



# Ask Walpole action plan

October 2024



## **‘Ask Walpole’ – turning our conversations into action**

### **What we did in Walpole**

During August and September 2021, local ward councillors, Kirklees Council services and partners encouraged people in Walpole to tell them about what life is like there. 100 people took part, sharing their experiences.

We used a tool called the Place Standard. This is a way of having conversations about any place – it could be your street, neighbourhood, or town – using some simple questions. Ask Walpole was available online with 39 people completing the questionnaire this way. Over all 62 Place Standard assessments were completed.

In July 2024 the Crosland Moor & Netherton ward partnership meeting looked at the priorities in the action plan, which had been identified from the Ask Walpole engagement. A community day was planned to invite people to take part in activities with a view to identifying community champions and help shape the action plan going forwards, with citizens, local ward Councillors, services and partners.

The intention is to create many more opportunities to continue the conversation about how we can make our local places better, ways for people to get involved in the actions and to share ideas and comments.

The aim is to use the information and insights gathered from people, along with what we’ve learned from other local activities, to develop a focussed plan for investment in Walpole. It will also help to build an evidence base to influence future planning, funding, and work with partners such as West Yorkshire Combined Authority, Police, local community-based organisations, and the local community.

### **‘Ask Walpole’ overview & results summary with full data**

<https://howgoodisourplace.org.uk/ask-walpole/>

<https://howgoodisourplace.org.uk/2022/05/25/ask-walpole-results/>

## Ask Walpole Action Plan

The following actions have been identified from the Ask Walpole community engagement activities, with priorities identified following re-engagement with ward local residents, community groups, councillors, schools, services and partner organisations. The results of Ask Walpole and this action plan, will inform plans to invest our time and resources, and any funding we may be able to access.

### Action plan

Action	Theme	Suggestions / Concerns	Actions being progressed	Funding	Lead / partners	Comments
1.Transport	Moving around	<p>More difficult for older people.</p> <p>Issue with rubbish, fly tipping, overgrown hedges, maintenance of pavements.</p> <p>Potholes.</p> <p>Groups of youths hanging around being intimidating.</p>	<p>To work with partners and agency to improve the area.</p> <p>Feedback for our subgroup meetings.</p> <p>Encourage people to report fly tipping</p> <p>Report potholes.  <a href="https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/transport-roads-and-parking/report-a-pothole.aspx">https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/transport-roads-and-parking/report-a-pothole.aspx</a></p> <p>Work with partners and agencies and young people to identify the issues. Detached youth outreach on Tuesday evenings. All schools provide after</p>	<p>Officer time.</p> <p>Officer time.</p>	<p>Cllrs, Green action team. Homes and neighbourhoods. Parks and open spaces. CESOs.</p> <p>Highways.</p> <p>Police, neighbourhood watch.</p>	

	Traffic and Parking	<p>Crossing the roads outside school is dangerous. No zebra crossing / lollipop person.</p> <p>School traffic, Dryclough, Moorend, Gilbert Grove and Walpole Road. Cars park on the pavements.</p> <p>No double yellow lines or keep clear markings, only outside the school.</p> <p>Lack of speed humps, speed cameras. Speeding vehicles</p> <p>Motorbike nuisance, E scooter, quad bikes, joy riders.</p>	<p>school clubs. Area is a HAF priority. Huddersfield Town Foundation Premier League Kicks programme.</p> <p>To discuss with schools, road safety, highways. Investment in Dryclough Road safety scheme in summer 2023, to improve road safety, plus an additional school crossing patrol.</p> <p>As above.</p> <p>As above.</p> <p>SID scheme is being rolled out across the area to capture data.</p> <p>On going issue and discussions with partner agencies. Schools do road safety training, and report nuisance bikes.</p>		<p>Safer Kirklees. Detached Youth workers.</p> <p>Highways, Road safety team, Cllrs, Community hub.</p> <p>Police, councillors</p> <p>Police, councillors</p>	
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	Public Transport	Unreliable bus service, no bus on a Sunday. One an hour on weekdays. No digital display showing when the next bus is. Fares have increased dramatically.	Public transport companies determine costs and routes.			
2. Economy	Facilities and amenities  Work and local economy	Lack of facilities / shops / cafes.  No places to meet friends and places to eat.  Lack of business and opportunities to work or volunteer.  No learning opportunities. People choose not to work.	Limited opportunities to influence and develop private business.  To look at employment support and business / volunteer events. Schools invite services into school activities, to help improve access to support for parents, including employment support, volunteering, and adult learning. To better promote local offers. Explore community venues and access to new opportunities		Business support team, Crosland Moor, Community Learning, Paddock Community Trust, Employment Kirklees, Kirklees College, The Success Centre.	
3. Leisure	Streets and spaces	Gardens are not kept in a good condition.  Fly tipping, dog mess, and rats run.	To look at clean ups and issues that contribute to this matter.		Councillors, Green Action Team, Homes and Neighbourhoods,	

		<p>The area does not feel safe.</p> <p>No landmarks or historical buildings.</p> <p>More access and better maintained green spaces, trees overgrown, grass not cut. Fly tipping, vandalism, rats, dog mess.</p>	<p>To discuss with Police and partners looking at this agenda.</p> <p>Add landmarks and historic links. For example: Beaumont Park, reservoir, David Browns, Dixons, etc – public guide to the area?</p> <p>To work with parks and open spaces and partners to address issues raised. Support for Reap What You Sow community organisation. Contact forestry regarding tree planting in Horse Field. Have a community day to open play area and encourage people to become community champions. Community voices.</p>		<p>Parks and Open Spaces.</p> <p>Councillors, Green Action Team, Homes and Neighbourhoods, Parks and Open Spaces.</p>	
	<p>Natural Spaces</p> <p>Play and Recreation</p>	<p>Lack of facilities not enough parks or places for children to play safely or fit for purpose.</p> <p>Bring back the youth clubs</p>	<p>Investment through playable spaces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Horse Bank Drive</li> <li>• Wellfield Close</li> <li>• Walpole Rec</li> </ul>	£1,000	<p>Playable spaces team.</p>	

		<p>More activities for adults</p> <p>Anti-social behaviour, parks and areas attracts youths, bikes, quad bikes, hanging around, smoking weed and drinking so people do not feel safe.</p>	<p>Youth detached team support young people in the area. See section 1 for youth activities.</p> <p>What's on at Crosland Moor Community Centre?</p> <p>Working with landscape architect and parks regarding a barrier for Walpole rec to reduce motorbike access if possible. Chicanes with a galvanized finish approved looking a permission regarding PROW before installing.</p> <p>Ongoing work with Police, Safer Kirklees,</p>	£5,000	<p>Detached Youth Team</p> <p>Landscape architect team and parks.</p> <p>Police, Safer Kirklees.</p>	
4. Living	Housing and communities	<p>Lack of affordable housing. No real investment in years. There is a need for bigger houses.</p> <p>People do not feel safe</p>	What discussions are ongoing at a strategic level to address housing needs?		Homes & Neighbourhoods, councillors	

	Care and maintenance	Lack of care and maintenance, houses are in a state of disrepair and depressing. Slow repairs or just a temporary fix.	Is this historic and justified? How do we communicate what's happened to help make people safe?		Homes & Neighbourhoods / Safer Kirklees.  Homes & Neighbourhoods. Housing Solutions.	
5. Social	Influence and sense of control, Social contact, Identity and belonging	<p>Lack of community buildings / space. No community opportunity.</p> <p>There is a lack of influence and people feel they do not belong.</p> <p>People don't report issues due to fear or it is not acted on.</p> <p>Walpole doesn't have a positive identity and has a bad reputation, anti-social behaviour. People can be unfriendly, racist and abusive.</p>	<p>See comments in section 2 and 3.</p> <p>Better communication of actions / responses.</p> <p>More use of logo designed by Oak Primary School children. Can we use the logo in the new play area?</p>		Police, Homes & Neighbourhoods.	

	Feeling safe	<p>People do not feel safe due to gangs, knives, drugs, abusive language, speeding cars and crime.</p> <p>The elderly, young people and children do not feel safe.</p> <p>Lack of street lighting.</p>	<p>More communication about actions taken, and reduction in crime. Need to build confidence.</p> <p>Need a local resident's group for partners to work with.</p> <p>Highways to assess, and upgrade.</p>		<p>Police, Homes &amp; Neighbourhoods.</p> <p>Homes &amp; Neighbourhood's</p> <p>Highways &amp; Safer Kirklees.</p>	

### Get involved

To get involved or find out more, please contact:

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**This document and more information is available online at:**

[www.HowGoodIsOurPlace.org.uk](http://www.HowGoodIsOurPlace.org.uk)