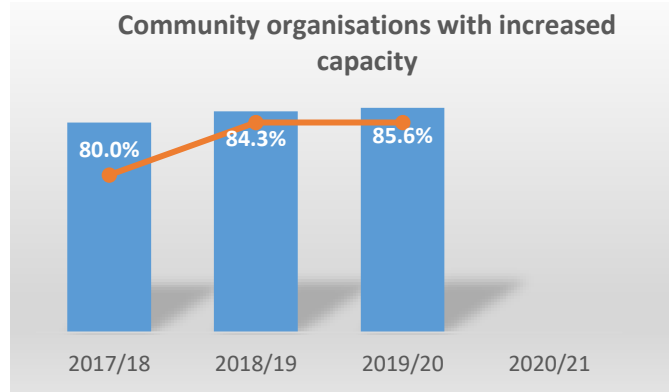


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Percentage of community organisations within disadvantaged neighbourhoods and excluded groups who had increased their capacity

There was no data available for this indicator in 2020/21

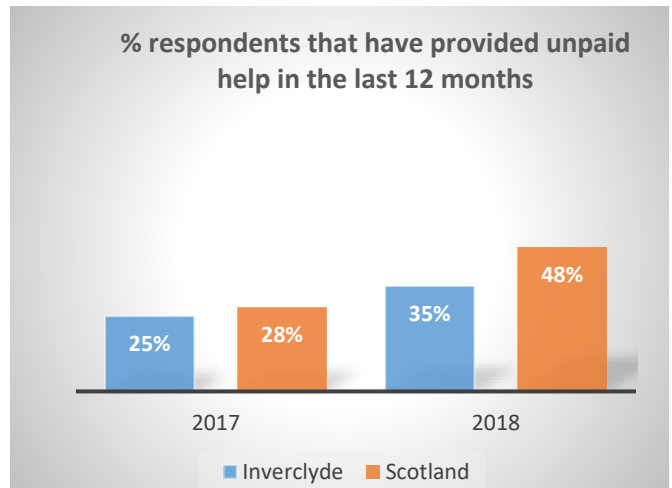
In 2019/20, 85.6% of community organisations that worked with the council’s Community Learning and Development Service increased their capacity, confidence, organisational skills and involvement levels through training and active learning, e.g. Committee Skills training, 1:1 support for office bearers, Youthwork legislation, improved understanding of local needs through feedback from consultation events and surveys.



Volunteering

The Scottish Household Survey provides information on the estimated proportion of the population that has provided unpaid help to organisations or groups in the last 12 months. Due to Covid-19 and the suspension of face to face interviewing in the Scottish Household Survey no new data is available at a Council level.

The percentage of respondents who were involved in volunteering in 2018 increased by 10% but remained below the Scottish average. Volunteer Scotland estimate that formal volunteers living in Inverclyde contributed 3 million hours of help and £47million to the local economy (pre-pandemic figure)

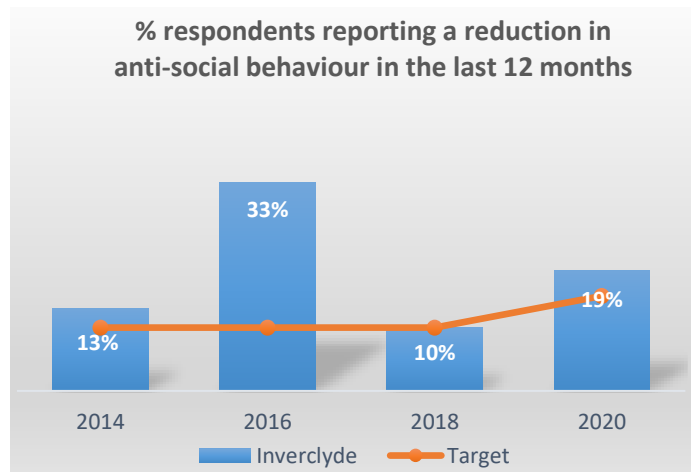


Feeling safe in our communities

Reduction in anti-social behaviour

Inverclyde Council and its community safety partners aim to make Inverclyde safer by promoting safety and wellbeing and reducing crime, violence and disorder. To better understand community safety issues affecting our residents and help identify where we could improve, we ask the Citizens’ Panel about community safety issues.

Between 2018 and 2020 the percentage of residents reporting a reduction in anti-social behaviour increased from 10% to 19%. It is also worth noting that in 2020, just under half (49%) of Citizens’ Panel members said that anti-social behaviour is not an issue in their neighbourhood.



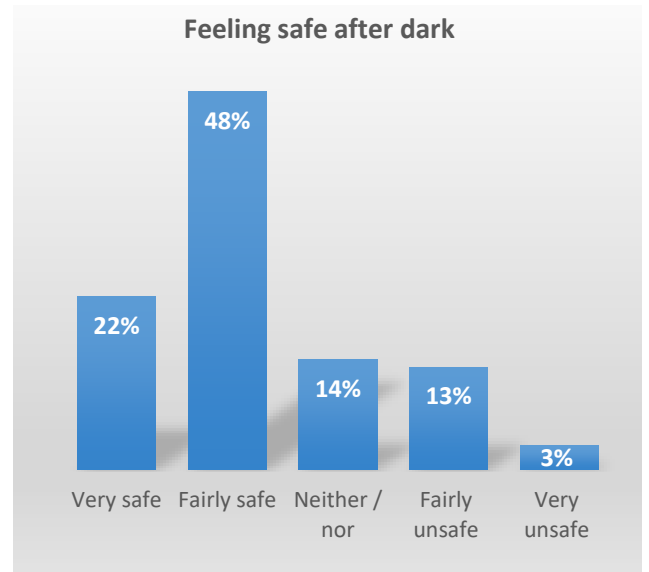
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Safety after dark

In the Citizens' Panel Winter Survey 2020/21, panel members were asked about their feeling of safety in their neighbourhood after dark.

More than two thirds, 70%, of citizen panel respondents feel either very safe or fairly safe after dark in their neighbourhood compared to 16% of respondents who feel fairly or very unsafe in their neighbourhood after dark.

Through the locality planning work that is ongoing which has helped to identify particular issues in communities, the council aims to increase feelings of safety and wellbeing.



Attendance in schools

Schools are intrinsically linked with their communities and research has shown that high levels of school attendance is not only linked to academic success but is also important in helping children feel more connected to their community, as well as helping develop important social skills and friendships which helps to set them up in the future. The performance information shown below is for the attendance rate in Inverclyde schools in all sectors, primary, secondary and additional support needs.

The chart shows that there has been an increase in attendance in all sectors. This is particularly positive given the challenges facing schools in 2020/21.

An Attendance Policy is in place and schools proactively take steps to monitor and follow up attendance. Attendance is monitored across all schools and establishments, with particular monitoring of attendance levels linked to deprivation, looked after children and barriers to learning.

