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**To: Planning and Property Policy Board**

**On: 26<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

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**Report by: Director of Development and Housing Services**

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**Heading: Renfrewshire's Centre Strategies & Action Plans - Update**

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**1. Summary**

- 1.1. A series of Draft "Centre Strategies and Action Plans" for Erskine, Johnstone, Linwood, Renfrew and Braehead were presented to the Board in early 2015. These Draft Strategies formed the basis for consultation with the local community and key stakeholders.
  - 1.2. Consultation on the Draft Strategies for Erskine, Johnstone, Linwood and Renfrew was undertaken for a period of 12 weeks from the 14 August to the 6 November 2015. 34 representations were received. The representations received can be found at:  
<http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/webcontent/home/services/planning+and+building+standards/development+planning/pt-kr-towncentrestrategies>.
  - 1.3. The Draft Centre Strategy and Action Plan for Braehead is currently out for consultation from the 18 December 2015 until the 12 February 2016.
  - 1.4. Taking account of the representations and comments made during the consultation, the Finalised Centre Strategies and Action Plans will be presented to Board later in 2016.
  - 1.5. Draft Strategies and Action Plans for all other local and village centres in Renfrewshire will also be presented to future meetings of the Board.
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## **2. Recommendations**

### **2.1** It is recommended that the Board:

- (i) Notes the progress made in relation to the Centre Strategies and Action Plans, the representations made through the Centre Strategies consultation.
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## **3. Background**

- 3.1. Scottish Planning Policy promotes a 'Town Centre First' policy and encourages the preparation of town centre strategies which will set out the long term vision for centres. The Council are proactively implementing a range of innovative measures to deliver the town centre first approach.
  - 3.2. Each of Renfrewshire's Centre Strategies explains the role of the centre, their strengths and opportunities for enhancement. They form the basis of consultation with local communities and key stakeholders. They set out a series of questions which seek views on the areas for enhancement, priorities for action and opportunities for change.
  - 3.3. Consultation and publicity was undertaken between 14 August to the 6 November 2015 for the Centres of Erskine, Johnstone, Linwood and Renfrew. This included an online consultation, publicity on the main web pages of the Council's website, press release in the local papers, Facebook and Twitter publicity, drop in events in partnership with Renfrew Development Trust and Council officers speaking to individual owners/tenants in each of the Centres. 34 representations were received during the consultation period. 14 other comments were received during the drop in event at Renfrew Development Trust.
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## **4. Next Steps**

- 4.1. Taking into account the representations made to the Draft Centre Strategies and Action Plans and working in partnership with relevant Community groups, the Finalised Documents will be presented to the Board later in 2016.
  - 4.2. Draft strategy and action plan for local and village centres will be prepared and presented to the Board in August 2016.
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## **Implications of the Report**

- 1. **Financial** - None
- 2. **HR & Organisational Development** - None

3. **Community Planning**  
**Empowering our Communities** – Increased participation and engagement with local communities in developing the strategies and delivering regeneration.  
  
**Greener** – The Centre Strategies and Action Plans seek to enhance the environment of Renfrewshire's Centre by improving the quality of public open space.  
  
**Jobs and Economy** – The Centre Strategies and Action Plans promote Renfrewshire as one of the best locations in Scotland to invest as well as encourage successful Centres through successful regeneration that contributes positively to local communities and economic growth.  
  
**Safer and Stronger** – The Centre Strategies and Action Plans seek to enhance the public realm within our Centres, making them a safer and more attractive place for visitors, businesses and residents.
4. **Legal** - None
5. **Property/Assets** - None
6. **Information Technology** - None
7. **Equality & Human Rights** - The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report because it is for noting only. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
8. **Health & Safety** - None
9. **Procurement** – None
10. **Risk** – None
11. **Privacy Impact** - None

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