

Short term

Medium term

Long term

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 High St core area – shared surface 2 Promote High St market 3 Improve car parks 4 Legible linkages 5 Old picture house – Arts Hub 6 Shop façade improvements 7 Review town centre traffic management and calming 8 Investigate relocation of court use | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 Old Health centre - multifunctional space 10 BT building business incubator 11 Duthac House create new function 12 Develop rail station as a gateway 13 The Grove – Youth Hostel | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14 Promote living above the shops 15 Court House – Museum <p>Other proposals included developing business guidance, coordinating the marketing of Tain, ensuring sports provision for the community in association with the proposed 3-18 campus, and support for senior services through the Duthac centre.</p> |
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Further details will be set out in a full report to be published soon – see www.highland.gov.uk/actionplans



What happened during the Town Centre workshop



Day 1- Session to Identify Design and Planning Principles

- o Walked around Town Centre to highlight local issues.
- o Presentation on key issues affecting the town centre.
- o Stakeholders registered concerns and expectations.
- o Presentation on best practice schemes to inspire ideas.
- o Attendees were split into 4 groups (High School Students, Council Officials, Residents and Community Organisations), to produce sketch plans that represent their key interests.

High School Students

Vision *'Tain, a fun and friendly community, where you'll find everything you need'*

Key Interests:

- Better accessibility- no parking on High St, better location of bus stops and signage, more pelican crossings, improve wheelchair and pushchair access.
- A wider variety of shops available for residents and visitors
- Publicise Tain - promote events that attract visitors and gather people, create a tourist centre near to the train station to direct visitors to both the town centre and seaside.
- Create a youth hub - that could offer space for events, workshops, work experience etc.

Council officials

Vision *'Tain- a Royal Burgh, a place of pilgrimage with a living and working historic town centre at its heart.'*

Key Interests:

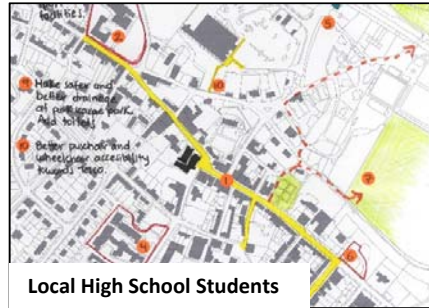
- Maintain and strengthen town centre
- Encourage residential and other mixed uses in the town centre
- Support existing and help new businesses
- Put Tain 'on the Map'

Residents

Vision *'Come round to Tain'*

Key Interests:

- Tain should promote its assets
- Rethink uses of historic buildings
- Create a Hub for Easter Ross
- Intensify town centre uses



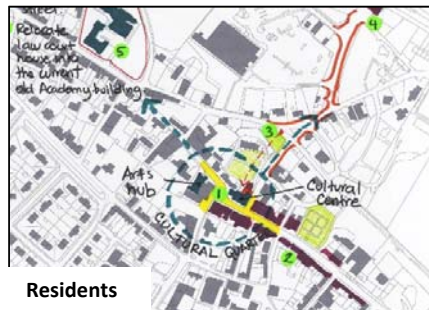
Local High School Students



Community Organisations



Council officials members



Residents

Community Organisation

Vision *'Realising po-TAIN-tial now'*

Key Interests:

- Attract tourists to Tain by building on heritage
- Ensure accessibility issues are better managed
- Increase footfall on the High Street
- Improve quality of car parking areas

Key points raised from evening session

- Town lacks sense of arrival
- Should try to orientate view points towards the sea
- Accessibility is a problem for mobility impaired
- Encourage redevelopment of the train station building
- Repair suspension bridge
- Upgrade park at Chapel St/ Castle Brae
- Improve footpath/ cycle path to distillery
- Encourage events in rose garden
- Support Tain's artistic. craft and design community

Summary

There was a consensus that Tain should be supported to ensure its future vitality. Many recurring themes and ideas were raised by each group. Common interventions included highlighting the historic and cultural heritage, traffic and parking management, and the re-examination of building use around the town centre.

Day 2 - Session to Refine Principles & Focus on Delivery

- o Summary of refined plans and key principles agreed by each group from the previous day.
- o Attendees were again split into three groups ensuring a spread of interests were represented. Groups were asked to choose their most favoured key interests from all previously developed plans which were collated to be developed further.
- o Based on the discussions during the workshop, an illustration was produced, which represented the emerging preferred concepts and proposals.