



# Langholm Community Plan 2020 - 2030



A white line-art illustration of a church spire, likely the Langholm Church spire, is positioned on the left side of the image. The spire is tall and slender, with a pointed top and a small, rounded base. The entire image has a solid blue background.

Making Langholm an **Even Better Place**  
...to Live, Work and Visit

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# Introduction and Executive Summary

## Introduction

We're excited to be sharing our town's vision for 2030. Developed by the Langholm community, this is the culmination of 2 years research and community consultation led by The Langholm Alliance Steering Group which includes local community groups and wider community interests.

This is a unique and rare opportunity to establish a long-term partnership with a town that is well placed to lead the way for small town regeneration in Scotland. Much of the buildings, infrastructure and land needed to create visitor attractions are owned within the community and there is strong voluntary support to make Langholm a thriving sustainable economy. Given this combination of circumstances, by 2030 Langholm will be a great place to live, visit and invest in.

## Background

When we started this process, we thought about our home town and imagined seeing it decline year after year, long running family businesses, who employ many of the town's population closing, our high street shops falling into disrepair and our young people moving away as a result of a lack of sustainable jobs. Langholm was once a thriving economy with a population of over 4,000, decade after decade we have seen reducing numbers to just over 2,000 today, with a significant number of those over 65 years old. Between 1960 – 1980 Langholm was at its economic peak with over 1,000 people employed by seven local businesses, these businesses are now all closed with the last major employer, Edinburgh Woollen Mill, moving their head office to Carlisle further reducing local employment.



Despite this decline there is a real sense of optimism from within this close, hard-working community who recognise Langholm is uniquely placed to take advantage of the changing economic landscape and consumer demands with a focus on eco-tourism and creating a hub for small business start-ups.

Langholm is located in the Borders of Scotland on one of the main routes to Edinburgh (A7) and is a Burgh of Dumfries and Galloway. Just a short drive from Carlisle and the M74 motorway which connects with the M6, making Langholm ideally located to attract visitors from both the North and South of the UK.

The Muckle Toon, as it is known locally, is surrounded by underutilised natural assets including stunning countryside, rolling hills, rivers and forests and is home to some of Scotland's best loved wildlife including red squirrels and golden eagles. The town also has a rich history/heritage and is home of two famous sons, Hugh MacDiarmid who gave the world joy through poetry and Thomas Telford who changed the landscape of Britain, not to mention a strong family connection of Neil Armstrong which is quite literally, out of this world.

## Who developed the plan?

The Langholm Alliance came together as an umbrella group of people and organisations with a drive to improve the Langholm and surrounding areas. The Alliance was structured to represent the wider community and redevelop the area based on advice from two Scottish Government Ministers and our local MP. The Plan is the culmination of 2 years research and community consultation led by the Steering Group.

The priorities were developed following two well attended public meetings held in the Buccleuch Centre in October 2018 and April 2019. A further community event was held on September 2019.



## Our Shared 2030 Vision for Langholm

Our vision for 2030 is for Langholm to be an even better place for people to stay, work, and visit.

By 2030 Langholm will be a celebrated hub for small business and quality textiles and a renowned visitor destination for its natural environment, its rich heritage, and its quality produce. Langholm is a natural home to small businesses and enterprise including modern textile manufacture and craftsmanship. The town is rich with people, spaces and connectivity to support business. We envisage the development of connected businesses under a Langholm brand that is synonymous with quality craftsmanship and builds on the rich heritage of the town.

Our priorities for change have been identified through a process of engagement with local community groups and key individuals. The main themes for the Plan are as follows:

- **Infrastructure and Energy** – the retention and sustainable development of the key areas of infrastructure that will support the delivery of the plan, including transport links, public services and sustainable energy use.
- **Business and Economic Development** - gaining strategic support; attracting inward investment; and developing projects.
- **Tourism** - marketing/promotion; making sure Langholm is ‘open for business’; and developing a single voice for tourism locally.
- **Sports, Leisure and Outdoor Activity** - developing outdoor activity and adventure holiday opportunities; supporting and improving access to existing sports & leisure facilities and activities.
- **Arts and Culture** - creative place-making, investment and infrastructure; communication and marketing; co-ordination, networking and partnership working and education.
- **Heritage** - promotion and marketing; development of a hub (space or service) for heritage and genealogy; history and learning.
- **Health and Social Care** - the protection and development of health and social care services; the development of community-led/run health and social care activities and services.
- **Children and Young People** - youth involvement in decision-making; youth-led activities; employment and training.

## Achieving our Vision

**We have a number of high-level goals which we aim to achieve by 2030.**

### **By 2020 we will have:**

- Developed and tested a shared services model and understood the impact it can have on new and existing businesses and projects.
- Embedded the organisational design, aligning sub groups and creating clear roles, responsibilities and accountabilities in order to deliver several quick wins which will build on existing economic projects.

### **By 2022 we will have:**

- Opened a mixed-use business start-up hub for new business to learn and grow in their early years, supporting their success and kick start the growth of small business development.
- Supported the establishment of a range of social and economic projects to address the key priorities within The Langholm Alliance 2030 Plan.
- Explored and addressed infrastructure issues and opportunities and we will have developed a sustainable energy plan.

### **By 2025 we will have:**

- Increased employment opportunities within Langholm and trebled the number of tourist visitors to the town.
- Supported more than 10 businesses to grow and coordinate activities to ensure a joined up complementary activity to Langholm's future prosperity.
- Supported our young people to take up employment in roles directly created from the Langholm Alliance 2030 plan.
- Revitalised our high street and we will have brought social and economic projects to fruition.

**By 2030** we will have fully reversed our economic and demographic decline through sustainable business development. We will contribute to the development of new housing developments, modern health and social care facilities and excellent sport, leisure and arts facilities.

**Table 1**

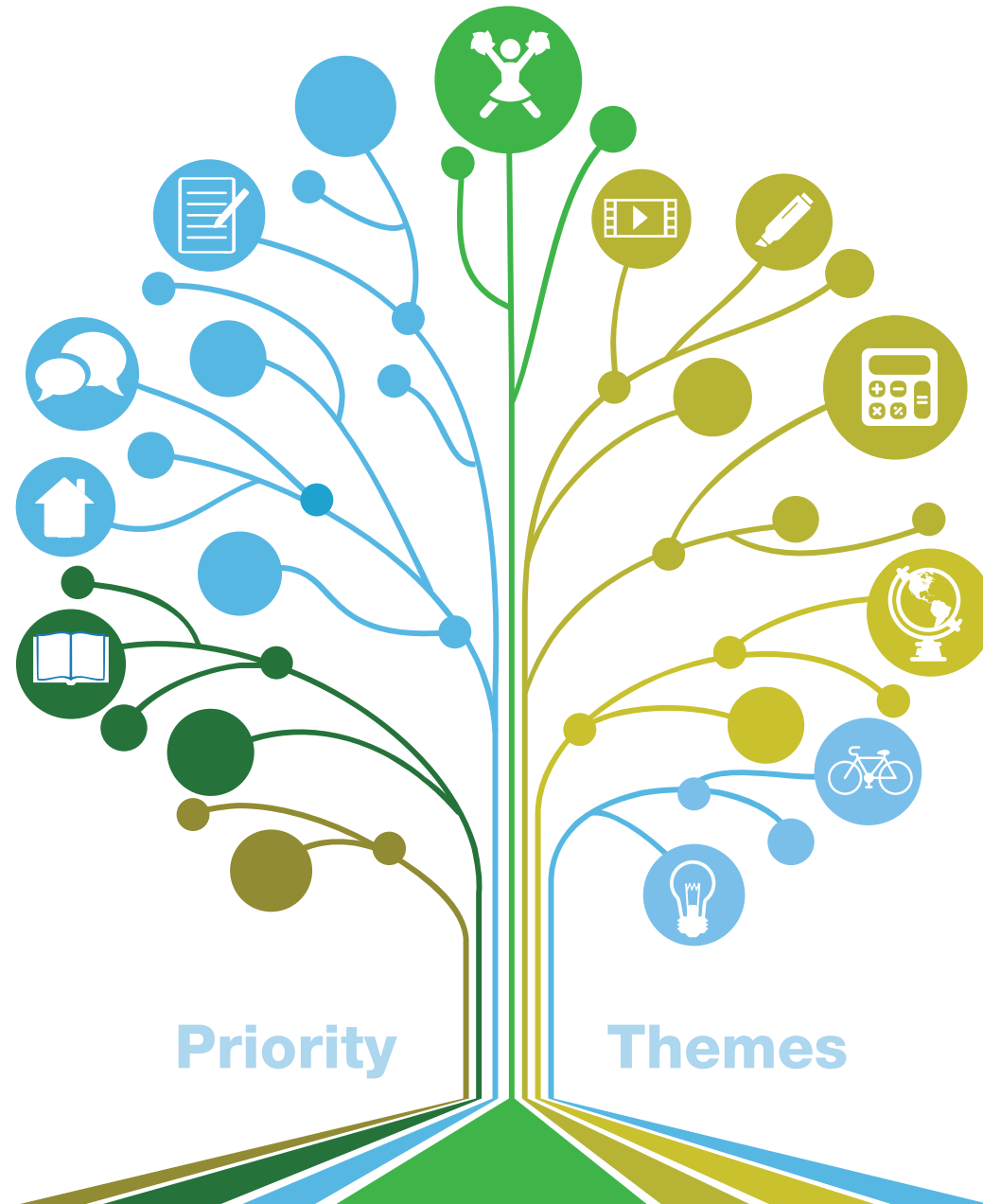
# Planning ahead

## Priority themes, broad areas for action, vision and targets.

This section of the Community Plan sets out the priority themes, broad areas for action - with short (1-2 years), medium (2-5 years) and long-term (up to 10 years) vision and targets. Each of the priority themes will have a separate detailed implementation plan which will be the responsibility of the lead group/agency.







# Infrastructure and Energy

## Our 2030 vision:

**Langholm will have a joined-up approach to energy generation and use. We will have introduced a sustainable local energy plan, which will have reduced the overall carbon footprint and introduced energy efficiency measures for individuals and organisations within the community. We will be well connected by road and rail to the rest of Scotland and the North of England.**

The regeneration of Langholm provides an excellent opportunity for the local community to look at its existing and future energy needs and state where it sees priorities for action. It also provides an opportunity to become better connected to other parts of Scotland and the north of England through our road and rail networks. The recent announcement from the Borderlands Growth Initiative of the next phase of the feasibility study for rail connection from Tweedbank and Galashiels to Carlisle opens up an exciting opportunity for Eskdale.

In order to make progress in these areas we will develop a local energy scheme and we will take an active part in engagement and consultation on the road and rail schemes over the coming years. Our public services are important for the sustainable future of our town and we will work closely with Dumfries & Galloway Council (and other public authorities) to protect our existing services.

To help us to do this we will work with a range of key organisations such as South of Scotland Enterprise Partnership (SOSEP), Dumfries & Galloway Council, Transport Scotland, Borderlands Growth Initiative, and Local Energy Scotland.



When	What
By 2020	<p><b>Initial work on a local energy scheme.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Investigate the benefits and challenges associated with a local community energy scheme.</li> <li>» Undertake an initial consultation with the community and public authorities.</li> <li>» Find out what support and funding is available.</li> <li>» Produce an overall project plan which specifies details of delivery.</li> </ul> <p><b>Support for A7 road upgrade.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Support the A7 Action Group in campaigning for upgrade of A7 Route to Edinburgh.</li> </ul> <p><b>Support better public transport, coordinated with bus and train routes.</b></p> <p><b>Support for Borders Rail extension through Langholm.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Support Langholm and District Rail group in lobbying for any rail extension being routed through Langholm.</li> </ul> <p><b>Community Ownership of Land and Buildings.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Carry out an audit of underused assets that have the potential to come under community ownership. Register community interest in key land and buildings.</li> </ul>
By 2022	<p><b>Publish a Local Energy Plan (LEP).</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Ensure this has support from local community user groups and aligns with local and national authority strategy and plans.</li> </ul> <p><b>Support for A7 road upgrade.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Participate fully in A7 feasibility study.</li> </ul> <p><b>Support for Borders Rail extension through Langholm.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Participate fully in the Rail Feasibility Study.</li> </ul> <p><b>Community Ownership of Land and Buildings.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» We will have investigated and where appropriate sought to take community ownership of key asserts identified in the audit.</li> </ul>
By 2025	<p><b>Implementation of the Local Energy Plan will be underway and will be reviewed to ensure continuous improvement and sustainability.</b></p> <p><b>We will have actively contributed to and influenced the decisions about the A7 road upgrade and the Borders rail extension, public transport and local road networks.</b></p> <p><b>Community ownership will be an integral part of Langholm's landownership pattern.</b></p>

# Business Development

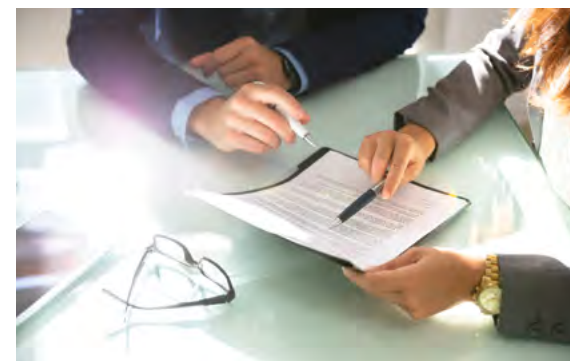
## Our 2030 vision:

**We will have reversed our economic decline through sustainable business development supported by improvements to our infrastructure.**

In order to ensure the successful and sustainable regeneration of Langholm we need to attract inward investment and ensure sustainable economic development of the town. This requires the creation of employment opportunities within Langholm and access to employment opportunities within Carlisle and the Solway Basin.

In order to achieve real change regarding these issues we will identify and develop business and employment opportunities that capitalise on Langholm's unique location and the area's heritage, wildlife and outdoor activity potential.

To help us to do this we will work with a range of other key organisations such as South of Scotland Enterprise Partnership (SOSEP), Dumfries & Galloway Council, key business people, funders and the Scottish Government.





When	What
By 2020	<p><b>Form a social enterprise to implement the business development objectives</b> – the Langholm Enterprise Trust.</p> <p><b>Implement a Town Centre Improvement Scheme.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Town Centre Audit and KPI.</li> <li>» Town Centre Comparison &amp; Retail Opportunities Guide.</li> <li>» Shop Doctor and Business Advice.</li> <li>» Public Realm Improvement Project.</li> </ul> <p><b>Property Frontage Improvement Grant Scheme.</b></p> <p><b>Create a mixed-use development to kick-start small enterprises on one of the vacant mill sites in Langholm.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Assess availability and suitability of vacant sites.</li> <li>» Research format of such developments elsewhere and draw up an outline proposal.</li> </ul> <p><b>Establish an effective Education-Employer interface for local school leavers.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Start discussions with schools, employers and local organisations.</li> </ul> <p><b>Engage with young people and encourage them to set up their own business.</b></p>
By 2022	<p><b>Develop new businesses in Langholm either as start-ups or by moving in from other areas.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Support development of the former BFA factory as a multi-user Visitor Centre and as an incubator for new businesses.</li> <li>» Make contact with other towns which have been successful in this respect.</li> <li>» Provide a mentoring service from the town's established business people to any start-up or established businesses.</li> </ul> <p><b>Arrest the retail decline of the High Street and make it a more vibrant place to visit.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Support a working group of interested parties to tackle this problem.</li> </ul>
By 2025	<p><b>There will be an increase in business start-ups and local employment opportunities.</b></p> <p><b>There will be better co-ordination of business activity.</b></p>

# Tourism

## Our 2030 Vision:

**Langholm will be viewed as an outstanding tourist destination combining natural assets, history and heritage in a way that attracts a wide range of visitors from all over the world.**

Tourism is a vital part of Langholm's economy and is a key theme within this plan. To take it forward in a sustainable fashion provides a great opportunity but also a challenge for the local community and the key players involved.

In order to achieve real change we need to improve our marketing (including online), continue to lobby key tourism agencies and support improvement to our services and infrastructure to ensure that Langholm is an attractive place for people to visit and stay.

To help us to do this we need to work with a range of other key players including local businesses, Dumfries and Galloway Council, visitor attractions and events, our elected representatives (Councillors, MSPs and our MP), Transport Scotland, and Visit Scotland.

This is the tourism logo for Langholm.



When	What
By 2020	<p><b>Develop a Marketing Strategy.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Establish a brand identity for visit Langholm.</li> <li>» Develop a fit for purpose website and social media presence.</li> <li>» Lobby MSP to implement suitable road signage to help visitors find their destination.</li> <li>» Implement a Visit Langholm Awareness Campaign at Carlisle Station and Airport.</li> <li>» Work with Visit Scotland to fully develop and promote the A7 Historic Route from Carlisle to Edinburgh.</li> <li>» Build a calendar of events.</li> </ul> <p><b>Develop a Single Voice.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» A lead on activity related to Tourism Action Plans should initially be taken by The Langholm Alliance Committee. We will take in to account the views of business and local groups and residents. The group shall gather and review feedback and ideas via an email address and bi annual meetings.</li> </ul> <p><b>Open for Business: Provision of services with regular opening hours.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» A working group to be set up in partnership with the High Street Regeneration Group to explore how we can change the way some businesses currently deliver their services to the community and visitors.</li> <li>» Identify where we have gaps in provision of services and the best way forward to fill these.</li> <li>» Look at a revisit from the shop doctor to re-evaluate and support shops, cafes and hotels that could benefit from being given some direction on how to improve their opportunities.</li> <li>» Identify where we have opportunities to fill vacant shops and business units and work with property owners to effectively market these units to prospective buyers and business start-ups through partnership working with SURF and all other relevant groups within the town.</li> <li>» Work with the local high street business to implement the shop front improvement scheme via SURF and Dumfries and Galloway Council.</li> </ul>
By 2025	<p><b>We will have significantly increased the number of tourist visitors to the town and better co-ordinated our local tourism provision in order to maximise our local assets and services.</b></p>

# Sports, Leisure and Outdoors Activities

## Our 2030 vision:

**Langholm residents will have access to good quality, affordable sports and leisure facilities and activities. Langholm and the surrounding area will be viewed as a hub for outdoor activities, weekend breaks or longer holidays with an outdoor activity focus.**

Sports, leisure and outdoor activities are a key part of local life. They are important for the health and well-being of our community and they also form an important part of our tourism offer. This theme will focus on the development of Langholm and the surrounding area as a hub for outdoor activities, weekend breaks or longer holidays with an outdoor activity focus. Currently there is a lack of low-cost, family-friendly accommodation that can support this kind of activity. This means that those taking part in these outdoor activities do not stay and use the local facilities. This also has a bearing on the development of adventure holidays and other outdoor activities.

In order to achieve real change about these issues we need to:

- Develop a specific focus on outdoor and adventure holidays.
- Improve our existing facilities and support our existing clubs and projects.

To help us to do this we need to work with a range of other key stakeholders including Buccleuch Estates, community groups, local projects, private businesses (local and wider) and local medical services.





When	What
By 2020	<p><b>Ensure that there is alignment and co-ordination between all local sports and recreation clubs and organisations.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Focused meetings will be held with all local sports and recreational clubs and future projects aligned in the action plan.</li> </ul> <p><b>Explore the potential for local glamping and bunkhouse developments which will promote and support outdoor activities.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Produce a project plan which specifies what will be delivered, how it will be delivered, by when and which community organisation will deliver.</li> <li>» Undertake a feasibility study in order to identify the most suitable form of accommodation at local sites, e.g. Castleholm, woodland sites, unused buildings.</li> <li>» Develop a business plan which incorporates identification of funding streams and potential for local employment.</li> </ul> <p><b>Create a marketing plan and promotion material, which will provide information and awareness about the range of outdoor activities and recreation facilities available in Langholm.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Use marketing consultants to implement first class and consistent marketing practice for all clubs.</li> <li>» Create local display boards and a social media platform that promotes and contains full details of all activities from clubs and organisations available in and around Langholm.</li> </ul>
By 2022	<p><b>Support and promote the growth and use of adventure, sports and recreation facilities in order to ensure their future sustainability.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Provide support to 'Muckle Toon Adventure Festival' (MTAF).</li> <li>» Provide support to the 'Wild Eskdale Eco Project'.</li> <li>» Completion of the adventure playground in Buccleuch Park.</li> <li>» Completion of the Townfoot Community Sports Centre redevelopment.</li> <li>» Support the establishment of projects which arise from the action plan.</li> </ul>
By 2025	<p><b>We will have doubled the number of people visiting Langholm to take part in outdoor activities. We will have supported the expansion of sports and leisure facilities and supported the sustainability of local clubs and groups.</b></p>

# Arts and Culture

## Our 2030 Vision:

**The regeneration of Langholm and the Esk Valley will be supported via 'Creative Placemaking' practises led by local creatives and arts organisations. We will work with the community to ensure Langholm is a vibrant and interesting place for residents and visitors of all ages.**

Arts and culture are very important for Langholm with organisations such as OutPost Arts, The Buccleuch Centre and Centrestage already delivering a range of activities. However, there is a clear potential to further benefit the local area and the community by expanding the capacity of local artists/makers and arts organisations in order to deliver more ambitious and wide-reaching activities.

In order to increase creative opportunities, we need access to attractive and contemporary spaces which are equipped to facilitate creative events. Better partnership working will increase the likelihood of project success. We will encourage a more professional curated approach to the local creative sector which is less reliant on volunteers and will increase the quality of events/activities on offer. This activity will impact on tourism and encourage creative professionals to settle in Langholm.

To help us to do this we will work with a range of key players including our community, local and regional artists/makers/creatives, arts organisations, property owners and developers, development trusts and partner organisations.



When	What
By 2020	<p><b>Create a strong programme of creative events and activities to attract visitors to Langholm.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Work with partner organisations to add creative aspects to existing and future activity (e.g. MTAF, Wild Eskdale Festival, Langholm Initiative).</li> <li>» Support the infusion of creativity into eco and geo-tourism e.g. outdoor installations, creative displays, outdoor creative activity.</li> <li>» Establish a regular artist-in-residence programme.</li> <li>» Pilot potential festival activities, working towards a large-scale event.</li> <li>» Develop new, informal creative learning opportunities e.g. workshops, evening classes, short courses.</li> </ul> <p><b>Establish an arts/culture forum or network.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Increase transparency and open up channels of communication.</li> <li>» Develop collaborative working between groups and individuals.</li> <li>» Develop a working cultural strategy for Langholm &amp; Esk Valley.</li> </ul> <p><b>Continued to develop accredited learning which is accessible locally and remotely.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Delivery of Arts Award.</li> <li>» Work with universities and colleges to investigate possible opportunities for remote learning.</li> </ul>
By 2022	<p><b>Establish new creative/cultural links and relationships across Dumfries and Galloway, Scottish Borders and Cumbria.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Develop an annual arts event e.g. a festival to attract large audiences from the Borderlands.</li> </ul> <p><b>Attract investment in current available spaces to facilitate and promote creative activity.</b></p>
By 2025	<p><b>We will have more spaces available which are equipped to facilitate creative events and activities. Key local groups and organisations will be communicating and working together effectively to increase and support creative placemaking activity locally.</b></p> <p><b>We will have a more professional approach to the local creative sector, with less reliance on volunteers and have increased employment opportunities.</b></p> <p><b>Creative place-making projects and activity will have a positive impact on visitor numbers and more creatives will have settled in the local area.</b></p>

# Heritage

## Our 2030 vision:

**A wide range of visitors and local residents of all ages will be more aware of the rich history and heritage of Langholm and the surrounding area.**

The history and heritage of Langholm is a significant local asset and one which has not been developed to its full potential. It is a key part of what makes Langholm an attractive place for people to stay and visit.

In order to achieve real change and progress we need to establish a hub for genealogy/heritage in the town to promote the very rich heritage and history we have to locals and visitors alike. We also need to better develop our marketing and promotion of the history and heritage of the area to residents and visitors.

To help us to do this we need to work with a range of other key players such as the Clan Armstrong Centre, The Langholm Library and Archive, Langholmarchive.com, welcome to Langholm Visitor Centre, Hawick Reivers Festival, and Visit Scotland.





When	What
By 2020	<p><b>Ensure that there is alignment and close liaison with other Heritage initiatives in the area.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Develop partnership links with other organisations such as: Gilnockie Tower, Hawick Reiving Festival and local archive groups.</li> <li>» Work together on joint projects in order to promote Heritage in the region.</li> </ul> <p><b>Develop a Langholm Heritage Hub/Centre.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Create a short-term display area in the redundant spaces of a town centre shop to highlight the town's key heritage topics.</li> <li>» Create a series of accompanied and unaccompanied walks and heritage tours of Langholm and the surrounding area which visitors would find informative, entertaining and fun.</li> <li>» Undertake a study in order to determine what is required to develop a permanent Heritage Hub/Centre in Langholm and implement findings.</li> <li>» In collaboration with the Tourism group develop and implement a marketing strategy for the Heritage Hub/Centre.</li> <li>» Explore the development of, and funding for, an interactive screen system which will be loaded with the main features of our heritage. This could be hosted in the 'Heritage Centre' or 'Hub'.</li> </ul> <p><b>Celebrate the 400th anniversary of the town's Charter.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Develop plans and put in place a range of events to celebrate and highlight Langholm through the ages.</li> </ul>
By 2022	<p><b>Establish a Heritage Hub/Centre.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Ensure that the Hub/Centre is up and running.</li> <li>» Provide facility for a full genealogy service for visitors interested in family/clan roots.</li> <li>» Put in place attractive learning tools for children, which enables them to learn more about the local Heritage.</li> </ul>
By 2025	<p><b>We will have significantly increased opportunities for local residents and visitors to find out and learn about all aspects of local heritage.</b></p>

# Health and Social Care

## Our 2030 vision:

**All our residents will be able to access high quality health and social care as and when they need it. We will have retained and expanded our excellent health services further through the redeveloped Thomas Hope Hospital and, depending on demand, the development of a new care home for Langholm. The ongoing management of Patient Care within the Thomas Hope Hospital is a vital incentive in the recruitment of future GPs. The fact that the Langholm Medical Practice is a training and mentoring practice means that the facility is unique and must be protected at all costs.**

We welcome the proposed extra care housing development at Murtholm.

Langholm has an ageing population and whilst we believe it is important for younger people who reside in, or come back to, Langholm we recognise that an adequate Health and Social Care Service is an important part of this picture and is a vital element which helps to create a good quality of life for all our residents.

In order to achieve this, we need to protect and enhance our existing facilities and services while tackling key issues such as accommodation and transport links.

To help us achieve this we need to work with a range of key stakeholders including the Scottish Government, Local GPs, Community Health and Social Care (IJB), the local MP and MSPs, Dumfries and Galloway Council, and local community groups.



When	What
By 2020	<p><b>Work to retain, redevelop, and make best use of Thomas Hope Hospital (THH).</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Establish meetings with key stakeholders such as local GPs, Integrated Joint Board (NHS and D&amp;G Council) to confirm retention of the hospital and how best to develop it to meet community needs.</li> <li>» Produce an overall project plan for the redevelopment of THH Site which specifies what services will be delivered.</li> </ul> <p><b>Tackle local transport issues.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Support the retention of Annandale Community Transport services.</li> <li>» Work with NHS Dumfries &amp; Galloway and SWestrans to identify patient transport needs to get to hospitals for treatment.</li> </ul> <p><b>Secure local day care services.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Support any further developments in Day Care Services and the work being done by Langholm Day Centre.</li> </ul>
By 2022	<p><b>Firm Guarantees on the Redevelopment of the Thomas Hope Hospital to ensure there is no reduction of current services provided to Langholm residents, namely GP admission rights to inpatient beds or a reduction in bed numbers.</b></p> <p><b>Development of residential care.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Community survey on the need for a Care Home and decision made on whether to proceed to find an operator.</li> <li>» We will welcome the opening of the extra care housing development at Murtholm.</li> </ul>
By 2025	<p><b>We will have firms plans in place for these projects including funding streams identified.</b></p>
By 2030	<p><b>Redevelopment of the Thomas Hope Hospital will have taken place.</b></p>

# Children and Young People

## Our 2030 vision:

**Our young people will be fully involved in decision-making, project development and enterprise in Langholm helping to ensure that Langholm is a thriving community.**

Children and young people are a vibrant part of our community. Making Langholm an attractive place for our children and young people to grow up in, stay in, and come back to is a key priority for the future of our town. In order to achieve real change and progress we need to engage young people in a meaningful way, develop more dedicated spaces and create more opportunities for young people in Langholm.

To help us to do this we will work with a range of key players such as the Xcel Youth Project, Outpost Arts, local schools and community organisations, SURF, and Dumfries and Galloway Council.



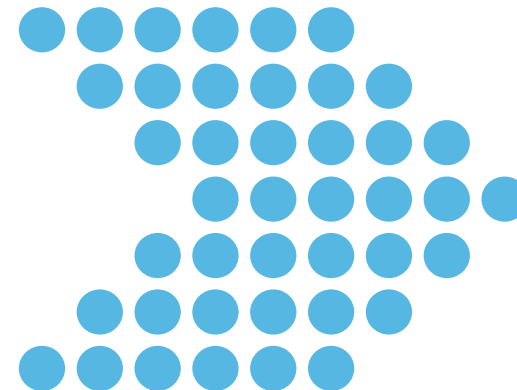


When	What
By 2020	<p><b>Establish a Youth Forum.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Build on the work of the 'Upstart Project' to identify participants and overall purpose of the forum.</li> <li>» Support young people to be involved.</li> </ul>
By 2022	<p><b>Develop new places and spaces for young people to meet and take part in activities.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Support young people to take the lead on developing youth-led space for hang out and as a base for activity programmes, music making and leisure facilities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Develop a youth-led events programme creating more cultural opportunities for young people.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Support young people to take the lead on this.</li> </ul> <p><b>Provide more support for young people to gain employment.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Local projects/agencies will provide opportunities for young people to take on voluntary work and to get help with key employment skills (CVs, interviews, etc.).</li> </ul>
By 2025	<p><b>We will have more active youth involvement in decision-making and strategy processes, a more robust school and community partnership, and many of our young people taking up employment in roles created from implementation of the Community Plan.</b></p>

# Making it happen and keeping it on track

## How we will achieve Langholm 2030

This plan sets out the broad priorities for change and some of the key actions that will be taken forward over the short-term (1-2 years), medium-term (2-5 years), and long-term (up to 10 years). The responsibility for implementing the actions will lie with the lead groups and partners where appropriate. Each group will produce a detailed implementation plan which will form the basis for moving forward and monitoring progress. This process will be supported by the establishment of a shared services social enterprise as outlined in Table 2.



## **We will create a shared services social enterprise that will be self-supporting within 5 years and contain the following roles:**

**Our first priority is to create a community development officer role** – This person will provide overall co-ordination for the group and be the single point of contact for sub groups and interested stakeholders. They will be an expert in negotiations, stakeholder management and business development. They will provide directions, leadership and co-ordination for the above roles. They will be accountable to The Langholm Alliance.

As appropriate we will bring other support services to help us to implement our action plan and achieve our vision. The support will include:

- **Digital Marketing** – This will help us to tell the story of the town and promote new and existing businesses to their target customers. This will give us expertise in all social media platforms and social media automation, as well as the creation of high -quality professional video content.
- **Design Support** – This support will align closely with the marketing support. It will help The Langholm Alliance and the sub groups to develop branding for the town and new and existing businesses. The support will provide expertise in all things design, including web design.
- **Finance Support** – This support will provide the accounting expertise for the shared services social enterprise but also support start-ups with their financial planning etc. They will appraise sub group plans for funding to support successful applications. They will also proactively identify suitable funders.

**Table 2**

## Monitoring progress

Implementation progress meetings will take place on a regular basis. These will vary depending on the scope and scale of the plan, but it is useful for each lead group to hold them at least once every three months. The key questions for monitoring are:

- Are we doing what we said we would do and when we said we would do it?
- Is anything not going according to plan, and if so, what are we doing about it?

These will form the basis of mini-reports from each lead group to The Langholm Alliance on a quarterly basis. The Alliance will identify areas of further development that are needed, and extra support for implementation that may be required.

## Feeding Back on Progress

The wider community will be kept informed on progress with the plan and have a chance to feed in their comments/views on progress. This will be done in the following ways:

- A community plan newspaper (6 monthly)
- A community plan Facebook Page

## Reviewing the Plan

The Langholm Alliance will undertake an annual review of the community plan. This will focus on overall progress towards targets, areas to be addressed, and understanding what is working well and what is not.

As part of this process there will be an annual community plan report produced (made available in a variety of formats) and an annual 'Community Plan Event' which will provide an opportunity for the wider community to view progress and to give feedback and opinions on the execution and further development of the plan.





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