

To: BELLSHILL LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP		Subject : BELLSHILL TOWN CENTRE ACTION PLAN UPDATE
From: HEAD OF PLANNING AND REGENERATION		
Date: 2 April 2015	Ref: PL/DIT/12/	

**1. 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](http://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/towncentres).

2.2 Public consultation on the Consultative Draft Bellshill Town Centre Framework and Action Plan was completed at the end of January 2015. The comments submitted have been considered and incorporated in the documents where appropriate. Committee approval will be sought to enable the adoption the Bellshill Town Centre Action Plan as Supplementary Guidance to the North Lanarkshire Local Plan 2012 and subsequent Local Development Plan.

**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. Town Centre Activities Update**

Town Centre	Total No of Available Units	Total No of Active Businesses	New Business	Business Closed	Void Units (% vacancy rate)	Footfall Between Q3 14/15 & Q2 14/15	Footfall between Q3 13/14 & Q3 14/15
Airdrie	316	287	3	4	29 (9.1%)	-5.2%	1%
Bellshill	146	138	2	0	8 (5.4%)	-2.7%	4%
Coatbridge	230	183	3	2	47 (20.4%)	-5.6%	4%
Cumbernauld	215	174	6	1	47 (20.4%)	0.39%	7%
Kilsyth	97	83	2	0	14 (14.4%)	-4.59%	-2.2%
Motherwell	278	254	8	2	18 (6.4%)	-7.4%	10.95%
Wishaw*	301	255	2	2	46 (15.2%)	-16.7%	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1583</b>	<b>1374</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>209 (13.2%)</b>		

\* Wishaw footfall counters have been displaced due to streetscape works. Current year figures are therefore not directly comparable with previous year figures.

4.1 Bellshill continues to have the lowest vacancy rate at 5.4% (8 units) when compared with the other town centre in North Lanarkshire. In the period from October to December 2014 two businesses opened and no businesses closed.

4.2 Footfall figures for the period October to December 2014, as recorded on automated counters located throughout the town centre, show a decrease in levels of activity compared to the previous quarter, July to September 2014. However footfall during October to December 2014 increased by 4% when compared with the same period in 2013.

4.3 Town Centre Wi-Fi received 702 new registrations between October and December 2015 and there have been 5094 log-ins in total.

**5. Recommendations**

5.1 It is recommended that the Committee notes the content of this report.

*Shirley Linton*

**SHIRLEY LINTON  
HEAD OF PLANNING AND REGENERATION**

Local Government Access to Information Act: for further information about this report,  
Please contact Shirley Penman on 01236 632633 (03 March 2015).