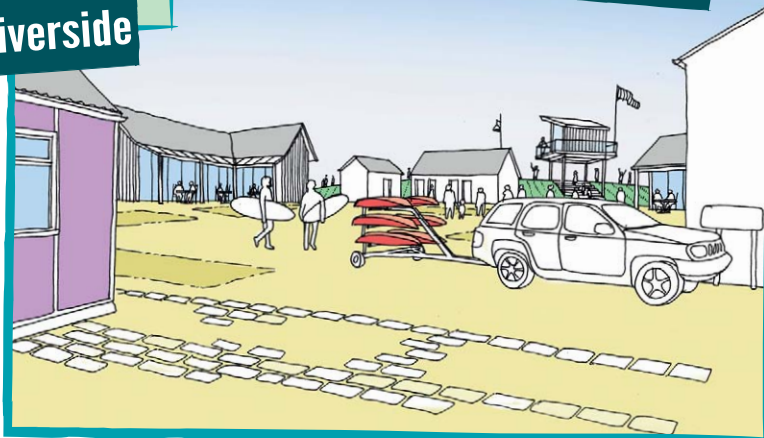


View looking east to transformed riverside

These artist's impressions show how parts of Thurso may be regenerated in the future.

View to marine sports and retail village

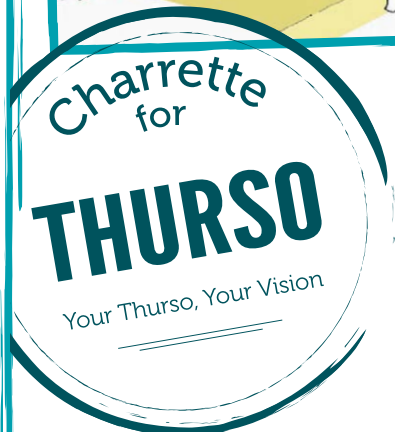


Caithness is the lowlands beyond the Highlands.

View to the Millbank Studio Workshops



View up Princes Street to Mart Site



www.highland.gov.uk/thursocharrette
www.highland.gov.uk/CaSplan



27 February 2013

The Thurso Charrette

REPORT
BACK
NEWSLETTER

A new vision for Thurso



Members of the Thurso community have helped to develop a new vision for the town by participating in the Thurso Charrette held between 22 to 27 February 2013. Key issues discussed included the future vitality of the heart of town as a commercial centre, the regeneration and enhancement of the riverside and the western expansion of the town, including space for employment uses related to the growth of Scrabster Harbour. Participants also wanted to see new facilities and services to attract further visitors to Thurso including cultural, heritage and water sports activities.

Following the two public workshop days on 22 and 23 February, the Charrette team, led by John Thompson & Partners

(JTP), Gillespies and The Highland Council, analysed and summarised the outcomes and drew up an illustrated Vision for the future, which was reported back to the community on Wednesday 27 February at the Pentland Hotel.

The Highland Council aims to enhance Thurso's role as a major economic, cultural and service town for the wider Caithness & North Sutherland area. The Thurso Charrette was held to enable local people to shape the future of the town, including options for future development.

A similar process was held in Wick over the same period and the outcomes from both Charrettes will be reflected in the first stage of CaS Plan - the new Caithness and Sutherland Local Development Plan.

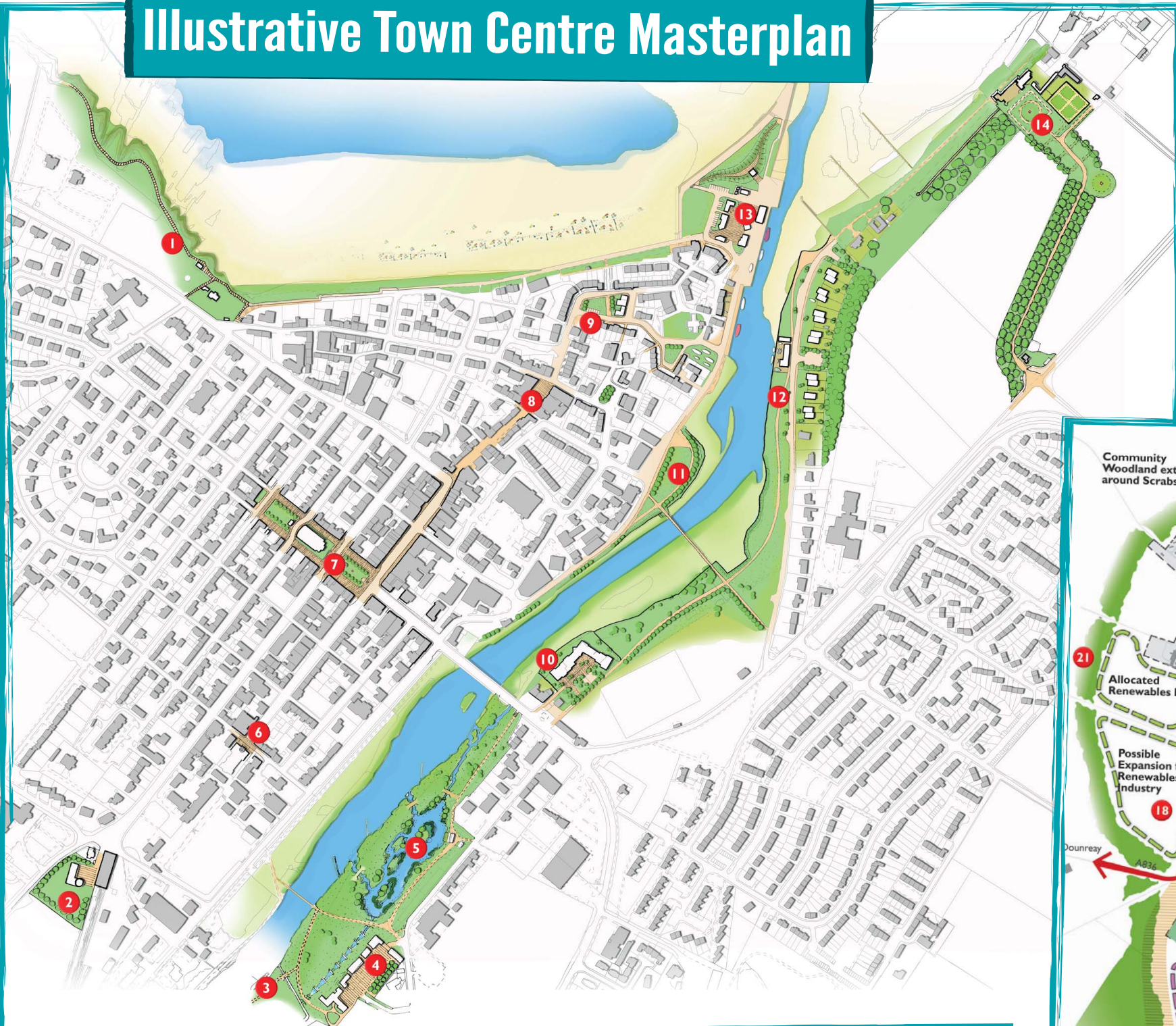
The Thurso Charrette was supported by the Scottish Government as part of the Charrette Mainstreaming Programme.

For more information please contact David Cowie or Scott Dalgarno at The Highland Council by email: devplans@highland.gov.uk or by phone: 01463 702827.



“We've got the right time, we're in the right place and we have the right people!”

Illustrative Town Centre Masterplan



Masterplan Key 1-14

Potential future uses:

1. Upgraded coastal path.
2. Mart site developed for office use at town side and mixed use behind.
3. A Thurso Way footpath to be extended from Mall Walk eventually to Loch More.
4. Millbank building group to be recreated as studio workshops with café retail.
5. The pond area transformed into ecological park fed by new rills from mill lade.
6. Public realm works at the Library frontage.
7. Public realm enhancements to transform Sir John's Square and environs.
8. Public realm enhancements extended to east and west of High Street.
9. Environmental improvements to prominent housing development around Shore St.
10. Commercial uses relocated and replaced with some residential and extended park.
11. River edge at end of pedestrian Ellan Bridge transformed into landscaped river edge.
12. Commercial uses relocated and replaced with some residential and riverside walk.
13. Promontory developed as marine sport retail village with new landform for viewing.
14. Restored gardens as community project, reinstated floodlighting. (Please note: private property, currently no public access).

Masterplan Key 15-24

Potential future uses:

15. Landscape structure of open margin and planting that extends to settlement edge.
16. Landscape treatment to burn for drainage and amenity for residential extension.
17. Potential residential extension area.
18. Proposed Renewables set-down area.
19. Cordon secured for possible relief road route
20. Community Woodland.
21. Woodland edge on higher contour ground around town.
22. Regeneration and enhancement of riverside sites.
23. Town centre regeneration to reinforce role as vibrant destination.
24. Marine sports and related retail offer at promontory.

Illustrative Whole Town Masterplan

