

Since May 2024 Ards and North Down Borough Council have been undertaking a comprehensive engagement process to develop a new Carrowdore Village Plan.

The engagement process was designed to gather a diverse range of input through various methods, including public workshops, involvement of community groups and local schools, engagement at public events, on-street surveys and online surveys. This approach helped to ensure all members of the community were provided an opportunity to share their views.



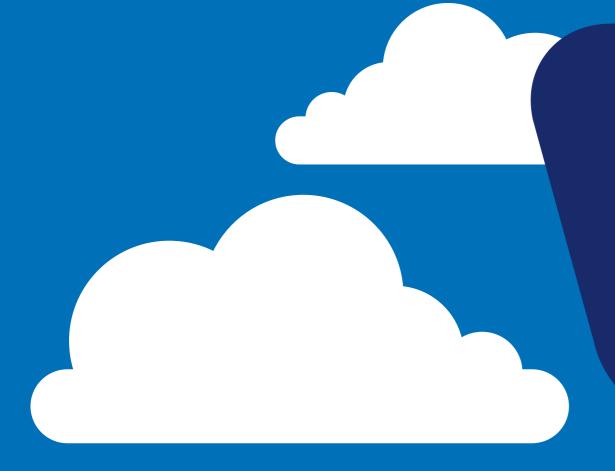
- Thank you for your participation in the engagement process and the invaluable feedback you provided.
- Did you meet us at Carrowdore Community Centre on the 12 June 2024 when we held a public engagement drop-in session?
- Did you catch us in your village completing on-street surveys, or did you complete your survey online?
- We enjoyed a visit to Carrowdore Primary School on 21 May 2024 where we met with pupils for an interactive engagement session and a drawing competition.

We have collated all the information received through the various forms of engagement and developed a series of proposed priorities and actions. Please have a read and tell us what you think. Feedback can be provided online at www.ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk/article/2141/Current-Engagement-Opportunities or scan the QR code.



Closing date for feedback on proposals: 12noon on Friday 28 February 2025





How you currently view Carrowdore...

What you told us is desirable about Carrowdore...

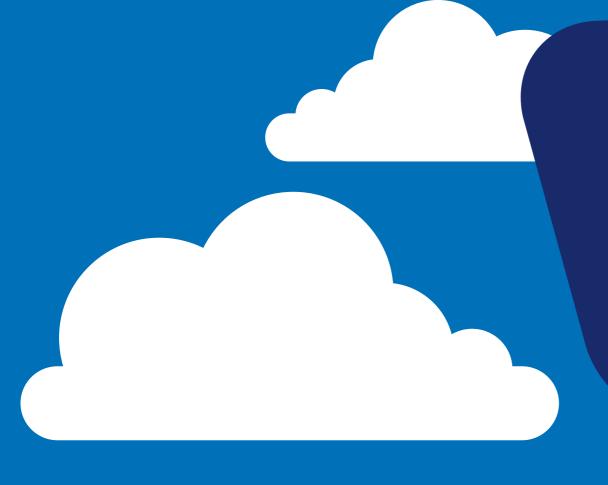
- The village's most desirable aspect is the People / Community who live there. Words such as 'friendly' and 'community spirit' were very popular responses through the consultations and residents really appreciate this despite the village growing in recent years. The Church, Community Centre and Community Hub are all well regarded, and these are clearly important facilities to the people of Carrowdore which contribute to their great community spirit.
- The local Eurospar shop and filing station appears extremely important to the **Trade** / Commerce of the village. Residents see this as an essential amenity for everyday shopping and more.
- The presence of one of the peninsula's two Schools (**Strangford College**) enhances its desirability as it appeals to families seeking education options within proximity.
- The quaintness, quietness and peacefulness of the village are important traits that many value in the village with residents enjoying this instead of the hustle and bustle of a town or city.



What you think are the Unique Selling Points for Carrowdore...

- 1 The most recognised unique selling point for Carrowdore is its **Schools**. Strangford Integrated College is one of only two secondary schools within the Ards Peninsula. The College has an exciting new build project underway which will enhance its importance to Carrowdore. Located nearby the College is Carrowdore Primary School and Carrowdore Early Years Centre.
- 2 Carrowdore Castle which was built in 1818 is set in parkland with woodland trees and beautifully landscaped gardens leading to a lake. The Castle is in private ownership.
- Another unique selling point is the village's central **location**, providing a key linkage to the villages in the Peninsula and also with the towns and city of the Borough.





Why you think people visit Carrowdore...

How you feel about Carrowdore...

41 respondents shared their **positive** feelings about the Village, some of the comments received:

"I love it"

"Everybody looks out for each other"

"I am happy with the village; it is expanding very quickly so places need adjusted to this expansion"

"I love the location; I love the space"

"It has great community spirit"

60 respondents shared their **negative** feelings about the Village, some of the comments received:

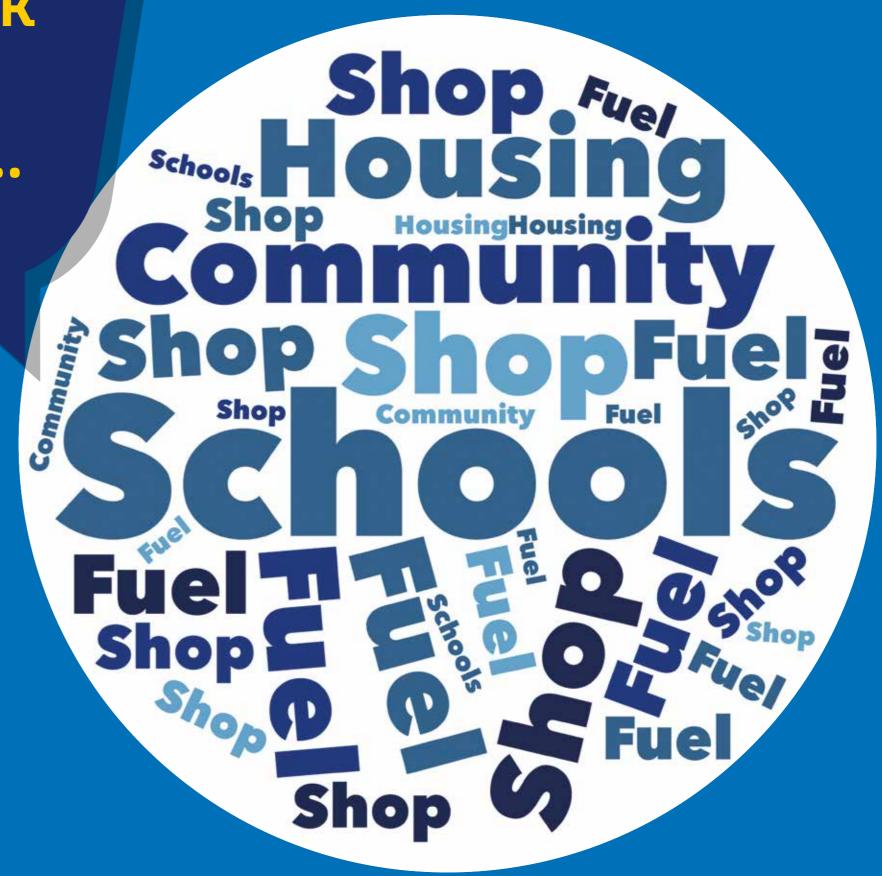
"Very little business opportunity. Continually building more homes but no commercial premises"

"Not enough for people to do. The village is gaining in size, but the amenities have stayed the same

"I love the village, but it needs a better transport system"

"Requires a chemist and more frequent bus service"

"Roads need resurfaced"



What you told us is undesirable about Carrowdore ...

- The main undesirable regarding the village was the **lack of ongoing maintenance**, this focused on litter, dog waste, overgrown grass verges and weeds, especially on Main Street.
- Respondents felt that there is a real lack of attractions, facilities and entertainment.
 They felt that there is not enough to do in the village, for people of all ages, but especially for young people. The playpark is seen as small and only caters for very young children.
 Residents would like more to do such as new facilities, clubs and groups running various activities.
- Many felt that the village is missing basic health and wellbeing provision with no chemist or doctor's surgery in the area.
- Concerns were expressed regarding the condition of the existing infrastructure, issues such as poor road surfaces, potholes and damaged/non-existent footpaths which have been removed during the building of new houses and not correctly reinstalled.

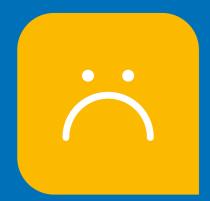


How the young people of Carrowdore describe their village...



What the young people of Carrowdore like about their village...

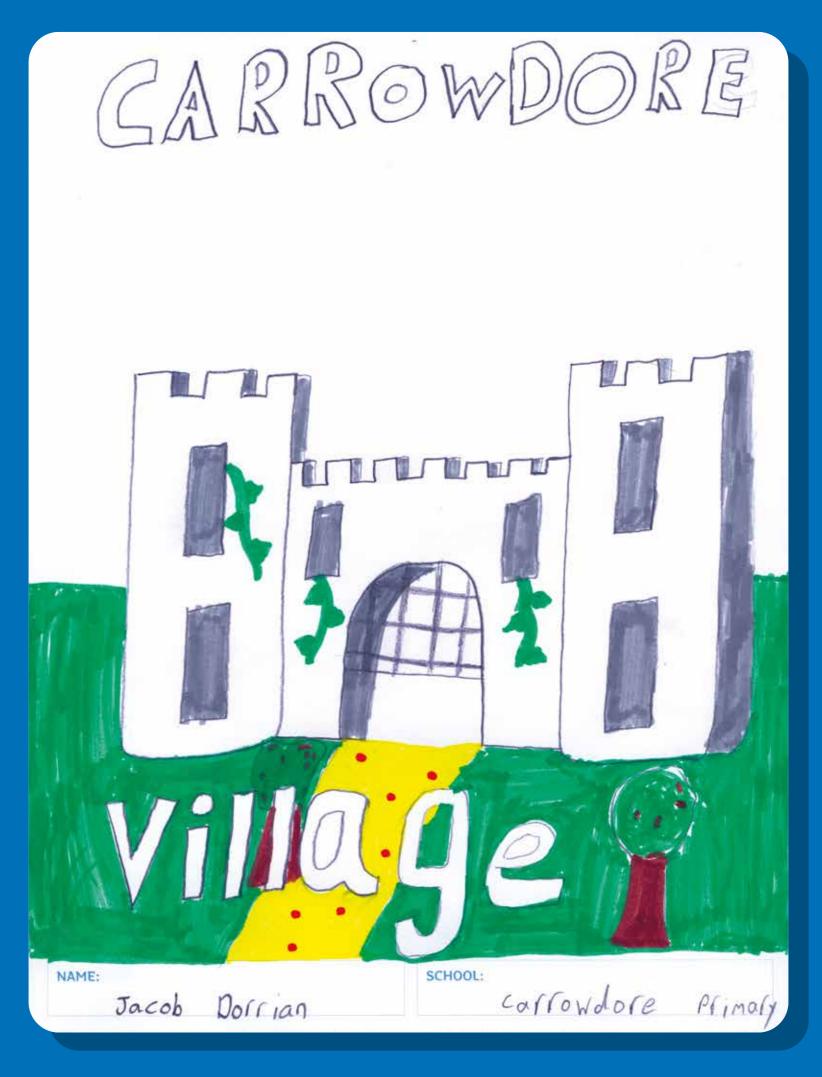
- Attractions / Facilities
 School | Football Pitch | Park
- Local Businesses
 Spar
- Green Spaces
 The Forest
- Community
 The People
- Heritage
 Church



What the young people of Carrowdore do not like about their village...

The young people expressed concerns about the maintenance of their village, particularly issues with litter, rubbish and broken glass. Additionally, they voiced concern over the condition of the footpaths.





Carrowdore Primary School - Competition Winner "Draw what you think makes your village the best"









The Vision

"To be a sustainable village which is a thriving place for people to do business, socialise, shop, be creative and use public services as well as being a great place to live"

High Street Task Force, NI Executive





Borough Council