



## Inverkip and Wemyss Bay

Locality Action Plan 2024



Inverclyde Alliance

# Inverkip and Wemyss Bay

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# Inverkip and Wemyss Bay

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## Locality profile

Inverkip and Wemyss Bay is located on the West Coast of Scotland, 30 miles west of Glasgow and has a population of around 9,000<sup>1</sup>. The locality area covers the villages of Inverkip and Wemyss Bay, and the surrounding rural areas.

The villages of Inverkip and Wemyss Bay boast a shared history that stretches back centuries. Inverkip's roots trace back to the early 12th century when the land belonged to the monks of Paisley Abbey. By the 14th century, the Stewarts acquired the area and constructed the imposing Ardgowan Castle. For centuries, Inverkip remained a primarily agricultural village, with whispers of witchcraft even swirling around it in the 1600s.

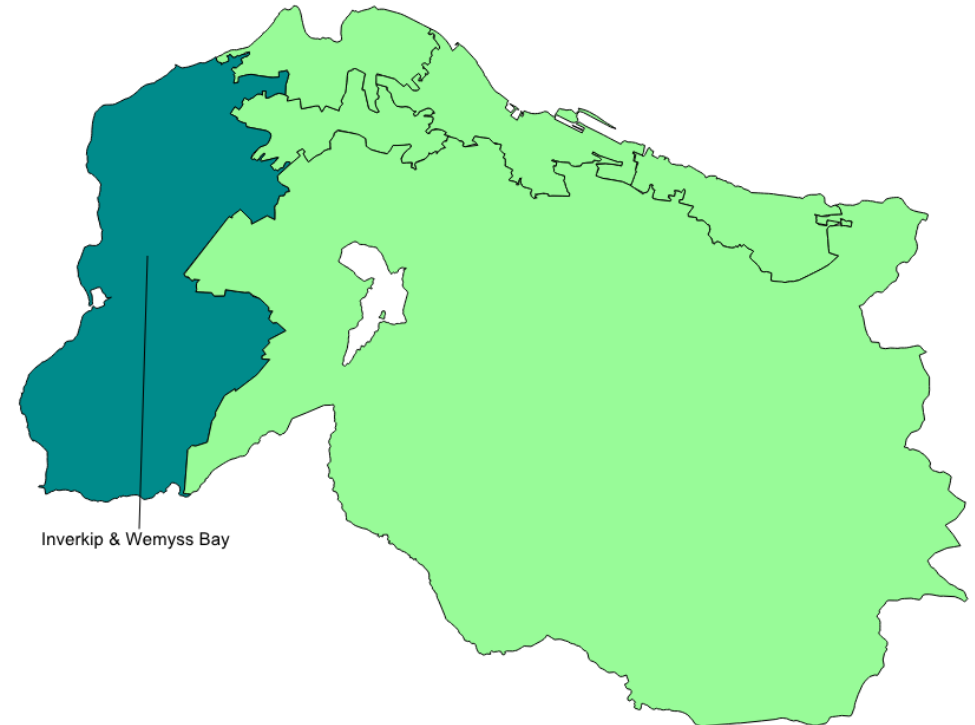
A significant turning point for Inverkip arrived in 1865 with the establishment of the railway line connecting Glasgow and Wemyss Bay. This new transportation link completely transformed the village. Inverkip blossomed into a popular seaside resort, attracting day-trippers eager to escape the bustle of Glasgow and Greenock for a refreshing coastal getaway. The village even enjoyed a brief period as a ferry port for steamships.

Inverkip's marina development is a relatively recent addition to the town's story. While Inverkip thrived as a seaside resort in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the marina itself wasn't constructed until the 1970s. This development, known as Kip Marina, significantly boosted Inverkip's appeal as a boating destination.

There have been further additions to the marina in recent years. Plans were approved in 2016 for additional housing around the existing marina, creating a more integrated waterside community called Kip Village. This included expanding the marina itself to accommodate more boats.

Meanwhile, Wemyss Bay remained a quiet fishing bay until the late 18th century when it became part of the Kelly Estate. The arrival of the railway in 1865 mirrored Inverkip's experience. Wemyss Bay flourished as a seaside resort, drawing visitors alongside its neighbouring town. Today, both Inverkip and Wemyss Bay continue to be charming coastal destinations, offering a glimpse into their intriguing past.

Inverkip and Wemyss Bay has strong, vibrant, active communities who work together to ensure that local people are involved, included, and cared for.



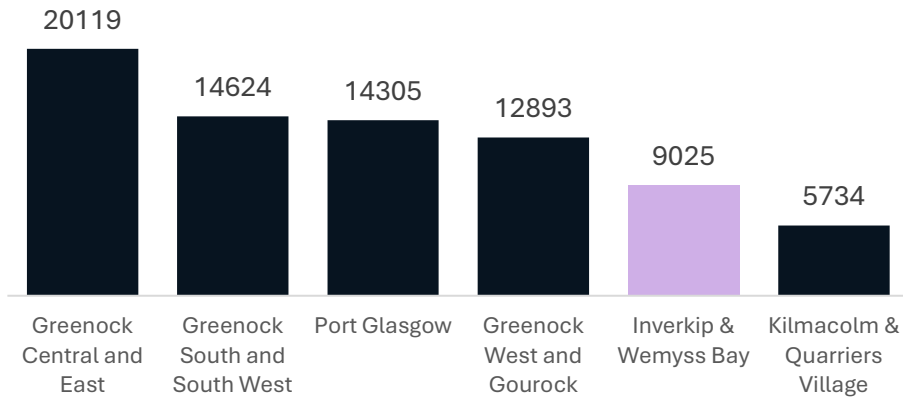
<sup>1</sup> National Records of Scotland (NRS), 2022



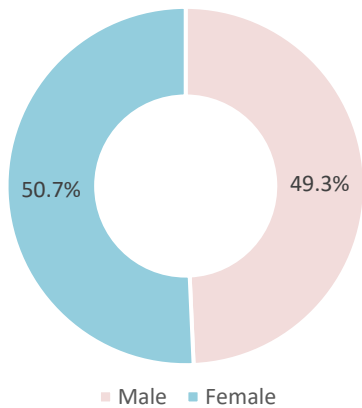
# Inverkip and Wemyss Bay

## Locality Action Plan 2024

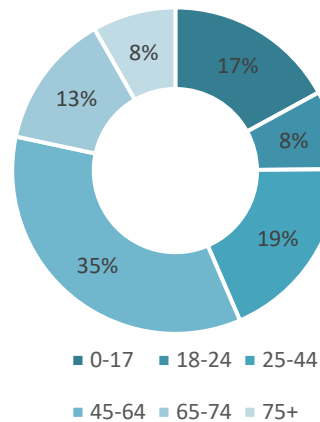
*Inverclyde locality populations<sup>1</sup>*



*Inverkip & WB population gender split<sup>1</sup>*



*Inverkip & WB age breakdown<sup>1</sup>*



**9,025**

Estimated population of Inverkip and Wemyss Bay. This is approximately 12% of the total population of Inverclyde.<sup>1</sup>

**0** of the 12 datazones are in the 20% most deprived in Scotland<sup>2</sup>

**21.7%**

of population are over the age of 65, which is 0.1% lower than the Inverclyde average of 21.8%.<sup>1</sup>

**24.9%**

of the population are under the age of 25, which is 0.5% lower than the Inverclyde average of 25.4%.<sup>1</sup>

**8.1%**

of children aged 0-15 living in households in relative poverty (22/23) 15% lower than Inverclyde 23.1% and 13.2% lower than Scotland 21.3%.<sup>3</sup>

**81.8**

male life expectancy in Inverkip and Wemyss Bay (2019), which is 7.5 years higher than the Inverclyde 74.3 and 5 years higher than the Scottish average 76.8.<sup>4</sup>

**89.2**

is the female life expectancy (2019), which is 10.6 years higher than the Inverclyde average 78.6 and 8.2 years higher than Scotland 81.<sup>4</sup>

**65.7%**

of children at a healthy weight in primary 1 (20/21), which is 0.4% higher than Inverclyde 65.3% and 4% lower than Scotland 69.8%.<sup>4</sup>

**34.2**

crime rate per 1,000 population in 2022, which was 38.3 lower than the Inverclyde average 72.5 and 49.4 lower than Scotland 83.6.<sup>5</sup>

**4.2%**

Working age population employment deprived (SIMD 2020), which is 10.2% lower than Inverclyde and 5.1% lower than Scotland

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.gov.scot/collections/scottish-index-of-multiple-deprivation-2020/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/constituency-data-child-poverty/>

<sup>4</sup> [https://scotland.shinyapps.io/ScotPHO\\_profiles\\_tool/](https://scotland.shinyapps.io/ScotPHO_profiles_tool/)

<sup>5</sup> [23-1198 - Crime Stats - by Data Zone - Earliest To Apr 23 - Police Scotland](https://www.police.scot.nhs.uk/23-1198-Crime-Stats-by-Data-Zone-Earliest-To-Apr-23-Police-Scotland)

## Inverkip and Wemyss Bay

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### What is a Locality Action Plan?

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 placed a legal duty on Inverclyde Alliance to demonstrate that it is making a significant difference to the lives of residents through the planning and delivery of local outcomes and the involvement of community bodies at all stages of community planning. In addition, the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 (the Act) puts in place the legislative framework to integrate health and social care services in Scotland. Section 29(3)(a) of the Act requires each Integration Authority to establish at least two localities within the area.

Both these pieces of legislation have provided the opportunity for Inverclyde Alliance to develop six locality plans for the localities listed below.

- Kilmacolm and Quarrier's Village
- Port Glasgow
- Greenock East and Central
- Greenock West and Gourock
- Greenock South and Southwest
- Inverkip and Wemyss Bay

The purpose of this locality plan is to outline the key issues in Port Glasgow that have been identified through the statistical information we hold for this locality, as well as extensive engagement with the community.

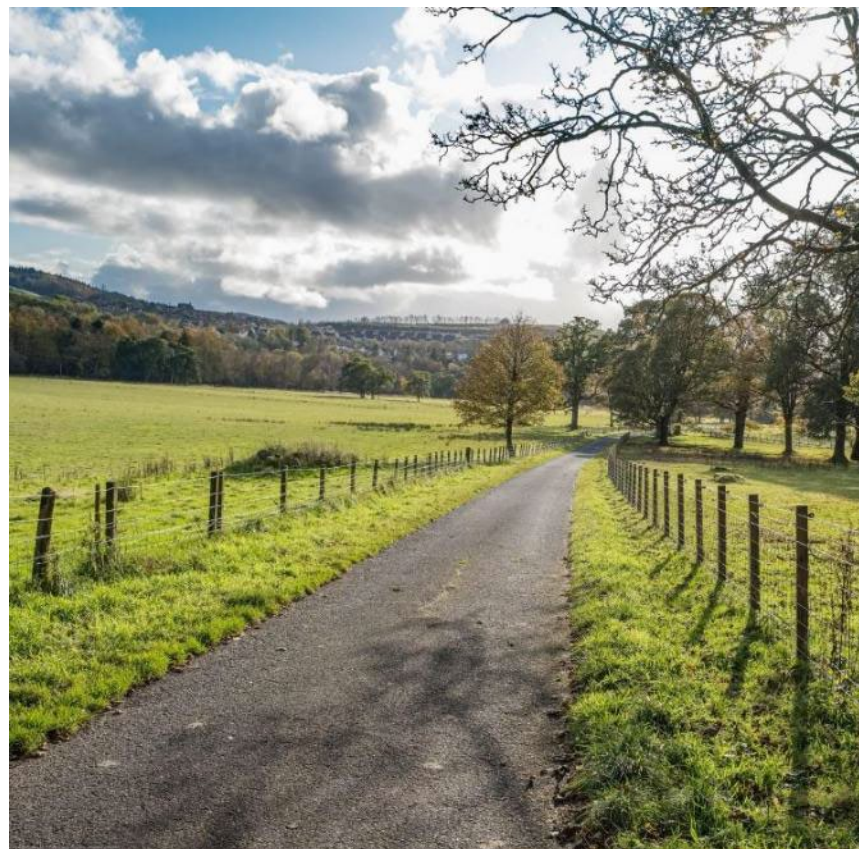
The locality plan also identifies a range of actions that will be taken to address these issues by both Inverclyde Alliance and the local community in Port Glasgow working together.

Locality plans should be informed by communities themselves and work is ongoing to create an Inverclyde-wide engagement model, known as Inverclyde Peoples Network, based on a mixture of online and face-to-face engagements, that will drive the priorities in 6 locality plans. This will be promoted as a community planning partnership approach and will also link with the work of Health and Social Care Partnership locality planning groups. The Inverclyde

Peoples Network will help to inform and take forward participatory budgeting in Inverclyde. Participatory budgeting is a way for people to have a direct say in how local money is spent.

This is an exciting opportunity for anyone who would like to get actively involved in the way services are delivered and shape how their local community might look in the future.

Public bodies cannot do this alone; we need to listen to what local people say is important to them and include your views as we plan ahead together.



# Inverkip and Wemyss Bay

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## Who are the key partners on this Locality Action Plan?

- Elected members
- Community Councils
- Tenants and Residents Associations
- Parent Councils and Pupil Councils
- Youth Council
- HSCP Locality Planning Groups
- Community representatives
- Community Planning Partnership:
  - Inverclyde Council
  - Skills Development Scotland (SDS)
  - West College Scotland
  - Inverclyde Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP)
  - Police Scotland
  - Scottish Fire & Rescue
  - NHS Scotland
  - Third Sector organisations
  - Scottish Enterprise
  - Nature Scotland

## Community Assets

Inverkip and Wemyss Bay has a range of community groups, assets, and services across the locality. It is important that these assets are fully utilised for the benefit of residents in Inverkip and Wemyss Bay and that consideration is given as to how these assets could be better used to improve the quality of life and deliver better outcomes for local people.

For further information on what activities and services are available within this locality area please visit [Inverclyde Life - find activities and services in Inverclyde.](#)

## Community Voice Groups

The following is a list of some of the existing groups that operate within the locality area and provide a platform for communities to have their say:

- Inverkip and Wemyss Bay Community Council
- Wemyss Bay Association
- Parent & Youth Councils
- Inverkip Hub Committee

## Physical Assets

### **Schools / Nurseries**

- Inverkip Primary School and nursery class
- Wemyss Bay Primary School and nursery class

### **Places of Worship**

- St. Joseph and St. Patrick's RC Church
- Inverkip Parish Church
- Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay Parish Church

### **Leisure**

- Inverkip & Wemyss Bay Library

### **Health**

Pharmacies:

- TLC Inverkip Pharmacy
- Wemyss Bay Pharmacy



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Dental Practices:

- Ivy Cottage Dental Practice

### **Public Transport**

- Inverkip Train Station
- Wemyss Bay Train Station
- Regular bus links



## Engaging with the community

Extensive engagement has been carried out with residents in Inverkip & Wemyss Bay to find out what they think about living in this area and identify what improvements they would like to see take place.

Each Locality Plan set original priorities in 2019 based on data analysis and local engagement, which included:

- **Our place our future (2017)** - In 2017 Inverclyde Alliance carried out a survey across Inverclyde called ‘Our Place Our Future’ which delved into a wide range of themes from traffic and parking, streets, and spaces, to work, care, housing, and local amenities.
- **Engagement with Young People (2017)** - children from across Inverclyde provided the HSCP their views and identified eight priorities and actions that are important to them as part of the Inverclyde People Plan 2017-2020.
- **‘Celebrate the Present, Shape the Future’ Event (2019)** - In 2019 Inverclyde Alliance held a series of engagement events across all 6 localities in Inverclyde called ‘Celebrate the past, shape the future’.

During the development of the [Inverclyde Alliance Community Partnership Plan 2023-33](#) a thorough Strategic Needs Assessment and public consultation was undertaken between 2021 and 2022. The consultation involved six different research methods over eight weeks of consultation. There were a total of 2801 participants.

Our partnership vision is “Success For All – Getting It Right for Every Child, Citizen and Community” and the plan focuses on the themes of Empowered People, Working People, Healthy People and Places, A Supportive Place, and a Thriving Place.

Following the publication of this Partnership Plan 23-33, a review of the previous priorities for Locality Plans was carried out to ensure that they were still relevant to local needs and aligned with the new community planning partnership vision and priority outcomes.

## Inverkip and Wemyss Bay

### Locality Action Plan 2024

A community survey ran during April and May 2024. The survey provided an opportunity for community members to state if they agreed or disagreed with the suggested priorities for their locality area, followed with an opportunity to suggest alternative areas of concern. The survey also asked for feedback on two Inverclyde wide priorities, transport and roads.

Community Learning & Development Officers created an engagement plan to maximise engagement, actions within this plan included:

- Visiting groups across the six localities with paper copies of the survey.
- Support from Corporate Communications with wider publicity
- Hosting 6 Community drop-on sessions in partnership with Inverclyde Libraries
- Promotion of the survey via Schools and Third sector such as CVS and Your Voice.

Community drop-in sessions were also held within each locality. The aim of the community drop-in was to provide a safe space for community members to access support to complete the survey, the support accessed was primary around supporting digital skills and further information in relation to the locality plans.

During the consultation communities were presented with the option of agree or disagree in relation to the suggested priorities specific to each locality and two Inverclyde wide priorities. The suggested priorities reflect feedback from previous community engagement. The digital survey received 410 completed responses:

- Theme 1 Empowering people: 78% agreed with the suggested priority.
- Theme 2 Working People: 74% agreed with the suggested priority.
- Theme 3 Healthy People and Places: 76% agreed with the suggested priority
- Theme 4 A Supportive Place: 75% agreed with the suggested priority
- Theme 5 A Thriving Place: 67% agreed with the suggested priority

- Inverclyde wide priority 1 Improved roads: 75% agreed with the suggested priority
- Inverclyde wide priority 2 Improved transport: 71% agreed
- 129 of the respondents would like to be part of the Inverclyde People's Network

**Engagement with people for the HSCP strategic plan 2024-2027** - The engagement process for the Strategic Plan in Inverclyde Health and Social Care Partnership involved a collaborative effort between the HSCP, CVS Inverclyde, and Your Voice. They co-produced a survey distributed digitally to the workforce, third sector, and communities. In-person engagement sessions and focus groups were also conducted to gather expectations and priorities for the plan.

The feedback from the engagement process highlighted several strengths of the Strategic Plan, including:

- Alignment with national outcomes
- Extensive community consultation in developing priorities
- Opportunities to strengthen partnership working with the third sector
- Potential for reviewing and improving processes, waiting times, and response times
- Opportunities to deliver services differently in response to financial pressures and service demands
- Potential to reconnect services and strengthen integration post-COVID

The priorities, over the life of this plan, we will:

- Provide Early Help and Intervention
- Improve Support for Mental Health, Wellbeing and Recovery
- Support Inclusive, Safe and Resilient Communities
- Strengthen Support to Families and Carers



# Inverkip and Wemyss Bay

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## Inverkip and Wemyss Bay Priorities

Each Locality has their own local priorities that relate to inequalities and highlight where the Community Planning Partnership can add value. The priorities also link to our [Inverclyde Alliance Community Partnership Plan 2023-33](#)

As a result of the extensive engagement that has taken place the following priorities will be taken forward through the locality action plan for Inverkip and Wemyss Bay.



**Empowered People:** Residents have accessible platforms to have their say and feel an improved sense of Community.



**Working People:** Communities will have access to employability support that supports highlighted need and greater employment opportunities



**Healthy People and Places:** Communities have access to safe spaces to learn, play and engage. Young people can access services to support their need.



**A Supportive Place:** Communities will feel safer, and the local area will have less anti-social behaviour, youth congregation during School breaks



**A Thriving Place:** Focus on regenerating the town centre to improve its overall look and feel and increase employment opportunities.



## **Inverkip and Wemyss Bay**

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### **Next Steps**

- Locality Plans will be embedded within the work of the Thriving Communities Partnership who are a delivery group for Inverclyde Alliances Partnership Plan 2023-33.
- Community Conversation Weeks will be planned annually for each locality to ensure there is continual face-to-face engagement on the plans that is linked to decision-makers both within the local authority and the Community Planning Partnership.
- The Inverclyde People's Network will be developed as an Inverclyde-wide engagement network, based on a mixture of online and face-to-face engagements, that will drive the priorities in 6 revised locality plans.

# Inverkip and Wemyss Bay

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## Action Plan

Inverkip and Wemyss Bay Community Action Plan					
Partnership Plan Theme	What do we want to achieve and why?	How are we going to get there?	Lead	Timescale	Progress
<b>Empowered People</b>	Residents have accessible platforms to have their say and feel an improved sense of Community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the role of Inverkip and Wemyss Bay Community Council.</li> <li>Encourage Community Members to be part of the People's Network</li> <li>Promote the role of Wemyss Bay community hall and encourage community members to join the committee.</li> </ul>	Community Learning and Development Partnership		
<b>Working People</b>	Communities will have access to employability support that supports highlighted need and greater employment opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that there is access to inclusive employability support both in person and digital.</li> <li>Make the area more investible for employers.</li> <li>Promote the support available within the Inverkip hub in relation to adult learning and employability.</li> </ul>	Inverclyde Local Employability Partnership (LEP)		
<b>Healthy People and Places</b>	Communities have access to safe spaces to learn, play and engage. Young people can access services to support their need.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote Community resources.</li> <li>Work in partnership with statutory services and Community groups to help ensure community spaces are safe and minimise cost.</li> <li>Promote activities within the locality and events such as Kipfest and events hosted by local groups and churches.</li> <li>Encourage community members to access and support local growing spaces, such as Blooming Inverkip</li> </ul>	Community Learning and Development Partnership		



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<b>Supportive Place</b>	Communities will feel safer, and the local area will have less anti-social behaviour, youth congregation during School breaks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statutory services will work in partnership with communities to ensure that community members know how to report anti-social behaviour.</li> <li>• Services and Communities will work together to reduce anti-social behaviour, for example youth disorder in areas such as Inverkip beach and the village centre during the summer.</li> </ul>	Safe and Supported Communities Partnership		
<b>Thriving Place</b>	Greenock Town centre Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inverclyde residents will access to suitable shops and services.</li> <li>• Increase in the number of local jobs.</li> <li>• The appearance of shopping areas will improve and encourage more local trade.</li> <li>• Improved transport links to Inverkip and Wemyss Bay to support tourism.</li> </ul>	Inverclyde Council Environment and Regeneration / Place Partnership		
<b>Inverclyde-wide Priority</b>	Inverclyde residents have increased access to public transport to reflect need.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake an Inverclyde Wide transport survey</li> <li>• Encourage transport providers to engage with the community prior to service changes proposals.</li> </ul>	SPT		
	Improvement to Roads and footpaths within Inverclyde.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure Communities know how to report issues with Roads</li> <li>• Reduce the number of Potholes across Inverclyde</li> </ul>	Inverclyde Council Environment and Regeneration		
	Improved guidance and support for families and children with ASN.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capture learning needs of parent's and carers</li> <li>• Explore opportunities to improve inclusiveness of services.</li> </ul>	All partners		