

Oudendarde Place Standard Survey

As part of the HLF-funded “In the Footsteps of Geddes” project, PAS delivered an interactive exhibition which took place in Oudendarde on 27 May 2017. The exhibition was part of a community event, where the local residents could get together and discuss the future of the area, in particular the proposed Community Centre. One of the activities available to the attendees was the Scottish Government’s Place Standard Tool (PST) survey. Anyone interested was able to share their views on the quality of various aspects of Oudendarde, with guidance on using the tool available from PAS Staff and Volunteers.

Comments from Oudendarde PST activity

There were nine respondents in total. Only four of the nine, here identified as Respondents F, G, H and I, provided comments on their rationale for the rating of each category.

	Respondent F	Respondent G	Respondent H	Respondent I
Moving around	No buses. Road for walking not safe at night.	-	Some areas are good for cycling and walking.	There are some bits of abandoned road by very nice routes as well.
Climate-ready place	Isolated.	-	-	Good quality houses and support.
Public transport	None.	-	Non-existent.	Yes but it is a long walk.
Traffic and Parking	Cars parked along roads.	-	Not enough visitor spaces.	When there are floods there is very little room for drivers.
Streets and Spaces	Again, feeling isolated.	-	-	Bridge of Earn is a beautiful place.
Natural Space	Building site.	-	Nothing here.	Yes I do because the quality is great.
Play and Recreation	Nothing for children to do.	Nothing for children.	Nothing here.	Yes there is a lot of space for children to use.

Facilities and Amenities	Nothing for children.	-	Nothing here. You have to go into the village.	-
Work and Local Economy	No transport.	-	Some have tried for years.	I'm under 16 so no comment.
Housing and Community	Isolated	-	Fairly good.	-
Social Interaction	Isolated.	Nobody really speaks.	No buildings for it.	There needs to be more social activities.
Identity and Belonging	Nowhere to bond.	-	Feel left out of main village area.	Some places yes and some no.
Feeling Safe	Isolation.	Not too safe walking to bus and shop at night.	Good neighbours on the whole.	Sometimes but the football group/kids get too carried away.
Care and Maintenance	-	Place is looked after.	Mostly.	Some kids break and wreck fences and other things.
Influence and sense of control	-	-	Trying to organise a community centre.	I'm under 16 so no comment.

Public Transport seems to be a major issue in the area. Six of the nine respondents rated public transport poorly and in many cases stated that it is non-existent. However, Respondent I made a valid comment in that they said that it is a long walk to access it. So it seems the key issue here is accessibility.

Social Interaction was generally rated quite poorly as the highest rating it received was a 4. Many respondents rated it at 1 suggesting that this is a key issue in need of attention. This category is arguably linked to the Facilities and Amenities category which unsurprisingly received similar ratings. A few respondents noted that there wasn't very much for children to do in the area and that if you want to do something you have to travel into the Bridge of Earn which is approximately a 15 minute walk. It seems that there is currently a lack of amenities in Oudenarde. Work and Local Economy was also rated quite poorly. It's fair to say that if amenities are truly lacking then this will have a knock on effect on the employment opportunities present in the local area.

Respondent H noted that there was interest in having a community centre and that Oudenarde felt left out from the main village (Bridge of Earn). This suggests that there is an existing feeling that Oudenarde feels like an appendage to Bridge of Earn and that there is a desire to develop its own identity through the development of some form of village hub. More than half of the respondents felt that Oudenarde lacks identity and a sense of belonging. Respondent F pointed out that there is nowhere for people to bond and Respondent H felt that Bridge of Earn is really the core village.

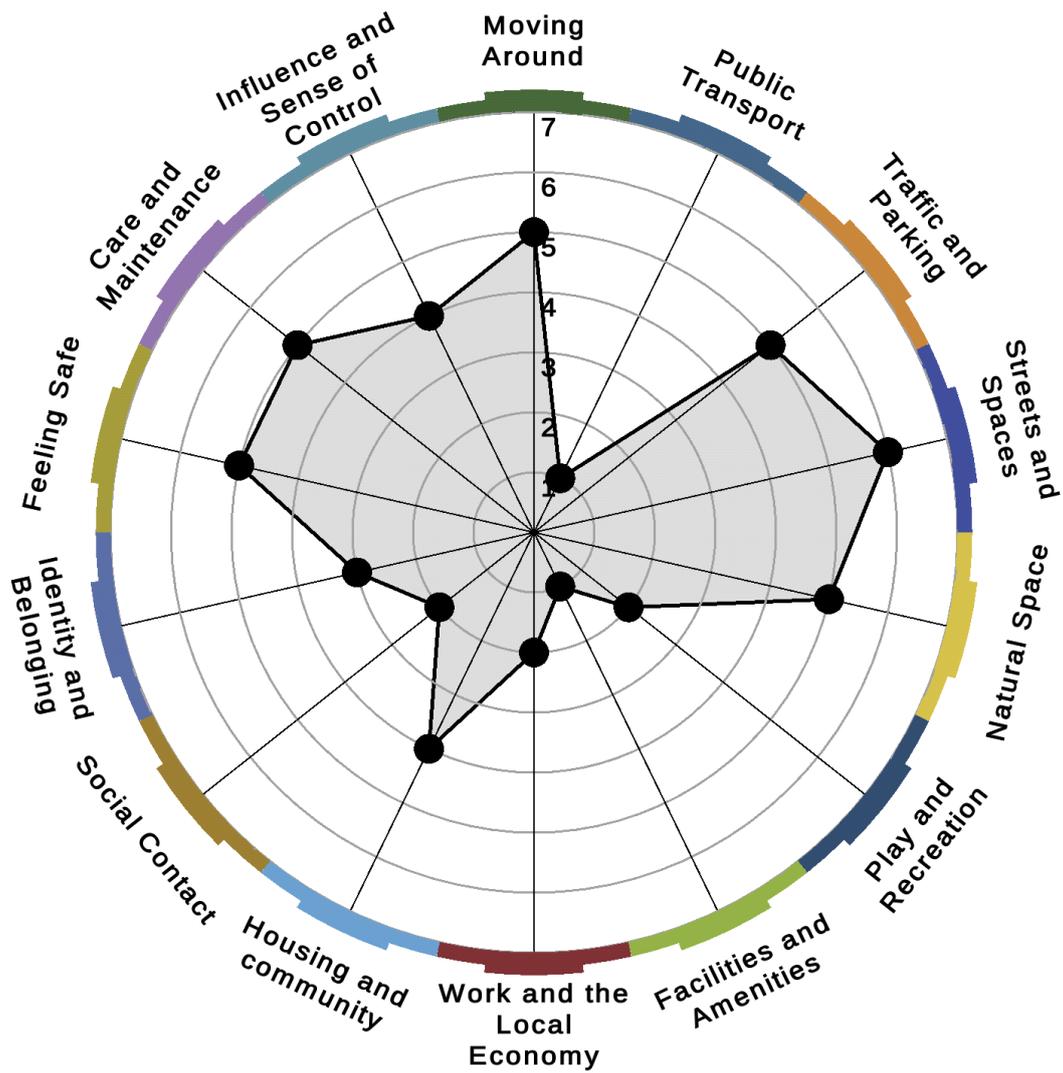
Traffic and Parking was rated relatively highly. However, some of the comments suggested that there is poor provision of spaces because visitors often struggle to find a space. Seven of the nine respondents rated the Influence and Self Control category at 4 suggesting that there is maybe some uncertainty over the extent to which they have a say in their local community.

On the other hand the Moving Around category was rated highly suggesting that it is relatively easy to find your way around Oudenarde. It was noted that the area is particularly good for promoting walking and cycling and that the routes themselves are nice to use. The Streets and Spaces category was also rated highly and likely for similar reasons. Another positive was that most respondents seemed to think that Oudenarde is well maintained and cared for. However, it could be argued that there is little for them to assess in regards to this category because previous comments have already suggested that the village is lacking in facilities, amenities, community identity and places to socialise. It seems that one of the overarching concerns is that Oudenarde is somewhat isolated because residents have to look out with the village for activity. Respondent F emphasised that this is a key problem in many of their comments.

A visual summary of the response trends in the form of the PST “spider graph”, based on the rounded down average scores for each category, can be viewed on the next page.

Place Standard

How Good Is Our Place?



Finish