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# What is Spaces for People?



Spaces for People is a Scottish Government programme.

Spaces for People was started to help people travel safely in the COVID-19 pandemic.



The Scottish Government gave 33 million pounds to different organisations and services.



The organisations and services used the money to run projects that helped people to travel safely.

Local councils, NHS services and transport services worked together to do things like:

- make footpaths wider
- make more cycle lanes
- make more places to park bikes
- make the speed limit lower in some places



Sustrans Scotland managed the Spaces for People programme.

It started in May 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic.



The Spaces for People programme made it clear why it is important to:

- do an **Equality Impact Assessment**
- talk to different groups when infrastructure is being designed and planned



**Equality Impact Assessments** are ways to make sure policies and changes do not have a bad effect on any group of people.

They are needed for any new changes.



This report uses information from:

- 8 surveys filled in by people from across Scotland
- a small focus group

This report shows how the programme changed how people travel in local areas.

## Disability



- just over half of both disabled people and non-disabled people thought the Spaces for People measures worked well



- half of disabled people thought Spaces for People measures should be kept in the future



- less than half of disabled people felt the Spaces for People measures were helpful for **physical distancing**
- slightly fewer people felt the measures had not been helpful for **physical distancing**

**Physical distancing** means keeping a safe distance away from other people.



- just over 1 in 3 disabled people felt safer walking, **wheeling** and cycling because of the Spaces for People measures

**Wheeling** means using a wheelchair or mobility scooter.

Many disabled people thought the measures made no change to their safety when walking, wheeling or cycling.



The survey results showed disabled people had mixed feelings about Spaces for People.

Some disabled people felt the changes had more of a bad impact on them than other people.



A small group of disabled people gave more information about what they thought.



The three people in the focus group had bad experiences with Spaces for People measures.



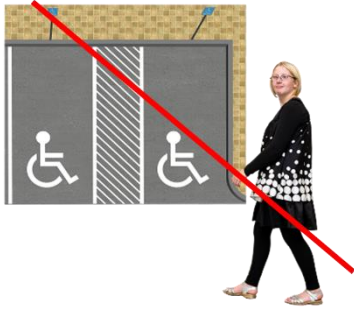
People in the focus group thought:

- the Spaces for People measures made it harder to get to services because roads were closed and there was less parking





- the projects did not think enough about what disabled people need



- the cycling changes made it more difficult to park and stopped people getting about

## Low Income Areas



There were more Spaces for People measures in Scotland's most **deprived** areas.

A **deprived** area is one where the people that live there do not have:

- enough money
- choices in education, employment, and healthcare

1 in 4 Spaces for People projects were in the most deprived areas in the country.



- more than half of people who have a low income wanted the Spaces for People measures to be kept in place



- more than two thirds of people who have a low income found Spaces for People measures helpful

## Gender



- nearly three quarters of women liked the Spaces of People measures



Men and women mostly felt the same about Spaces for People measures.

- most women and most men wanted the Spaces for People to be kept in place





- just over half of women said they felt safer walking and cycling because of the Spaces for People measures.
- just under a third of women and men did not feel differently about safety

## Age



- most 16-24-years olds liked the Spaces for People measures
- most people aged 65 or over liked the Spaces for People measures



- most people in all age groups wanted the measures to be made permanent



- all age groups felt the changes were helpful
- younger people were more positive about them than older people



- most people aged 16-24 years (85 per cent) felt safer walking and cycling because of the Spaces for People measures

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