

Helensburgh Community Council

Waterfront Development Questionnaire

**This is an
interpretation.**

Questionnaire

1 → What would you like to see built in the empty Helensburgh waterfront space?

If you select "Other" you will be able to let us know what you'd like see.

A Large retail development (M&S, Aldi, etc)

B Local retail development

C Community facilities

D Additional leisure development

E Other

[Add choice](#)

2 → Do you have any comments you'd like to share with us?

Description (optional)

Type your answer here...

Questionnaire

3 → Thank you.

Please enter your details here if you'd like to be kept in touch with developments around the Helensburgh waterfront

Or just click 'Submit' and your option will be saved

Description (optional)

First name

Jane

Email

name@example.com

Website

Helensburgh Waterfront

Helensburgh Community Council

The Future of Helensburgh's Waterfront.

Have your say.

Pierhead Options
HCC Position
Have Your Say

With the Helensburgh Leisure Centre now complete and open to the public, Helensburgh's Pierhead development is moving to the next (Phase 2) stage.

The old swimming pool has been demolished, and Argyll and Bute Council is marketing the space on the pierhead that it occupied. You can view the [marketing brochure](#).

Helensburgh Community Council continues to encourage Argyll and Bute Council to combine Community feedback with their thinking and we have offered to run a survey to allow the community to express their opinions about this site.

Helensburgh Community Council wants to make sure that the community has its input into the future of the site with Argyll and Bute Council, and not just have our voices heard in the final stage of the formal planning process.

On this website, we [outline the potential of the site](#), articulate [Helensburgh Community Council's position](#) on what should be developed in this crucial key location in the town and, most importantly, [ask for your input](#) on what you would like to see.

We'll also guide you on who to reach out to make your voice heard directly to your local representatives at a local level.

© 2022 Helensburgh Waterfront

Helensburgh Waterfront

Opportunities to build a better Helensburgh

Opportunities to build a better Helensburgh

What does Helensburgh's waterfront represent to you? For years the waterfront has been a hub for leisure activities, from outdoor swimming to skateboarding, for people in our town and a landmark to the thousands of visitors who come to Helensburgh for ice cream and a stroll.

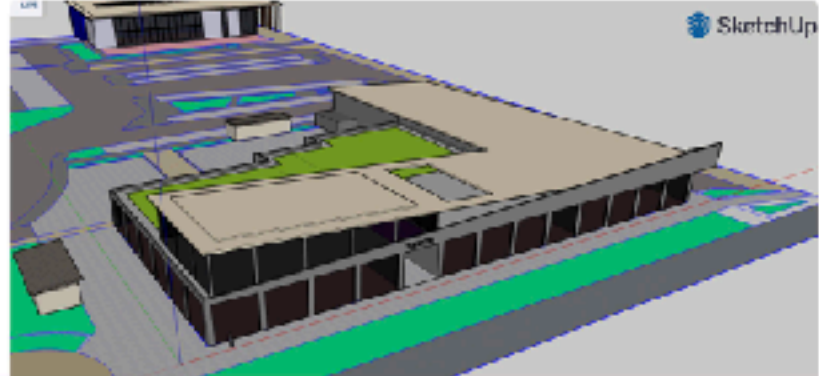
The clearing of the old swimming pool provides a once-in-a-generation chance to shape how this area is used by the local community and the perception of what Helensburgh is for people visiting.

This section will run through just some options the pierhead space can offer the town. These options aren't fleshed out. These are approaches rather than definitive answers. The point is that we want to explore options for the waterfront, options that will define what Helensburgh is to the local community and visitors to the town.

Pierhead Options
HCC Position
Have Your Say

Large-scale Retail

Argyll and Bute Council have included an "Indicative Scheme" in their marketing brochure, which shows a large retail building filling the full extent of the 3,000 sqm site. However, only 2,700 sqm gross retail space is permitted by the Local Development Plan. We have created a 3D model of the Argyll and Bute Council scheme [here](#).



Helensburgh Waterfront

Helensburgh Community Council's Position

First of all, let's introduce ourselves. Helensburgh Community Council is a group of twenty volunteers who put themselves up for selection as your community representatives, meeting once a month to discuss a wide range of topics that affect life in the town. You can get a better overview of what we are and what we stand for on [our website](#).

Helensburgh Community Council's [vision](#) is to sustain and grow a successful, safe and caring community by representing and serving the best interests of those people who live or invest in Helensburgh.

Given our vision, it's no surprise that we've been looking closely at Helensburgh's waterfront plans, which have been under review since 2010. We have an in-depth analysis of the process shared on the [Helensburgh Community Council website](#).

Our points around any proposed waterfront development come down to the following:

1. The waterfront has always been a space for leisure, a centre point for the people of Helensburgh and people visiting the town.
2. Since Argyll and Bute Council created the Local Development Plan for the waterfront in 2012, the world has changed dramatically. We would like to see the plans updated to reflect the world we're now living in.
3. We need Argyll and Bute Council to share their vision for the site and how they see it fitting into their fantastic vision for our community. You can see more about that vision on the [Live, Work, Argyll](#) website.
4. The views of the local community must be taken into account. It's that simple. Sharing the plan at the consultative stage of the planning process is too late. At that point, we're looking at a fixed plan by Argyll and Bute Council, not a plan that was shaped by the community for the community.

We need you to let the key players within Argyll and Bute Council and other local representatives know your views on what to do with the waterfront. Public opinion cannot be underestimated, but it only works if they hear from you. Find out how [you can have your say](#).

Pierhead Options
HCC Position
Have Your Say

Helensburgh Waterfront

Have Your Say

We closed our questionnaire, we'll be posting the results here when we've reviewed the submissions. If you'd like to be kept updated on developments, please subscribe to our mailing list.

Subscribe to be kept up to date with developments

Email Address (required)

Subscribe powered by sketchup

You can still get in touch with your local elected Argyll and Bute Council councillor to let them know your thoughts. You can get contact details for your local councillor through the [Argyll and Bute Council website](#). These Councillors need the information to represent the views of the community. A short email to your representative will carry more weight than an online poll, and we implore you to take the time and let them know how you feel. We need these people to be on the side of the community, so please be respectful in any communications you engage in. [Find your local councillor's details here](#).

Pierhead Options
HCC Position
Have Your Say

© 2022 Helensburgh Waterfront

Promotion

The screenshot shows the website for Helensburgh Community Council. At the top, there is a header with the council's name and a navigation menu. Below the header, there is a main content area with a welcome message and a 'News Headlines' section. A sidebar on the left contains various links and categories. The footer includes the council's name and copyright information.

Helensburgh Community Council

Welcome to Helensburgh Community Council

News Headlines

- Helensburgh's Celtic Celebration: Dance the Night Away with our French Friends!
- Helensburgh's 'Butterfly' Meeting
- Helensburgh Community Club Event
- The Waterfront Project: Phase 2
- Helensburgh Community Council Beckers

© Helensburgh Community Council 2017

sitemap | cookie policy | privacy policy | accessibility statement

The screenshot shows the Facebook page for Helensburgh Community Council. The page features a cover photo of a lake, a profile picture, and a bio. The main content area displays an 'About' section, a 'Photos' gallery, and a 'Videos' section. A 'Create Post' button is visible at the top right of the main content area.

Helensburgh Community Council

@helensburghcommunitycouncil · Community organisation

1,479 people like this

1,694 people follow this

http://www.helensburghcommunitycouncil.co.uk/

Send message

sarahdavis@yaho.co.uk

Community organisation

Photos

Videos

Create Post

Photos/video

Check in

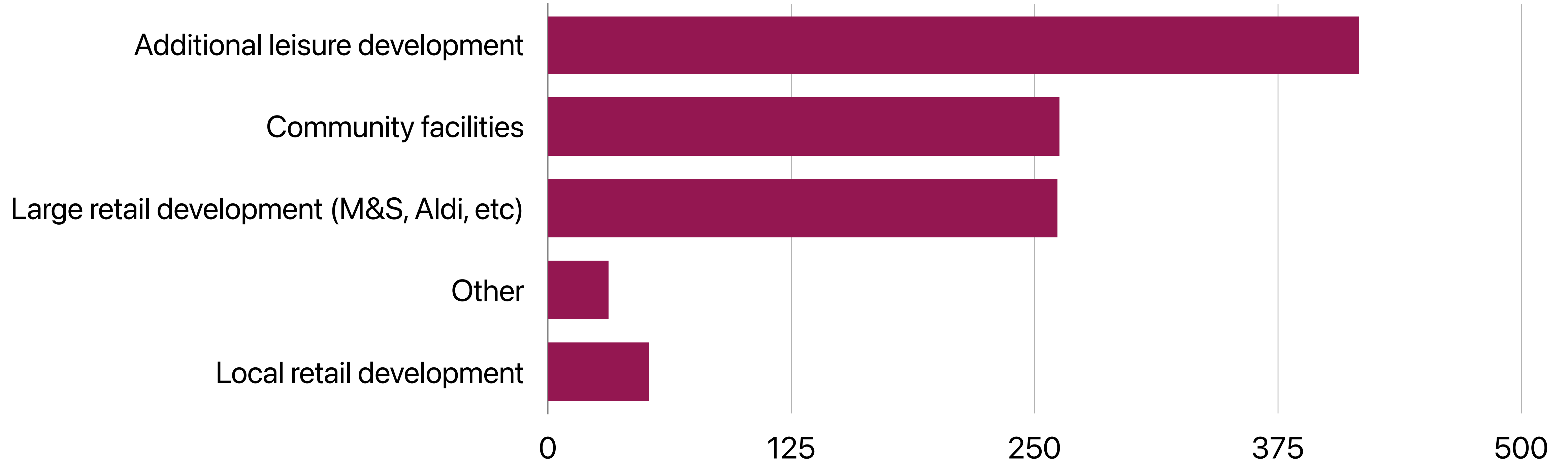
Tag people

Argyll and Bute Council

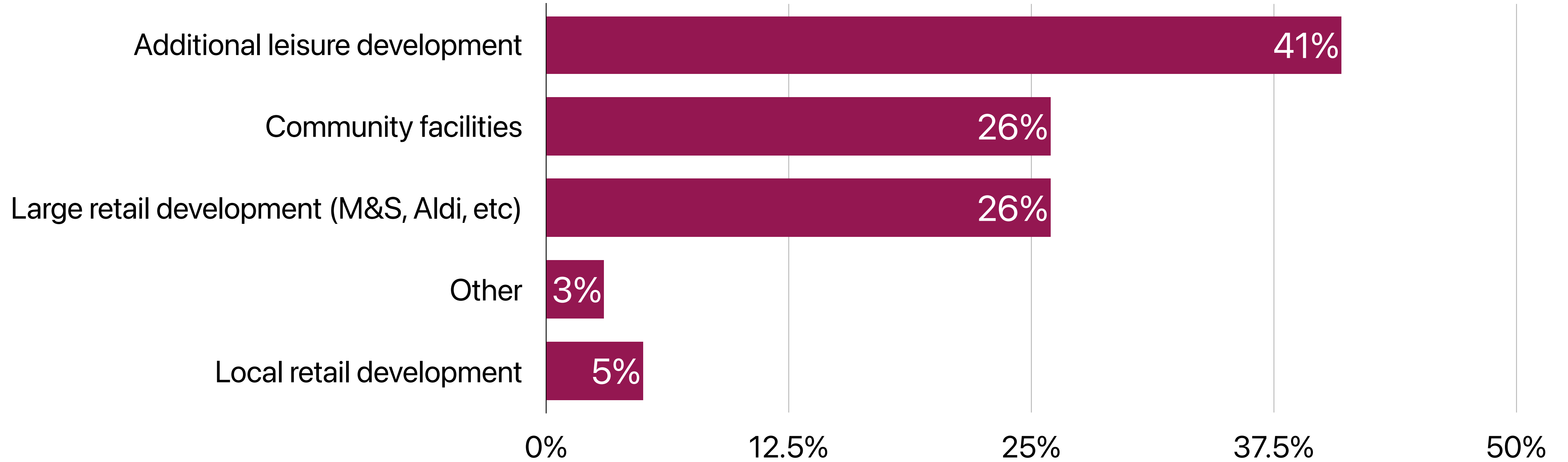
Tales of Cranberry: the time travelling horse, the haunting of Hill House and the legend of Stukkie Hill: what is a new comic book relaunching Hermitage Park? See more

181	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:44:35
182	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:44:26
183	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:44:12
184	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:44:02
185	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:43:53
186	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:43:42
187	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:43:33
188	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:43:23
189	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:43:13
190	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:43:03
191	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:42:51
192	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:42:38
193	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:42:16
194	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:42:05
195	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:41:54
196	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:41:44
197	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:41:32
198	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:41:23
199	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:41:13
200	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:41:00
201	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:40:46
202	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:40:36
203	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:40:24
204	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:40:16
205	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:40:06
206	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:39:57
207	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:39:47
208	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:39:38
209	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:39:27
210	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:39:16
211	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:39:05
212	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:38:53
213		2023-03-11 22:38:44
214	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:38:35
215	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:38:25
216	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:38:16
217	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:38:07
218	Additional leisure development	2023-03-11 22:37:57

Top Line Results



Top Line Results



Deeper Dive

Additional Leisure

Overall, the respondents are leaning towards more leisure and recreational facilities that cater to all age groups, with a focus on children and teenagers. They seek to utilise the space in a way that complements the existing leisure centre and enhances the appeal of Helensburgh for both residents and visitors.

The majority of responses suggest that any development should preserve the natural beauty of the area, avoid obstructing views, and provide well-designed architectural elements that can contribute positively to the town's image.

Additional Leisure

Indoor multi-activity facilities: A significant number of responses emphasise the need for a facility that caters to various age groups, providing activities such as soft play, bowling, roller rinks, trampolining, and indoor sports like football or badminton.

Entertainment venues: Respondents have shown interest in establishments like bowling alleys, roller discos, ice skating rinks, and indoor climbing walls for teenagers and families. There is also interest in facilities that could host birthday parties and club events.

Outdoor activities: Many respondents are in favour of creating more outdoor recreational spaces, including play parks, skate parks, bike pump tracks, and putting greens. These spaces would serve both locals and tourists and could feature seating areas for parents and spectators.

Community and arts spaces: Several responses suggest creating spaces that can accommodate community events, pop-up displays, and local artisan studios. There is a desire for versatile facilities that can be used for various purposes throughout the year.

Retail and food establishments: Some respondents express the need for additional supermarkets, fast-food chains, or small retail units, which could potentially bring more revenue to Helensburgh and prevent locals from traveling to other towns for shopping and leisure.

Community Facilities

The respondents have expressed a strong preference against retail development in the area, including supermarkets.

Instead, they suggest a variety of leisure and community facilities, such as play areas, skateparks, seating areas, green spaces, and activity centres for young people.

Many also emphasise the importance of preserving the waterfront view and developing the space in an environmentally friendly and aesthetically pleasing way.

There is a desire to create a space that benefits both residents and tourists, while also supporting local businesses.

Community Facilities

Opposition to retail development: The respondents have a strong preference against retail developments and supermarkets. They believe these would negatively impact existing businesses and detract from the area's beauty.

Leisure and community facilities: Many respondents suggest various leisure and community facilities such as play areas, skateparks, seating areas, and activity centres for young people. These suggestions highlight the respondent's desire for spaces that cater to different age groups and interests.

Preserving the waterfront view: A recurring theme among the responses is the importance of preserving the waterfront view. Respondents want to ensure that any development is low-level and does not obstruct the scenic views.

Environmentally friendly and aesthetically pleasing development: The respondents emphasises the importance of developing the space in an environmentally friendly and aesthetically pleasing manner. They suggest using green spaces, landscaping, and sustainable materials to achieve this goal.

Benefits for residents and tourists: Many responses express a desire for the development to be beneficial to both local residents and tourists. They believe that creating a welcoming and attractive space will boost tourism and support local businesses.

Support for local businesses: By creating a space that draws in visitors and locals, respondents hope to support existing local businesses, as opposed to introducing new retail outlets that may compete with them.

Addressing the needs of young people: There is a focus on providing facilities and activities for young people, such as skateparks, soft play areas, and recreational centres. The community recognises the importance of engaging and supporting the youth in the town.

Large Retail

There is a perceived lack of affordable shopping options in Helensburgh. Many people in the community are concerned about the high cost of living and the limited choices for grocery shopping. As a result, a considerable number of residents are traveling to nearby towns like Alexandria and Dumbarton to access more affordable shopping options.

There is also an interest in diversifying the retail options available in the town. Some respondents mentioned the need for clothing stores for adults and children or non-food retail development. A few people suggested that more retail options would increase foot traffic in the town, potentially benefiting local businesses.

Lastly, it is important to note that while a significant number of respondents expressed a preference for affordable supermarkets like Aldi and Lidl, others mentioned the desire for higher-end shops like M&S. This indicates that there is a demand for a wider variety of shopping options that cater to different segments of the community.

Local Retail

Respondents seem to prioritise local businesses, unique retail options, and spaces for community gatherings and outdoor activities.

There is significant opposition to large supermarkets or chain stores in the prime waterfront location.

Local Retail

Many people advocate for small, eco-friendly artisan huts or individual retail shops, with a focus on supporting local businesses and artists.

A desire for more retail outlets catering to the needs of young people and providing a wider range of choices.

Concerns about the viability of the pier and the need to improve it.

Opinions against a large supermarket or chain stores, preferring smaller, unique shops.

Suggestion for a hybrid space or indoor marketplace to encourage community gatherings and support local businesses.

Call for stimulating and interesting retail options, such as bookshops, artisanal fashion, and design stores.

Interest in providing facilities for young people, like a skatepark or similar activities.

The idea of having outdoor seating facilities for local bars, restaurants, and cafes.

Emphasis on keeping Helensburgh local and supporting community-oriented businesses.

Suggestions for a sports and outdoor activities retail unit to support the active lifestyle in the area.

Mixed opinions on the existing skatepark - some want it removed, while others want it to be improved.

Opposition to having a large supermarket like Lidl, Aldi, or B&M in the prime waterfront location.

Support for a mix of community and small retail uses with activities for families and preserving green spaces for relaxation.

Other Suggestions

Parking for coaches who bring revenue generating visitors to our town. If we truly want to support our independent retailers, we

To be left empty for potential short term let for events

Free parking

Free parking. Space for open air markets. Local businesses. Open air pool

PREMIER INN

Both a discount supermarket and soft play centre for kids

Free parking

Car park

Hotel

Large hotel

All of the above

Hotel

Additional vehicle parking

Keep it low, so no building, but maybe an outdoor activity like minigolf (teenagers), playpark (children), jeu des boules (elder)

Part retail and part office space

Additional car parking

Hotel

Bus Terminus, with sufficient parking for local bus operators and visiting coaches

Restoring the parking that has been lost due to new development. So drivers return to parking in the carpark & not on the

More parking and bus bays.

Car park/ leisure facilities absolutely no building

Access for shipping vessels to visit and bring revenue to the town!

Other Suggestions

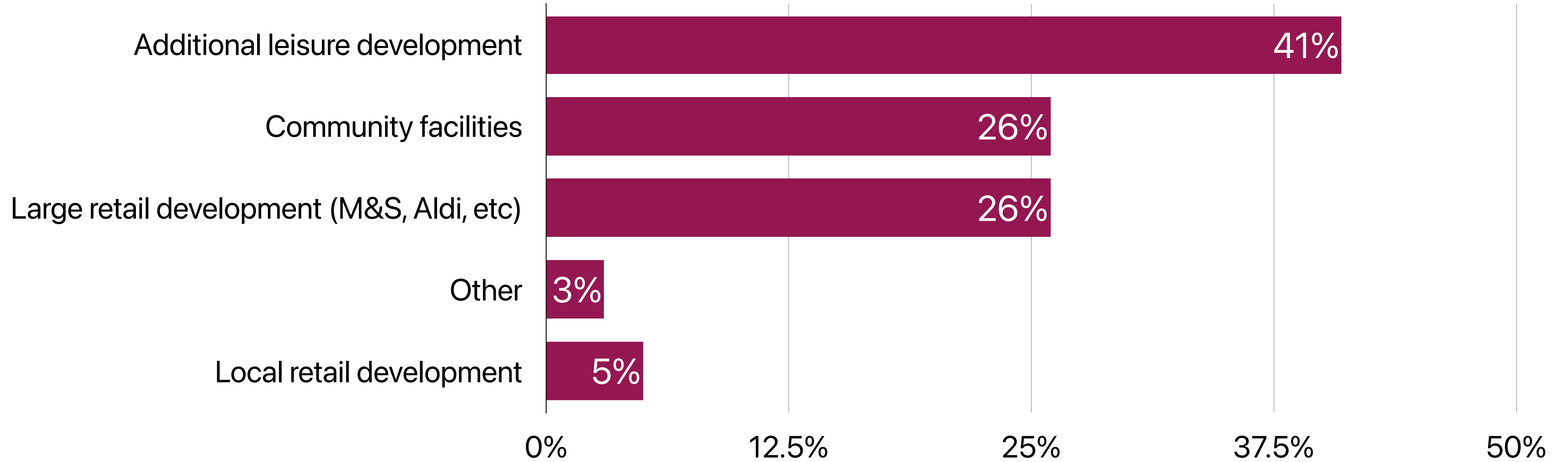
Parking for coaches who bring revenue generating visitors to our town. If we truly want to support our independent retailers, we need to actively welcome, and cater for, coaches and tourists

The town is not well served with hotel space and a Premier Inn would have a high occupancy and bring business to the town centre cafes and restaurant as this chain often does not have dining in the hotel.

Repair the pier! Bring visitors back to Helensburgh and the Waverley. Cruise liners from Greenock could send tenders over too.

Themes

Top Line Results



1. Young People First

Young People First

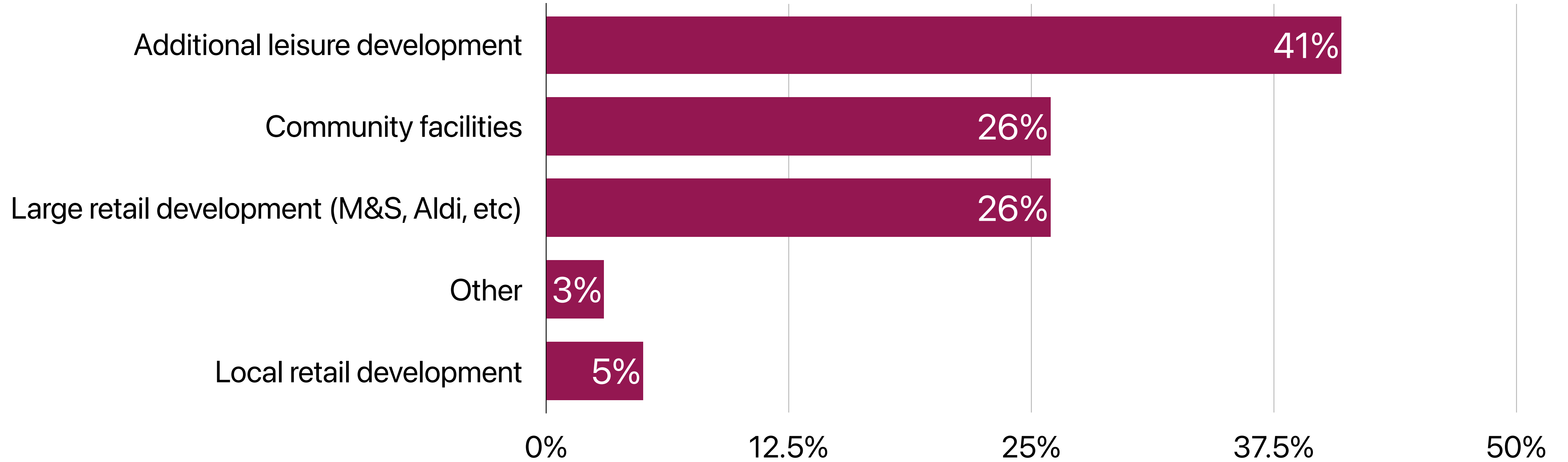
Please value youth community more. They have been left with not much to do.

I think Helensburgh really needs some sort of facility that teens can go to (instead of drinking and breaking bottles up in Hermitage Park!). They need something to do and somewhere to go where they can have fun, but would also be supervised.

Helensburgh needs leisure facilities in addition to the leisure centre. The skatepark should be comprehensively updated to provide a high quality experience.

2. People want choice

Top Line Results



People want choice

There is a huge number of people from Helensburgh currently visit Aldi in Alexandria and lidl in Dumbarton one of these and perhaps a leisure element would please very many people. Fingers Crossed.

The town needs to have more affordable options for young families. We as a family earn above average for our age but we still travel out of town every week to complete our food and household shopping to gain better value for money. This could be £400 a month that the town is missing out on from every family that shops elsewhere.

Aldi, inexpensive shop to cater for all people in the community. There are many people on high incomes and many on low incomes, affordable shops like Aldi will cater all not M&S.

Themes overview

Any development on the waterfront site should have its focus firmly on the young people of Helensburgh and how we can make the town a better place for them.

While a large retail site on the waterfront isn't desirable, people are looking for a cheaper retail option that could be placed elsewhere in the town.

People want choice

February 2023

[Aldi's](#) basket was the cheapest overall in February 2023, with a shop for 43 items costing £74.81, on average, beating rival discounter [Lidl](#) by £2.69.

The same shop at [Waitrose](#) was £96.59, on average, making it £21.78 pricier than Aldi.

Of the 'big four' supermarkets, [Sainsbury's](#) was the cheapest at £85.25. There was just 7p difference between Sainsbury's and [Tesco](#), and [Asda](#) wasn't far behind, either .

Supermarket	Average basket price
Aldi	£74.81
Lidl	£77.50
Sainsbury's	£85.25
Tesco	£85.32
Asda	£85.81
Morrisons	£89.01
Ocado	£89.96
Waitrose	£96.59

Top Line Results

