

NORTH LANARKSHIRE

COUNCIL

To: COATBRIDGE LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP		Subject: COATBRIDGE TOWN CENTRE ACTION PLAN UPDATE
From: HEAD OF PLANNING & REGENERATION		
Date: 8 April 2014	Ref: SP/03/12/SP	

1. Purpose of Report

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

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

3. Capital Budget

3.1 The Council agreed its Capital Programme for the period 2013/14 to 2017/18 in March 2013. A capital bid for Town Centres has been approved for a five year period from 2013/14 – 2017/18 for the delivery of future capital projects in each town centre. No funding has been allocated for Coatbridge Town Centre. Consequently the new Framework and Action Plan for Coatbridge will need to identify opportunities for external funding.

4. Town Centre Activities

4.1 In the period from October to December 2013 two businesses closed in Coatbridge and three new businesses opened. The number of vacant units totalled 39 accounting for 17% of all units in the town centre. This compares to the overall vacancy rate of 13% across North Lanarkshire and 13.9% across the UK.

4.2 Footfall in Coatbridge town centre for the period October to December 2013, as recorded on the automated counters located throughout the centre, was 10% less than recorded in October to December 2012 while the national footfall level dropped by just 2.4% over the same period.

5 Key Buildings

5.1 **Carnegie Library:** Action has been taken to address water ingress following the theft of lead from the roof. The consultant's feasibility study has been received. Discussions with potential local users are ongoing.

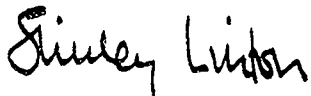
5.2 **Bank Street Terrace:** implementation of the Clyde Valley Housing Association project to redevelop the site for affordable housing is dependent on the outcome of the environmental reports on noise and vibration and meeting the Scottish Government requirements.

5.3 **Dundyvan Church:** The initial cost of temporary works has now been recovered.

5.4 **Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS):** Round 6 (2015-2020) criteria have now been announced and officers have been reviewing how previous bids can be updated in line with the feedback from Historic Scotland. The Bid needs to be submitted by 31st August 2014 – with letters of local support helpful.

6 Recommendation

6.1 It is recommended that the Local Area Partnership note progress made on the projects and initiatives contained within the Coatbridge Town Centre Action Plan.



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HEAD OF PLANNING & REGENERATION

Local Government Access to Information Act: for further information about this report, please contact Shirley Penman or Dave Sutton on 01236 632636 (19 February 2014)