

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

To: BELLSHILL LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP	Subject : BELLSHILL TOWN CENTRE ACTION PLAN UPDATE
From: HEAD OF PLANNING AND REGENERATION	
Date: 17 January 2016	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 Bellshill Town Centre Framework and Action Plan were approved by the Planning and Transportation Committee on 9 December 2015. The Bellshill Town Centre Action Plan has now been adopted as Supplementary Guidance to the North Lanarkshire Local Plan 2012

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

4.1 The table below summarises the key findings of the business activity for the 7 town centres for quarter 2, July to September 2015/16.

Town Centre	Total No. of Available Units	Total No. of Active Businesses	New Business	Business Closed	Void Units (% vacancy rate)	Footfall Between Q2:15/16 & Q1:15/16	Footfall between Q2:14/15 & Q2:15/16
Airdrie	316	293	1	2	23 (7.3%)	1.00%	-6.7%
Bellshill	146	139	0	0	7 (4.8%)	8.00%	-3.4%
Coatbridge	230	184	3	3	46 (20%)	2.9%	-4.3%
Cumbernauld	215	173	1	2	42 (19.5%)	3.4%	6.6%
Kilsyth	97	86	0	1	11 (11.3%)	4.6%	-0.7%
Motherwell	278	256	5	2	22 (7.9%)	5.4%	-1.3%
Wishaw*	301	253	1	0	48 (15.9%)	-	-
TOTAL	1583	1384	11	10	204 (12.9%)		

* Wishaw footfall counters have been displaced due to streetscape works. Current year figures are not available.

4.2 The number of vacant units in Bellshill has remained the same, with 7 units empty at the end of Quarter 2. Bellshill continues to be the top performing town in North Lanarkshire, with a vacancy rate which is less than half of the UK average.

4.3 Footfall figures for the period July to September 2015, as recorded on automated counters located throughout the town centre, showed an improvement of 8% in levels of activity compared to the previous quarter, April to June 2015. During July to September 2015, footfall fell by 3.4% when compared with the same period in 2014.

5. Recommendations

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shirley Linton', written in a cursive style.

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 (27 November 2015)