

# **Community survey on Crieff revitalisation scheme**

## **For people who are over 18, who live or work in the PH7 postcode area**

**\*\*\* PLEASE take a few minutes to tell us what you think! \*\*\***

### **INTRODUCTION**

This survey is being carried out on behalf of the Crieff and Upper Strathearn Partnership (CUSP) and Perth & Kinross Council.

CUSP are working together with Perth & Kinross Council to make Crieff a better, more attractive place to live and work. A number of possible areas of improvement have been identified, and through this survey, we would like to get your opinions about which ones (if any), we should prioritise and begin to work towards. We'd also like to know what other aspirations you have for the town.

This questionnaire will take about 10-15 minutes to complete. The survey is anonymous. However, you will be asked your sex, your age group and the name of the street you live on. The reason for this, is that the results will be presented to Perth & Kinross Council, and we would like to be able to show that we have captured the views of a representative cross-section of the town. An independent researcher has been employed to carry out this survey, and members of CUSP are assisting with questionnaire distribution and collection. However, no one from CUSP, Perth & Kinross Council or anywhere else will be able to identify who said what in the survey. If you have any questions about the survey, please contact the researcher at:

Dawn Griesbach, Griesbach & Associates  
Telephone: 07921 199655, Email: [cusp-survey@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cusp-survey@hotmail.co.uk)

### **HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR QUESTIONNAIRE**

To ensure that your views are heard, please return your completed questionnaire to the person who gave it to you (you may put it in a sealed envelope first, if you prefer), or hand it in at one of the following locations:

- Strathearn Herald Office, East High Street
- Public Library, Strathearn Community Campus
- Tourist Information Office, High Street
- Houseproud, Perth Road

Or you can complete the questionnaire on-line at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/J7NFDC3>

### **ENCOURAGE YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO TAKE PART!**

We would like as many Crieff residents as possible to take part in this survey. If you would like additional copies of this questionnaire (for your friends, family, or colleagues), you can get them from the above locations. Or simply go on-line at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/J7NFDC3>  
Please note that other arrangements are being made to get the views of under-18s.

### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

Further information about CUSP and the background to this survey can be found on the back page of this questionnaire (page 8).

**TURN THE PAGE TO START THE QUESTIONNAIRE ➔**

## SECTION 1: Checking your eligibility to take part

This survey is intended only for people 18 and over who live or work in Crieff and the surrounding area (the PH7 postcode area).

**1. Do you live OR work in the PH7 postcode area?**

- Yes (Go to Question 2.)
- No (Please stop.)

**2. Are you:**

- Aged 18 or over (Go to Question 3.)
- Under 18 (Please stop.)

## SECTION 2: Demographic information

**3. Which of the following statements apply to you: (Please tick one only.)**

- I live in Crieff
- I live in the PH7 postcode area, but outside of Crieff (e.g., Muthill, Gilmerton, Monzie, Fowlis Wester, Madderty, or surrounding areas)
- I do not live in the PH7 postcode area, but I work in Crieff.

**4. If you live in Crieff, please write the name of the street you live on below. (This is to ensure we have captured a geographically representative sample of the town's population.)**

**5. Are you:**

- Male
- Female

**6. Your age group**

- |                                |                                |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18-29 | <input type="checkbox"/> 60-74 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 30-44 | <input type="checkbox"/> 75+   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 45-59 |                                |

## SECTION 3: Colour theming and new welcome signs

There has been considerable discussion between CUSP, Perth & Kinross Council and Transport Scotland about the possibility of re-painting current local authority and government-owned lamp posts, railings and street-furniture in the town centre, and in time, on the three main approach roads leading to the centre. The proposal is to paint these items a co-ordinated set of colours, which would help to reflect the fact that the town's residents care about its appearance. The colour options below have been agreed by all parties. We would like to know which you prefer.

It is also proposed that new welcome signs be placed at the three main entrances to the town, and three smaller signs be placed on the other entrance roads. We would like your opinion on the wording and possible design elements to be included in the signs.

(Further information about the background to these questions is on page 8.)

**7. Is your preference: (Please tick one only.)**

- To have lamp posts, railings and street furniture painted predominantly in burgundy, with gold trim
- To have lamp posts, railings and street furniture painted predominantly in green, with gold trim
- To have no change from the current colour scheme
- I have no strong opinion about this.



**8. The following forms of words have been suggested for the new welcome signs. Which of these do you prefer: (Please tick one only.)**

- Crieff Welcomes You
- Welcome to Crieff
- Crieff Welcomes You  
Heart of Strathearn
- Welcome to Crieff  
Heart of Strathearn
- I have no strong opinion about this.

**9. Which, if any, of the following elements would you like to see featured on the new signs? (You may tick more than one. Some people might like to see all of these elements incorporated in the new sign, whilst others may like only one or two.)**

- The Coat of Arms of the Burgh of Crieff  
(see below)
- A seasonal view of Crieff / upper Strathearn (in Spring, Summer, Autumn or Winter)
- The Murray Fountain (in James Square)
- An aerial view of Crieff / upper Strathearn
- A cattle droving image
- I would prefer to keep the current sign  
(see below)
- Some element of the local landscape (for example, a mountain, tree or river)
- I would prefer to have no images on the sign, only words
- Stylised tree, the current logo of the Crieff & Strathearn Tourist Association  
(see below)
- The Earl of Strathearn (see below)
- I have no strong opinion about this.



Coat of Arms of the Burgh of Crieff



Stylised tree



Earl of Strathearn



Current welcome sign

## SECTION 4: Car parking in the town centre

10. Below are some statements about car parking in the town. Please say whether you agree or disagree with each statement.

	Agree strongly	Agree slightly	No opinion	Disagree slightly	Disagree strongly
More parking is needed in the centre of Crieff.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
A local park and ride scheme should be provided (where visitors could park on the edge of town and be driven to the centre).	<input type="checkbox"/>				
There should be a multi-storey car park in the town centre.	<input type="checkbox"/>				

At present, there is pay-and-display parking in the Leadenflower car park, the King Street car park and in James Square. Parking in the High Street is currently free, but is limited to 30 minutes during the day. Perth & Kinross Council will require to maintain some income from parking in Crieff.

11. Which of the following options would you prefer:

- To have **free** parking in the King Street and Leadenflower car parks and **paid** parking in the High Street and James Square.
- To continue with the current arrangements – i.e., **paid** parking in James Square and the King Street and Leadenflower car parks, and **free** parking in the High Street.

## SECTION 5: Transportation and traffic-related issues

12. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following suggestions.

	Agree strongly	Agree slightly	No opinion	Disagree slightly	Disagree strongly
For safety reasons, bus stops for the local bus services should be moved from the High St.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
A bus and coach station should be provided in Crieff.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
There should be better co-ordination of local bus services with national bus and train provision.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
There should be a bus service from Crieff to the park & ride service in Perth.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Heavy traffic should be taken out of the town centre through the provision of a by-pass.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
James Square should be restored to allow traffic flow on either side of the monument (as it did historically).	<input type="checkbox"/>				

## SECTION 6: Social, cultural and leisure facilities

**13. Which of the following would you like to see in Crieff?**

	Agree strongly	Agree slightly	No opinion	Disagree slightly	Disagree strongly
More cafés and restaurants	<input type="checkbox"/>				
More benches in James Square	<input type="checkbox"/>				
A cinema (or film club)	<input type="checkbox"/>				
A bowling alley	<input type="checkbox"/>				
A local Strathearn radio station	<input type="checkbox"/>				
A museum	<input type="checkbox"/>				
A place to hold small concerts or gigs	<input type="checkbox"/>				
A community centre / community hall	<input type="checkbox"/>				
A larger, more accessible (by car and foot) Tourist Information Centre	<input type="checkbox"/>				
The facility to provide temporary weather protection (i.e., a marquee-type of cover) for events held in James Square.	<input type="checkbox"/>				

**14. From the list above, which three would be your top priorities? (Only ONE tick per column, please.)**

	Top priority	2nd priority	3rd priority
More cafés and restaurants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
More benches in James Square	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A cinema (or film club)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A bowling alley	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A local Strathearn radio station	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A museum	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A place to hold small concerts or gigs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A community centre / community hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A larger, more accessible (by car and foot) Tourist Information Centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The facility to provide temporary weather protection (i.e., a marquee-type of cover) for events held in James Square.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**15. Please tell us what other new / additional social, cultural or leisure facilities you would like to see in Crieff. (Please PRINT clearly.)**

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## SECTION 7: Land for sale between Taylor Park and Lady Mary's Walk

An area of land between the bridge at Turretbank Road and Lady Mary's Walk along the Turret Burn is currently for sale. This land is regularly used by large numbers of Crieff residents for recreational purposes. If the land is purchased by a developer, access to the land could be restricted in the future. An alternative might be to purchase the land on behalf of the town and have an appropriate local community body (for example, a local charity) hold the land in trust. Under this scenario, it is likely that funding would be available for maintaining and improving the area, including the footpath. Perth & Kinross Council have expressed a willingness to provide practical support and advice. However, roughly £20,000 would need to be raised to make this purchase possible.

### 16. Please tell us what you think about this issue.

	Yes	No	Not sure
I think that the land leading to Lady Mary's Walk should be purchased (and held in trust) for the town.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I would be willing to make a financial contribution (large or small!) through a town fundraising campaign.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## SECTION 8: Improving the appearance of Crieff town centre

In February 2009, the Crieff town centre was given Conservation Area status. This means that the architectural / historic character of the town centre will be protected and enhanced in years to come. Nevertheless, there are presently a number of large buildings in the centre of Crieff which are unoccupied, and are at risk of becoming derelict. In this survey, we are asking your views on possible uses for these buildings, and the Drummond Arms in particular. (See page 8 for further information.)

### 17. Below are some possible uses for the Drummond Arms Hotel in the future. What would you like to see the Drummond Arms Hotel used for? (Note, it might be possible for the hotel to be used for more than one of these purposes.)

	Agree strongly	Agree slightly	No opinion	Disagree slightly	Disagree strongly
A hotel	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Flats	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Shops / boutique stores	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Art gallery	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Museum	<input type="checkbox"/>				
A multi-storey car park	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Tourist Information Centre	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Community centre	<input type="checkbox"/>				

### 18. Do you have any other suggestions for how to use the Drummond Arms Hotel for the benefit of Crieff? (Please PRINT clearly.)

**19. Because of its historic significance, it has been suggested that the Drummond Arms Hotel should be purchased for the town of Crieff through a community buy-out scheme. This would put the responsibility for maintenance of the building onto the town. However, it would also ensure that the building is used for the benefit of the town. Would you be in favour of this?**

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

**20. Do you have any views about possible uses for currently unoccupied buildings in the centre of Crieff (e.g., Crown Hotel, East High St; former South Church, Comrie St; Old St Michael's Hall, Church St; etc.)?**

**21. Some other suggestions for improving the town centre are listed below. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements.**

	Agree strongly	Agree slightly	No opinion	Disagree slightly	Disagree strongly
A facade improvement scheme is needed for selected shopfronts and building facades in the High Street.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Trees should be planted in Commissioner Street.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Perth & Kinross Council should take stronger measures to compel property owners to maintain their properties to a good standard (for example, through the use of statutory repair notices).	<input type="checkbox"/>				

## SECTION 9: Other aspirations

**22. What other types of businesses / services would you like to see in Crieff? (Please PRINT clearly.)**

**23. Do you have any other suggestions for how the town centre of Crieff could be improved? Please be as specific as possible. (Please PRINT clearly.)**

**THANK YOU FOR TAKING PART IN OUR SURVEY!! To ensure your views are heard, please follow the instructions on the first page for submitting your questionnaire.**

## BACKGROUND TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE

### ABOUT CUSP

The **Crieff and Upper Strathearn Partnership (CUSP)** is made up of representatives from local community and business groups including the Community Council, the Tourism Association, the Residents' Association, Crieff In Leaf, the Sounds of Strathearn, Crieff Community Initiative and the Drovers' Tryst Festival. The Partnership's meetings are also regularly attended by Perth & Kinross councillors, and periodically by representatives of Crieff High School and the local press.

CUSP aims to identify social, economic and environmental projects for the benefit of Crieff and Upper Strathearn and to source appropriate funding. The Partnership believes these aims can best be achieved by all partners being involved and working together towards a common goal. The group meets 6-9 times each year and welcomes the involvement and inclusion of other socially-minded groups in the community.

### THE CRIEFF REVITALISATION SCHEME

CUSP believes that Crieff is a wonderful town — but it is not without its problems. Crieff has a trunk road (the A85) running through its High Street. This brings with it problems of heavy traffic, parking issues, noise, pollution, etc. At the same time, the town is suffering from the haphazard provision of street lighting, street furniture, railings and signage. To make matters worse, there has been a failure to co-ordinate the colour of these items or carry out regular maintenance. The result is that Crieff's town centre looks unkempt, which reflects poorly on the town and its people, and does nothing to encourage visitors.

The Partnership believes that local and central government could do more in respect of the provision and maintenance of items such as street lighting columns, signposts, street furniture, bins, etc. CUSP has never suggested replacing these items, but rather, when they are due for maintenance or renewal, that there is some adherence to an agreed colour scheme, which would help reflect the fact that the town's citizens care about its appearance.

Perth & Kinross Council and Transport Scotland have both shown a willingness to engage with Crieff on this issue. So, in this survey, CUSP is asking for your views on whether local authority and government-owned lamp posts, railings, street furniture, etc., should be colour-themed. In a recent competition held at the Crieff High School, the winning colours of Burgundy and Green, were chosen. It has subsequently been agreed that Gold should be used as a highlighter (for example on lamp posts), and that black and white should be available as part of the 'colour palette'. (For example, it may be appropriate for bins to be black.)

The exact shades of Burgundy / Green and Gold have still to be finalised and will depend on the colour ranges available from Perth & Kinross Council and Transport Scotland.

### UNOCCUPIED BUILDINGS IN CRIEFF

There are currently several large unoccupied buildings in the centre of Crieff. CUSP feels that it is not in the best interests of the town for significant buildings to be allowed to deteriorate over a period of years. Aside from the negative economic consequences arising from dereliction and a negative impression of the town, there are also safety issues. CUSP would like to know whether other residents of Crieff have ideas about how currently unoccupied buildings could be used for the benefit of the town.

### ACHIEVING OUR ASPIRATIONS FOR CRIEFF

Some towns and villages in Scotland have "Common Good" funds that the community can call upon to invest in local projects. Technically, Crieff has such a fund. Unfortunately, it contains no substantial sum and earns little in the way of interest. This makes the manner in which monies are allocated and spent on the town's behalf by the local authority and Scottish government all the more important.

We are aware that some ambitions may be unachievable in the short term, but we still want to know your views on the desirability of the suggested schemes. This will help CUSP and Perth & Kinross Council to prioritise and work towards those things that are most important to the people of Crieff. So, in completing this questionnaire, please bear in mind that **we want to know what you want, not whether you think it is feasible or not.**