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East Dunbartonshire Council

www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk

Local Development Plan

Newsletter 17 – December 2013

Welcome to the East Dunbartonshire Council LDP newsletter. These newsletters are designed to keep you up-to-date with the latest news on our Local Development Plan from pre-MIR engagement right through to adoption and beyond as well as highlighting how the LDP ties in with other key work the Council is delivering.

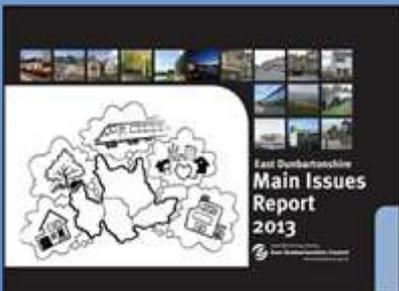
Main Issues Report Update

The Council received over 500 responses to the recent consultation on the MIR which was carried out between September and November 2013. These responses are currently being analysed by officers and will help to inform the Proposed Local Development Plan, scheduled for publication in April 2015. Once the analysis is complete, a report of consultation will be published early in 2014 and the preparation of the Proposed Plan will commence. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who submitted comments to the MIR and look forward to further engagement as the LDP process continues.

Kirkintilloch Masterplan

The Kirkintilloch Town Centre Masterplan has taken another major step forward, having been formally adopted on December 3rd, 2013. It now officially forms part of the East Dunbartonshire Local Plan 2 as part of its suite of Guidance Notes. A number of improvement projects have already been completed - based on previous consultation - and work will begin on further developments in the New Year. The vision is to create "*a reinvigorated heart for Kirkintilloch that is vibrant, welcoming, and attractive*", providing a balance of leisure, civic, retail, business and tourism facilities. Key projects currently underway or in the pipeline include:

- **Kirkintilloch Town Hall** - The Council recently secured £600,000 from the Scottish Government's Regeneration Capital Grant Fund and £500,000 from the Scottish Futures Trust. That's in addition to a £475,000 grant from Historic Scotland announced earlier this year. Further applications are still pending, and the hope is that the B-listed building can be restored as an artist, cultural and community facility.
- **Barleybank New Public Space** - Access to the car park is now from New Lairdsland Road. Work on a new public space will begin in January 2014, bringing a dramatic improvement to the setting of St Mary's Church and the Forth & Clyde Canal, linking these key features much better with the rest of the town centre.
- **David Donnelly Place link and Broadcroft improvements** - Plans are being developed to improve pedestrian accessibility through this key link into the town centre. Work will also start in January, running for approximately three months. It will mean a massive improvement in



appearance and help to make the town centre more walkable and pedestrian-friendly.

- **Re-design of Cowgate** which will see a better balance between pedestrians and cars. The aim is to improve the street environment to give pedestrians greater priority and create a better streetscape.

There are a range of other projects identified for which the Council is attempting to secure funding. These include town centre WiFi, improvements to Regent Gardens and other initiatives such as better promotion and access to Peel Park and the Antonine Wall.

Vital to the success of the Masterplan process has been the work of the 'Champions Group', which was formed in the summer of 2012. The Champions Group includes representatives from a range of local organisations, businesses and communities who have driven forward the Masterplan process through a series of workshops, meetings and consultation events.

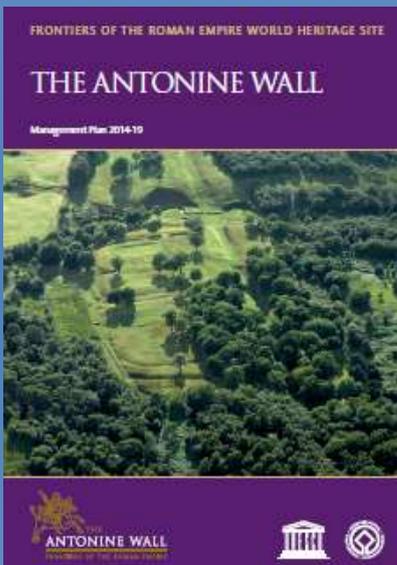
For more information visit www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/kirkintillochmasterplan or e-mail kirkintilloch@eastdunbarton.gov.uk

Antonine Wall Management Plan Launched

The Frontiers of the Roman Empire (Antonine Wall) World Heritage Site Management Plan 2014-19 was launched at Callender House, Falkirk on 5 December 2013. Provost Una Walker, Councillor Alan Moir (Convenor Development & Regeneration) and Councillor Jim Gibbons all attended the event along with representatives from East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust, Forth & Clyde Canal Society, the Seagull Trust, Historic Scotland, Visit Scotland and other partner Councils. The actions and ambitions set out in this Management Plan will help to improve visitor awareness and experiences of the World Heritage Site over the next five years.



The 60 kilometre long Antonine Wall stretches from Bo'ness on the River Forth to Old Kilpatrick on the River Clyde. It became a World Heritage Site in 2008 and joined the Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site, alongside Hadrian's Wall (inscribed in 1987) and the German Limes (inscribed in 2005).



Find us on...



Contact Details

Planning
Development and Enterprise
East Dunbartonshire Council
Broomhill Industrial Estate
Kilsyth Road
Kirkintilloch
G66 1QF

Tel: 0141 578 8600
Fax: 0141 578 8575

When it was built, in the years following AD 142, it was the most complex frontier ever constructed by the Roman Army.

The Plan seeks to promote, safeguard, interpret and manage the Wall. It was widely consulted on and includes many actions requested by local communities. The **short term goals** include: strengthening local, national and international partnerships; increasing the provision of digital resources, including a new website; improving signage, paths and interpretation and strengthening links between museum collections and physical sites.

Further information on the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site can be found at www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/antoninewall and the Management Plan is available at <http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/antonine-wall-management-plan-2014-19.pdf>

Scottish Awards for Quality in Planning: Council recognised at Scottish Government Awards for listening to local people

East Dunbartonshire Council has been recognised by the Scottish Government for its genuine commitment to public consultation and community involvement. The Council's Planning Service received a Commendation in the **Community Involvement** category at the recent Scottish Awards for Quality in Planning by judges who were 'impressed with the Council's effort to engage early with the community'.

Last August, while carrying out public consultation around its Main Issues Report, the Council's Planning Service held a number of 'charrette' style workshops at venues across the area. The workshops involved community groups, residents, developers and statutory bodies and aimed to raise awareness of the housing land supply issue and increase stakeholder understanding of the complexity of the challenges.



Councillor Alan Moir, Convener of the Council's Development & Regeneration Committee, is delighted with the commendation. He said, "Speaking with local people and giving them an opportunity to have their say is central to the way that this Council does its business.

"It is important that we are able to set out a picture for local people of what's going on or what is proposed in their communities and give them a genuine chance to contribute in a meaningful way.

Invite Others to Join our Mailing List!

Please forward this Newsletter to other residents and stakeholders and ask them to email development.plan@eastdunbarton.gov.uk

to join our mailing list.

Joining our mailing list will mean you receive this newsletter and updates on the Local Development Plan.

"What this commendation says is that we are on the right track with our approach to public consultation and to be recognised at a national level gives our efforts a further boost."

Speaking about the charrette workshops used by the Council, The Awards' judges said, "It was clear that there was a genuine desire to connect with the local community and to make them feel part of the formulation of the Main Issues Report.

"Inspiration was also channelled by wanting to make their report more visual and, in doing so, easier for people to understand the main messages. Since completing this process, further ideas such as 'speed debating' are already underway to build on what has already been developed. This enthusiasm can only be encouraged."



For more information about the Scottish Awards for Quality in Planning please visit the Scottish Government website at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/planning/National-Planning-Policy/awards/2013/Winners>

Whilst the team is delighted to receive this award, we are continually striving to improve our engagement procedures and consultation techniques. Any feedback from those who attended the recent consultation events would be much appreciated and we would of course welcome any suggestions for future events.

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