

# The Outer Hebrides Community Appraisal Survey – Supplementary report for Point

Research report for  
Comhairle nan Eilean Siar &  
Point Community Planning Partnership



**Ipsos MORI**



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# Introduction

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This report contains the findings of the Point Community Planning Partnership area questions included in the Outer Hebrides Community Survey 2007. This survey was conducted by Ipsos MORI Scotland on behalf of the Outer Hebrides Community Planning Partnership.

The survey was the first island-wide survey designed to gather information from all residents to inform the future development of the islands and local communities. It represented the key consultation device for the Partnership in their commitment to actively engage with local residents towards improving community vitality throughout the Western Isles.

As part of this, the Point sustainable community area included a number of questions that were asked only of Point residents (see figure 1 for boundaries of the Point Sustainable Community Area). These include: perceptions of a number of suggested developments in Point; priorities for the proposed restoration of the Eye Church; support for the provision of housing on common grazing land in the area; and prospective household use of facilities if they were provided at Bayble Shore and Pier area.

**Figure 1: Boundaries of the Point Sustainable Community Area**

**Point Sustainable Community Area**



## Structure of the report

All households in the Outer Hebrides were invited to participate in the Community Survey by completing a paper questionnaire. Thirteen different versions of the questionnaire were designed, comprising of a core section of

questions asked of all households in the Outer Hebrides and an additional section specifically designed to inform the unique local issues and challenges of each Sustainable Community Area. The additional section for Point enabled local residents to be asked about issues that were specific to the local community.

The core report documents the major findings from questions contained in the core section of the questionnaire and indicates the overall picture of residents across the whole of the Outer Hebrides. This report provides supplementary analysis of the results from the questions asked specifically of residents in Point. The data tables, available from Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, also provide a comparison of responses to the core questionnaire between residents on Point and those in the rest of the Outer Hebrides.

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# Point Community Questions

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This chapter focuses on the responses from residents living in Point regarding a number of topics specific to their local area. It details their views on a number of suggested developments in Point. In addition, it outlines residents' views on two proposed uses for the Eye Church. It considers their opinions towards the provision of new housing on common grazing land in the area. Finally, it outlines whether they would be interested in using a number of facilities if they were provided at the Bayble Shore and pier area.

## Satisfaction with living in the Outer Hebrides

At the start of the questionnaire, residents were asked if they were satisfied with living on the islands. Most residents (94%) living in Point are satisfied with the islands as a place to live. The overall satisfaction level across the Outer Hebrides was 94%.

Over half (54%) say they are very satisfied, while 40% say they are fairly satisfied with the islands as a place to live. Only 2% of residents who returned a questionnaire say that they are dissatisfied.

## Priorities for a range of suggested development in Point

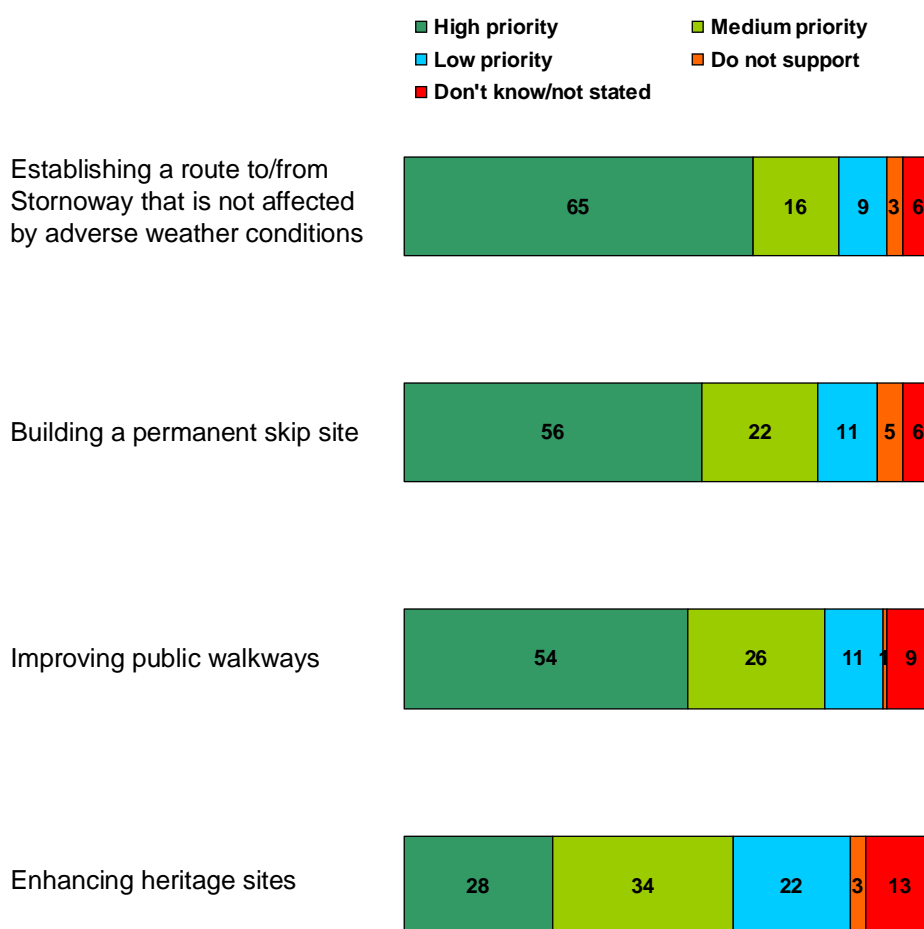
Residents were asked how much of a priority should be given to four suggested developments in the Point area (see Figure 2).

The majority of residents say that three of the proposals should be given high priority: establishing a route to/from Stornoway that is not affected by adverse weather conditions (65%); building a permanent skip site (56%); and improving public walkways (54%).

Less than a third of residents (28%) feel that enhancing heritage sites should be given high priority. A quarter of residents (25%) either do not support, or say that low priority should be given to, enhancing heritage sites in the Point area.

**Figure 2: Prioritising developments in Point**

Q *A number of developments have been suggested for Point. How much of a priority, if any, should be given to the following in the area?*



Base: All respondents (217)

Source: Ipsos MORI

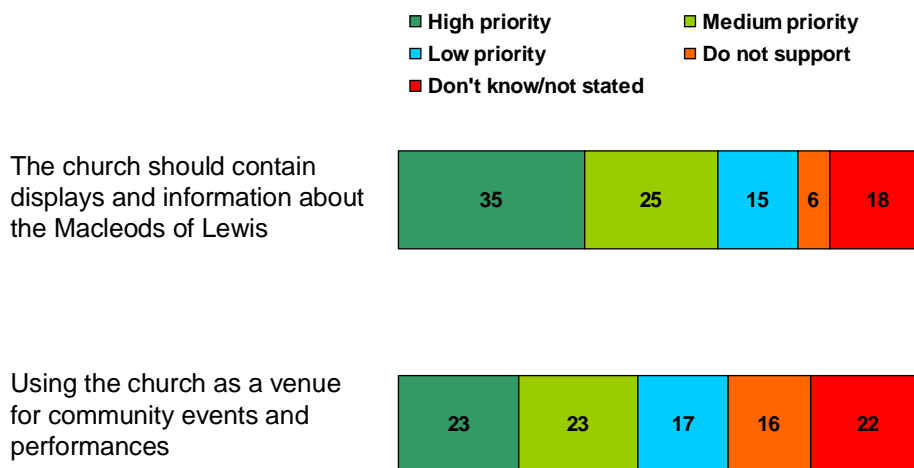
## Priorities for the Eaglais na h-Aoidhe (The Eye Church)

Residents were also asked think specifically about the proposed restoration of the Eye Church and say how much of a priority should be given to two potential uses for the venue (See Figure 3).

Residents are more likely to say that high priority should be given to using the church as a venue that contains displays and information about the Macleods of Lewis (35%) than using the church as a venue for community events and performances (23%). However 15% of residents say that a low priority should be given to containing displays and information about the Macleods of Lewis, and 17% say likewise about using the church as a venue for community events and performances. Further, around 1 in 6 (16%) do not support the proposal to use the church as a venue for community events and performances.

**Figure 3: Priority for the Eye Church**

Q *Thinking about the proposed restoration of Eaglais na h-Aoidhe (The Eye Church), how much of a priority, if any, should be given to the following?*



Base: All respondents (217)

Source: Ipsos MORI

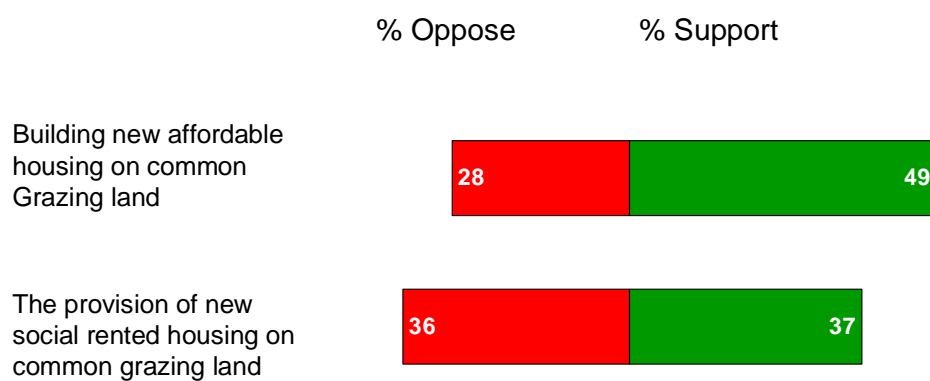
## Housing on common grazing land in the Point area

Less than half of residents (49%) support proposals to build new affordable housing on common grazing land. Around 3 in 10 (28%) oppose this proposal.

Just over a third (37%) support proposals to provide new social rented housing on common grazing land. A similar proportion (36%) oppose this proposal.

**Figure 4: Levels of support for the provision of housing on common grazing land**

Q *In principle, how strongly would you support or oppose the following.....?*



Base: All respondents (217)

Source: Ipsos MORI

These questions were asked in most community planning areas across the Outer Hebrides (see Table 1).

**Table 1: Levels of support by area**

<i>In principle, how strongly would you support or oppose the following?</i>													
	Barra and Vatersay	South Uist and Eriksay	Benbecula	North Uist and Berera	Harris	Paic and Kinloch	North Lochs	Stornoway	Point	Broadbay	Uig and Bernera	West Side	Ness
<i>Base: All</i>	111	216	105	180	264	110	97	666	<b>217</b>	309	132	377	211
<b>% Support</b>	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Building new affordable housing on common grazing land	59	60	47	48	58	60	53	-	<b>49</b>	51	61	60	46
The provision of new social rented housing on common grazing land	55	54	36	40	52	50	41	-	<b>37</b>	39	55	47	36

*Source: Ipsos MORI*

## Facilities at the Bayble Shore and Pier

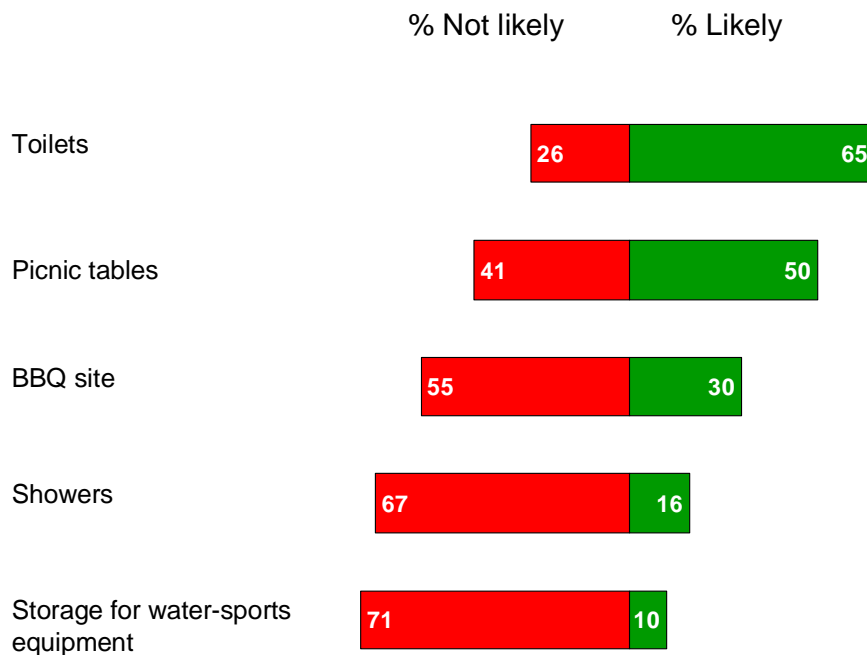
Residents were asked how likely they or their household would be to use specific facilities if they were provided at the at the Bayble Shore and pier area (see Figure 5 below).

The majority of residents (65%) say they would be likely to use toilets if they were provided. By comparison, residents are slightly less likely to say they would use picnic tables (50%)

Residents were less likely to use the three other facilities proposed for Bayble shore and pier: 30% say they would use a BBQ site if provided; 16% say they would use showers if provided; and 10% say they would use storage facilities for water sports equipment.

**Figure 5: Using facilities at the Bayble shore and pier**

Q *How likely, if at all, would you, or anyone in your household be to use the following facilities if they were provided at Bayble Shore and pier area.....?*



Base: All respondents (217)

Source: Ipsos MORI

# Appendix: Point Questionnaire