

COUNCIL

To: BELLSHILL LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP	Subject: BELLSHILL TOWN CENTRE ACTION PLAN UPDATE	
From: HEAD OF PLANNING & REGENERATION		
Date: 3 April 2014	Ref: SP/03/12/SP	

Purpose of Report

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

2. Bellshill Town Centre Framework and Action Plan

2.1 The Council continues work on Town Centre Frameworks and Action Plans for all town centres. A guidance note which sets out the process for preparing these Frameworks can be viewed at www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/towncentres.

2.2 The draft Bellshill Town Centre Framework and draft Bellshill Town Centre Action Plan are currently being finalised. The finalised draft documents will be issued for formal public consultation in the early summer 2014.

3. Capital Budget

3.1 As previously reported, no funding was allocated to Bellshill in the Council's Capital Programme for the period 2013/14 to 2017/18. Consequently the new Framework and Action Plan for Bellshill will need to identify opportunities for external funding.

4. National Review of Town Centres

4.1 In November 2013 the Scottish Government published 'Town Centre Action Plan – the Scottish Government Response' in response to the External Advisory Group's publication 'Community and Enterprise in Scotland's Town Centres'. The Action Plan contains 38 actions which aim to stimulate, encourage and support action across the wider public, private and community sectors.

4.2 The Scottish Government report is available to view on line at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2013/11/6415/0>.

5. Town Centre Activities Update

5.1 Footfall in Bellshill town centre increased by 1.66% between January 2013 and January 2014. There are currently 145 retail units operating within the town centre and 9 empty units.

5.2 Town Centre Activities are promoting 'Better Bellshill' and 'Live Local Shop Local' campaigns within the town. Recent campaigns included delivering 5000 leaflets to local residents and posters to retailers around Valentine's Day. A further advertising campaign throughout March entitled 'Buy Better in Bellshill' focussed on Mother's Day (30th March 14) and included advertisements on the rear of First Buses running from East Kilbride, across South and North Lanarkshire, to Airdrie.

Recommendations

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

Shirley Linton

**SHIRLEY LINTON
HEAD OF PLANNING & REGENERATION**

Local Government Access to Information Act: for further information about this report, please contact Shirley Penman on 01236 632633 (18 February 2014)