

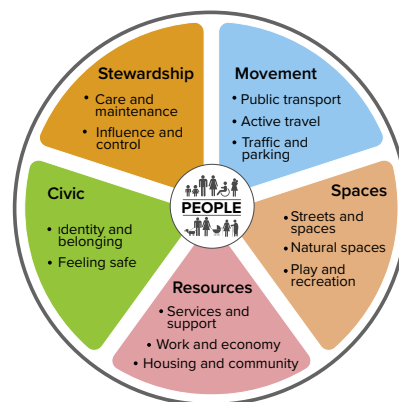
Civic: Feeling Safe



Feeling safe can have a positive impact on people when everyone:

- Feels safe and secure in their own home and their local community taking account of the experience of different population groups.

This is why it is one of Scotland's Place and Wellbeing Outcomes.



The evidence tells us:



Fear of crime, antisocial behaviour or crime itself can make a place feel unsafe.¹



Safety and security are key barriers preventing girls and young women from using urban green spaces.²



Fear of crime can impact negatively on physical and mental health.¹



A lack of maintenance can lead to a place feeling unsafe.¹



A place can be perceived as unsafe if there are a large number of speeding vehicles because of the potential impact of vehicles on health.¹



Perceptions of a place feeling unsafe can lead to a reduction in outdoor activities.¹



Older people or disabled people may not leave their home to access services because the area feels neglected or unsafe.¹



The use of play and recreation spaces by children and young people will be limited if they are perceived as not being safe, poor quality or not well designed.¹



Population groups including low income and ethnic minority groups can have limited access to safe and well-maintained environments compared to other population groups.¹



Social capital can be lower or perceived to be lower in places regarded as being unsafe.¹

Briefings for all of the other Place and Wellbeing Outcomes can be found on the [Improvement Service website](#).

Sources

1. [Evidence Behind Place Standard Tool and Place and Wellbeing Outcomes](#)
2. [Make Space for Girls: the research background 2023. Walker & Clark \(January 2023\)](#)

Visit the [website](#) for more information on the Place and Wellbeing Outcomes. Follow us on X ([@place4wellbeing](#)) to keep up to date with our latest news and place-based resources.