

# Scarborough Plan for Neighbourhoods: Community Engagement Summary and Analysis



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## PLAN FOR NEIGHBOURHOODS

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# 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Plan for Neighbourhoods (PfN) is Scarborough's next step in a 10-year journey to deliver community-led regeneration, building on the foundations of the Let's Talk Scarborough 2024 consultation. This report summarises how we engaged more than 1,000 people between May and December 2025 and how we have integrated the 2000+ voices from 2024 to shape Scarborough's PfN priorities.

## WHY THIS MATTERS

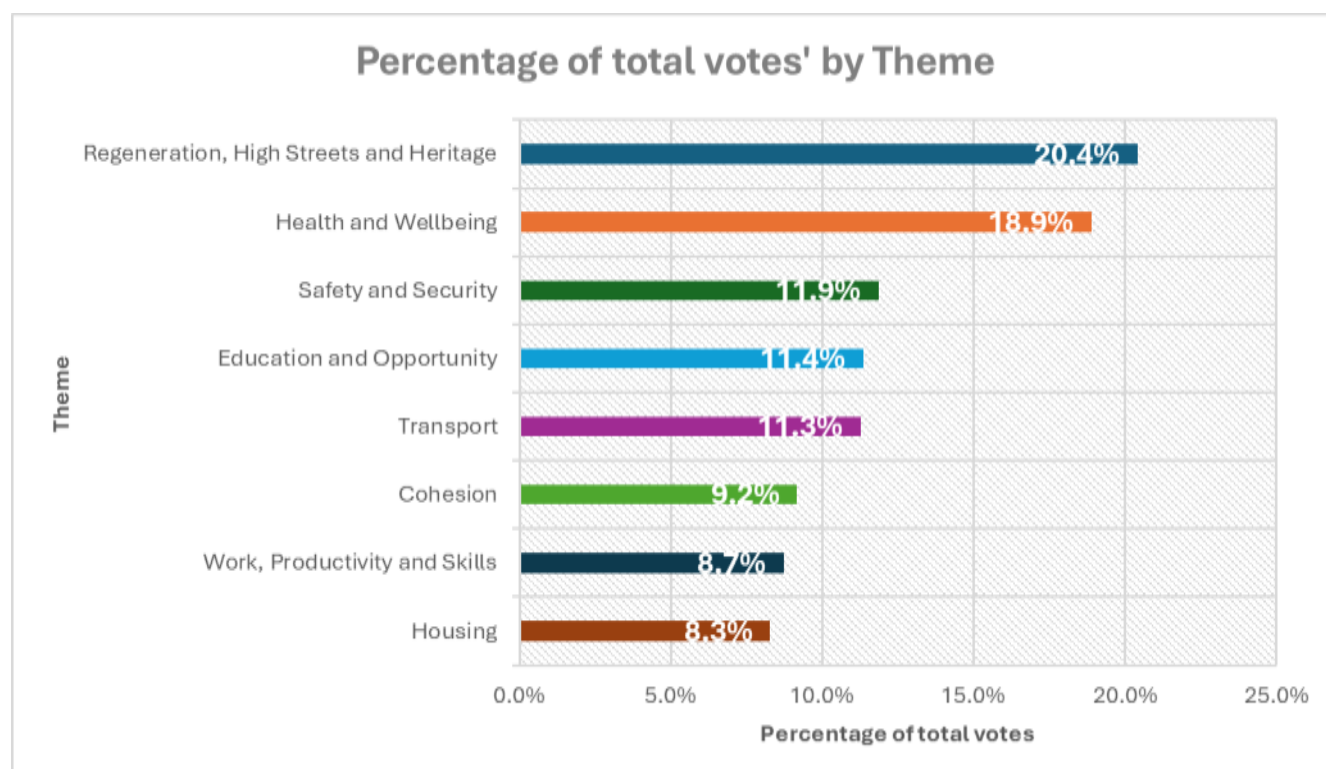
PfN brings in £19.5 million over 10 years to Scarborough, with a clear expectation: decisions must be rooted in local voices. This engagement phase was about refining, closing gaps from Let's Talk Scarborough 2024, and ensuring that underrepresented communities; young people, older residents, those with disabilities or long-term health conditions, and migrant groups helped shape the plan.

## WHAT WE DID

- Between May and September 2025 1000+ community members were engaged through 20+ engagement events, including:
  - 11 council-led pop-ups at community events.
  - Targeted sessions with youth, older residents, and migrant communities.
  - Partner-led outreach by CaVCA, North Yorkshire Sport and Beyond Housing.
  - An online survey with 179 responses.
  - Types of methods: token voting, workshops, world cafés, informal conversations, and digital feedback.

## WHAT WE HEARD

Figure 1 - Quantative PfN Theme Voting Results



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## SCARBOROUGH'S PFN PRIORITIES

1. **A Town Centre We're Proud Of** – clean streets, vibrant high streets, heritage that shines.
2. **Safety and Support** – confidence to move around and between public spaces, day and night.
3. **Better Transport & Road Safety** – everyday access for everyone.
4. **Opportunities for Young People & Families** – better and more public spaces, activities and inclusion.
5. **Health, Wellbeing and Inclusion** – prevention, green space, connection.
6. **Housing, Jobs and Skills Choices** – realistic routes to stay and thrive.
7. **Cohesion, Identity and Communication** – bringing people together, telling Scarborough's story.

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## NEXT STEPS

- Move from priority shaping to project development: feasibility checks, costings, and alignment with PfN objectives.
- Return to the community in 2026 for a consolidation phase to sense-check projects.
- Design, plan and maintain engagement conversations throughout the ten-year programme period.

## 2. INTRODUCTION & CONTEXT

### 2.1 WHAT IS THE PLAN FOR NEIGHBOURHOODS (PFN)?

The Plan for Neighbourhoods (PfN) is the UK government's updated programme to support community-led regeneration in selected towns, including Scarborough. Building on the earlier Long-Term Plan for Towns (LTPT), PfN provides £19.5 million over 10 years for each place, with a refreshed delivery model that places greater emphasis on:

- Local leadership and decision-making
  - Continuous community involvement
  - Alignment with eight national policy themes:
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1. Regeneration, High Streets, and Heritage
  2. Housing
  3. Work, Productivity, and Skills
  4. Cohesion
  5. Health and Wellbeing
  6. Transport
  7. Safety and Security
  8. Education and Opportunity

### 2.2 PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

This report sets out how Scarborough has involved communities in shaping its PfN priorities between May and December 2025. The aims are to:

- Build on feedback already gathered through the Let's Talk Scarborough engagement
- Address gaps in who was reached or what was explored
- Ensure local voices remain central as we move into delivery
- Establish long-term engagement structures that last beyond 2025

### 2.3 SCARBOROUGH'S JOURNEY: FROM LTPT TO PFN

Let's Talk Scarborough 2024 gathered views from over 2,000 participants across 28 events, online activities, and community meetings. People described a strong desire for cleaner, safer streets; more to do for young people; and a town centre that reflects Scarborough's pride and heritage.

The PfN engagement phase built on this foundation. It revisited earlier findings, explored areas that received less attention, and focused on neighbourhoods and communities we heard less from in 2024.

This process ensures that Scarborough's regeneration plan is not just evidence-based, but continuously shaped by local voices as priorities evolve. Further detail on Let's Talk Scarborough can be found in Appendix 1.

### 2.4 NATIONAL AND LOCAL CONTEXT

PfN is designed to help towns deliver long-term, community-led regeneration. Nationally, it provides a clear framework built around eight themes to make sure investment is balanced and impactful. Locally, Scarborough's focus is on turning that framework into action that matters here: from street care and safety to opportunities for young people, families, and businesses.

## 3. METHODOLOGY

### 3.1 APPROACH

Scarborough's Plan for Neighbourhoods (PfN) engagement was designed to be inclusive, transparent and continuous.

It built directly on the foundations of Let's Talk Scarborough, which set out community priorities in 2024, and focused this next phase on widening participation, and co-designing realistic priorities for delivery.

The approach aimed to:

- Revisit and refresh the priorities identified through Let's Talk Scarborough against the new and expanded PfN themes.
- Close representation gaps by involving communities and demographics that we heard less from in 2024.
- Translate insight into action, ensuring the evidence gathered could feed directly into PfN themes and investment planning.

### 3.2 PHASES (MAY–DECEMBER 2025)

The PfN engagement followed a phased model, moving from evidence review through community conversations to long-term dialogue.

Phase	Timeline	Purpose	Status
1. Evidence Review & Gap Analysis			Completed
2. Stakeholder Refresh & Planning	Late May – Mid June	Re-engage partners, confirm governance, agree engagement tools and timetable	Completed
3. Community Engagement (Wave 1)	Mid-June – Early September	Explore and refine priorities with residents and partners	Completed
4. Targeted Engagement (Wave 2)	July – September	Focus on underrepresented groups and test emerging ideas	Completed
5. Priority Shaping & Sense Check	Sept – Dec 2025	Translate engagement themes into community-framed priorities; prepare for project development	Completed



6. Consolidation			Planned
7. Sustained Dialogue	2026 onwards	Maintain ongoing engagement during delivery	Planned

**Why this matters:** This phased approach ensures that priorities are shaped by local voices at every stage, while allowing time for feasibility checks before final project selection. It also commits to long-term dialogue, not one-off consultation.

### 3.3 METHODS

We used a mixed-method approach to ensure engagement was accessible, proportionate and useful for shaping Scarborough's PfN priorities. Methods were selected to capture both breadth (wide participation across public settings) and depth (more detailed insight through facilitated discussion), while reducing barriers to participation.

Engagement was delivered through four main channels:

- In-person engagement – pop-ups, stalls and workshops in community settings and high-footfall locations.
- Online engagement – a short survey hosted on the North Yorkshire Council website, promoted through council communications and partner networks.
- Partner-led outreach – facilitated sessions delivered through trusted local organisations to reach groups less likely to engage through council-led activity.
- Feedback loops – regular updates shared through council and partner channels to maintain transparency and show how input was being used.

Creative, informal techniques (e.g., theme voting tools and visual prompts) were used where appropriate to support participation from people who may not engage through traditional consultation formats. Further detail on tools and data handling is set out in Section 3.6 and Appendix 1.



### 3.4 WHO WE ENGAGED

Our engagement approach recognised two layers of stakeholders: core stakeholders with an ongoing role in shaping and delivering PfN, and targeted stakeholders identified through gap analysis.

#### Core stakeholders

Core stakeholders include groups that influence delivery, represent communities, or can help extend reach through their networks:

- Residents' associations and neighbourhood forums
- Local businesses and employers
- VCSE organisations
- Schools, colleges and training providers
- Cultural and heritage organisations
- Health and care providers
- Housing associations and landlords
- Emergency services and community safety partners
- Local government and public sector teams

These stakeholders were engaged through briefings, thematic working groups and structured workshops, enabling them to test emerging priorities and act as multipliers for wider engagement.

### **Targeted stakeholders**

Following analysis of the 2024 Let's Talk Scarborough engagement, we identified groups and neighbourhoods that were underrepresented and designed outreach to ensure their perspectives were included:

- Young people (under 18s and 16–29, including NEET)
- Older residents (65+)
- Disabled residents and people with long-term conditions
- Migrant and minority communities
- Neighbourhoods including Eastfield, Falsgrave & Stepney

Targeted engagement was delivered through trusted partners and adapted formats to reduce practical, digital and confidence-based barriers. Demographic profile and representativeness are summarised in Section 7, with supporting detail in Appendix 1.

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## **3.5 PARTNERSHIP MODEL AND THEMATIC WORKING GROUPS**

Engagement delivery combined council-led activity with commissioned partner-led outreach to extend reach, build trust and strengthen participation from underrepresented groups.

### **Core delivery partners**

Key partners supported delivery as follows:

- CaVCA – used existing networks and community spaces to host structured conversations, informal outreach and creative engagement, ensuring voices less likely to engage in formal consultations were included.
- North Yorkshire Sport – led sports-based outreach to engage younger demographics in informal settings, reducing barriers to participation.
- Beyond Housing – supported engagement with older residents and people in supported accommodation through facilitated group sessions.

Partner activity is summarised in Section 4, with additional detail in Appendix 1.

### **Thematic working groups**

To ensure engagement insight translated into deliverable priorities (and avoided siloed planning), three thematic working groups were established. Each group was co-chaired by a Neighbourhood Board member and attended by relevant officers, delivery partners and sector experts.

The three groups aligned to the PfN themes as follows:

1. Regeneration, High Streets & Heritage and Housing
2. Safety & Security, Health & Wellbeing and Cohesion
3. Education & Opportunity, Skills, Work & Productivity, and Transport

These groups provided a structured forum to review emerging priorities, agree objectives and sense-check proposals for alignment with PfN goals.

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## **3.6 ENGAGEMENT DELIVERY AND ASSURANCE**

This section provides a programme-level summary of delivery and explains how engagement input was captured consistently. Detailed event-by-event and stakeholder findings are provided in Section 4.

### **3.6.1 Programme reach (May–December 2025)**

Across the engagement period, more than 1,000 people took part through:

- 20+ in-person engagement activities, including public pop-ups and facilitated sessions
- 11 council-led stalls at high-footfall community locations
- 179 online survey responses
- Partner-led outreach delivered by CaVCA, North Yorkshire Sport and Beyond Housing
- Targeted small-group sessions with young people, older residents, migrant communities and residents in supported accommodation

This approach supported broad geographic coverage across Scarborough and strengthened participation from groups underrepresented during the 2024 programme.

### **3.6.2 Translating activity into usable insight**

Engagement was designed to generate both:

- Quantitative input – primarily through theme voting
- Qualitative insight – through short comments, prompts and facilitated discussion

This combination enabled analysis across PfN themes while retaining community language and cross-cutting issues. Section 4 sets out findings in both formats.

### **3.6.3 Data capture**

A consistent approach to data capture was used across engagement activity, combining:

- Theme voting tools (where used)
- Written prompts / short-form questions
- QR links to the online survey
- Partner session notes, records and reports



Where token-style voting was used, results are reported as raw totals and (where helpful) converted into an indicative participant equivalent using a consistent conversion rule. This supports comparison across methods while keeping event-level reporting transparent.

#### **3.6.4 Quality, consistency and transparency**

Responses were anonymised and handled in line with NYC protocols. Updates were shared through council and partner channels to maintain transparency and demonstrate how engagement input was being used to shape emerging priorities and next steps.

## 4. ENGAGEMENT FINDINGS

### 4.1 OVERVIEW

This section summarises what we heard from the community during the PfN engagement process, drawing on in-person events, online tools, and partner-led sessions.



We present the findings in two complementary ways:

**PfN Themes** – to show how priorities align with the eight themes that guide investment and delivery. This gives a structured view of where community energy sits.

**Community Language** – because people described priorities in ways that reflect everyday life and how issues connect, for example - transport links affect access to jobs, safety shapes the evening economy, and public spaces influence health and cohesion. Presenting insights in community language helps us show these connections and cross-cutting themes clearly, making it easier to design solutions that work in practice.

### 4.2 HEADLINE INSIGHTS

The below chart shows how community priorities were distributed across the eight PfN themes. Regeneration, High Streets & Heritage received the highest share (20.4%), followed by Health & Wellbeing (18.9%). Safety & Security and Transport were mid-ranking, while Housing and Work & Skills were lower but still significant.

Figure 2 - Percentage of total votes by PfN theme

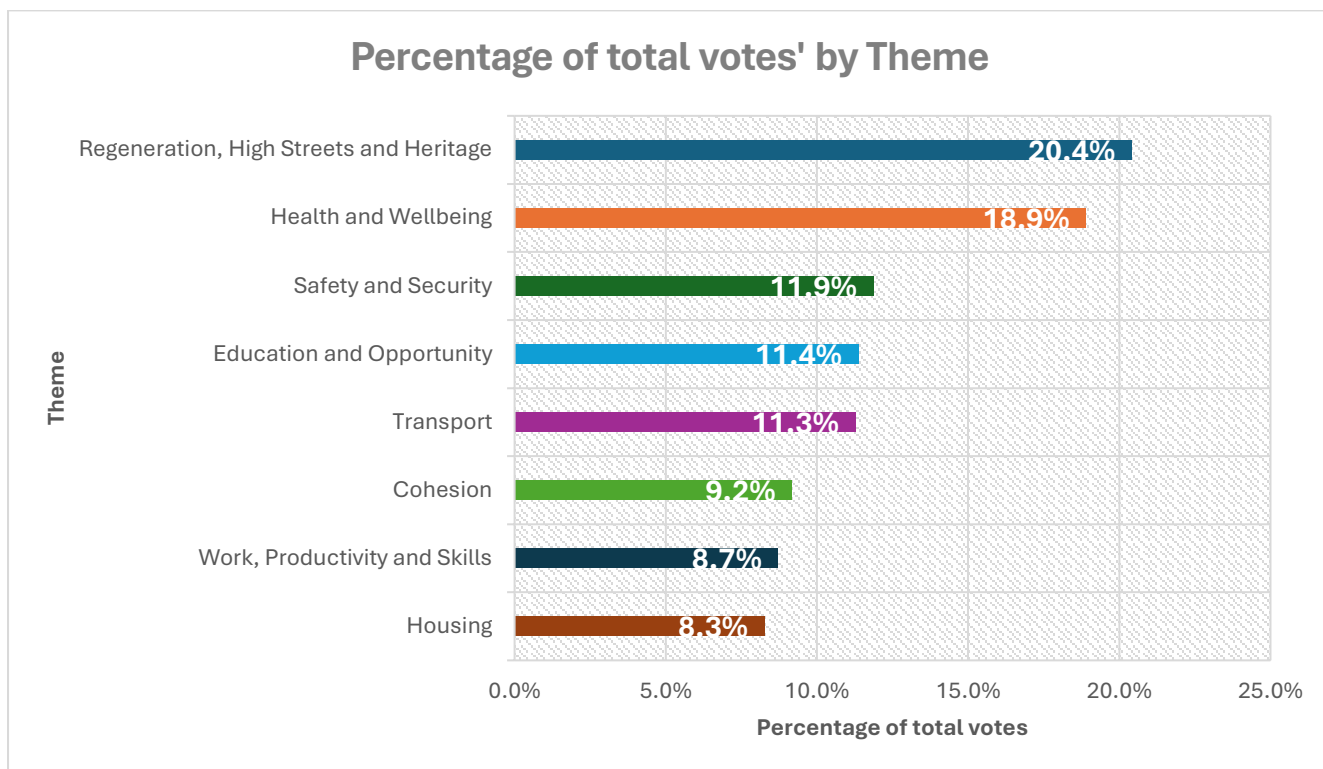
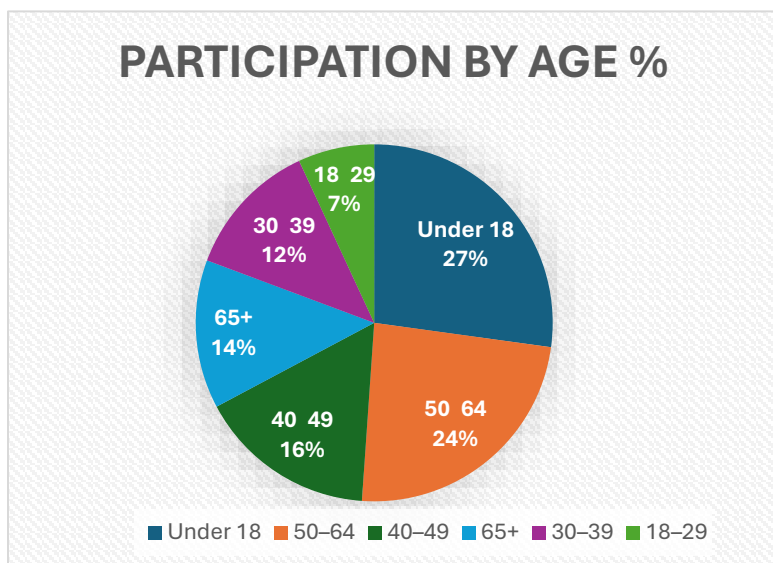


Figure 3 - Participation by Age Group



Under-18s were the most engaged group (27%), followed by 50–64 (24%). Engagement successfully increased input from young people (16–29) and older residents (65+) compared to Let's Talk Scarborough.

## AREA-BY-AREA PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

Area	Event Details	Mini Table: Theme Breakdown	
Barrowcliff	<p>Summer BBQ (27 Aug) = 88 participants</p> <p>We hosted a stall at the Barrowcliff Summer Family BBQ and provided a free ice-cream van. Residents received a free ice cream after taking part in the token-voting exercise. This simple incentive created a relaxed, family-friendly moment to talk, scan the QR link and share views, boosting survey completions and quick comments from people who might not usually engage.</p>	Theme	%
		Health and Wellbeing	23.6
		Regeneration, High Streets and Heritage	17.9
		Cohesion	14.3
		Housing	12.7
		Work, Productivity and Skills	10.9
		Transport	9.4
		Education and Opportunity	7.1
		Safety and Security	4
Eastfield	<p>Summer Fair (16 Aug) ≈ 61 participants</p> <p>We ran a free tombola at the Eastfield Community Fair. Residents received a raffle ticket once they had completed the token voting exercise on the PfN themes. This simple, no-cost incentive encouraged families to take part in the voting and gave us a natural moment to explain the themes and signpost the short survey</p>	Theme	%
		Health and Wellbeing	19.4
		Regeneration, High Streets and Heritage	15.6
		Housing	15.3
		Education and Opportunity	14
		Safety and Security	12.9
		Cohesion	11.6
		Transport	7.3
		Work, Productivity and Skills	3.9
Scarborough Extreme	<p>12–13 July ≈ 157 participants</p> <p>This two-day Scarborough Extreme pop-up was led by Scarborough Fair and ran in two locations to reach different audiences: day one on the promenade by the seafront with our stall, and day two next to Hairy Bob's Skate Park. The dual locations helped us speak to both promenade footfall and young people using the skate park, maintaining a steady flow of short, positive interactions across both days.</p>	Theme	%
		Regeneration, High Streets and Heritage	23.2
		Health and Wellbeing	15.9
		Cohesion	12.7
		Education and Opportunity	11.7
		Safety and Security	10.8
		Transport	9.8
		Work, Productivity and Skills	8.5
		Housing	7.4
Falsgrave Park	<p>Summer Fair (8 Aug) ≈ 33 participants</p> <p>We attended a family event in Falsgrave Park that included a live performance of Dr Dolittle. The</p>	Theme	%
		Health and Wellbeing	23.7
		Regeneration, High Streets and Heritage	18.7
		Safety and Security	15.6
		Transport	10.2

	event was for Falsgrave and Stepney residents. A calm, seated setting meant people had time to chat before the show started, giving us opportunities for short conversations, quick prompts and survey signposting in a low-pressure environment.	Education and Opportunity	
		Cohesion	9.3
		Housing	7.6
		Work, Productivity and Skills	5.7
Castle Ward	Scarborough Castle (28 Aug) ≈ 54 participants  Working with English Heritage, we hosted a Residents' Day at Scarborough Castle with free entrance for Castle Ward residents. In the days and weeks beforehand we leaflet-dropped Castle Ward households to invite local people. On the day we set up a PfN stall inside the castle grounds and offered short conversations and optional token voting on the eight PfN themes, with signposting to the online survey for anyone who preferred to respond digitally.	Theme	%
		Regeneration, High Streets and Heritage	23
		Transport	13.1
		Safety and Security	13
		Health and Wellbeing	12.8
		Housing	12.3
		Education and Opportunity	10.2
		Work, Productivity and Skills	8.7
		Cohesion	6.8

## STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY TABLE

Stakeholder Group	Engagement Format	Date / Period	Mini Table: Theme Breakdown	
Businesses	We hosted a business engagement event at the Grand Hotel in Scarborough. This was a structured opportunity for local businesses to set out their priorities against the PfN/PIP themes, discuss immediate challenges on the ground	4 Sept 2025	Theme	Percentage
			Regeneration, High Streets and Heritage	27.3%
			Health and Wellbeing	15.5%
			Education and Opportunity	13.7%
			Work, Productivity and Skills	11.8%
			Transport	9.9%
			Cohesion	9.9%
			Safety and Security	6.2%
			Housing	5.6%



	and flag practical ideas for delivery.			
<b>Scarborough Town Council</b>	We ran a bespoke workshop with Scarborough Town Council to identify their priorities and discuss how they align with PfN themes.	24 July 2025	<p>The top priority was High Street Heritage and Regeneration, focused on enhancing the local economy. This includes aspirations for higher-quality shops, reducing the impact of seagulls, supporting local people and businesses, and exploring the potential for more affordable rates.</p> <p>The second key priority identified was Transport, with the important clarification that this goes beyond public transport provision. The conversation highlighted wider infrastructure concerns such as traffic flow, junction design, signal timings and park and ride placement that impact how easily people can move through the town.</p>	
<b>Scarborough &amp; Whitby Area Committee</b>	We delivered a workshop with the Area Committee using the same approach as the Town Council session. Members discussed priorities through the PfN themes and highlighted the issues they hear most from residents and local organisations.	June 2025	1. Housing	
			2. Health & Wellbeing	
			3. Regeneration, High Streets & Heritage	
<b>Sheltered Accommodation</b>	Through connections facilitated by Beyond Housing, we joined one of the residents' regular groups and used a token voting exercise to	26 Sept 2025	Theme	% of overall votes
			Health & Wellbeing	21.8%
			Transport & Connectivity	20.0%
			Highstreets, Heritage & Regeneration	12.7%
			Housing	10.9%

	capture views in a familiar setting. The drop-in format reduced barriers and allowed residents to share priorities at their own pace.		Safety & Security	9.1%
			Cohesion	9.1%
			Work, Skills & Productivity	9.1%
			Education & Opportunity	7.3%
Sidewalk Youth Group	We visited a regular Sidewalk session, gave a short presentation on Pfn and ran an informal priority-gathering activity with young people. The familiar, youth-led setting made it easier to talk about what helps and hinders participation in the town, and to collect practical ideas.	9 July 2025	Young people highlighted transport as a major barrier, especially the lack of evening buses and unsafe walking routes. They called for free or subsidised travel, better lighting, and safe spaces to hang out. There was strong support for a youth café offering food, informal learning, and vocational tasters. Accessibility and inclusion were key themes, especially for neurodivergent young people.	

# Scarborough's Community Priorities

This section shares the priorities in the words and ideas communities used. It reflects what matters most to people and how different issues connect, so we can design solutions that feel real and work for Scarborough.

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## 1. A TOWN CENTRE WE'RE PROUD OF

*Clean streets, vibrant high streets, and heritage that shine*

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### WHY THIS MATTERS

Across every phase of engagement from LTPT in 2024 to PfN in 2025 residents consistently described the town centre as central to Scarborough's identity. They linked its condition to pride, safety, and economic vitality.

*"Scarborough looks tired. We want a town centre we can be proud of."*

This wasn't just about appearance. People described how neglected spaces affect confidence and footfall, while clean, animated streets encourage use and investment.

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### WHAT PEOPLE TOLD US

Feedback on the town centre was among the most frequent and consistent across all engagement methods:

- In LTPT, 85% of comments on appearance and environment were negative.
- In PfN, Regeneration, High Streets & Heritage was the top-ranked theme (20.4% of votes).
- In CaVCA's workshops, 34% of interactions mentioned the town centre, with strong calls for cleanliness and social spaces.
- Specific hotspots were repeatedly named: Bar Street, Huntriss Row, Newborough, Station Gateway, and surrounding approaches.

*"It's not just about looking nice it's about feeling safe and proud. Right now, it feels like no one cares."*

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### 1.1 EVERYDAY CARE & CLEANLINESS

Residents were clear: the basics matter. They want deep cleaning, graffiti removal, and gull mess tackled on a clear, published rota. Broken bins and lighting should be fixed quickly, with feedback loops so people know when issues are resolved.

People also called for better public toilets and more seating, especially for older residents and families. These were described not as “nice-to-haves” but as essential for making the town centre usable and welcoming.

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## 1.2 SHOPFRONTS, EMPTY UNITS & PUBLIC REALM

Long-term scaffolding, tired facades, and empty units were repeatedly described as “confidence killers.” Residents want shopfront uplift paint, signage, glazing repairs and consistent wayfinding that celebrates Scarborough’s heritage.

They also want meanwhile uses for empty units: murals, vinyl wraps, maker displays, and pop-up shops to bring life back to the streets while permanent uses are secured.

Retail mix matters. People expressed frustration about the dominance of charity shops and low-end retail. They want a better balance of national brands and independents, alongside support for local makers through pop-ups and markets.

Accessibility was another strong theme: uncluttered pavements, dropped kerbs, tactile paving, and step-free routes are seen as baseline expectations for a town that works for everyone.

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## 1.3 HERITAGE & IDENTITY

Scarborough’s heritage is seen as an asset, but residents feel it’s underplayed. They want storytelling through design, heritage trails, and signage that reflects the town’s unique character not generic branding.

There’s strong support for restoring historic buildings and using them creatively, rather than leaving them to decay or replacing them with temporary attractions.

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## 1.4 EVENING ECONOMY & SAFETY LINKS

People want a town centre that feels alive after dark but they linked this directly to lighting, safety, and transport. Better lighting on routes to and from venues, clear wayfinding, and visible patrols were seen as essential for confidence.

Residents also called for small-scale cultural events, live music, and markets to animate the centre year-round, not just in summer. These activities were seen as vital for building pride and creating reasons to visit beyond shopping.

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## COMMUNITY IDEAS IN THEIR WORDS

- “Publish and stick to cleansing schedules let us see the plan.”
- “Bring colour back, murals, planters, and lighting that makes the town feel loved.”
- “Use empty shops for pop-ups and local makers don’t leave them dead.”
- “Scarborough needs better shops right now it feels like a charity shop strip.”
- “We need more places to sit and enjoy the town without spending money.”

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## WHY THIS MATTERS FOR DELIVERY

This priority isn't just about tidying up it's about restoring confidence. A cared-for, vibrant town centre signals pride and safety. It encourages people to spend time and money locally, supports businesses, and makes Scarborough a place residents love and visitors respect.

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## 2. SAFETY & SUPPORT

Confidence to move around, day and night

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### WHY THIS MATTERS

Residents told us that feeling safe is fundamental to enjoying Scarborough's public spaces, supporting the evening economy, and building community life. When people feel unsafe, they stay home. That means fewer customers for businesses, fewer people at cultural events, and more isolation for those who already feel cut off.

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### WHAT PEOPLE TOLD US

Across every engagement phase, safety came through as one of the top concerns. In the Long-Term Plan for Towns (2024), 84% of comments on safety and security were negative. In PfN engagement (2025), safety ranked as one of the top three themes (11.9%). CaVCA workshops echoed this: 39% of participants raised safety concerns, often linking them to antisocial behaviour (ASB), substance misuse, and a lack of visible presence in the town centre.

Residents spoke about confidence, not just crime. They described hotspots where they feel uneasy: Station Gateway, Albemarle Square, Westborough and routes they avoid, especially after dark because of poor lighting and intimidating groups.

Key concerns included:

- Antisocial behaviour and substance misuse, particularly in visible central zones.
- Nuisance driving and modified vehicles, revving, racing, and speeding through the town centre.
- Poorly lit cut-throughs and alleyways, especially those leading to car parks and venues.
- Clustering of HMOs and emergency accommodation, creating visible vulnerability and disorder in some areas.

Young people raised similar issues. In North Yorkshire Sport sessions and the Sidewalk focus group young people said they would use the town centre more if it felt safer and if there were spaces designed for them. They asked for safe adults to talk to and better lighting.

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### WHAT THIS MEANS FOR DESIGN AND DAILY LIFE

People were clear: safety isn't just about policing it's about how places feel. Good design matters. Residents called for clear sightlines, better lighting, and uncluttered spaces so they can see and be seen. They linked safety to mental health and wellbeing, saying that fear of going into the town centre, especially after dark limits social life and exercise.



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## COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

Residents want a balanced approach that combines visible reassurance with support for those in need.

Practical ideas included:

- Visible, predictable patrols: police, PCSOs, and community safety officers at known hotspots and peak times.
- Taxi marshals and guardian points: to support safe travel during busy evenings.
- Lighting upgrades and monitored help points: especially on key walking routes and near venues.
- Traffic-calming: including average-speed enforcement on problem corridors.
- Joined-up support services: assertive outreach for addiction and mental health, same-day referrals, and tenancy engagement with landlords and emergency providers.
- Evening-economy safety measures: better lighting, wayfinding, and late transport options so people can enjoy events and get home confidently.

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## WHY THIS MATTERS FOR DELIVERY

Safety underpins everything from footfall and business viability to wellbeing and inclusion. Community feedback shows that tackling safety requires more than enforcement, it needs thoughtful design, visible care, and support services that meet people where they are.

As another resident put it: *“When the streets feel safe, the whole town feels alive.”*

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# 3. BETTER TRANSPORT & ROAD SAFETY

Everyday access

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## WHY THIS MATTERS

Engagement highlighted that transport is more than getting from A to B it's about access to opportunity, connection, and independence. Residents told us that gaps in Scarborough's transport system limit their ability to work, learn, and enjoy life. When buses stop early, when walking routes feel unsafe, or when cycling infrastructure is patchy, people are cut off from jobs, education, culture, and social activities.

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## WHAT PEOPLE TOLD US

Transport came up again and again as a barrier to inclusion. In Let's Talk Scarborough (2024), 13% of comments focused on transport, making it the second most mentioned theme after town centre issues. In PfN engagement (2025), transport ranked fifth overall (11.3%) but was seen as a cross-cutting enabler for everything else work, education, health, and social life.

Residents described how evening and weekend bus gaps restrict access to work, learning, and social activities especially for young people, shift workers, and older residents without cars. People said they avoid evening events because they can't get home safely or affordably.

Bus stop quality was another concern. Shelters, seating, lighting, and real-time information vary widely across the town, and many stops feel disconnected from where people actually travel. There was a strong call for better interchange between bus and rail, and for clearer, more reliable information both online and at stops.

Road safety was a recurring theme. Residents raised concerns about speeding, dangerous junctions, and nuisance driving particularly modified vehicles that race or rev loudly through town. These behaviours were seen as intimidating and disruptive, especially in the evening.

Active travel walking and cycling was seen as having huge potential, but people said the current network is disjointed and hard to navigate. Poor signage, unsafe crossings, steep gradients, and pinch-points make it difficult for disabled users and families to use these routes confidently.

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## COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

Residents offered a wide range of practical ideas:

- Later and evening services: on priority corridors and to neighbouring towns, including later trains to York.
- Bus stop upgrades: shelters, seating, lighting, level access, and real-time information especially at high-use and high-need locations.
- Road safety improvements: safer school crossings, traffic-calming, average-speed cameras, and better junction layouts.
- Active travel network: joined-up walking and cycling routes with dropped kerbs, tactile paving, safe crossings, and secure cycle parking.
- Affordable parking: especially for workers and evening visitors, with better signage and layout.

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## WHY THIS MATTERS FOR DELIVERY

Transport was seen as a gateway to inclusion. Without reliable, safe, and affordable options, people are locked out of jobs, education, culture, and community life. Improving transport isn't just about buses and roads it's about connecting people to opportunities, reducing isolation, and supporting a vibrant, year-round economy.

As another resident put it: *"If you can't get there, you can't take part."*

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# 4. OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE & FAMILIES

*(Spaces, activities, inclusion)*

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## WHY THIS MATTERS

Residents were clear: if Scarborough wants to keep its young people and anchor families for the long term, it needs great places to grow up and everyday opportunities that don't depend on the season or the size of your wallet. Across engagement, people linked youth and family provision to almost everything else safety, health and wellbeing, cohesion, skills, and the evening economy. The message was consistent from 2024 to 2025: get the basics right, make it affordable, make it inclusive, and make it feel like ours all year round.

In Let's Talk Scarborough, "things to do" emerged as a major theme, with strong calls for sports and watersports, play, indoor leisure, events and year-round offers. PfN reinforced this, particularly around youth spaces, SEN-friendly provision, and better signposting. CaVCA's outreach heard safe spaces for young people from almost every under-25 they engaged, while North Yorkshire Sport's sessions ranked

youth provision as the top priority, adding a powerful ask for trusted adults and support during tough times alongside the usual calls for clubs and activities.

What follows is presented in two parts, because that's how communities talked about it: youth spaces and activities; and family opportunities and inclusion.

## **4.1 YOUTH SPACES & ACTIVITIES**

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### **WHAT PEOPLE TOLD US**

Young people asked for safe, welcoming places that feel like theirs somewhere warm and dry in the evenings, with trusted adults, safeguarding, and activities they co-design. They want choice, not a single "one-size-fits-all" offer: music and rehearsal rooms, e-sports and gaming, arts and maker space, social sport, climbing, skate, BMX, watersports, and places to just hang out without being moved on. Several said traditional youth clubs can be "boring" unless the offer is varied and youth-led; where clubs are great, it's because there's always something happening and the adults are on their side.

Crucially, young people asked for informal support woven into the space drop-in advice on mental health, confidence, relationships and life skills; careers guidance that actually explains local routes (apprenticeships, short modular courses, creative and digital pathways); and mentors who can signpost and nudge without judging. That combination: somewhere to be, something to do, someone to talk to was described again and again.

#### **Barriers that the community have said that shut people out**

- Transport: evening bus gaps make it hard (and expensive) to get home, especially from estates or after activities.
- Perceptions of safety: poorly lit parks and cut-throughs, and the feeling of being seen as "antisocial" when meeting in groups.
- Cost: if everything "good" costs, participation drops.
- Low visibility of what exists: young people don't know what's on, who it's for, or how to join.

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### **COMMUNITY IDEAS THAT CAME THROUGH STRONGLY**

- More youth spaces in or near the centre: social space + activities (music/arts/sport/e-sports) + practice rooms + study and homework zones + embedded advice and mentoring, open reliably in the evenings and at weekends.
- Pop-up youth zones tied to town-centre events and festivals, plus outdoor facilities (skate/BMX/ball courts) with indoor alternatives for bad weather.
- Vocational tasters and maker pods: short, low-pressure sessions in trades, digital, creative and events tech; studios or pods for trialling ideas and making the step from hobby to independent venture.
- Lighting and guardianship on routes to and from venues, with late buses on key corridors so young people can travel safely.
- Youth ambassadors and a single, youth-friendly "What's On" channel online and visible in schools, libraries, leisure centres and GP surgeries.
- Discounted or residents-rate access to selected attractions and venues to make participation routine, not a treat.

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### **WHY IT MATTERS**

Provision was seen as prevention in action. Good youth spaces lower antisocial behaviour, support mental health, and build confidence. They also create pathways into skills and work, connecting young people to local employers, creative partners and volunteering. Most of all, they root young people in Scarborough with reasons to stay.

## 4.2 FAMILY OPPORTUNITIES & INCLUSION

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### WHAT PEOPLE TOLD US

- Families want year-round, low- or no-cost things to do that don't require a car or a high budget. They asked for parks and pocket spaces that feel safe and welcoming, free or affordable family activities, and central places where you can spend time without having to spend money. Many emphasised SEN-friendly design enclosed or adapted play, sensory-aware spaces, quiet rooms, predictable lighting and sightlines, and Changing Places/accessible toilets. Parents and carers said these features often determine whether a day out works at all.
- Several themes recurred: the need for better maintained play areas, more seating (especially for older carers and people with mobility issues), and clean, accessible public toilets in and around the centre. Families also talked about seasonality how the town can feel over-tourist-focused in summer and under-provided in winter and about being priced out of some offers. Above all, they stressed signposting: *"there is provision, but it's hard to find and harder to navigate."*

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### BARRIERS THAT SHUT PEOPLE OUT

- Cost and seasonality: limited free options outside summer, fees stacking up for larger families.
- Information gaps: no single, trusted guide to what's on, suitability, costs, and access needs.
- Access and dignity: not enough family-friendly, accessible toilets, limited quiet/SEN spaces, and step-free routes that break down.
- Transport: evening and weekend gaps, and active-travel routes that feel unsafe with buggies or wheelchairs.

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### COMMUNITY IDEAS THAT CAME THROUGH STRONGLY

- Inclusive play upgrades in neighbourhood parks and central locations: enclosures where appropriate, resilient surfacing, accessible kit, improved lighting and sightlines, seating, and family-safe toilets.
- A residents-first, year-round programme of small events, story trails, pop-up making, street music, family games, seasonal light and nature activities delivered in places people already use.
- A single "What's On for Families & Young People" channel, in plain English with clear accessibility info, promoted through schools, GP surgeries, libraries, community hubs and social media plus offline posters and postcards.
- Micro-grants for neighbourhood family days and youth-led ideas, designed with communities and delivered close to home, building routine and confidence.
- Wayfinding and comfort upgrades, more seating, weather-resilient shelter, and Changing Places facilities so families can linger rather than rush through.

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## WHY IT MATTERS

- The message we heard was that investment in family-friendly, inclusive spaces pays back in wellbeing, safety and cohesion. It also strengthens the resident-led, year-round economy: people stay longer, return more often, and support local cafés, shops and venues.

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## WHAT THIS MEANS FOR DELIVERY

- Design with (not for) young people and families. Co-design the youth hub offer, play upgrades and event formats; recruit youth and parent ambassadors to shape delivery and comms.
- Embed support in places people already use. Build advice and mentoring into youth spaces; add health and wellbeing pop-ups to libraries, markets and community venues; ensure clear signposting everywhere.
- Backbone the network. Youth Hubs complemented by pop-ups and neighbourhood activity; inclusive play as standard; reliable evening transport and safe routes so participation is realistic.
- Make information one-stop and multi-channel. Launch the Families & Young People “What’s On” with accessible design, offline touchpoints, and consistent messaging through schools, GP practices and community hubs.
- Measure what matters. Track uptake by ward and demographic, evening participation, self-reported confidence and wellbeing, and progression (from activity to volunteering, training or work). Use feedback loops to keep trust.

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# 5. HEALTH, WELLBEING & INCLUSION

*Prevention, green space, connections*

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## WHY THIS MATTERS

Residents repeatedly told us that health starts close to home in the parks they walk through, the benches they rest on, and the places where advice feels easy to reach. They want everyday spaces that make staying well simple and social: safe paths, welcoming parks, and low-cost activities that build routine.

People linked wellbeing to confidence, inclusion, and dignity. They asked for support without hurdles help in familiar places, not behind closed doors and design that works for everyone.

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## WHAT PEOPLE TOLD US

Health & Wellbeing was the second strongest PfN themes (18.9% of all responses).

Residents called for affordable ways to be active close to home and stigma-free routes to advice.

In Let’s Talk Scarborough (2024), people asked for park upgrades, benches, lighting, and planting, plus action on water quality for confidence in swimming and watersports.

CaVCA workshops reinforced that cohesion and wellbeing go hand in hand, the more inclusive and welcoming spaces feel, the healthier Scarborough becomes. People also linked how places look and feel to whether they’ll use them: clear sightlines, regular seating, uncluttered footways, and step-free, predictable routes were all seen as essential.



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## COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

Residents described a vision for health that blends physical activity, social connection, and practical support:

### 1. Green & Blue Wellbeing

- Safer, better-lit paths and clear sightlines in parks and along the seafront.
- Regular seating and small shelters for older adults and people with long-term conditions.
- Planting and pocket biodiversity projects residents can co-tend.
- Blue health: clean-water plan and practical facilities (showers/changing) for confidence in swimming and paddling.

### 2. Active Travel for Everyday Health

- Joined-up, step-free walking loops with wayfinding and rest points.
- Safer junctions and decluttered pavements for sticks, frames, wheelchairs, and buggies.
- Secure cycle/buggy parking at key destinations.

### 3. Social Prescribing, Close to Home

- Pop-up wellbeing and advice (mental health, debt, carers) in libraries, markets, and community hubs.
- Gentle, confidence-building sessions: beginner walks, balance classes, social games, gardening.
- Clear referral routes and simple “What’s On” info.

### 4. Inclusion by Design

- Step-free routes, tactile paving, and dropped kerbs as standard.
- Comfortable seating with backs and arms where people actually pause.
- Accessible toilets, including Changing Places, in predictable locations.

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## WHY THIS MATTERS FOR DELIVERY

- This message was that this areas wasn’t about big-ticket projects, it’s about visible, everyday care that makes health easy and social. When parks feel safe, when benches and toilets are where people need them, when advice is in familiar places, people join in. That means less isolation, better mental health, and stronger communities.

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## 6. HOUSING, JOBS & SKILLS CHOICES

*Realistic routes to stay and thrive*

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## WHY THIS MATTERS

Across engagement, residents described secure housing and access to decent work as essential foundations for staying in Scarborough. Many said these basics feel increasingly out of reach especially for young adults and working families. People linked housing and employment directly to community stability, wellbeing, and the ability to plan for the future. Without visible routes into secure tenancies, training, and local jobs, they said it’s hard to see Scarborough as a place to build a life.

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## WHAT PEOPLE TOLD US

- Housing, Jobs & Skills accounted for 8.7% of coded responses in PfN engagement.
- People described a “squeezed middle” earning too much for support schemes but not enough for high private rents.
- Concerns about empty homes and upper floors sitting unused while demand grows.
- On jobs and skills, residents said:
  - Training exists but doesn’t fit real life courses are hard to access, too rigid, or not linked to local jobs.
  - Employers face barriers too rules on the Apprenticeship Levy make it harder for small businesses to take on apprentices because levy funds can’t cover wages.
  - Young people want informal tasters low-pressure sessions in trades, digital, and creative skills to build confidence before committing to formal routes.
  - Starting a business feels daunting people talked about confusing processes for permits and property, and no single place to get advice.
  - Costs and risk put people off there’s appetite for micro-grants and low-cost spaces to test ideas.

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## COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

### Better Homes, Fairer Standards

- Stronger enforcement on poor-quality rentals and clearer tenant advice routes.
- Pathways to bring empty homes and upper floors back into use.
- Explore town-centre living in the right places to support a vibrant evening economy.

### Visible Routes into Work & Skills

- Flexible, modular adult learning delivered locally and at times that work for families.
- Informal vocational tasters in trades, digital, and creative sectors to build confidence without the pressure of formal courses.
- Clearer links between training and real vacancies in Scarborough.
- Employer partnerships for placements with support to overcome barriers like levy restrictions.
- Space & Support for Enterprise
- A start-up and micro-business hub with co-working, maker pods, and test-trading units.
- A “single front door” for property, licensing, and funding advice to cut through confusion.
- Micro-grants and pop-up markets to help ideas grow without big upfront costs.

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## WHY THIS MATTERS FOR DELIVERY

- Secure homes and visible career routes are the anchors that keep people in Scarborough. Without them, young people leave, families struggle, and businesses can’t grow. Getting this right means a town where people can live well, work locally, and see a future for themselves here.
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## 8. COHESION, IDENTITY & COMMUNICATION

Bringing people together, telling Scarborough's story

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### WHY THIS MATTERS

Residents described cohesion as the feeling that Scarborough belongs to everyone not just in summer, but all year round. It's about knowing what's on, feeling welcome in shared spaces, and seeing your neighbourhood reflected in the town's story. When people feel connected, they use the town more often, stay longer, and support local life.

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### WHAT PEOPLE TOLD US

- 9.2% of PfN engagement focused on cohesion.
  - People want low-cost, year-round reasons to come together, small events, music, markets, and neighbour-led activities in familiar places.
  - Communication is a barrier: there's no single, trusted source for events, volunteering, and support; offline options matter as much as online.
  - Residents asked for spaces and activities that mix ages, abilities, and backgrounds, with particular emphasis on bridging divides.
  - There is a growing sense of separation between neighbourhoods especially those with a predominant migrant community and more work is needed to support integration and connection.
  - Scarborough's identity should be visible through heritage storytelling, public art, and design.
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### COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

#### *Everyday Connection, All Year*

- A residents-first, year-round programme of small-scale activity: street music, micro-festivals, pop-up making, and neighbourhood get-togethers.
- Micro-grants and simple toolkits so communities can run their own ideas.
- Use trusted venues, libraries, markets, parks - so participation feels natural and close to home.

#### *Clear, Joined-Up Communication*

- A single, trusted "What's On & How to Get Involved" listing for events, volunteering, and support online and offline (posters, postcards, noticeboards).
- Accessible design as standard; clear submission process for community groups; light moderation to keep it useful.

#### *Place Identity That Feels Like Scarborough*

- Heritage storytelling through trails, signs, and curated routes linking the town centre, harbour, and neighbourhoods.
- Small public-realm gestures murals, temporary artworks, maker displays in targeted spots to signal care and pride.
- Events and spaces that bring different communities together, with multilingual prompts where helpful.

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## Why this matters for delivery

- Cohesion turns investment into everyday habit. With a clear guide and a steady rhythm of small, local activity, residents feel the town is theirs. That's good for pride, safety, health and local trade.

## 8. NEXT STEPS

The next phase of the PfN process moves from priority shaping to project development. Using the priorities identified through engagement, we will work with partners and thematic groups to develop a pipeline of deliverable projects. This includes feasibility checks, cost estimates, and alignment with PfN objectives.

Once projects are worked up in detail, we will return to the community in 2026 for a consolidation phase.

This will allow residents and stakeholders to sense-check proposals and confirm that they reflect the priorities identified during engagement. Feedback from this stage will inform final decisions on which projects move forward.