

**NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL
REPORT**

To: BELLSHILL LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP		Subject: BELLSHILL TOWN CENTRE ACTION PLAN UPDATE
From: HEAD OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT		
Date: 19 FEBRUARY 2009	Ref: DPT/01/02/SP	

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report seeks to update the Partnership and Committee on the progress made on the Bellshill Town Centre Action Plan

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Phases 1 and 2 of the 4 phase streetscape works approved for Bellshill Town Centre have been completed. Fountain Support Services (Fountains) were appointed in September 2008 as the contractors to implement the Phase 3 streetscape works in Main Street, Bellshill. These works will be administered, supervised and managed by Land Use Consultants on the Council's behalf. Land Use Consultants were also appointed in September 2008.

3 PROGRESS

- 3.1 The Partnership will recall from the meeting in August 2008 that the programme of works in Bellshill has been delayed. This is due principally to the value of the Phase 3 and 4 works exceeding the thresholds laid down by the Official Journal of the European Union. Consequently, it was necessary to procure the consultancy service to oversee the implementation of the contracts through an advertisement in the European Journal. Procuring consultancy services in this way is a lengthy process. The advertisement was placed in June 2008 with tender returns being received on 4 August 2008. A thorough assessment process required to be undertaken prior to seeking approval to appoint the successful bidder. Land Use Consultants were appointed on 26 September 2008 to administer, manage and supervise the works. The contractor was also appointed in September to implement the contract.
- 3.2 Following the pre-start meeting and mobilisation period the contractor indicated that the initial work involved in setting up the site compound and survey work to establish public utility locations and the condition of the sewers would be undertaken by the end of the year. This would allow Fountains to start straight away on the streetscape works in January 2009. However the works were required to stop on site at the end of November due to the Council's requirement for no work taking place in town centres in the weeks leading up to the Festive period. This has caused a further delay in implementing the contract.
- 3.3 At the beginning of January 2009, Fountains undertook the site survey work required to determine the locations of the various underground public utilities. They also carried out a CCTV survey of the sewers to determine their condition prior to the streetscape works commencing. Fountains are currently working on two areas at the eastern end of Main Street. The contract will be implemented over a period of 12 months and represents a further investment of £1.8million in Bellshill town centre.

3.4 Work began on the extension to the Glebe Street car park on 22 January 2009. It is anticipated that this will be completed in 4 weeks and will result in the car park having a total of 33 parking spaces. Following the completion of these works a planting scheme will be implemented to improve the quality of the environment at this location.

4 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 It is recommended that the Local Area Partnership note progress made on the Bellshill Town Centre Action Plan.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick J Kelly', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

PATRICK J KELLY
HEAD OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Local Government Access to Information Act: for further information about this report, please contact Shirley Penman on 01236 616450
(2 February 2009)