

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL****CABINET MEETING – 2 JUNE 2021****Report by Depute Chief Executive, Safer Communities**

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**SUBJECT: EAST AYRSHIRE RECREATION PLAN  
INCLUDING CORE PATH PLAN REVIEW**

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**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. The purpose of this report is to update Cabinet on the statutory consultation of the draft East Ayrshire Recreation Plan and seek approval for the publication arrangements for the Plan.

**RECOMMENDATIONS****2. It is recommended that Cabinet:-**

- (i) **Note the comments made during the community consultation**
- (ii) **Approve the amendments to the draft Recreation Plan as outlined in Appendix 1**
- (iii) **Approve the arrangements for the publication of the finalised Recreation Plan**
- (iv) **Otherwise note the contents of the report.**

**BACKGROUND**

3. The Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 received Royal Assent in February 2003 and came into force two years later, with Part 1 of this legislation establishing statutory public rights of access on and over most land, including inland water. Part 2 and 3 of the Act gave crofters and other local communities the right to buy land, providing opportunities for those who work and care for the land to have control over and input into how the Scottish landscape is managed.
4. Part 1 of the Act is affectionately known as 'The Right to Roam' and access rights are to be exercised in a responsible manner for recreational and other purposes. This provides extraordinary and unique opportunities for people to experience Scotland, by allowing them to travel through its landscape on foot, horseback or bicycle.
5. The Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 places a number of duties on local authorities, one of which is to produce a Core Paths Plan. This duty ensures that local authorities provide a system of paths that will give the public reasonable access through and across the surrounding landscape. The plan must also be publicised for people to view, providing information about routes that exist but might

not be known to everyone – a promotion of sorts. The plan will include brief but key details of each core path and have an associated map.

6. After a very detailed process including a public consultation, East Ayrshire produced its first Core Paths Plan in 2006. Whilst there is no statutory requirement for review. It is deemed appropriate to review the Core Path Plan if there has been significant changes to the routes. East Ayrshire Leisure and East Ayrshire Planning and Economic Development have agreed that there has been significant changes in land use and route diversions to merit a review of the East Ayrshire Core Path Plan.
7. The first review of this document began in late 2019 with the East Ayrshire Countryside Ranger Service undertaking a detailed survey of all core paths. Each path survey took into account the condition of the route surface and what kind of path it was. It recorded what gates, fences and other structures were located on the routes and what condition these were in. It also recorded any changes in the routes compared with the original surveys undertaken in 2006. Some paths had fallen out of use and were completely overgrown, with not enough footfall to keep the vegetation from stealing the path back; some routes had been upgraded from grass paths to wide stone tracks to accommodate lorries transporting new wind turbines onto the moors. These changes have all been taken into consideration to determine a new suite of core paths, modern and more relevant to today's recreational needs.

## DRAFT RECREATION PLAN

- 9 After reviewing the 2006 Core Path Plan, the proposal is to change the approach and to produce a guide to the outdoors in the form of a Recreation Plan. This will be more user friendly.
- 10 It is also recognised that there are currently significant path projects being developed by East Ayrshire Leisure, Ayrshire Roads Alliance and community groups that could contribute to the Recreation Plan. Therefore, the intention is to review the plan on a 3 year rolling basis to enable new developments to be included at regular intervals and to keep the plan up to date and relevant. This draft plan would be for the period 2021 – 2024.
- 11 This new approach would allow us to categories routes into 6 groups:
  - Great Trails
  - Core Paths
  - Local Paths
  - Hill Paths
  - Water Recreation
  - Recreation / Tourism Sites
12. Scotland's **Great Trails** are managed trails that are clearly waymarked, run largely off-road and offer a variety of different Scottish experiences. Ranging in length from 24-210 miles (40-340 km), many are suitable for short breaks as well

as end-to-end expeditions. Collectively the 29 different routes offer over 1900 miles (3000 km) of trails with opportunities to explore the best of Scotland's nature and landscapes, and to experience amazing history and culture.

13. The River Ayr Way is East Ayrshire's only 'Great Trail' and offers a variety of landscapes for the visitor to immerse themselves in. Starting at Glenbuck Loch, situated in wild moorland, rich in natural and industrial history, it follows the growing river downstream as it becomes a powerful waterway, driving mills and carving a route through rocky sandstone gorges. The final section follows the river through open farmland and estates before reaching the historic county town of Ayr, finishing at its harbour.
14. The River Ayr Way is an ideal medium-distance route for novices, with mostly flat terrain and only a few steep climbs. The distances are modest, but you have to organise your own logistics. The route can be walked over a long weekend, making an ideal short break for visitors to Ayrshire. It is also very popular tackled in short sections as day walks.
15. **Core Paths** will vary from a trodden earth and rock path on the side of a hill to a minor road at the back of a housing estate. Although there is no specific standard for core paths, here in East Ayrshire, we view them as strategic routes that connect a network of destinations, settlements, towns and communities. Core paths are the links that the people of East Ayrshire will regularly use for journeys such as travelling to work, for visiting family and friends, or for visiting neighbouring towns and communities. They will also be used for recreational activities such as jogging, leisurely cycles, walking the dog or getting to the local park to have a picnic.
16. Throughout Scotland core paths will generally be designed as shared use and suitable for all walkers, cyclists and horse riders; however not all of them will be suitable for every ability. Due to their location or proximity to livestock, it may be necessary for some to have gates, and while these may restrict access to some abilities, it is likely that there will be an alternative route nearby that can be enjoyed. There will be some on water and these will provide recreational opportunities to kayakers and canoeists.
17. In essence, a core path is chosen not for how many people are able to use it or for its physical quality, but instead for the value of its location and route destination. They must be of significant value to both visitors and the local communities, land owners included, and it is vitally important that everyone who has an interest in a path, has a say in whether it should be a core path or not.
18. **Local paths** are short routes that the residents of East Ayrshire's towns and villages are able to use for local rambles and short walks. Similar to core paths but generally shorter with less of a strategic connection value to them, most of them will also offer travel between home and nearby shops, schools, town halls, cafes and restaurants. These are ideal routes for doing regular errands and outings close to home and some may even connect to the surrounding core paths and offer connecting journey options to neighbouring communities.

19. Most of the local paths will be well-known and loved by the local communities already and some may even be signposted and waymarked. Even though situated close to the towns and villages, some will feel rural and remote and will be perfect for those seeking to get a quick half hour of fresh air and solitude.
20. While some of the routes listed in this section were previously listed as core paths, their change in description has no bearing on their continued importance or protection under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003. East Ayrshire's local path network will be an evolving network with old and new paths changing through the years as so will the needs of the local communities to use them. Ultimately, a local path in East Ayrshire is a public path that enables pedestrian and non-powered access for communities to local facilities, points of interest and for general informal recreation
21. The **hill walks** in East Ayrshire have a rolling and smooth character, cut and formed from our glacial past. The farmland and moorland of the glens and lower hills are rural and can often be very remote and picturesque, providing an experience of perfect solitude higher up the slopes. Although most of the East Ayrshire hills are below 500m in height and may be small compared with other hills and mountains in the country, there are a few local rugged areas that more than mimic the beauty and expanse of the higher and more northern mountains.
22. Most of the hills in East Ayrshire are found in three areas. These are the Muirkirk Uplands, the areas around Glen Afton in New Cumnock, and the area around Loch Doon near Dalmellington. The rolling hills of East Ayrshire attract thousands of visitors to the area every year.
23. **Water recreation** is an essential and growing activity in Scotland and the rest of the world. It is an activity that a person does for enjoyment, usually to refresh the body and mind. It often involves some degree of exercise as well as visiting areas that contain bodies of water such as parks, nature reserves, lochs, rivers and visits to the coast. Common water recreation activities include:
- Canoeing, kayaking & sailing
  - Angling
  - Open water swimming
24. **Recreation Sites** are places where people can enjoy a wide range of formal and informal recreational activities. Rather than just being a route from A to B, they are destinations and places where visitors can spend some time and enjoy the outdoors. These spaces may be areas to experience and learn about the local heritage or to go wildlife watching. The sites themselves will vary in type and will mostly be made up from the following:
- Parks and Nature Reserves
  - Windfarms and Forests
  - Country Estates

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- 27 The draft Recreation Plan including the review of the Core Path Plan was subject to a 12 week statutory consultation period between February and April 2021.
- 28 61 representations were made from community groups and individuals. Only 1 objection was received. This was not an objection to the Recreation Plan as a whole, but to the inclusion of a particular route, Darvel to Loudounhill. This route is the subject of formal path agreements with the relevant landowners, is fundamental to the Irvine Valley Local Path Network and will be included in the finalise Recreation Plan.
- 29 The following paragraphs outline the major themes that have emerged from the community consultation and the proposed response to these comments. A full list of comments and proposed actions are included in Appendix 1.
- 30 **Addition of new paths** was a recurring theme that came from the consultation. This was one of the outcomes that was expected and is welcome as communities are more familiar with the priority routes within their areas. The function of the Recreation Plan is to provide up to date information about existing, safe routes throughout East Ayrshire which communities and visitors are confident to use. Routes that do not currently exist will not be included. A 3 year review period is being built into the Recreation Plan to enable new paths to be added as projects are implemented. All of the routes being proposed for inclusion in the Recreation Plan will be reviewed and where appropriate these routes will be included.
- 31 Many consultees would like to see **enhanced tourism information** being included with each route including a more detailed route descriptor, information regarding transport and parking and details of other facilities in the area. East Ayrshire Leisure Trust will work closely with East Ayrshire Council Planning and Economic Development and the Ayrshire Roads Alliance in provided as much useful and added value information in the production of the finalised Recreation Plan.
- 32 **Signage** is also mentioned in many representations form communities and individuals. Signage, interpretation and wayfinding is an important part of the path network. Currently signage is implemented as part of any new path project. For example, the Kilmarnock Green Infinity Loop has included an audit of all signs in the town centre and developed a signage strategy which compliments and enhances the route. It has been agreed that East Ayrshire Leisure Trust, Ayrshire Roads Alliance and Planning and Economic Development will work in partnership with local communities and stakeholders to ensure that a place based approach is taken to any new signage.
- 33 Critical to the success of a high quality path network is regular **maintenance**. The Land Reform Scotland Act 2003 puts no duty onto the local authority for maintenance. The obligation is on the landowner to ensure that routes are kept free and open for access. However, as new paths are developed it is practice to enter into a path agreement with local landowners. Where an agreement is in place, East Ayrshire Leisure Trust and/or East Ayrshire Council will be responsible for the maintenance. However, this only applies to a part of the network. The

intention is to develop a Path Warden Scheme to empower local communities to take more of a role in maintenance. Path Wardens will be supported through regular training and provision of tools and equipment. An on-line portal is also being developed to allow communities to report path blockages and major infrastructure concerns.

- 34 It should be noted that over 30% of the comments come from **individuals or groups within the Annick Valley**. There is a strong feeling in the Annick Valley that traditional paths are being lost to development and the only options available to these communities are on quiet or rural roads. Whilst a number of routes that have been suggested will be reviewed and will be included if appropriate in the Recreation Plan, East Ayrshire Leisure Trust, Ayrshire Roads Alliance and East Ayrshire Vibrant communities will support the local groups in the area to develop active travel and recreation plans which meet the demands within the area.

## **NEXT STEPS**

- 35 East Ayrshire Leisure Trust will update the Recreation Plan as outlined in Appendix 1 of this report. The intention is then to create a dedicated page within [www.eastayrshrieleisure.com](http://www.eastayrshrieleisure.com) which will provide downloadable maps, route descriptors, information about becoming a path warden and local facility and transport information.
- 36 This on-line user, friendly Recreation Plan will be launched as part of the Celebration of the Outdoors which is being planned by the Trust in the lead up to United Nations Climate Change Conference 2021.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 37 It is not anticipated that there will be significant direct costs associated with the publication of Recreation Plan

## **LEGAL/RISK IMPLICATIONS**

- 38 Under the Land Reform Scotland Act any changes to the Core Path Plan are subject to a 12 week consultation period. The findings of this consultation will be published on-line in line with the duties within the Act.

## **POLICY/HR/EQUALITY**

- 39 It is not anticipated that there will be any direct HR implications with the Recreation Plan
- 40 An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried with a significant positive contribution
- 41 The Recreation Plan including the revised Core Path Plan will be embedded in planning policy through its inclusion in the forthcoming Local Development Plan 2.

It will be given statutory weight in the planning process. Local Development Plan 2 will, as well as protecting existing paths and recreation features, will seek, promote and support appropriate new routes, through the planning process, therefore enhancing East Ayrshire's recreation networks over time.

## **COMMUNITY PLANNING/TRANSFORMATION IMPLICATIONS**

42 The approach outlined in this paper aligns with a number of Transformation Strategy themes through improving community activity and wellbeing.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

43 The Recreation Plan sets out an exciting new approach to the provision of a Core Path Plan that recognises strategic, local and recreation sites as important for physical activity and community wellbeing. The document will also serve as a tool for encouraging greater tourism to East Ayrshire.

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May 2021

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## Appendix 1: Community Consultation Responses and Proposed Actions

| Ref. | Organisation/<br>Group      | Please provide your reasons below for support or seeking a change, or for objecting.   | Please state the specific change you would like to be made to the document:   | Please tell us if you have any other comment on the document  | Request for Consideration  | Responses/Action   |
|------|-----------------------------|--|---|---|--|--|
| 1    | Mauchline Community Council | The local path described at B1 is not replicated on the mapping.   | The title of the route should read Welton not Weldon. The route map needs be updated to include the portion from Ballochmyle to the A76 and back to Mauchline   | Mauchline Community Council in conjunction with Mauchline Action Group have been campaigning for several years to install a footpath in Beechgrove Park. This needs to be included in the document. | <p>The local path described at B1 is not replicated on the mapping.</p> <p>The title of the route should read Welton not Weldon</p> <p>The route map needs to be updated to include the portion from Ballochmyle to the A76 and back to Mauchline</p> <p>Include a footpath in Beechgrove Park</p> | <p>Maps will be updated to include B1</p> <p>Maps will be updated</p> <p>Maps will be updated</p> <p>The Recreation Plan will only include existing paths and routes. The intention is to review the Plan on a 3 year programme, allowing new routes to be included as they are developed.</p> |
| 2    | Kyle Mountain Club Ayr      | As an organisation with members in North, South and East Ayrshire, we support the draft plan and any improvements to foot paths and cycle paths. | We discussed the draft plan at a zoom committee meeting, and liked what we saw. In this day and age many of our members drive to the start of a walk or cycle ride. As such we would like to see advice on where to park and if possible the provision of off road parking at the start of walks and cycle rides. | -   | Would like to see advice on where to park and if possible the provision of off road parking at the start of walks and cycle rides?   | Information about parking and other facilities will be included on the on-line version of the Recreation Plan which will be promoted as a user guide.  |

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| 3 | Individual | <p>The river Lugar walk has built paths that can connect all the way from Lugar to Ochiltree. These built paths have not been maintained in a number of years and badly need an upgrade. The path from Lugar follows the river on the Broom Braes walk leading into the woodroad Park, from the woodroad a walk through Cumnock along Auchinleck Road to Cumnock rugby club where we join the river path again. From there can walk the path of the river to Dumfries House Estate then the path takes you behind the A frame and if you can find the path again it would take you to Ochiltree. I have walked this route countless times over the past year the path needs some upgrading and signage in place. This would just be a case of upgrading existing built paths. It is a little more than 5km aswell.</p> | -   | <p>I was involved in the discussions a few years ago about the upgrading of the river Lugar walk. I volunteer in the Cumnock action plan and lead on the outdoors theme of the plan. I am unsure who the contact would be. Would it be possible for us to be involved in the river Lugar path upgrade?</p> | <p>East Ayrshire Leisure to connect with Cumnock Action Plan Group, to provide update on project</p>   | <p>The Lugar Walk paths are part of the Coalfield Community Landscape Partnership Access Project and improvement works are scheduled for completion 2022. East Ayrshire Leisure Trust will liaise with the local community regarding these routes.</p> |
| 4 | Individual | <p>Support - we live local to Moscow and being BHS members we would like the opportunity to ride our horses directly to Whitelee Windfarm from our house. We have tried to access the CPI3 Kilmarnock to Whitelee, which the plan says just needs signposts. However at the end of the minor road at Lower Rushaw Plantation, we have found that the gate to the forest track is padlocked and there is no horse gate, on the plan it says that CPI3 is accessible to Horse riders, cyclists and walkers. Please could you confirm that a horse gate will be installed and accessible mounting blocks provided either side of the gate.</p>  | <p>We would like to have horse access to the path either through unpadlocking the gate or installing a horse gate. I think allowing direct access to the Windfarm for local residents is particularly important in the current circumstances.</p> | <p>Looking forward to being able to access the path without the need to transport our horses in the trailer to the access point at CPI4, which we can't currently use as they are logging in the only available location suitable for parking a trailer.</p>   | <p>Update CPI3 Kilmarnock to Whitelee, to include information regarding seasonal shooting and plans to accommodate/reroute horse riders.</p> | <p>Negotiation will be undertaken with local landowners to provide better access and signage on this route.</p>  |

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| 5 | East Ayrshire Council        | Great Plan plenty of relevant information. Would there be an opportunity on the back of this to produce small booklets to purchase showing routes, also an opportunity to organise orienteering classes bearing in mind some of the remote locations people can find themselves in. | -  | -  | Request to produce small guidebooks | An on-line useable version of the plan will be produced showing routes and local facilities. East Ayrshire Leisure is currently considering an app. to promote routes in the area.<br><br>Orienteering courses are currently organised through Ayrshire Orienteering and the 6Learning Outdoors Team. |
| 6 | Individual                   | Excellent document highlighting the many outdoor opportunities in East Ayrshire. Particularly helpful during these difficult times, when outdoors is so important.  | From a personal point, would love to see a circular route taking in the Doon Valley. Along the river from Loch Doon, Dalmellington Patna, Dalrymple, Drongan, Rankinston, along the core path to Lethanhill and back to Burnton. | None   | Request for new Doon Valley route   | As part of the Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership a routes is being planned for implementation in 2022 along the Doon Valley. This will be included in future revisions of the Plan  |
| 7 | Crosshouse Community Council | I think all parts of the document are informative, well set out and like the map illustrations  | No change for me - however my views are only based on my limited walking experience around the countryside and village of Crosshouse where I live.   | I walk around my own area and would point out that there is no paths in Crosshouse - if I walk around here there is no traffic free safe paths. There is pavement part of the way but on other routes you are basically walking on small roads facing the danger of traffic so you must concentrate on watching out for traffic more than being able to enjoy the scenery. |                                     | Ayrshire Roads Alliance are currently considering an active travel route between Crosshouse and Kilmarnock.   |

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| 8 | Robstone Farming Company | <p>More emphasis needs to be put on the responsibility of dog owners as sheep worrying is increasing across Scotland with a draft bill going through the Scottish Parliament at this time ( Proposed Protection of Livestock (Scotland) Bill ) Dogs can worry sheep and cause harm and distress year round not only at lambing time. Nowhere in the document is this mentioned nor is the fact that owners can be prosecuted.</p> | <p>Under the Dogs (Protection of Livestock) Act 1953, if a dog worries sheep on agricultural land, the person in charge of the dog is guilty of an offence. The Act considers sheep worrying to include attacking sheep, chasing them in a way that may cause injury suffering, abortion or loss of produce or being at large (not on a lead or otherwise under close control) in a field or enclosure in which there are sheep.</p> <p>Sheep escaped from their keep that are still on agricultural land are still protected by this act. Sheep escaped and are off of agricultural land can no longer be protected by this act. Sheep that have escaped onto amenity land should be reported to the council. If there is concern sheep can and/or have escaped onto a highway or there is a concern that the escaping sheep may injure themselves or be suffering a welfare concern then the County Council Trading Standards team should be contacted as the principle agency for regulating livestock welfare.</p> <p>Under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003, access rights do not allow members of the public on to land with a dog which is not under proper control. The Scottish Outdoor Access Code</p> <p>The Scottish Outdoor Access Code (SOAC) lays out the responsibilities of people enjoying their access rights and of those who manage the land. It offers guidance for people enjoying the countryside with their dogs and says: "In exercising access rights, you must</p> | <p>I think the document is a good idea but with access comes responsibilities and this has not been adequately highlighted in the consultation document.</p> | <p>Include more information about responsible use</p> | <p>Responsible use of the outdoors through the Scottish Outdoor Access Code will be highlighted within the on-line user guide following the publication of the Recreation Plan.</p> |
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|   |            |  | <p>keep your dog(s) under proper control. You must also ensure that your dog does not worry livestock.” The Scottish Outdoor Access Code says ‘proper control’ means different things in different situations, but when around sheep you should:-</p> <p>Not take your dog into a field where there are lambs. Go into a neighbouring field or onto adjacent land. In open country, keep your dog on a short lead (2 metres or shorter) when there are lambs around and keep away from them.</p> <p>Keep your dog on a short lead or under close control if you need to go into a field where there are sheep. The SOAC defines ‘under close control’ as close at heel and responsive to your commands. Stay distant from the sheep.</p> <p>Keep your dog under close control in more open country where there are sheep and stay away from them. The SOAC reminds dog owners that in some cases a farmer has the right to shoot a dog that is attacking their livestock.</p> <p>If you are handling a group of dogs, make sure that they do not cause alarm to livestock.</p> |   |   |   |
| 9 | Individual | <p>Nowhere in this document are there any references to Rights of Way, these are the local paths that have been used for generations, but seem to have been forgotten about, or in the case of Fenwick, ignored by East Ayrshire Council when consent was given to a contractor to close one. These paths are full of history and essential, many are used daily, yet not included in this</p> | <p>I wish to see a section added specifically for Rights of Way. The paths are known to the Authority and as such must be shown as alternative routes to walking on roads, which is a high risk method of travel.</p>  | <p>The reproduction quality of maps with the routes overlayed is very poor and suggests that clear identification of routes is not a priority. This needs to be re-visited, HD quality maps added and the document re-posted, in its current form it is little more than a tick box document for East Ayrshire.</p> | <p>Include information on rights of way</p> <p>Improve maps</p> | <p>A section will be added to the document regarding the status of rights of way in East Ayrshire</p> <p>Publication of the Plan will include an on-line user guide with high quality maps.</p> |

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|    |                        | plan. They must be identified and included for this to be an accurate and concise document   |  |   |  |  |
| 10 | Individual             | Regarding the Ladyyard Circular route, there is no footpath on the B743 Ayr Road from Redcraig roadend to Mauchline.   | If the route is being promoted, a warning that you need to walk on a busy road verge should be included. | - | Provide information regarding walking on the public road   | Clear information to be included in the Plan regarding the route |
| 11 | Outdoor Services       | bottom of page 44, B-road details need updating, On Parks and Nature Reserves on page 64 should the Dean park be added to the list of parks as well as the Dean Castle Country Park? | -  | - | Update Dunlop Hill Circular as this route begins at Dunlop Parish Church... and follows it west towards the Bxxx and back to Dunlop.<br><br>Add Dean Park to list of Parks | Plan to be updated<br><br>Dean Park to be added                  |
| 12 | EAC - Outdoor Services | The plan on page 2 would benefit from a key showing what the paths/hills are.  | Purple lines - Core paths<br>Blue lines - Local paths<br>Red circles - Notable hills                     |   | Add key to page 2:<br>Purple lines - Core paths<br>Blue lines - Local paths<br>Red circles - Notable hills   | Key to be added to the Plan                                      |

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| 13 | East Ayrshire council      | I am supporting this plan as I have been involved in providing feedback for many years and see this as an integral part of our infrastructure and assists with health and wellbeing and outdoor access across our communities. these are all well used routes and see this as an important part of recovery and renewal process as we come out of the current pandemic  | n/a  | n/a |   | Noted                        |
| 14 | Dunlop Outdoor Connections | <p>We are seeking to add the Common Craig path network into the Dunlop Local paths consultation.</p> <p>We are currently working with the land owner on a conservation project to replace the grass paths with a gravel path over the next 1/2 years. An automated counter had been put in place during the summer months last year and recorded 11108 people using the network between March to July.</p> <p>The current network also is designated a core path and reaches out towards Stewarton as the only safe walking routes between the 2 communities.</p> | <p>I will send pictures of the Common Craig path network that is to be upgraded to the access officer and Anneke Freel.</p> <p>I look forward to your reply</p> <p>Funding for the upgrade will be a lot more challenging if the paths do not have any path status</p> | -   | Add Common Craig path network into the Dunlop Local paths | Path to be added to the Plan |

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| 15 | Dunlop Outdoor Connections | <p>The Wee Glen Should be added as a local path.</p> <p>East Ayrshire Woodlands are currently involved in an upgrade project to all the paths and stairs in the Wee Glen. They are also tree felling and adding features such as natural seating which will increase its usage. Local support through a fb questionnaire was given during the lock down that the people of Dunlop wanted these upgrades made.</p> <p>It is a well used path that is part of the Dunlop path network that includes the Minnie Gemmil and the Common Craig that allows people to engage with nature and walk through out the village</p> | The Wee Glen Should be added as a local path | -   | Add the Wee Glen to the Dunlop local path network.  | Path to be added to the Plan   |
| 16 | Individual                 | There is very little detail about open water swimming nor are angling clubs listed. I think this should be elaborated on.  | -  | <p>Doc is great in that it sets out paths but there could be more information about cycling!</p> <p>As someone that has recently done the EA section of the River Ayr Way I don't think the signage on the River Ayr Way is great for tourists or visitors!</p> | <p>Provide more information about open swimming</p> <p>Provide more information about angling clubs in the area</p> <p>Provide more information about cycling</p> | <p>More information will be added to the on-line user guide</p> <p>Contact details will be added to the on-line user guide</p> <p>Ayrshire Roads Alliance will develop an Active Travel Strategy to provide more information regarding cycling routes in the area. Any new routes will be included as the Recreation Plan is reviewed.</p> |

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| 17 | Individual                 | There is no mention in the report about a cycling or mountain bike centre being considered. Mountain biking is a growing market and if established trails were created it would bring in further tourism to the area. See Glentress in Peebles as an example.  | -   | -   |   | Recreation Plan only includes existing routes and facilities. Any new developments will be included in future reviews of the plan. |
| 18 | Dunlop outdoor connections | <p>millennium Park/Temple House woodland-Minnie Gemmel Walk are probably the most used path network in Dunlop. They are circular routes that can take 30 / 40 mins to walk or you can stay the whole afternoon in the woodlands. A mixture of grass paths and single track roads</p> <p>This is part of the local woodland network including Common Craig and the Wee Glen</p> | Please add in millennium Park, temple House woodland / Minnie Gemmel to Dunlop's local path network | -   | <p>Millennium Park, Temple House Woodland / Minnie Gemmel to Dunlop's local path network...Millennium Park/Temple House woodland-Minnie Gemmel Walk is a circular routes that can take 30 / 40 mins to walk or you can stay the whole afternoon in the woodlands. A mixture of grass paths and single track roads</p> <p>This is part of the local woodland network including Common Craig and the Wee Glen</p> | Routes to be added to the Plan   |
| 19 | Individual                 | I would like there to be additional to these areas for access and building of mountain biking routes. This is a sport that is grown in popularity and will help bring people to the area and support local shops. Developing mountain biking in Scotland are a great organisation that can help advise with this.  | Additional of access for mountain biking  | I support the document but feel with the additional of opening accessibility for the grown mountain biking community will be greatly beneficial |   | Recreation Plan only includes existing routes and facilities. Any new developments will be included in future reviews of the plan. |

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| 20 | Individual            | -   | -  | Circular routes really needed to encourage full appreciation of the areas. Negotiations need to be made with Forestry Commission and Scottish Power regarding delays in improving condition of the Weavers Trail |  | Noted   |
| 21 | Individual            | Zero mention of mountain bike trails.   | Inclusion of mountain bike trails in East Ayrshire   | -  |  | Recreation Plan only includes existing routes and facilities. Any new developments will be included in future reviews of the plan.  |
| 22 | Individual            | With the expansion of fardalehill estate, we have been encouraged not to use the golf course as a walking area for residents for obvious reasons. However this significant limits off road areas local residents can use other than the childrens playpark or street paths. | It would add great value to residents of fardalehill and the bonnyton area if a connecting path was created onto the national cycle path which connects through to north ayrshire. If this connection was closer to the fardalehill estate it would also prove safer to access. At present residents need to access it via the very busy western road. | -  |  | Comments are noted and recorded for future development opportunities.<br><br>Recreation Plan only includes existing routes and facilities. Any new developments will be included in future reviews of the plan. |
| 23 | East Ayrshire Council | Support this document as it provides a wide range of information on the great outdoors of East Ayrshire.  | -  | -  |  | Noted   |

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| 24 | Ochiltree Community Plan Action Group | Local physical recreation and connection have been so important during Covid but they were important before this. The recreation plan is essential and provides a great base for development. | Core path 2 is recognised as an important path in the document. The extension along the right of way to Ochiltree is highlighted on page 2 in purple but is missing from the map on page 14. As core path 2 is not a footpath between Egger Barony and Auchinleck estate we would wish to see pedestrian /Cyclist path created for the missing 500m and the Ochiltree link path upgraded thus providing connectivity between Ochiltree, Auchinleck Estate, Barony A Frame, Dumfries House estate and Auchinleck. | The development at the North Kyle Forest is not given a priority mention. This could provide significant community linkage between Cumnock/Auchinleck/Ochiltree and the Doon Valley. This would be a bonus for recreation and tourism for the future.                                 | Add CP 2 which is missing from page 14...The extension along the right of way to Ochiltree is highlighted on page 2.<br><br>Add more info about development at the North Kyle Forest. This could provide significant community linkage between Cumnock/Auchinleck/Ochiltree and the Doon Valley  | The Lugar Walk paths are part of the Coalfield Community Landscape Partnership Access Project and improvement works are scheduled for completion 2022. East Ayrshire Leisure Trust will liaise with the local community regarding these routes.<br><br>Information about north Kyle Forest to be added to the Plan |
| 25 | Scottish Wildlife Trust               | lack of clarity in the document and some errors   | The local path maps require to be named as to which routes they are illustrating,<br><br>if more than one route is shown on these maps, the lines themselves should be labelled and<br><br>all the listed routes should have a map as the descriptions are insufficient to work out exactly where they go.   | p50: C5 text should be changed from "Pit Bing" to "Lagoons reserve".<br>p64: should be Knockshinnoch Lagoons Wildlife Reserve, New Cumnock<br>p64: Bogton Loch isn't a reserve<br>p64: add Dalmellington Moss Wildlife Reserve<br>p64: add Catrine Voes Local Nature Reserve, Catrine | Name the local path maps to illustrate the routes.<br><br>If more than one route is shown on maps, the lines themselves should be labelled and include a map for each route.<br><br>C5 text should be changed from "Pit Bing" to "Lagoons reserve" (pg 50).<br>p64: should be Knockshinnoch Lagoons Wildlife Reserve, New Cumnock<br>p64: Bogton Loch isn't a reserve<br>p64: add Dalmellington Moss Wildlife Reserve<br>p64: add Catrine Voes Local Nature Reserve, Catrine | Maps will be updated<br><br>Maps will be reviewed and individual route maps considered as part of the on-line version of the Plan<br><br>Text will be updated  |

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| 26 | Individual | <p>"Ultimately, a local path in East Ayrshire is a public path"</p> <p>Lanfine is a Private Estate and Permissive Access is granted to pedestrians. You have listed the driveway running through the locked gate at the bottom of Ranoldcoup Road as a Public Path. It is not. It is a private driveway with permissive access running through a Private Estate.</p> <p>The driveway runs through the gardens not just of Lanfine but of my home at East Lodge. There are private garden lawns and flowerbeds on either side of this driveway. It is anything but a Public Path and should not be listed as such.</p> <p>There are ever increasing problems with nuisance and aggressive behaviour from the ever increasing number of people using this driveway for recreation. Many are in breach of Lockdown restrictions. Advertising this driveway and encouraging others to come here is sentencing me to never have quiet enjoyment of my home again.</p> <p>The increasing volume of people has resulted in vehicles parking unlawfully on white lines, on the grass verges causing a muddy mess, and parking directly in front of the gate blocking access. These people have been aggressive when asked not to park there. The Estate and Police have had to be notified to assist in removing vehicles. They</p> | <p>Remove the Lanfine walk from the publications. Locals know about it, and enjoy it together. Do not encourage even more people.</p> <p>If you insist on listing a Private Estate and a private driveway with Permissive Access, make it clear that is what it is: Permissive Access through private residential land.</p> | <p>I am disgusted that I only found out about this by chance, while Google searching for something else. As a home directly impacted, you should have identified me and contacted me directly. If you want to increase the number of people violating my right to quiet enjoyment of my home and surrounding private garden and yard, then at least have the courtesy to invite me to the supposed "consultation".</p> | <p>Remove the Lanfine walk from the publications. Locals know about it, and enjoy it together. Do not encourage even more people.</p> <p>If you insist on listing a Private Estate and a private driveway with Permissive Access, make it clear that is what it is: Permissive Access through private residential land.</p> | <p>Routes will be promoted as per the Scottish Outdoor Access Code. Further information will be given regarding the status of routes</p> |
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not only block access to and from Lanfine to those residing and working within the Estate, they block access to emergency vehicles endangering lives and property.

Furthermore, adults touch and children climb all over the gates and play with the locks despite signage asking people not to touch them due to Covid-19 risk. These people endanger the lives of residents and workers on the Estate. Please do not encourage more people to come, or are our lives not being considered?

I am a Shielded household and have been unable to enjoy access to my private garden and yard areas because of the uninvited presence of others leaving the permissive access of the driveway and violating my private home. I have suffered adults, children, dogs and horses in my garden, around my bins and vehicle, and even at my back door! They have damaged property and plants. They have turned the lawn to mud. They have littered. Dogs have fouled. They have caused such a noise disturbance as to disturb sleep. When asked to leave my private land and to stick to the driveway, they have more often than not been aggressive.

Despite the Pandemic, and the law stating you cannot go to another's house, I have been plagued by people knocking on my door. They ask me about the gates, for directions, and some demand I

open the gate so they do not need to wake the baby by folding the pram! They have done this even when I have had a sign on the door saying I was sleeping! I refuse to even open the door as I am Shielded and they stay there in groups hammering on it for the next 20 minutes. I plead with you not to encourage more people to come here.

I have also been disturbed while Shielding to assist when dogs have been offlead on the Estate and worrying livestock. The signage on the gate is very clear that dogs are only permitted if on a lead. Are you going to provide a security presence if you are encouraging people here?

I was harassed while seriously ill with Covid-19 at the beginning of Lockdown, by teenagers hammering on my door and shouting, because they wanted me to come and help an underage drinker. I couldn't stand unaided, but obviously they didn't care and carried on shouting and hammering on my door. Underage drinking and drug taking is a problem on the Estate - please do not advertise the "facilities" to more.

The UK is reeling from yet another attack on an innocent woman. Consider I have been petrified to have men appear at my open back door as I step out the shower. There is no respect for boundaries here and these need to be

enforced, not violated further by calling the main driveway a Public Path and increasing the sense of self-entitlement.

I had a tradesman doing work outside and he too was scared to be approached by people not wearing masks while he was on my private land.

The sheer volume of people within the wider Estate has meant Social Distancing has been impossible, and despite living in the Estate I have been unable to use it. As a Shielded person living in isolation this has been devastatingly hard as I have been trapped inside.

This has also been the experience of local people, particularly dog walkers and those vulnerable like myself, whose enjoyment of this wonderful location has been spoiled or stopped entirely by daytrippers. Do not advertise to even more please. When you make an area hell for the local people previously living peacefully together, you have failed.

In January I fractured my foot. The driveway had been turned to sheet ice by large visitor numbers coming to enjoy the scenery despite Lockdown. The sheer numbers of visitors made my home environment dangerous to me. Of course once it was that dangerous, they all stayed away. I was left unable to walk across the driveway to get out and no

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|    |            | <p>vehicles could move over it!<br/>Encouraging more people to come here is reckless.</p> <p>My right to quiet enjoyment of my home has been taken from me by increased visitor numbers to Lanfine. I do not want to see even more people encouraged to come here.</p>  |  |   |   |   |
| 27 | Individual | <p>Stewarton is very isolated from a walking perspective. To my knowledge all the ones mentioned are not 'paths' they are roads. We need safe walking connections between the surrounding areas like Fenwick, Whitelee, Kilmaurs, Kilmarnock and beyond. It's not even safe to get to the Lainshaw woods entrance on Kilwinning road as there's no path and cars drive too fast. The new persimmon homes and Magbiehill park don't have a pavement all the way up and again, cars drive that road too fast. More actual paths needed, not roads to walk on.</p> | <p>I would like Stewarton to even be thought of, we shouldn't have to drive everywhere or not be safe walking.</p> | - |   | <p>Ayrshire Roads Alliance will develop an Active Travel Strategy to provide more information regarding routes in the area. Any new routes will be included as the Recreation Plan is reviewed.</p> |
| 28 | Individual | <p>I am trying to walk all core paths. I thought I would check them all out on the map. Can somebody check the proposed route versus recent satellite images.<br/>The opencast workings may require the route to be realigned.</p>  | -  | - | <p>Verify proposed route versus recent satellite images. The opencast workings may require the route to be realigned.</p> | <p>Route to be verified and maps updated where appropriate</p>  |

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| 29 | Individual | We need more bridal paths for horse owners  | More bridal paths for horse owners   | -  |  | Recreation Plan only includes existing routes and facilities. Any new developments will be included in future reviews of the plan.  |
| 30 | Individual | <p>1. River Ayr Way - glad to see this given it's own section although not in as much detail as the "core paths" - I'd like to see it laid out in table form like all the core paths are. It is a huge asset to the area with good tourist potential and needs much better maintenance - currently there are sections of it which are closed and have been for some time which does not suggest that it is a priority for EAL and EAC. The only news I ever read about it is that another section is closed.... I am confident that a volunteer programme, eg "friends of the River Ayr Way" would attract local volunteers keen to help with maintenance, signage and so on.</p> <p>2. Core paths - I would argue that paths have not fallen out of use and therefore become overgrown, but have rather fallen out of use BECAUSE they ARE ALLOWED to become overgrown. A key example of this is the Darvel to Loudoun Hill path which gets extremely overgrown in summer months with nettles and this puts people off using it. I therefore do not believe that paths should have been struck</p> | <p>River Ayr Way - more detail given same as for core paths. And a programme for ensuring its proper maintenance/upkeep.</p> <p>I would like to see all paths currently shown on the Core Paths map, to become either a core path or local path under the new scheme. The only exception being where there is clear evidence that the path is no longer used (see note 2 above).</p> <p>Further, I see huge potential in a volunteering programme or similar with the aim of maintaining these core and local paths networks in each area. They should be given priority in terms of maintenance, signage and so on.</p> <p>If it is decided not to include any of the paths currently on the Core Path Plan map, then these should be listed out with reasons given as to why not.<br/>Note: deterioration in path surface or stiles etc NOT a valid reason to score it off the list – invest instead!!</p> <p>Proposal to include proper signposting of core and local paths as part of the new recreation plan.</p> <p>Include detail for Darvel 5 mile walk on</p> | <p>Overall just to reiterate that I have concerns about the lack of paths being considered as core/local paths. I do like the split and agree that the proposed list of core paths includes the right ones, but there are many others I feel are not represented by the local paths proposal and I wouldn't like to see them forgotten about simply because they need a bit of work. I feel very strongly that we should instead do the work to keep them open and used.</p> | <p>Sections of River Ayr Way to be laid out in table from like all the core paths with more detail</p> <p>All existing core paths to be designated as core paths or local paths</p> <p>Priority should be given to maintenance and signage</p> <p>Explanation to be given for exclusion of routes from the Recreation Plan</p> | <p>More detail will be added to the Recreation Plan about the River Ayr Way. It should be noted that not all sections of the River Ayr Way are in East Ayrshire. Closed sections are in South Ayrshire</p> <p>Not all paths are suitable for designation due to current condition</p> <p>Maintenance will be undertaken by various means. EAC has no obligation for maintenance of routes unless a path agreement is in place. Landowners have an obligation for keeping routes open for access.</p> <p>A table will be included within the Recreation Plan</p> |

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|  | <p>off the core paths/ local paths list for this reason - many of them would continue to be used if they were properly maintained.</p> <p>3. Local Paths - there are many paths currently on the core paths network which have no mention at all in this document. I feel that these should be listed out and a specific reason given for why they have not been included. Examples: river path from Fairyhill Road, Kilmarnock towards Caprington (currently closed due to path erosion – just needs a bit of work to re-open it instead of closing it forever and forgetting about it). Another example: Little Bellsland Road which is a lane between Riccarton Church and Asda/Queens Drive Retail Park. Well used by local people but no longer listed in the recreation plan. A key active travel route!!! Final example is the “core path” from Sprockets across Caprington Golf Course to Earlston. I believe that these should be listed as local paths and cannot see any reason not to include them.</p> <p>4. It is my belief that core paths and local paths should be given priority when it comes to maintenance – eg street lighting, litter, stiles, erosion etc. I am confident that volunteers would be keen to come forward in support of that!</p> <p>5. Signposting – all core and local paths should be properly signposted. Not just “Footpath”,</p> | <p>the local paths table on P46</p> <p>Complete the table on P55 (and add many more to it – examples given in point 3 in my response to question 9!!)</p> |  | <p>Signage to be included for core and local paths</p> <p>Darvel 5 mile walk to be included in local paths table</p> <p>Include additional routes in the Local Path Network</p> | <p>Signage is installed as projects are developed. A partnership approach with Ayrshire Roads Alliance, East Ayrshire Council and local communities to improve signage</p> <p>Table will be updated</p> <p>Suggested routes will be reviewed and included where appropriate.</p> |
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|    |            | <p>but stating where it leads to. Scotways can help with that. This is key for encouraging active travel. If you are driving a car all the signs tell you where the roads lead to, it should be the same if you are walking.</p> <p>6. Local Paths – the “5 mile walk” in Darvel is shown on the map on P47 but there is no mention of it on the table on P46.</p> <p>7. The table on P55 appears to be unfinished?? There is only detail for the first path.</p> |               |   |  |  |
| 31 | Individual | Stewarton area is badly in need of a proper recreation site for a fast growing population, and also better paths, in particular a path to allow safe walking from Stewarton to Dunlop   | East Ayrshire | - |  | Recreation Plan only includes existing routes and facilities. Any new developments will be included in future reviews of the plan. |

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| 32 | Individual | The Plan seemed to lack ambition. | <p>1. More focus on making existing Core Paths fit for purpose. At present some/many of them are in need of upgrading.</p> <p>2. A clearer idea of how these paths are going to be maintained. In the past the creation of paths has taken precedent but less thought has been given to ongoing maintenance.</p> <p>3. The Leisure Trust needs to take the lead in path maintenance but resources make this difficult. The idea of Path 'Wardens', recruited from local communities who would adopt part or all of a footpath and who would act with the support of the Trust would enable ongoing maintenance in a more cost friendly way.</p> <p>4. The demise of opencast mining and their consequent restoration has left a huge network of tracks in the uplands. Many of these lie within the North Kyle Masterplan area and will be developed as this comes on stream. However at present there are no up to date maps to show where they go and how they interlink. The OS maps are not sufficiently recent to be useful. It is surely possible to provide a download on line map showing these tracks and make access easier. This may be especially important for those outwith North Kyle area.</p> <p>5. The lack of good information was clear recently at Glenbuck. The maps at the car park are not very clear and there is no waymarking on the routes. It would also help if the location of the important geological section was clearer and interpreted. Working with the local community could greatly improve the visitor experience.</p> | - | <p>Provide a downloadable on line map showing these tracks and make access easier. This may be especially important for those outwith North Kyle area.</p> <p>Improve visitor experience through enhanced signage and interpretation</p> | <p>Downloadable maps will be included in the online version of the Plan. Consideration will be given to including the North Kyle area as part of this. EALT is also considering the provision of an app. for easier access to maps and wayfinding</p> <p>Signage is installed as projects are developed. A partnership approach with Ayrshire Roads Alliance, East Ayrshire Council and local communities to improve signage</p> |
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| 33 | Individual | I think there would be demand for a safe walking and cycle route between Stewarton and Dunlop.  | -  | -  |  | Recreation Plan only includes existing routes and facilities. Any new developments will be included in future reviews of the plan.  |
| 34 | Individual | The document tells us how exercise and fresh air is good for us all. That there are all these great outdoor facilities. But there is no mention of how the Council expects people with disabilities to access these.  | At least some acknowledgement of the access needs of the disabled. Shorter flat circular walks, places to rest etc. At least a mention that we even exist would be appropriate.  | If you look at the walks within Stewarton there is not a single one suitable for the mobility disabled. All have either steep steps or a "gentle climb" in them. Since we are not supposed to travel, where does the Council expect us to get some exercise and fresh air?   | Add 'Provision of all abilities paths' to all Core Paths surveys, including details about suitability for type of abilities and info about possible rest points? | Further information about each route will be included on the online user friendly plan. This will include suitability of routes for all abilities and facilities on the routes. |
| 35 | Individual | I object to the core path plan for the route of Darvel to Loudounhill on the following issues -<br>the route has a history of anti social behaviour which this path will increase<br>there has been a lack of consultation and planning on this route with interested land owners which will be affected (our home is adjacent to the proposed path)<br>the increase in foot traffic will negatively impact on my enjoyment and use of my garden<br>the siting of the path will run adjacent to my property and affect my right of privacy<br>the route is not suitable for a wide core path due to it's geographical positioning and by making the path broader will negatively impact of the natural surroundings | Further consultations on this route and mitigations in place to prevent anti social behaviour, increase privacy for home owners and consideration on the position/width of path. | After asking to be kept informed of this proposed path and explaining concerns to the development officer in 2019 - we were not consulted by the council on this updated draft plan, we had to hear from neighbours that this was going ahead, surely local landowners should have all been consulted?<br>After reaching out to the council I feel that our concerns are not being taken seriously or being dealt with properly. |  | Noted   |

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| 36 | Individual | As a keen Hillwalker, I fully support the development of a network of paths to improve access to the countryside for all. However, I must express my grave concern for the number of vehicles which currently access Loudoun Hill via the single track road, directly opposite Loudoun Hill Inn, and park between Dykehead and Winkinfield. Excess traffic detracts from the outdoor experience that many seek when visiting the countryside and also represents a real hazard to those walking the road. | Provision of appropriate signage on roads used as part of the network advising vehicle drivers to use official parking sites only.   | Excellent document which promotes excellent values.   | Include information about parking facilities   | Additional information about parking will be included in the on-line user friendly version of the Recreation Plan   |
| 37 | Individual | Lack of any comment on water safety and training available. - It should start in a swimming pool with survival and water safety lessons.<br>and a kayaking club   | Canoeing & Kayaking<br>What about training and safety?!<br>This should include<br>Open Water Swimming<br>Again - Water Safety knowledge first - where is the source of information on dangers in open water reservoirs etc? -<br>The warning signs on Loch Doon would suggest it is far from safe. It is about knowing your own ability and the environment. | Only one path around Stewarton<br>- There needs to be more options considering the size Stewarton has grown to. | Add info that is now saved in file regarding open water swimming<br><br>Additional routes to be added in Stewarton | Information about water safety to be added to on-line version of the Recreation Plan.<br><br>Recreation Plan only includes existing routes and facilities. Any new developments will be included in future reviews of the plan. |

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| 38 | Dean Hatchery & Habitat Trust | Details as shown in East Ayrshire Mapping SK52 Part of Core Plan K9 Path Name Kilmarnock to Gatehead concludes at Laigh Milton Mill this should be show going down as far as Irvine. This should be as part of the Core Plan.   | All These routes should be re-designated as they were not when original survey routes asked for public comment. This should be now looked at. | Not enough public scrutiny and information from east ayrshire departments as to decisions just taken if they feel it is correct then changes are made. Public with interests and are not notified they should have more say if they think it is not correct. | Route from Laigh Milton Mill to Irvine should be included as a core path. | This route is in North Ayrshire. Links to surrounding local authority areas to be included in Recreation Plan |
| 39 | Individual                    | CPI3 is noted as a link to Whitelee, however there is no passable route beyond the end of the public road aside from a short section of very rough and overgrown track. Beyond that, it is impassable due to forestry. There is no sign of any route. This can be seen on os mapping and aerial mapping. There is also no mention of this route on the whitelee wind farm path network map. Instead, there are two routes into whitelee from the west which are both via Waterside. CPI4 is one (Craigendunton) and the other enters the wind farm via Craigends. This one is not identified as a CP in the draft plan but is currently identified as core path IV 10. In order to tie into the Whitelee plan and because of its impassable terrain, I would suggest that CPI3 is removed. IV10 should be retained as well as CPI4. | Remove CPI3 (or make passable) and retain IV10.   | N/A  | Remove CPI3 and retain IV10   | Plan to be updated  |

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| 40 | Individual | <p>I have already submitted a response to the Draft Recreation Plan on 11th April 2021. I am particularly concerned about the lack of a Core Path anywhere near Stewarton, no walking links between Stewarton and Dunlop, Kilmaurs, and Fenwick, and that you are listing only 4 Local Walks around Stewarton. There are plenty of other walks available for people to use from Stewarton. Some are entirely on minor roads but others have a good mix of rough paths, open fields, woodlands, good views, and some minor roads. In the attachment below I list four of my favourite walks that I should appreciate you adding to my submission. These walks were included in the Annick Valley Stewarton Walking Festival in September 2011 which were organised by SWAT members and Howard Pitman of the Dean Castle Ranger staff. Before adding such walks to any list a discussion with the land owners would be advisable. Some signage would be helpful and a check on gate status made.</p> <p><b>3. Oslebrae, West and East Broadmoss, Clunch Road, Cutstraw Road</b><br/>As 2 until T junction then carry straight on to East Broadmoss. Pass through gates at 2 houses and keep straight on a track through field. Leave field at gate, turn left on grass path and first right on</p> | <p><b>1. The Jubilee Walk</b> Stewarton town pavements to the end of Jubilee Drive at the Robertland bus terminus. Take path down ramp steps towards the river and follow rough path up side of river to the wood on a hill. Climb up the grassy slope on the west edge of the wood and skirt round the edge of the field towards Cauldhame Farm. Pass the farm heading south in a second field and at bottom of field head west down the top of the bank that runs parallel to the Cuts Burn. This leads past the southern end of Stewarton Academy grounds and exit by a stile into Cauldhame Rigg or by a pavement alongside Nether Robertland Primary School, either of which lead to town pavements. (1hr)</p> <p><b>2. Oslebrae, West Broadmoss, Cutstraw Road</b><br/>Leave Stewarton on Old Glasgow Road (B 769) and take first right for Fulshaw Mill and Lintmill. At bottom of hill cross bridge over Annick and proceed up hill to Oslebrae Farm. Go through farmyard and take left fork heading up hill. Follow hard standing track across fields and at gate proceed up grassy path to West Broadmoss Farm. Turn left at gate and follow track out of farm. At West and East Broadmoss signs take right on leg of T junction down tarmac road which leads to Cutstraw Road. At Cutstraw Road turn right for return to Stewarton on road. (2hrs)</p> |  | <p>It has been suggested the following walks are added:</p> <p>The Jubilee Walk<br/>Oslebrae, West Broadmoss,<br/>Cutstraw Road<br/>Oslebrae, West and East Broadmoss, Clunch Road, Cutstraw Road<br/>Damhead Wood loop</p> | <p>Routes to be reviewed and added where appropriate.</p> <p>Recreation Plan only includes existing routes and facilities. Any new developments will be included in future reviews of the plan.</p> |

grass fire break through wood. At end of conifer wood there is a kissing gate into rough field that leads to the Clunch Road at ruined Low Clunch Farm. Turn right on Clunch Road until T junction and turn right onto Cutstraw Road for return to Stewarton. (3.5hrs)

**4. Damhead Wood loop**

As 3 until Low Clunch Farm. Turn right on Clunch Road and 0.25 miles before Custraw Road there is a kissing gate on right into first wooded section that is Damhead Wood. Follow signage through wood and exit onto Cutstraw Road opposite Balgray Mill road end. Turn right for return to Stewarton. (4hrs)

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| 41 | Stewarton Ramblers | <p>Good morning Councillors<br/>I am emailing you in your capacity as Councillors for Annick Ward. Please find attached the response from Stewarton Friday Walkers to the Leisure Trust Consultation. This draft plan is at odds with the concept of encouraging recreational walking and cycling. Some existing routes walking are ignored and some are all but impassable. There is no planned route between Stewarton and Dunlop, as was previously the case. Could you please draw our concerns and suggestions to the attention of the Leisure Trust?<br/>Many thanks<br/>Gerard O'Malley<br/>Secretary<br/>Stewarton Friday Walkers</p> |  | A number of recommendations that requires further consideration and creation of action plan | <p>Following routes should be added to the plan:<br/>Stewarton Kirkford to Kirk Glebe;<br/>The Lainshaw Estate Local Path path;<br/>Circular Walk from Dunlop to Dunlop House,<br/>High Gallowberry and Commoncraig;<br/>Netherhouses Short Loop;<br/>Dunlop Hill Circular;<br/>A walking route around Stewarton;<br/>A walking route from Stewarton to Dunlop;<br/>Stewarton Academy Cycle Route.</p> | <p>Routes to be reviewed and added where appropriate.</p> <p>Recreation Plan only includes existing routes and facilities. Any new developments will be included in future reviews of the plan.</p> |
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| 42 | Stewarton Woodlands Action Trust | <p>There would appear to be no Core Paths in the Stewarton Area at all. Nothing from Stewarton to neighbouring Kilmaurs or Dunlop. Why is that? There is obviously a need for something in this area judging by the number of people who have been walking, particularly since the start of the pandemic. People have been walking along roads which are just not suitable for pedestrians, particularly between Stewarton and neighbouring Dunlop, A735. We in Stewarton Woodlands Action Trust (known locally as SWAT), along with a couple of other groups have tried to get a pathway opened up between Stewarton and Dunlop for several years now, in particular, one that would be suitable for walking, but perhaps also for cycling. This path would begin at Bowes Rigg, and continue alongside fields through farmland until it reached Dunlop. Also, in the section about Local Paths, there are some inaccurate descriptions of what is available, and some newer paths not even mentioned at all, particularly those linked to new housing developments. These should be included in an up to date document. The path network which is looked after by SWAT has taken an absolute pouning over the last year due to very much increased usage. I would say there has been a three or four fold increase in the footfall, and this has led to a lot of wear and tear which will have to be addressed very soon</p> | <p>Page 43, A5 Lainshaw Estate. (Changes are written in capital letters) This route starts at the lainshaw Viaduct on the west side of Stewarton. It enters LAINSHAW WOODS AT THE START OF DAVID DALE AVENUE, CONTINUING DOWN A STEEP ZIG ZAG PATH UNTIL IT REACHES ANNICK WATER. IT FOLLOWS THE RIVER PAST LAINSHAW HOUSE, AROUND THE EDGE OF THE WATER TREATMENT WORKS UNTIL IT REACHES A STEEP FLIGHT OF STEPS. TURNING LEFT AT THE TOP, IT HEADS THROUGH BROADLEAVED WOODLAND TO ANDERSONS MOUNT, CONTINUING ON TO KILWINNING ROAD. AT THIS POINT USERS CAN DECIDE WHETHER TO GO OUT ONTO THE ROADWAY, OR CONTINUE WALKING THROUGH A CONIFEROUS WOODLAND UNTIL IT ENDS AT THE OTHER GATE FOR LAINSHAW WOODS. TURNING RIGHT ONTO KILWINNING ROAD LEADS BACK TOWARDS STEWARTON CENTRE.</p> | <p>I have no other comments on the document, but would like to say that any help from EAC towards the repair/resurfacing of paths within Lainshaw Woods would be very welcome. Also, the grassed path that connects Lainshaw Woods and Kirkford going under the viaduct, is very much in need of something more permanent being laid down. It is fine in dry spells, but during periods of rain, it can become difficult to use. This path is essential in connecting the other paths in the south part of Stewarton, and is widely used by walkers, dog walkers, cyclists and horse riders, and could be used as a safe route to Stewarton Academy, other than the crossing of the road leading to Kilmaurs, B769</p> | <p>Update information about identified routes.</p> | <p>Routes to be reviewed and updated / added where appropriate.</p> <p>Recreation Plan only includes existing routes and facilities. Any new developments will be included in future reviews of the plan.</p> |
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| 43 | Member of Stewarton Woodlands Action Trust, Annick Active Travel, and Stewarton Friday Walkers. | <p>Support only in so far as the Plan proposes 3 year updates. Of the 19 Core Paths listed for East Ayrshire there are none shown close to the fast growing Stewarton.</p> <p>There are only 4 walks listed under Stewarton Local Paths and walk A1 is really unsuitable for many wet months in the year for the section between Kirkford and Lainshaw Street. Furthermore the exit at Lainshaw Street needs a pelican crossing to allow safe continuation to walk A5 Lainshaw Woods.</p> <p>There are currently no safe walking routes between Stewarton and the nearest neighbouring villages of Dunlop, Kilmaurs, and Fenwick.</p> | <p>Consider improving the walking routes as in 9 above, if not now, over the next 3 years. I shall forward a list of 5 circular walks from Stewarton that may be of interest for future inclusion in the Local Walks list.</p> | - | Update information about identified routes and include additional routes | <p>Routes to be reviewed and updated / added where appropriate.</p> <p>Recreation Plan only includes existing routes and facilities. Any new developments will be included in future reviews of the plan.</p> |
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| 44 | Individual | <p>I am a resident of Stewarton, the focus of my response to this consultation is on the Recreation Plan and the opportunities in and around Stewarton.</p> <p>Stewarton is the third largest settlement in East Ayrshire (Census 2011 = 6,581).</p> <p>Significant new housing development has taken place in Stewarton since 2011 with 3 large developments on the West/North West of the Town.</p> <p>Further extensive development is taking place with construction by Avant Homes of 150 dwellings on Loudon Road.</p> <p>Hence the need for outdoor access for recreation, and the benefits of access need to increase.</p> <p>One of the few positive effects of COVID-19 has been a very visible increase in walking. This has been visible with many more people on the roads, pavements and local footpaths in and around Stewarton.</p> <p>Unfortunately this need is not been addressed.</p> <p>Three observations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Many people walking in Lainshaw Woods, the main footpath in Stewarton that is not in a built-up area and is almost all free from road traffic.</li> <li>2) I have observed on multiple occasions groups of 2 or 3 walkers using the B769 (N and S of Stewarton) and the B778. Both are busy roads designated as National Speed limit – so far from ideal for walking.</li> </ol> | <p>Reinstate Core Paths for the Stewarton Area.</p> <p>In particular:</p> <p>Route A6 – Stewarton to Dunlop: This is almost entirely on very quiet back roads – apart from a small section in open fields following a right of way. As the route linking two nearby settlements this route meets the definition in the recreation plan: “strategic routes that connect a network of destinations, settlements, towns and communities.</p> <p>The next nearest settlement is Kilmaurs. The direct routes to Kilmaurs pass through part of North Ayrshire. So my second request is for the two councils to work to establish a core route to link Stewarton and Kilmaurs.</p> | <p>There are a number of rights of way in and around Stewarton. Local knowledge of these is very poor. This requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge of the existence of the online East Ayrshire map portal</li> <li>• Finding the Right of Way tab within the General Planning Layers</li> <li>• Finding the Core Paths tab within the Leisure Layer</li> </ul> <p>As a minimal there should be a link to these and an explanation of how to find these within the Final Recreation Plan. Ideally these should have more prominence within the mapping, e.g. Having a main level layer such as Outdoor Recreation.</p> | <p>Reinstate Core Paths for the Stewarton Area, in particular: Route A6 – Stewarton to Dunlop: The next nearest settlement is Kilmaurs.</p> <p>Local councils to work to establish a core route to link Stewarton and Kilmaurs. Link to online East Ayrshire map portal and an explanation of how to find these within the Final Recreation Plan.</p> | <p>Recreation Plan only includes existing routes and facilities. Any new developments will be included in future reviews of the plan.</p> <p>Downloadable maps will be provided as part of the final on-line Recreation Plan</p> |
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3) Several conversations on the Stewarton Voice facebook page asking for details of other walks within Stewarton.

The Core Paths Plan 2008 has 10 Core Paths in Stewarton (A1 to A7 + A11 to A13)

The Draft Recreation Plan 2021/22 has no core paths in Stewarton plus 6 local paths (A1 to A6)

So the local provision for outdoor recreation is decreasing – in sharp contrast to the increasing population and need for access.

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| 45 | Active Travel Hub Kilmarnock | <p>P7 - Thank you for highlighting the Active Travel Hub and our activities! It may be worthwhile adding that all of our services are free.</p> <p>P9 &amp; P42 &amp; P55 - Core paths vs local paths: we are pleased to see certain strategic routes called out as core paths, however feel that there are a huge number of paths missing from the local paths list, especially around the "Kilmarnock, Kilmaurs and surrounding" area (in fact P55 looks incomplete on the draft plan with whole sections blank). We'd like to see active travel play a key role in determining a path's designation as a "local path", per the statement made on P42 to this effect: "most of them will also offer travel between home and nearby shops, schools, town halls, cafes and restaurants. These are ideal routes for doing regular errands and outings close to home and some may even connect to the surrounding core paths and offer connecting journey options to neighbouring communities"</p> <p>We would like to see local paths properly signposted in the same way that routes are signposted for vehicle drivers on roads. Current path networks are either not signposted at all or have a "footpath" sign, which is only useful if you know where the footpath goes. We would like consideration to be given to proper and full signposting of local paths to</p> | <p>P7 - Active Travel "The Active Travel team provides free instructor-led walks...."</p> <p>P9 &amp; P42 &amp; P55 - Core paths vs local paths: the current core paths plan map at <a href="http://webgis.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/webgis2016/">http://webgis.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/webgis2016/</a> shows many more paths around the "Kilmarnock, Kilmaurs and surrounding" area, all of which we would like to see listed as Local Paths on the EA recreation plan. There are also lots of gaps in the Irvine Valley when it comes to connecting villages. Specific examples: Little Bellsland (link between Riccarton and Queens Drive retail park), Chris Hoy cycle way and river path between Hurlford-Galston-Newmilns are not shown but are currently "core paths". There are many more examples.</p> <p>P10 - our ask is that you re-assess which paths have been left out of the new core/local paths lists due to them having been perceived as having low footfall due to vegetation growth. It is often the other way around and if they were properly maintained, they would have good footfall all year round. An example is the path along the river from Fairyhill Rd in Kilmarnock and linking to Caprington / the Grange / Gargieston estates. It is not well maintained and becomes impassable in the summer. In fact part of it is currently closed due to path erosion. If it was well-maintained and vegetation kept under control, it would be well-used all year round. Just one example.</p> | n/a | <p>Add that Active Travel Hub are free (p7)- "The Active Travel team provides free instructor-led walks...."</p> <p>P9 &amp; P42 &amp; P55 - Core paths vs local paths: the current core paths plan map at <a href="http://webgis.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/webgis2016/">http://webgis.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/webgis2016/</a> shows many more paths around the "Kilmarnock, Kilmaurs and surrounding" area, all of which we would like to see listed as Local Paths on the EA recreation plan.</p> <p>There are also lots of gaps in the Irvine Valley when it comes to connecting villages. Specific examples: Little Bellsland (link between Riccarton and Queens Drive retail park), Chris Hoy cycle way and river path between Hurlford-Galston-Newmilns are not shown but are currently "core paths". There are many more examples.</p> <p>P10 - our ask is that you re-assess which paths have been left out of the new core/local paths lists due to them having been perceived as having low footfall due to vegetation growth. It is often the other way around and if they were properly maintained, they would have good footfall all year round. An example is the path along the river from Fairyhill Rd in Kilmarnock and linking to Caprington / the Grange / Gargieston estates. It is not well maintained and becomes impassable in the summer. In fact part of it is currently closed due to path erosion. If it was well-maintained and vegetation kept under</p> | <p>Plan to be updated</p> <p>Paths to be reviewed and included if appropriate. Justification for not including will be added to the finalised plan.</p> <p>Routes to be reviewed and updated where appropriate</p> <p>Recreation Plan only includes existing routes and facilities. Any new developments will be included in future reviews of the plan. Dangerous or lost routes may form part of new projects for inclusion in future plans.</p> |
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|    |                       | <p>indicate where they lead. This would help people make active travel choices.</p> <p>PI0 - we would caution against assuming that a path being "overgrown" means that it has become that way through lack of use. We can cite examples of routes we use in winter months for our health walks which we simply cannot use in summer due to them becoming overgrown with vegetation. It is more the case that the path is overgrown which leads to lack of use, and not that it becomes overgrown BECAUSE OF lack of use.</p> |   |   | control, it would be well-used all year round. Just one example. |  |
| 46 | Individual            | <p>There are no plans for a Core Path from Stewarton to Dunlop</p> <p>There are no new paths planned despite a great increase in housing in Stewarton and Dunlop being planned</p> <p>Existing walking routes are being abandoned</p> <p>The Dunlop Hill walk is almost impassable</p>  | - | It should address the core premise of expanding not contracting outdoor walking and cycling opportunities in Annick |  | Recreation Plan only includes existing routes and facilities. Any new developments will be included in future reviews of the plan. |
| 47 | Stewarton Initiatives | <p>A more suitable footpath/ cycle route between Stewarton and Dunlop and between Stewarton and Kilmaurs. There is not safe route between the towns although there are minor roads that could be linked by signpost and made safer by some minor repairs.</p>   | - | -   |  | Recreation Plan only includes existing routes and facilities. Any new developments will be included in future reviews of the plan. |

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| 48 | Dunlop and Lugton Community Council | <p>Dunlop and Lugton Community Council have a vested interest in maximising outdoor recreation opportunities in our local community and supports the review of the current East Ayrshire Core Path Plan.</p> <p>The Community Council recognises that the 2006 Core Path Plan does not properly represent the local situation around the communities of Dunlop &amp; Lugton, and supports the proposal to change the approach and to produce a guide to the outdoors in the form of a Recreation Plan, which will be presented in a more user friendly format.</p> <p>Local organisations in the Community Council area are aware of (and to some extent involved in) significant projects to develop and promote active travel routes and outdoor recreation opportunities around the community area, and accordingly the intention to review the plan on a 3 year rolling basis is considered essential to ensure that new developments are included at regular intervals and that the plan is kept up to date and relevant.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the above, there is disappointment that local knowledge does not appear to have been sought in advance to inform the content of the draft Recreation Plan as the proposals for local paths around Dunlop &amp; Lugton:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Do not include all previously designated core paths (as identified on EAC Mapping)</li> <li>- Do not include the most recognisable and easily accessible</li> </ul> | <p>In the next stage of development of the Recreation Plan, we would seek changes to the document to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A re-writing of the section of the table of 'Local Path Network Route Information and Maps' to include properly researched and locally supported proposals for local paths around the Dunlop &amp; Lugton communities. Local organisations will be happy to assist with this exercise and provide survey information on level of usage and in particular would want well established paths at the Millenium Woodland, Templehouse Woodlands and Commoncraig Woodland included.</li> <li>- A commitment to a core path being established between Dunlop and Stewarton.</li> </ul> | <p>In terms of the document itself, the Community Council consider it would be helpful to include a section providing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- More detailed proposals on how the information within the Recreation Plan will be presented and made accessible to a wide cross section of the community.</li> <li>- More visual information on the connectivity between Core Paths, public transport and National Cycle Routes. (eg Dunlop local paths could be identified, and potentially signed,as starting from Dunlop Railway Station.)</li> <li>- A commitment to engaging with local representative groups to help promote the Recreation Plan and inform the 3 year rolling review programme.</li> </ul> <p>For the purposes of engaging with the local community, Dunlop &amp; Lugton Community Council are happy to act as the lead organisation.</p> | <p>Work with local groups to identify routes for 3 year reviews</p> <p>Add a section to explain that the Recreation Plan will be available on East Ayrshire Leisure Website and hard copies are available on request. Additionally, include a table containing path descriptors on webpage with the option for members of the public to comments throughout the three year period?</p> <p>More visual information on the connectivity between Core Paths, public transport and National Cycle Routes. (eg Dunlop local paths could be identified, and potentially signed as starting from Dunlop Railway Station.)</p> | <p>Recreation Plan only includes existing routes and facilities. Any new developments will be included in future reviews of the plan.</p> <p>A review of routes in Dunlop and Lugton will be carried out an added where appropriate</p> <p>On-line Recreation Plan will be provided with more details of each path. Feedback can be provided at anytime</p> <p>Information about about transport links, starting points and other local facilities will be included in the on-line version of the Recreation Plan</p> |
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|    |               | <p>routes that have been the most popular for local exercise during the current coronavirus restrictions.</p> <p>- Include some sections of paths which are not easily accessible, not clearly defined and not well used.</p>   |   |   |  |   |
| 50 | Paths for All | <p>We welcome the review of the Core Path Plan and the inclusion of wider recreational issues. We welcome the recognition of the importance of the outdoors for people's health and the relevance of active travel.</p> <p>We are not in a position to give detailed comments on the routes in the plan but would hope that there will be sufficient provision to ensure that all communities have improved routes close to where they live.</p> <p>We welcome the intention to review the plan every three years and welcome the commitment to outdoor recreation - which has proved so important for us all over the last year of Covid-19.</p> | -   | - |  | Noted   |
| 51 | Individual    | <p>Given that there has been large housing estates built in Stewarton with more in progress it is disappointing to read that there is no increase in amenities. With Covid and the need to keep fit and protect mental health it is well recognised the ability to be out of door in the open air is very beneficial.</p>   | <p>I should like to see that paths, and rights of way are reinstated and can be walked without hazard. In addition I should like a path to be made between Stewarton and Fenwick as well as Stewarton and Dunlop.</p> | - | <p>Add a path between Stewarton and Fenwick as well as Stewarton and Dunlop.</p> | <p>Recreation Plan only includes existing routes and facilities. Any new developments will be included in future reviews of the plan.</p> |

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| 52 | Stewarton walking group   | Our secretary for Stewarton walking group has forwarded some proposed changes to the core path proposals I support his changes   | As per above note   | - |  | Noted   |
| 53 | Stewarton Friday Ramblers | Some of the paths are impassable.  | More accuracy in details of walkable paths. More stiles, updated signs on paths, etc. | - | Add a section to explain that the Recreation Plan will be available on East Ayrshire Leisure Website and include a table containing path descriptors on webpage with the option for members of the public to comments throughout the three year period?                              | More information will be provided in the on-line version of the Recreation Plan. Comments can be submitted at any time.   |
| 54 | Individual                | As you will be aware my main areas of interest are CP8 Loch Doon Forest Road and CP9 Dalmellington to Loch Doon via Ness Glen. Firstly the road runs up the West side of the Loch and not the East as stated. In the document it makes reference to Paths D11 (Now CP8) and D14 (Now CP9) which are from the previous core paths document and makes it a bit confusing as the draft now only shows to D7 for routes in the Doon Valley. Is there a reason it has been reduced from 19 on the previous plan as many of the routes are still in regular use around Dalmellington? It also makes reference to forest tracks creating a circular route around the loch. At present the forest tracks do not join up, with both Forest and Land Scotland and Tillhill Forestry having timber plantations. Is this a |   |   | Amend: CP8 Loch Doon Forest Road and CP9 Dalmellington to Loch Doon via Ness Glen- road runs up the West side of the Loch and not the East as stated<br>Amend CP8- no circular route available<br><br>Provide justification as to why some routes are no longer included in the plan | Plan to be amended<br><br>A table will be included as an appendix to the Recreation Plan which explains why some routes have been excluded at this stage. However, it should be noted that the 3 year review period provides opportunity for routes to be included as they are developed. |

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|    |            | <p>proposal to create a new path?The identification of core paths, upkeep and signage are important and over the last few years the popularity of the area has increased due to it being a good access point to the wider Galloway Hills. I think the visitors will only increase with the Ness Glen Gorge, Dalcairney Falls, Craiglee Trail and Auchencro circular seeing the highest footfall.The Ness Glen part of the core path is in need of some work to repair areas of walkway,boardwalk and erosion prevention.I previously emailed Paddy MacDonald in relation to waymarking some of the historical routes at loch doon. Forest and Land Scotland are also looking at upgrading some of their paths at the Southern end of the loch all of which will build on the recreation plan.</p> |  |  |   |  |
| 54 | Individual | <p>I picked up a few queries totally at random when skimming the document for your consideration. IV3 – River Irvine cycle Route mentions the theme park at Loudoun Castle Estate – dated reference?<br/>I note there is mention about navigation and walking safety, but none regarding the section on Water access – this involves considerable risks?<br/>Recreation Sites – the Catrine Voes Local Nature Reserve – should this be included?<br/>Country Estates – No mention of Caprington Estate in the list, if the infinity loop is accessing the estate should it be included in the list?</p>   |  |  | <p>Add Catrine Voes Local Nature Reserve to the Parks and Nature Reserves<br/>Add Caprington Estate to Country Estates</p> <p>Lists sites in alphabetical order<br/>List</p> <p>Add additional information regarding water safety</p> | <p>Routes to be reviewed and the plan updated and amended as appropriate</p> <p>Amendment to be made to list sites in alphabetical order</p> <p>Additional information about water safety to be added to on-line recreation plan</p> |

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|    |            | Several lists of places don't appear to be in any order – ie. alphabetical or per settlement.  |   |  |   |  |
| 55 | Individual | <p>I refer to East Ayrshire leisure recreation plan 21 – 24 in relation to page 20 core path 6 point 10 : states that in terms of our Germany this route exists as a dismantled railway and only requires signage to promote it to a wider audience.</p> <p>As part of the Coal Team, I have been asked to look at the possibilities for signage and also am aware that if this core path was provided with signage then the route between Lethanhill and Burnfoot former mining villages to Rankinston would be helpful to the public.</p> <p>Is there any possibility, of collaborating between our respective services in terms of signage for this core path route? I would welcome a discussion on this matter.</p> |   |  | <p>Inclusion of route between Lethanhill and Burnfoot former mining villages to Rankinston</p> <p>Work in partnership to develop signage for routes</p> | <p>Route to be included in plan</p> <p>Ayrshire Roads Alliance, East Ayrshire Council, East Ayrshire Leisure Trust and community stakeholders will work together to develop signage plans for individual projects.</p> |
| 56 |            | <p>Is this the correct version of the consultation document?<br/>On first sight it looks like The Weavers trail as described is actually The Long Cairn Walk<br/>Please check &amp; confirm</p>  | <p>The short route description paragraph and the ten points that follow it (starting p34 of the document) all belong to the Long Cairn Walk, even though the heading is 'Core Path 15 The Weaver's Trail'. The map that follows is indeed the Weaver's Trail. However, there seems to be confusion on how the Long Cairn Walk is categorised. The heading (page 46) lists it as IV5, but under the ten points back on page 34, it is classed as IV18.</p> |  | <p>Add information on Weavers Trail that is now in file</p>   | <p>Route to be added to the Plan</p>   |

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| 57 | Individual | <p>I was having a wee read on the recreation plan and on page 35/36 the wrong info has been inserted for CP 15 – Bransfield Bridge at Priestland to the A71 at Loudoun Hill instead of the Alston Papple in Newmilns up to Whitelee. This info is for the Long Cairn walk which is designated on page 46 as a local path IV5.</p> <p>On the Map on page 47, the 'Five Miles' is marked on the map – the circular walk on the north side of Darvel, but isn't mentioned as a Local path in the preceding table. It would be a good one to include if it isn't already – a very popular local walk.</p> |  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Change CP 15 – Bransfield Bridge at Priestland to the A71 at Loudoun Hill instead of the Alston Papple in Newmilns up to Whitelee.</li> <li>2. Add for 'Five Mile'...Beginning on Burn Road in Darvel, this circular route follows a steep minor road heading north and turns right onto Foulpapple. The minor road continues north, taking in Muck's Bridge, which can be busy with lorries, and continues to Braidley Bridge over the Glen Water. The road continues down the other side of the glen, passing Laigh Braidley, Feoch and Byres Farms. Upon reaching the Quarterhouse Farm crossroads, the route turns right down Manse Brae, turning right at the junction for the A71 back into Darvel.</li> </ol> | Plan to be updated |
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| 58 | Kilmaurs Community Council with changes to route information | Kilmaurs Community Council welcomes the revision of the Core Paths Plan and the opportunity to submit a response to the consultation on the proposed Recreation Plan. The response presents the view of Kilmaurs Community Council in consultation with its members and many of the local residents who regularly use walking/cycling routes around the village. | Kilmaurs Community Council disagree with presumption of removing Core Paths deemed not to be in use. It may be the case that some of these routes have fallen out of use, however the proposal that 75-80% of the routes in East Ayrshire are no longer used is highly unlikely. Some of the routes may have fallen out of use, however this is likely to be caused by lack of investment in these routes making them difficult to access and use, rather than no interest in using them. There are also instances in the Proposed Plan where routes have been removed but are definitely and obviously still in use therefore the assessment of use is flawed. Additionally, with the increase in outdoor access due to covid, which is likely to continue post-covid, investment should be directed towards Core Path and Local Path networks to increase accessibility and encourage outdoor use. We also disagree with this presumption if the Plan is to be reviewed every three years as it will lead to a situation where the inclusion of used routes are continually being defended or face removal from the Plan. Also, as is the case with any consultation, it is difficult to reach those users of the path networks who would be most likely to advise that they are still used and therefore an accurate account will not be gained and many well used routes would be removed from the Plan. Kilmaurs Community Council agrees that two levels of walks; Core Paths and Local Paths is a sensible way to proceed with the plan and separates the functions, suitability and uses of routes. | The section on CPI on page 10 has no figures against it and should be populated. The section on K2 on page 55 has no text and should be populated. The section on CPI on page 10 has no figures against it and should be populated. The section on K2 on page 55 has no text and should be populated. A cycle route between Kilmaurs and Rowallan/A77 national cycle route should be explored to safely accommodate cyclists on this road, which is well used by cyclists and dangerous in areas. There is also potential to tie this access into a cycle route between other settlements in East Ayrshire which is supported by Kilmaurs Community Council. In reference to the attached aerial image 1, which illustrates the most used walks/paths in and around Kilmaurs, we would like to add the following comments:<br>Route 8 - Kilmaurs to Kilmarnock should be classed as a Core Path.<br>Route 15 - Kilmaurs to Knockentiber should be classed as a Core Path.<br>Route 2 - Kilmaurs to Water Meetings should be included as a Core Path.<br>Route 1, combined with Route 3, should be included as a Local Path.<br>Route 4 should be included as a Local Path.<br>Route 5 should be included as a | 1. Add distance for CPI<br>2. Add Kilmaurs to NCR N73 descriptors for: Kilmaurs Town Trail; Grougar Water; and Kilmarnock Infinity Loop | Routes to be reviewed and Plan to be updated with changes as appropriate<br><br>A table will be included as an appendix to the Recreation Plan which explains why some routes have been excluded at this stage. However, it should be noted that the Plan only includes existing routes and the 3 year review period provides opportunity for routes to be included as they are developed. |
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Local Path.

Route 6 should be included as a Local Path.

Route 7 should be included as a Local Path.

Route 9, which is largely out with the extent of the attached aerial image, should be included as a Local Path.

Route 10 should be maintained as a Local Path.

Route 11 should be included as a Local Path.

Route 12 should be included as a Local Path.

Route 13 should be maintained as a Local Path.

Route 14 should be included as a Local Path.

Route 16 should be included as a Local Path.

Route 17 should be included as a Local Plan

Route 18 should be included as a Local Plan.

Aerial image 2 illustrates an alternative walking route to the Kilmarnock to Irvine Cycle Path

THE GROUP PROVIDED  
DEATILS ON ALL ROUTES  
AND MAP FOR  
CONSIDERATION

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| 59 | Individual | <p>I have written comments on the draft Recreation plan but there was no way to add further details of our plans so have attached them to this email.</p> <p>We are seeking to add the Common Craig path network into the Dunlop Local paths consultation. (page 43)</p> <p>We are currently working with the land owner on a conservation project to replace the current wooden stairs and grass paths with a gravel path over the next 1/2 years (pic A. B. C.)</p> <p>An automated counter had been put in place during the summer months last year and recorded 11108 people using the network between March to July. (see pic for counter break down) It is a circular network that people can go for a quick 30 min walk or stay to engage with nature in the woodland.</p> <p>The current network (pic A) also is designated a core path and reaches out towards Stewarton as the only safe walking routes between the 2 communities.</p> <p>feel that it meets the status of a local path and not having it viewed as that will make future funding a lot harder and could bring the project to a halt.</p> |  | Add: Common Craig path network into the Dunlop Local paths | <p>Add Commoncraigs Path to the Recreation Plan</p> <p>Include route form Dunlop to Stewarton</p> | <p>Path to be added to the plan</p> <p>It should be noted that the Plan only includes existing routes and the 3 year review period provides opportunity for routes to be included as they are developed.</p> |
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| 60 | Individual | <p>I refer to the East Ayrshire Cabinet Meeting of 9th December 2020 item 6 and I congratulate you on your appointment as Implementation Officer of the Core Plan Review. May I make the following suggestions in respect of the Great Trails, Core Paths, Local Paths, Hill Paths, Water Recreation and Recreation/Tourist Sites.</p> <p>Regional</p> <p>1 Stewarton lies just outside the Galloway and Southern Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere but it is ideally situated in a position in East Ayrshire to link up the Biosphere to South Ayrshire, North Ayrshire, Renfrewshire and Glasgow. Ed Forrest, Co-ordinator of the Biosphere, is willing to co-operate and share experiences with other adjoining bodies.<br/>ed@gsabiosphere.org.uk</p> <p>2 The Old Glasgow Road is a popular route for the Glasgow cyclists heading for Ayrshire passing the White Loch and following the River Annick to Stewarton. In ancient times there was a drove road from Irvine Harbour to Glasgow following a similar route along the hill tops for cattle from the Inner Hebrides. A new cycle/footpath could follow the same route with hilltop views.</p> <p>3 Crossing the drove road at Cunninghamhead Railway Station on the Irvine Road is the old railway from Dalry in North Ayrshire to Kilmarnock. This crosses the famous Annick Viaduct and passes near Eglinton Park. When Rankinston was built, half of</p> |  |  | <p>Noted.</p> <p>Points will be considered and added to plan where appropriate.</p> <p>It should be noted that the Plan only includes existing routes and the 3 year review period provides opportunity for routes to be included as they are developed.</p> |
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the mining families in Dalry moved their furniture there via a pug line.  
 4 Councillor Mrs Bridget McGeechan of Cunninghame District Council was interested in developing the old track along the Lugton Water from Auchintiber through Montgreenan to Kilwinning, This in turn links into a myriad of old tracks between the coal and iron mines feeding Glengarnock steelworks and from there into Renfrewshire.

Local

1 There is traffic congestion in Stewarton with the Kilmarnock Road, Irvine Road, Kilwinning Road, Dalry Road, Dunlop Road, Old Glasgow Road, Cutstraw Road, Fenwick Road and Old Kilmarnock Road all converging at the Cross. It is made worse by traffic from North Ayrshire making their way to the motorway at Fenwick via Stewarton. The Fenwick Road is unsuitable for the heavy vehicles and the proposal to improve it by using some of the housing development contributions is controversial instead of Government funding for the classified road. A ring road is needed around Stewarton linking all the radial roads and new housing developments at the expense of the developers. This could develop into recreational and cultural activities similar to the Riding of the Marches in the Border Burghs. Cycle and footpaths could be provided at the same time linking up the town centre, sports centre and schools.

2 The existing footpaths from

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|    |            | <p>Kilmarnock and Crosshouse to Kilmaurs should be extended to Stewarton, Dunlop, Lugton and Fenwick.</p> <p>3 When the Kilwinning Road houses were built, Provost Walter Sime insisted that the Right of Way next to the last house at No 111 should be maintained and it was delineated with two fences. This led to the Belvidere, where the children could play, and Lainshaw Farm, the rye field, wooden bridge at the River Annick, the Holm fields and Irvine Road.</p> <p>4 There used to be a popular shortcut from the Railway Station, between Wilson &amp; Wylie's factory and the Cooperage to Standalane and the High School/Primary School in Kilwinning Road.</p> <p>5 Right of Way used by anglers at 1 Old Glasgow Road, along the East Burn to the River Annick.</p> <p>6 There used to be path from Dunlop Road past the Ravenscraig Castle (popularly known as Corsehill Castle) under the railway to a popular picnic area on the side of the Clerkland Burn and the Cunningham Watt Park. The path under the railway has been filled in.</p> |  |  |  |
| 61 | Individual | <p>Please find attached Spreadsheet Table which contains two tabs in relation to Place Plans - path improvements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action Programme Comments Tab - the compiled table provides comments in relation to each of the Place Plans derived from extensive community &amp;</li> </ul>  |  |  | <p>It should be noted that the Plan only includes existing routes and the 3 year review period provides opportunity for routes to be included as they are developed.</p> |

departmental consultations, which resulted in the Action Programmes being produced.

- Online Survey Comments Tab – compiled table established from members of the public online surveys on numerous EAC digital platforms (EAC Website / EAC Social Media sites, Facebook, Twitter, etc. used to reach the wider community; including Community Councils, Community Action / Steering Groups, etc.).

The attachment is “for your information” and may be of some use in relation to the East Ayrshire Draft Recreation Plan.

It consists of information from the Place Plans (Action Programmes) theme “Cycling and walking route improvements - Improvements to infrastructure which encourage people to walk and cycle more” and is written in conjunction with the Community Action Plans. In relation to the existing and emerging Placemaking Plans it indicates path improvements, in the various Placemaking Plans which East Ayrshire Leisure may wish to include within the East Ayrshire Draft Recreation Plan 2021-2024.

For information about the Place Plans visit our website using the link below:

<https://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/PlanningAndTheEnvironment/Development-plans/Placemaking/Placemaking.aspx>

East Ayrshire Leisure Trust, East Ayrshire Council and Ayrshire Roads Alliance will work with local communities to implement placemaking and community action plans for future inclusion in the recreation plan.

