Proposed Future Direction of Valued Services

Survey Results October 2024

In June 2024, East Ayrshire Council and the Boards of Trustees of East Ayrshire Leisure and the Kilmarnock Leisure Centre Trust endorsed a proposal to transfer East Ayrshire Council's Vibrant Communities, Corporate and Community Catering, Instrumental Music Services and Creative Minds along with the Galleon Leisure Centre to East Ayrshire Leisure Trust.

As part of East Ayrshire Leisure Trust's commitment to being recognised as a provider than listens to our customers, local residents, visitors and partners and develops facilities and services that meet their needs, this survey was created to gather feedback and was promoted amongst all the partners to share with contacts and customers. It gathered 787 responses and was open from the 2^{nd} Oct – 22^{nd} Oct.

The report analyses the feedback including some keyword analysis and a full list of comments can be found in Appendix 1.

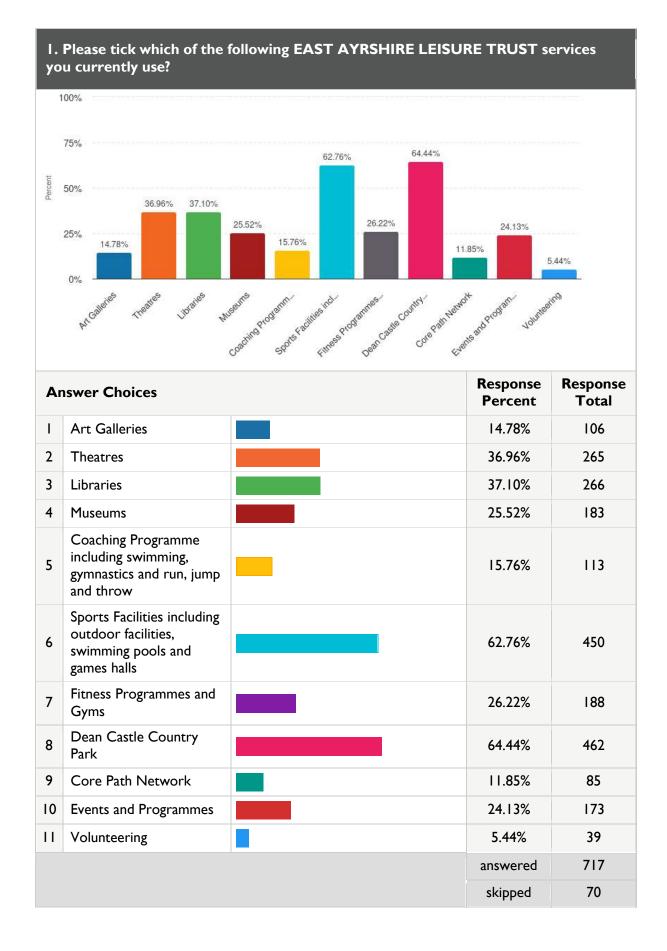












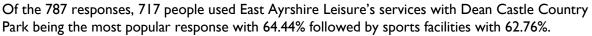


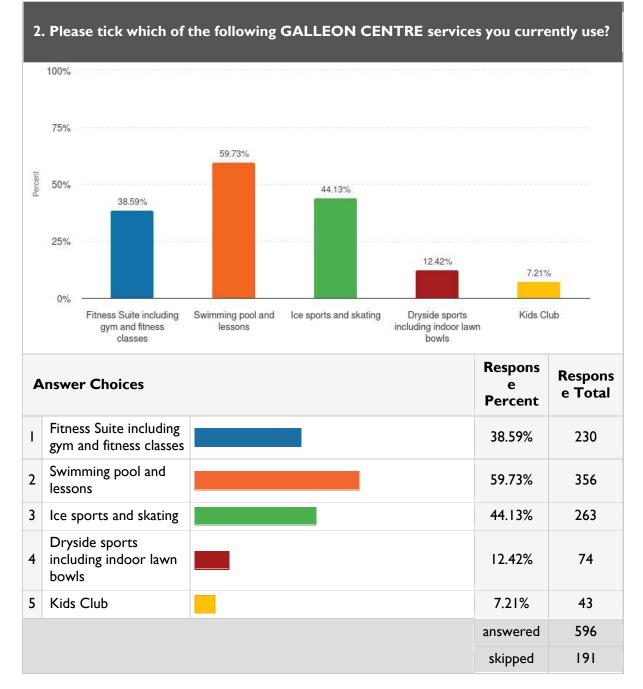












596 respondents stated that they used facilities at the Galleon Leisure Centre. The swimming pool (59.73%) and ice sports including skating (44.13%) were the most popular reasons for visiting

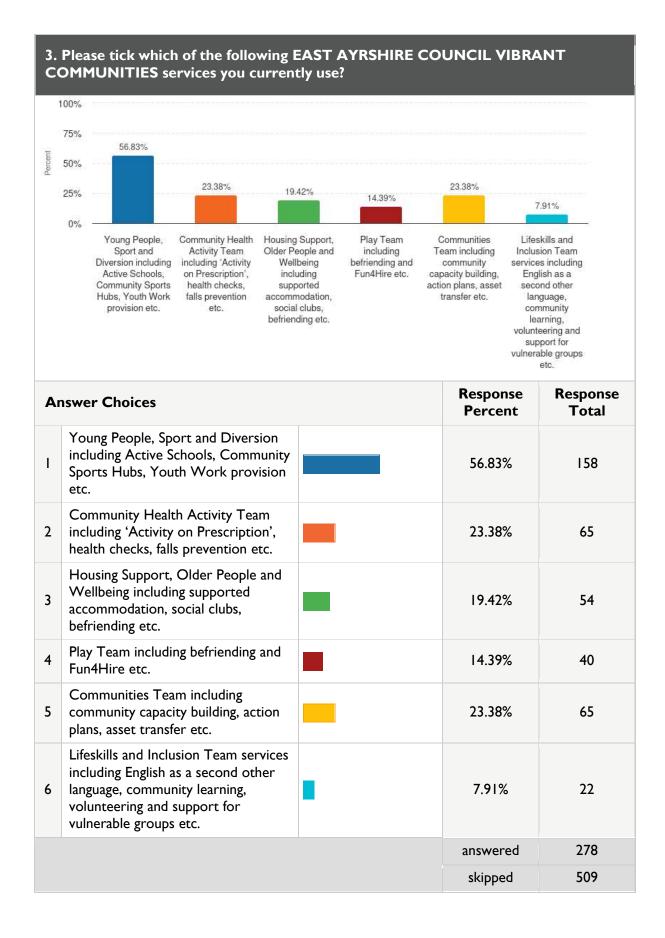














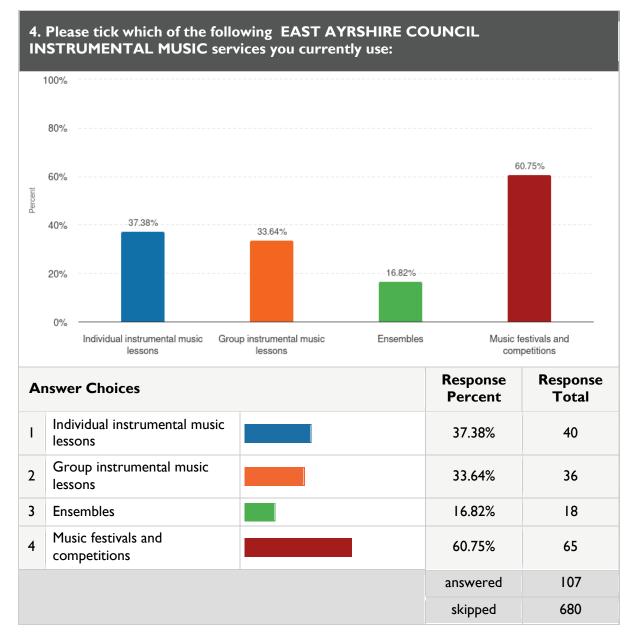








278 respondents stated that they used the services of Vibrant Communities with the most popular being Young People, Sport and Diversion including Active Schools, Community Sports Hubs, Youth Work provision (56.83%) followed by Community Health Activity Team and Communities Team both with 23.38%.



107 respondents stated that they used Instrumental Music Services with 60.75% stating that they attend music festival and competitions, followed by 37.38% attending individual music lessons followed by 33.64% attending group music lessons.

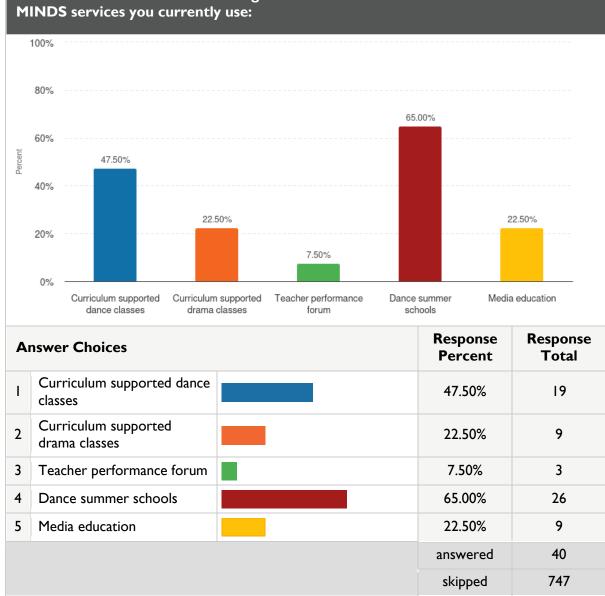












5. Please tick which of the following EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL CREATIVE

40 respondents used Creative Minds services with the most popular being dance summer schools with 65%, followed by curriculum supported dance classes with 47.5%

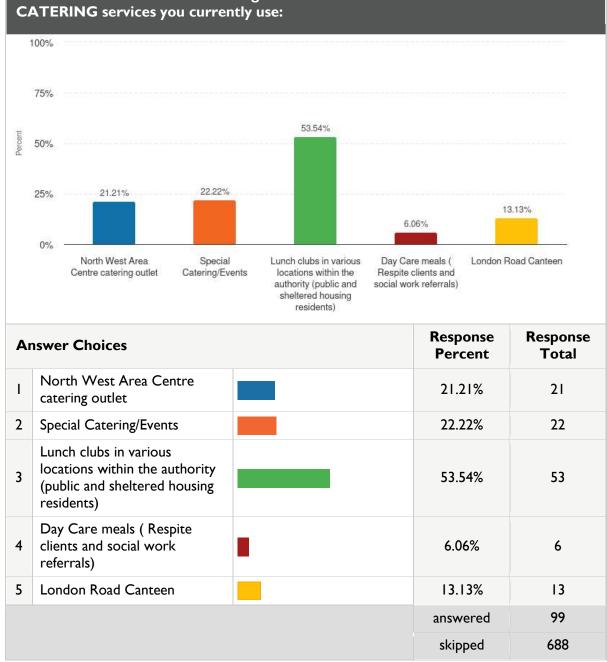












6. Please tick which of the following EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL COMMUNITY

99 respondents used Corporate Catering services with lunch clubs being the most popular response with 53.54%.











QUESTION 7

Q7 asked – "Thinking of the services you currently use, are there any opportunities for change / development which you think we should consider?

346 people responded to this question and full responses can be found in Appendix 1 but the key points from this question were as follows....

- **Cost** Comments about the expense of certain services like the theatre and swimming pools
- **Upgrade and Renovations** many respondents stated that Galleon facilities were outdated and require modernisation including the ice rink, swimming pool and changing rooms and better sports equipment.
- **Community Events and Inclusion** Call for more community driven events, affordable venues and inclusion efforts
- **Promotion and Communication** Several respondents mentioned the need or better promotion and communication especially via emails and other channels













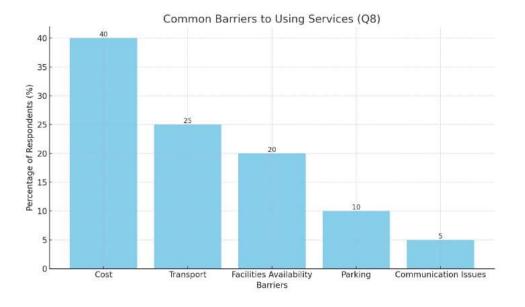
QUESTION 8

Q8 asked - "Are there any barriers which prevent you from using any of the services?

2711 people responded to this question and full responses can be found in Appendix 1.

There were a few barriers highlighted in this question. These were as follows;

- **Cost (40%)**: The high cost of services is the most frequently mentioned barrier, particularly for low income families and single –income households. Many respondents felt that pricing was a deterrent, especially for services like ice skating, swimming and fitness classes.
- **Transport (25%)**: Limited public transport and travel costs are significant issues, especially for rural residents
- **Facilities Availability (20%)**: Challenges like limited ice rink time, pool hours, and booking difficulties were frequently mentioned.
- **Parking (10%):** Lack of parking, especially at the Galleon restricts access. Several respondents also mentioned the inconvenience of having to pay for parking in addition to the service fees
- **Communication Issues (5%)**: Several respondents felt that there was inadequate promotion or communication about available services



Recurring themes include:

Cost: high service costs were a significant concern

Transport: issues with rural area transport and travel costs were frequently mentioned

Service Awareness: Respondents asked for better promotion and communication about available services

Facility Upgrades: There were frequent mentioned of outdated facilities especially the Galleon ice rink and pool

Community Engagement: there is a desire for more family activities, inclusive programmes and better staff training











QUESTION 9

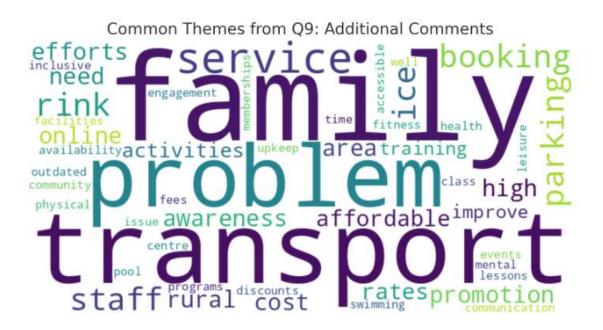
Q9 asked - "Any other comments or suggestions that you feel are important"

This was responded to by 270 people. The full list of comments are available in Appendix 1. Common themes within these additional comments were as follows;

Staff and Communication: Some respondents mentioned a lack of awareness about services suggesting that communication efforts and marketing strategies need improvement. A lot of these type of comments relate to the Galleon and the need for their website to be updated as it is out of date. Staff training and customer service were also brought up as areas needing attention. **Physical and Mental Health:** Respondents valued the role of these services in maintaining both physical and mental well - being emphasising the need for these facilities to continue operating and

to be improved

Community Benefits: Many saw the Galleon as a community hub, crucial for promoting health and wellness. Suggestions included expanding family – friendly activities, offering more swimming lessons and making services more inclusive for low income families.



Conclusion

The survey reveals several opportunities for improvement. A clear demand for facility upgrades, improved accessibility, and lower costs was expressed. Many respondents appreciate the community value of the Galleon Centre but barriers such as transport, high pricing and poor facility conditions hinder more widespread use.









