

REPORT TO TOWN CENTRE COMMITTEE

TOWN CENTRE MASTERPLAN UPDATE

Report Reference T-25-29
Meeting Date 13th April 2026
Agenda Item 9
Prepared by Town Clerk



1.0 BACKGROUND

The committee has received previous verbal updates on the progression of developing a Town Centre Masterplan. The Chair and sub-group leads will provide a verbal update on the progress of the four sub-groups: Development (Cllr Hartley), Movement and Access (Cllr Johnson), Economy and Use (Cllr Wood) and Public Realm and Placemaking (Cllr Robertson)

The sub-groups have been meeting regularly and working to developing proposals for an initial consultation.

2.0 REVISED TIMELINE

The previously published timeline for the masterplan was presented in October. Due to the complexity of some issues and the availability of members to meet, the timeline has slipped. The original aim was to undertake a consultation in April/May; working groups are not at this stage.

Month	Deliverable	Status
August 2025	Agree chapters and approach	Complete
September 2025	Hold public session inviting interested parties to discuss the masterplan and recruit stakeholders	Complete
October 2025	Sub-Groups commence work	Complete
January-July 2026	Sub-Groups agree outline content / direction / objectives / principles for their chapters	
April-September 2026	Preliminary Consultation / Engagement	
July-January 2026 7	First Draft Masterplan Prepared	
September-January 2026 7	Consultation	
December-April 2026 7	Approval of Masterplan	

To ensure consultations are not held over the school holidays and to provide additional time to develop this initial consultation, a revised timeline of September is proposed. This would run September/October and thereafter a period of three months is provided for refining the output of the consultation into a draft masterplan. The timeline remains ambitious.

3.0 DECISIONS REQUIRED

The committee should receive updates from sub-group leaders and consider the revised timeline.