

To: NORTH LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP		Subject : CUMBERNAULD & KILSYTH TOWN CENTRES REPORT
From: HEAD OF PLANNING AND REGENERATION		
Date: 30 July 2015	Ref: PL/DIT/12/	

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report seeks to update the Partnership and Committee on progress made in delivering the regeneration of Cumbernauld and Kilsyth Town Centres. It also provides an update on progress made on the preparation of new Town Centre Frameworks and Action Plans for both town centres.

2. Town Centre Frameworks and Action Plans

- 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.

Cumbernauld

- 2.2 The Cumbernauld Town Centre Framework and Action Plan have been reviewed and revised, where appropriate, to take account of comments received during the final consultation period. Committee approval will be sought in August to enable the adoption of the Cumbernauld Town Centre Action Plan as Supplementary Guidance to the North Lanarkshire Local Plan 2012 and subsequent Local Development Plan.

Kilsyth

- 2.3 Consultation on the draft Kilsyth Town Centre Framework and Action Plan has been delayed to enable the incorporation of the Kelvin Valley Action Plan within the Town Centre Action Plan. This will give the Kelvin Valley Action Plan a statutory status which it would not have otherwise. It is anticipated that public consultation on the draft documents will over an 8 week period later in the year. Following consultation, Committee approval will be sought to enable the adoption of the Kilsyth Town Centre / Kelvin Valley Action Plan as Supplementary Guidance to the North Lanarkshire Local Plan 2012 and subsequent Local Development Plan.

3. Project Updates

3.1 Cumbernauld Bus Stances

Discussions with Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT), CCCL and the bus stance owners are continuing with regard to the proposed upgrading of Central Way Bus Stances. The design will be developed in 2015 with a view to works starting on site in 2016. The design of the proposed alterations to the bus stops on North Carbrain Road is progressing for implementation this year with funding from SPT.

3.2 Cumbernauld Town Centre Pedestrian Underpasses

It is anticipated that the works to improve the appearance of the pedestrian underpasses on main routes into the town centre will be completed by the end of July 2015.

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 Q4 14/15 & Q3 14/15	Footfall between Q4 13/14 & Q4 14/15
Airdrie	316	291	4	0	25 (7.9%)	-10%	-5%
Bellshill	146	138	3	3	8 (5.4%)	-12%	-7%
Coatbridge	230	187	4	0	43 (18.6%)	-10%	-1%
Cumbernauld	215	175	4	3	40 (18.6%)	-5%	-6%
Kilsyth	97	84	1	0	13 (13.4%)	-7%	-3%
Motherwell	278	251	0	3	27 (9.7%)	-12%	-2%
Wishaw*	301	255	2	2	46 (15.2%)		
TOTAL	1583	1381	18	11	202 (12.7%)		

Cumbernauld

- 4.1 Cumbernauld continues to have one of the highest vacancy rates at 18.6% (40 units) when compared with the other town centres in North Lanarkshire. In the period from January to March 2015 four businesses opened and three businesses closed.
- 4.2 Footfall figures for the period January to March 2015, as recorded on automated counters located around the centre (but not in the shopping malls), show a decrease of 5% in levels of activity compared to the previous quarter, October to December 2014 and a decrease of 6% in activity when compared with the same period in the previous year.

Kilsyth

- 4.3 Kilsyth has a vacancy rate of 13% (13 units). In the period January to March 2015 one business opened and there were no closures.
- 4.4 Footfall figures for Kilsyth in the period January to March 2015, as recorded on automated counters located around the centre, show a decrease of 7% in levels of activity compared to the previous quarter October to December 2014, and a decrease of 3% when compared with a year ago.
- 4.5 Town Centre Wi-Fi in Kilsyth received 47 new registrations between October and December and there have been 1378 log-ins in total. Comparative figures for the other town centres are as follows:

TOWN CENTRE Wi-Fi	Airdrie	Bellshill	Coatbridge	Kilsyth	Motherwell	Wishaw
New Registrations	197	161	179	47	572	224
Total Log-ins	6,555	5,922	9,724	1,378	22,916	11,849

Source: TCA, Quarter 4 2014/15

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 (25 June 2015)