NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL
NORTHERN LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP

To: NORTHERN LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP  
Subject: CUMBERNAULD & KILSYTH TOWN CENTRES

From: HEAD OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Date: 11 December 2008  
Ref: DPT/01/05/02/KG

1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 This report seeks to update the Partnership and Committee on the progress made in delivering the Regeneration of Cumbernauld and Kilsyth Town Centres.

2. **CUMBERNAULD TOWN CENTRE ACTION PLAN**

2.1 In Cumbernauld Town Centre, progress is continuing on various projects identified including the Cumbernauld Town Centre pedestrian and car park signage schemes, the Cumbernauld Town Centre Vehicular Approaches and the Cumbernauld Station Link projects.

2.2 Discussions are continuing between the town centre managers and North Lanarkshire Council Roads and Transportation in relation to proposed directional signage to the town centre car parks and a corresponding naming scheme to identify the car parks. The Council will proceed with the procurement and erection of the proposed signs once finalised proposals have been agreed.

2.3 Design proposals for the Town Centre Pedestrian signage, which will assist pedestrian orientation around the town centre from a number of approach routes, are currently being finalised by the graphics team within Environmental Services following receipt of feedback from the Town Centre Managers. The details of how mapping and directional information is represented is also being finalised to ensure the signage meets the aims of graphic quality and ease of orientation. It is aimed that the signs will be fabricated and installed at the ten identified locations throughout the town centre by the end of the current financial year.

2.4 Landscape Architects Aedas Landscape and Environment have been appointed to devise a scheme for the enhancement of eastern and western approaches to Cumbernauld Town Centre, focussed around Braehead Roundabout at Wilderness Brae and Seafar Roundabout at Glasgow Road. The landscape architects have been advised that the overall theme of *Cumbernauld Moving Forward* should guide the development of proposals for the scheme, whilst also taking account of contextual factors to the origin and development of the town. Designs are presently at outline stage and a consultation programme is currently being devised in order that comments from the community and its representatives can be taken into consideration for further development of the scheme.

2.5 Following the implementation of environmental improvement works to Carbrain Gully and establishment of a new footpath connection to Cumbernauld Railway Station through the Cumbernauld Station Link project, further small scale works are planned to build upon this by addressing stability and environmental issues with the western embankment of Carbrain Gully and improving the southern entrance into the site to assist orientation from the Railway Station to the town centre. A landscape architect has been appointed to take forward these works within the current financial year.
KILSYTH TOWN CENTRE ACTION PLAN

3.1 KILSYTH CONSERVATION AREA REGENERATION SCHEME (CARS)
Work has continued on the priority projects included in the CARS scheme which has secured £325,000 of funding from Historic Scotland, comprising the rebuilding of the White House, a shopfront improvement grants programme and some further public realm improvement work. Concerning the Category B listed White House, following the withdrawal by owners Rock DCM of their interest in taking forward a refurbishment scheme, other options are being considered, in relation to both the White House and the adjoining Council owned 44/48 Main Street building. The aim is to identify and encourage potentially interested parties to develop and implement a joint scheme for these two properties.

3.2 Planning permission has now been granted and contractors appointed for the shopfront improvement programme. Conservation Architects Austin-Smith:Lord will be project managing improvements to 15 premises between November 2008 and March 2009. The Historic Scotland support is currently £100,000 for this project and the Council has been able to offer 90% grants to encourage a significant package of environmental improvements. A final invitation to other Kilsyth commercial premises to apply to participate in this scheme was issued in November 2008, to ensure the full utilisation of the available budget and the maximum beneficial impact from this programme.

3.3 Public realm works in the form of street lighting enhancements were carried out in 2008. This involved the installation of 27 heritage styled street lights to replace modern street lights at Burngreen, Burnbank Terrace, Backbrae Street and the north end of Main Street. Also a lantern has been reinstated on an original column on Burngreen Bridge over the Ebroch Burn, with a matching column and lantern on the opposite side. A phase 2 of this scheme to extend the lighting enhancements to the immediate approaches to Burngreen Park is currently being progressed. A Stage 2 bid for Heritage Lottery funding for the enhancement of Burngreen Park was submitted in October 2008, which if successful will lead to significant enhancements to the Park during 2009.

CUMBERNAULD VILLAGE POTENTIAL CONSERVATION AREA REGENERATION SCHEME (CARS)

4.1 The Scottish Government and Historic Scotland announced a new round of funding for developing further Conservation Area Regeneration Schemes in April 2008. A bid was developed, with the support of the Village Community Council and Cumbernauld Village Action for the Community, and submitted for the end of September 2008 deadline for a Cumbernauld Village CARS. A decision on the bid is expected early in the New Year, and if successful the project would be approved to run from April 2009, with most funded projects to commence on the ground after April 2010.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 It is recommended that the Local Area Partnership note progress made on the projects and initiatives that have progressed recently within Cumbernauld and Kilsyth Town Centres, and on the bid for Historic Scotland funding for a Cumbernauld Village CARS.

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Local Government Access to Information Act: for further information about this report, please contact Kirsty Gray on 01236 616251