

# Following Court of Session Judgement



## Renfrewshire Local Development Plan

August 2014



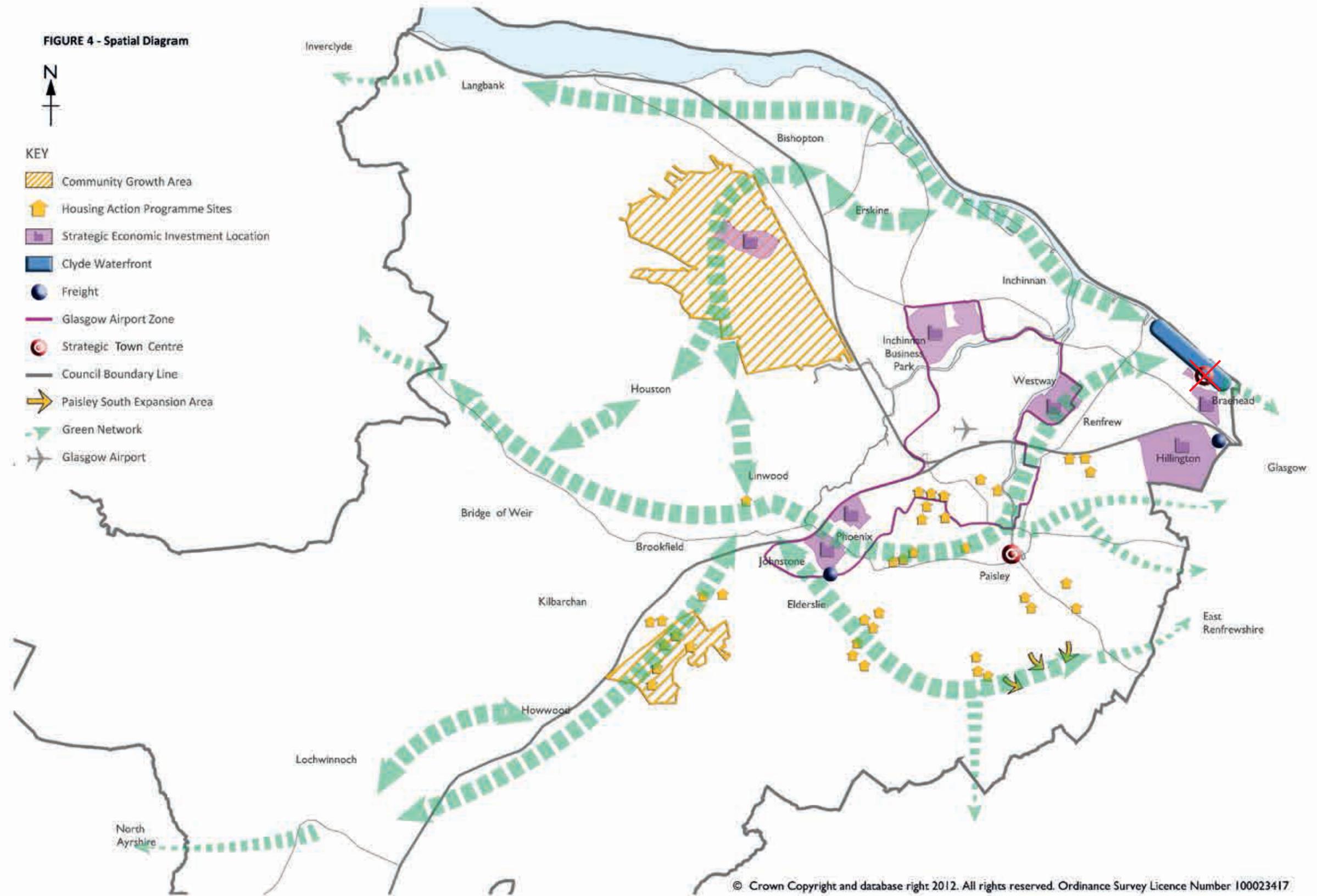
Renfrewshire  
Council

FIGURE 4 - Spatial Diagram



KEY

-  Community Growth Area
-  Housing Action Programme Sites
-  Strategic Economic Investment Location
-  Clyde Waterfront
-  Freight
-  Glasgow Airport Zone
-  Strategic Town Centre
-  Council Boundary Line
-  Paisley South Expansion Area
-  Green Network
-  Glasgow Airport



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Figure 9 - Renfrewshire LDP Transition Areas

| Location of Transition Area | Acceptable uses within Transition Area  | Opportunities  | Location of Transition Area                                 | Acceptable uses within Transition Area   | Opportunities   |
|-----------------------------|---|--|---|--|---|
| Erskine Riverfront          | Business and industrial uses within classes 4, 5 and 6 of the use class order, residential, hotels, residential institutions, educational facilities, nurseries, leisure, restaurants (retail uses would not be acceptable) | Fully serviced greenfield sites which could accommodate a range of uses. Opportunity to transform the waterfront area creating a sense of place, increasing connectivity with the town centre and enhancing the green network.                           | Wright Street, Renfrew                                      | Residential, hotels, residential institutions, educational facilities, nurseries (retail uses would not be acceptable)   | Opportunity to manage the transition of this older industrial area and redevelop vacant and derelict sites to create a sense of place.  |
| Candren, Paisley            | Business and industrial uses within classes 4, 5 and 6 of the use class order, hotels, residential institutions, educational facilities (retail uses would not be acceptable)   | A flexible approach to development to deliver regeneration of this area of vacant land. Central location within Glasgow Airport Investment Zone with good links to the M8 and the airport.   | Middleton Road, Linwood                                     | Residential, residential institutions, educational facilities, nurseries, business and light industrial uses (retail uses would not be acceptable)   | Deliver redevelopment of vacant and derelict sites and manage transition of an older industrial area creating a sense of place. Opportunity to strengthen the residential offer within this area and improve links with Linwood Local Service Centre.   |
| North Johnstone             | Business and industrial uses within classes 4, 5 and 6 of the use class order, hotels, residential institutions, educational facilities, nurseries, residential (retail uses would not be acceptable)                       | Opportunity to regenerate this older industrial area to create a more flexible approach which benefits from its proximity to Johnstone Town Centre.  | Meadowside Street/ Blythswood Area/ Normandy Hotel, Renfrew | Residential, residential institutions, educational facilities, leisure, retail of a scale appropriate to the Network of Centres, nurseries, business, waste management and small scale renewables                            | A flexible approach to development in this area to deliver regeneration of the older industrial area and failing retail park. Opportunity to improve public realm and strengthen residential offer in this area, improve links with neighbouring residential areas and deliver Renfrew Northern Distributor Road to improve traffic flows within Renfrew Town Centre. |
| Neilston Road               | Residential, business and industrial uses within classes 4, 5 and 6 of the use class order, hotels, residential institutions, educational facilities, retail of a scale appropriate in relation to the Network of Centres   | Deliver regeneration of vacant and derelict sites creating a sense of place. A flexible approach to development in this area to encourage uses which compliment Neilston Road Local Service Centre.  | Old Govan Road, Braehead                                    | Residential, business and industrial uses within classes 4, 5 and 6 of the use class order, hotels, residential institutions, educational facilities, nurseries, hotels  | Improvements in public realm as well as development of gap sites with appropriate uses to strengthen the quality of the environment on the approach to Braehead Strategic Town Centre. Opportunity to improve links with Braehead Strategic Town Centre and neighbouring residential areas.   |
| Paisley West End            | Residential, retail, restaurants and cafes, offices, educational facilities, nurseries, residential institutions  | Opportunity to deliver regeneration to significantly improve public realm and the range and quality of uses - benefits from close proximity to West End Local Service Centre and University of West Scotland and links to Paisley Strategic Town Centre. | Paisley North / Abercorn Street / Renfrew Road, Paisley     | Business and industrial uses within classes 4, 5 and 6 of the use class order, hotels, residential institutions, educational facilities, nurseries, leisure, commercial facilities   | There are currently a mix of uses within this area therefore there are opportunities for a wide range of developments. This area benefits from being in close proximity to a range of transport options and services. Opportunity to manage the transition of this older industrial area and redevelop vacant and derelict sites.                                     |
| Paisley East End            | Residential, retail, restaurants and cafes, offices, storage facilities, educational facilities, nurseries, residential institutions  | A more flexible approach to development in this area to transform this older industrial area to enable a greater mix of uses. Opportunity to improve public realm and strengthen the quality of the areas' environment.                                  | Underwood Road, Paisley                                     | Business and industrial uses within classes 4,5 and 6 of the use class order, residential, residential institutions, educational facilities, nurseries, leisure, commercial facilities (retail uses would not be acceptable) | There are currently a mix of uses within this area therefore there are opportunities for a wide range of developments. This area benefits from being in a sustainable location, in close proximity to a range of transport options, services and facilities.  |

Town Centres are always in a state of evolution and their role and function has changed throughout the years. It is recognised that the current retailing trends will change our centres forever.

The strengthening of the vitality and viability of Renfrewshire's centres requires the channelling of investment to allow a diverse range of activities and uses to develop. The LDP will support existing and encourage new uses which contribute positively to the economic and cultural life of centres as well as improving the quality of offer, creating sustainable mixed communities and reducing the need to travel.

Encouraging a day and evening economy by creating vibrant and safe places will be an important consideration for all new developments. Well designed quality spaces, public realm and sustainable access will also be key to improving the economic potential as well as the environment of Renfrewshire's centres.

## Renfrewshire's Network of Centres

Centres have evolved and changed over the years with each of Renfrewshire's centres providing a complementary role and function within the network. (See Figure 10 and Figure 11)

Renfrewshire's Network of Centres comprises of a mix of:

### • Strategic Centres

The Network of Centres can be viewed as hierarchical. The Strategic ~~Town~~ Centres sit at the top of this hierarchy and have a significant role that extends to the whole of or beyond the boundaries of Renfrewshire. These centres provide an appropriate mix of activities and fulfil a strategic role as a retail location, or cultural and civic centre.

### • Core Town Centres

Renfrewshire's Core Town Centres provide an important supporting role. Core Centres serve towns of significant size and provide local services for neighbouring settlements. They provide a mix of retail offer, commercial, leisure, civic and community services, which are important to Renfrewshire's places and the overall strength of the network.

### • Local Service Centres

Local Service Centres perform a vital role in supporting many local communities within Renfrewshire. These centres have more localised catchment areas providing a range of goods and local services.

### • Commercial Centres

These centres provide for retail development that typically cannot be located within town centres. They have a different and more specialised range of uses, physical structure, character and sense of place than the other network centres. Each centre provides a complementary role and function which together adds to the strength and diverse mix of uses within the network.

## Spatial distribution of Renfrewshire's Network of Centres

To help explain the function of the network it has been split into 3 geographic clusters based on the linkages that exist between centres and the complementary uses that they share.

### Clyde Riverside - Braehead, Renfrew, Erskine, Bishopton

~~The LDP recognises Braehead as a town centre.~~ Braehead is identified in the SDP as a Strategic Centre however Scottish Planning Policy does make a distinction between town centres and other centres. The SDP seeks the development of a masterplan for the regeneration of the centre and wider area, as Braehead is central to the Clyde Waterfront regeneration initiative and the emerging community of Renfrew North. ~~The Council recognises that to secure this regeneration the policy backing of town centre status is very important.~~ The implication of this status would be to allow further retail development but the LDP will only support such expansion where it furthers the town centre status and character of Braehead. There is a need for Braehead as a place to develop a town centre rather than a shopping mall character and this must have a bearing on all proposals that emerge in the future.

Braehead has a particular role in Renfrewshire's network of centres. It is the main centre for comparison goods retailing in the area. As the role of Paisley, the traditional retail centre, changes within this network so Braehead

fulfils this function. In doing so Braehead therefore retains significant retail employment opportunities in Renfrewshire and retains retail expenditure within the area that might otherwise be met in further afield locations. Braehead benefits from being under single ownership and remains the only centre within Renfrewshire which has enough flexibility in its built fabric to accommodate future retailing trends.

It is important that Braehead does not provide local scale service and community uses. These are catered for in nearby Renfrew Town Centre. Development of Braehead should not impact on this role for Renfrew as a Core Town Centre, providing local civic and community services for Renfrew and the neighbouring settlements. There is a need for Braehead to continue to develop ~~its town centre character, to reflect its identification as a new town centre in Renfrewshire.~~

The LDP establishes a framework for a masterplan for Braehead, set out in Figure 12. This spatial strategy connects Braehead to its adjacent communities, improves accessibility around and through the centre, enhances its commercial and business functions and delivers substantive enhancements to its public realm. All of this should aim to meet an overall objective of creating a modern and exemplary town centre environment.

Renfrew Town Centre is the main local civic centre serving the Clyde Riverside area. It is an important local retail, leisure and commercial centre providing local community services for Renfrew and the neighbouring settlements. In recent years Renfrew Town Centre has seen the completion of major public realm and shopfront enhancement works. This has greatly benefited the quality of the environment of the centre helping to retain existing uses and promote new uses and development.

Erskine Town Centre is a retail, leisure and commercial centre serving Erskine, Bishopton and Inchinnan. The centre performs well and has experienced few or no vacancies in recent years, however, the role and function of the town centre could be strengthened, creating a place with a range and quality of facilities. The overall quality of the town centres' public spaces and linkages to the waterfront and the town's residential areas also require improvement to help it achieve a sustainable future.

Bishopton Local Service Centre provides local convenience retail, commercial and community uses. Residents however do make use of the services on offer within Erskine Town Centre. Bishopton has developed in a sporadic manner and lacks a focal point within the settlement. The development of Dargavel Village on the former Royal Ordnance Factory site provides an opportunity to strengthen the offer within the settlement and to develop a hub for retail and community uses.

### Paisley Area - Paisley Town Centre, West End, East End, Neilston Road

Paisley Town Centre sits alongside Braehead at the top of the hierarchy of centres being the main civic and cultural hub within Renfrewshire. The centre offers a diverse mix of uses and a high level of attraction and accessibility. The centre provides a focus for business, community, leisure, heritage and educational uses and provides an attractive setting to live, work and visit.

While Paisley Town Centre has a rich mix of attributes its role is changing. Retail remains important to the future of the centre, however, this will focus more on convenience retailing and independent and local retailers. As the comparison retail offer contracts the strategy is to build on its strengths as a transport hub and a centre for community, cultural heritage, leisure, education and residential functions. Paisley Town Centre has a range of assets which are unique within Renfrewshire and are vital in supporting the overall strength of the Network of Centres. The spatial strategy for the centre is presented in Figure 13 showing a more concentrated retail area, with improvements to accessibility and circulation in and around the centre by potential enhancements to pedestrian, cycle and vehicular networks and the enhancement of attractions as well as heritage and cultural assets.

Paisley Town Centre is supported by the West End, East End and Neilston Road Local Service Centres. These centres fulfil an important role in supporting the local population providing retail and commercial uses which add to the range and choice of uses available in the Paisley area.

**West Renfrewshire - Johnstone, Linwood, Bridge of Weir and Lochwinnoch**

The West Renfrewshire area is well served by a mix of town, local service and village centres which relate to and reinforce each other's role and function.

Johnstone Town Centre is the largest and most diverse centre within West Renfrewshire. In addition to its local retail offer, it is a civic and commercial centre providing local community services for West Renfrewshire.

Johnstone Town Centre, in common with other similar sized centres faces a number of challenges. Importantly, it needs to continue to refresh and improve its offer to ensure that it retains a competitive edge and remains the service centre for the wider West Renfrewshire area. The Council are making a significant investment in Johnstone Town Centre, delivering a new town hall for Johnstone to be opened in 2015. This will be a catalyst for further development opportunities.

Linwood (on completion of planned redevelopment), Bridge of Weir and Lochwinnoch Local Service Centres provide convenience retail, commercial and local community uses to meet local demand. Proposals to redevelop Linwood will result in dramatic improvements in terms of the vitality and viability of this centre. This centre will play an important role in the provision and choice of convenience retailing in West Renfrewshire and will attract shoppers from the neighbouring settlements.

Bridge of Weir's centre provides a diverse mix of specialist independent convenience and comparison retailers, as well as local commercial uses that contribute to and meet the needs of Bridge of Weir and the neighbouring villages.

Lochwinnoch, due to its location, doesn't perform the same complementary role as the other centres within West Renfrewshire, although specialist uses within the village may attract visitors from the wider area. This centre is essentially independent providing local services for the village.

Although not included in the network of centres other villages within West Renfrewshire do offer complementary uses which add to the strength and diverse mix of uses within the network in this area. These villages do not form part of the network as often the settlement and its centre are very small, or the shops and services are dispersed throughout the settlement in such a way that they do not take the form of a centre.

**Commercial Centres – Linwood Phoenix, Abbotsinch Retail Park, Braehead Retail Park**

Within the Phoenix Commercial Centre and the Braehead Commercial Centre, there may be opportunities for some ancillary and / or enabling commercial development to complement the existing uses.

Renfrewshire's Commercial Centres will continue to reinforce the role and function of the Strategic Centres and Core Town Centres within the network and support will not be given to developments which could adversely impact upon the role and function of any other Network Centre, particularly the Strategic Centres.

Blythswood Retail Park is identified as a Transition Area in the LDP. The retail park is in a marginal retail location and has struggled to attract retailers since the loss of key anchor stores a number of years ago. A more flexible policy approach to allow for a greater mix of uses will help stimulate investment and improve the vibrancy of this area.

Figure 10 - Renfrewshire Network of Centres

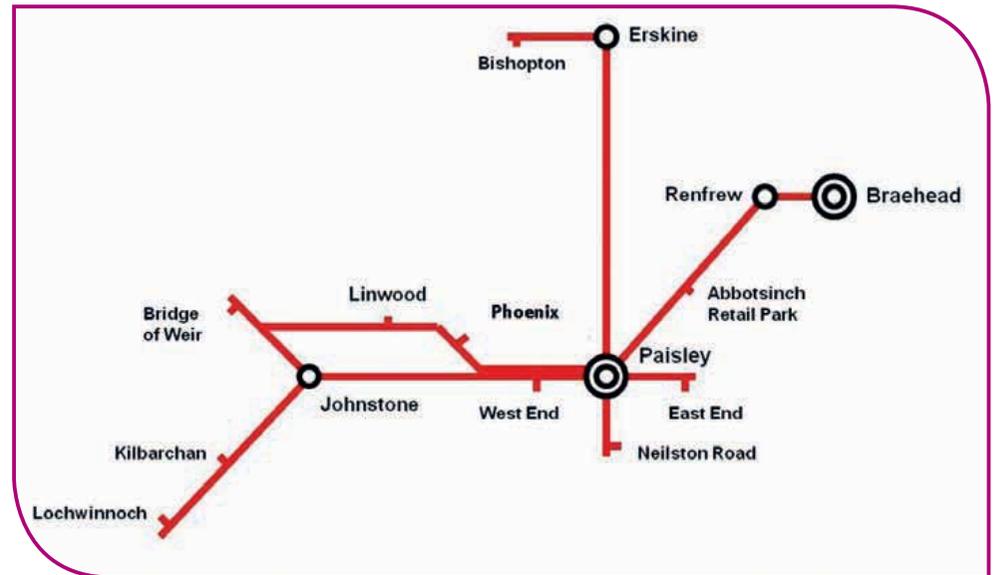


Figure 11 - Renfrewshire Network of Centres Role &amp; Function

| Centre                       | Role and Function   | Challenges/Opportunities  |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Strategic Centres</b>     |   |   |
| Paisley Town Centre          | Renfrewshire's main civic and cultural centre. Offers the most diverse mix of uses and attributes providing a hub for transport, retail, business, community, leisure, heritage, health and educational uses. | Area regeneration and diversification as the retail offer contracts - reinforce community role, residential development and promote university and heritage areas. Improving circulation and access by enhancing the pedestrian, cycle and vehicular network.   |
| Braehead Town Centre         | Principal retail centre within Renfrewshire with strong supporting leisure, commercial, and business uses.  | To develop the town centre character, creating a sense of place and increasing connectivity between Braehead and Renfrew while developing a hub for public transport. Significant opportunity for development of town centre uses that will continue to stimulate and complete the wider Clyde Waterfront regeneration.   |
| <b>Core Town Centres</b>     |   |   |
| Renfrew Town Centre          | Local retail, civic, leisure and commercial centre providing local community services for Renfrew and neighbouring settlements.   | Opportunities to have better linkages and connections to Braehead for a range of uses and transport functions. Continue to strengthen and refresh the offer within the town centre to maintain its vitality and viability.  |
| Johnstone Town Centre        | Local retail, civic and commercial centre providing local community services for West Renfrewshire.   | Opportunity to deliver regeneration - integrate new civic hub with existing role and function, improve public realm and encourage complementary uses within the town centre. Encourage residential regeneration into the town centre.   |
| Erskine Town Centre          | Local retail, leisure and commercial centre providing local community services for Erskine, Bishopston and Inchinnan.   | Strengthen the role and function of the town centre, creating a place with a range and quality of facilities appropriate for a town of its size. Opportunity to improve overall quality of the town centres' public spaces and linkages to the waterfront. There is a need to demonstrate that development does not have an adverse effect on the integrity of the Inner Clyde SPA. |
| <b>Local Service Centres</b> |   |   |
| Linwood                      | On completion of planned redevelopment, the centre will provide convenience retail, commercial and local community uses to meet local demand.   | Deliver regeneration of the centre to significantly improve public realm and the range and quality of uses (primarily retail offer).  |

| Centre                     | Role and Function  | Challenges/Opportunities   |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| Bridge of Weir             | Local convenience retail, commercial and community village centre. | Improvements in public realm as well as development of gap sites with appropriate uses to strengthen the quality of the centres' environment. Opportunity to strengthen local convenience retail offer within the village. |
| Bishopston                 | Local convenience retail, commercial and community village centre. | Protection and enhancement of village centre to support existing services.   |
| Dargavel at ROF Bishopston | Local convenience retail, commercial and community village centre. | Opportunity to strengthen the offer within the settlement and develop a hub for retail, community and other complementary uses.  |
| Lochwinnoch                | Local convenience retail, commercial and community village centre. | Protection and enhancement of physical fabric of buildings and surrounding areas to support the existing services within the village.  |
| Paisley West End           | Local retail and commercial service centre.                        | Improve offer which would include a range of uses and reduce vacancy rate within the centre - improvements to the quality of the environment and area regeneration.  |
| Paisley East End           | Local retail and commercial service centre.                        | A flexible approach to development in this area to encourage other complementary uses in and around the centre.  |
| Neilston Road              | Local retail and commercial service centre.                        | Develop and refresh offer as well as extend area of the centre to build upon the diversification of the centre.  |

**Commercial Centres**

|                      |  |   |
|----------------------|--|---|
| Phoenix              | Out of town retail and commercial centre.      | Continue to ensure that buildings and built environment modernise and evolve to facilitate a range of commercial and retail uses appropriate in this location. Ensure centre continues to support the network and there is no significant impact on town centres. |
| Abbotsinch           | Out of town retail centre.                     | A flexible approach to accommodate an appropriate range and choice of retail offer within centre to maintain an attractive and viable retail location. Ensure centre continues to support network and there is no significant impact on town centres.             |
| Blythswood           | Transition area.                               | Manage the change of Blythswood Retail Park from an out of town retail location to a mixed use transition area.   |
| Braehead Retail Park | Edge of Centre Retail and Commercial Location. | Improve linkages with Braehead Town Centre and promote remaining development sites to improve range of commercial and retail offer appropriate in this location. Ensure centre continues to support network and there is no significant impact on town centres.   |

FIGURE 12 - Braehead

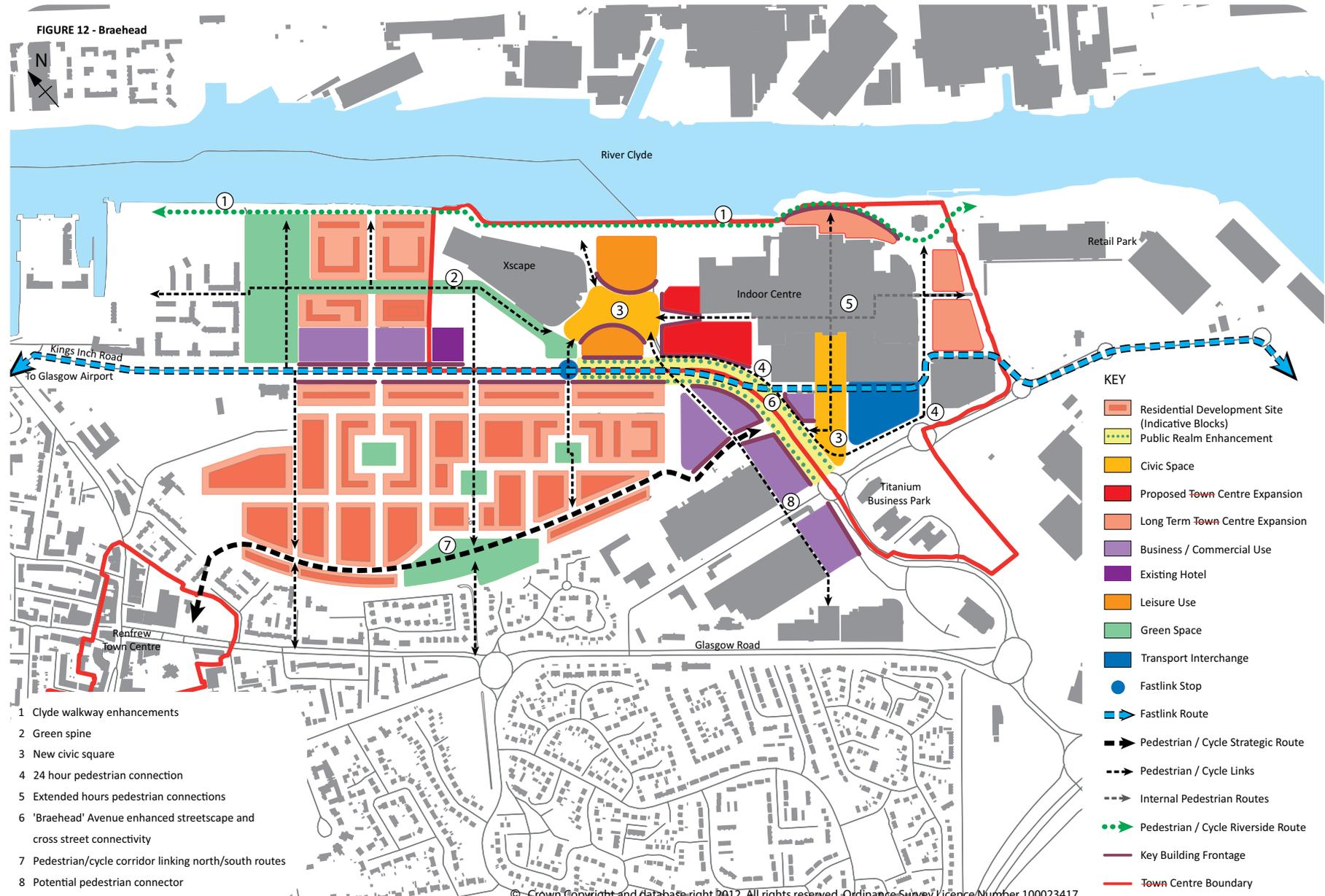
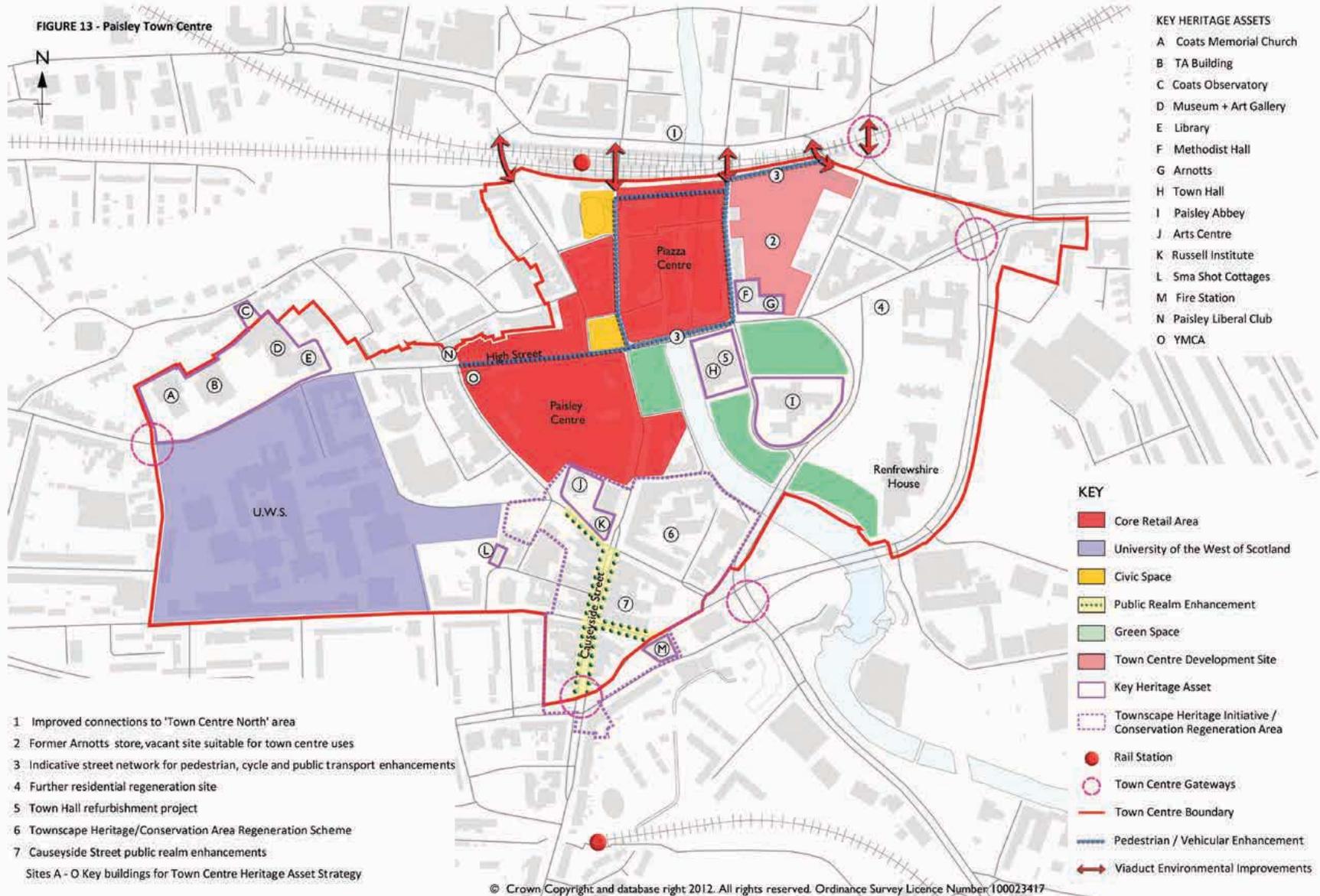


FIGURE 13 - Paisley Town Centre



## POLICY C1 - Renfrewshire Network of Centres

Each of the centres in Renfrewshire form part of a diverse, interconnected network of places to live, shop, work, enjoy entertainment, leisure and cultural activities and gain access to important transport connections. The Council welcomes development that will strengthen the network and enhance its centres, ensuring they are places which are vibrant, inclusive, accessible and complementary, as well as compatible with surrounding land uses. All proposals will be considered in line with the hierarchy and role and function of centres detailed in Figure 11 and against the development criteria set out within the New Development SG.

## POLICY C2 - Development Outwith the Network of Centres

Proposals for retail and commercial developments out with the network of centres require to demonstrate that the following has been considered and that the location is appropriate for the use/development. Proposals out with the network of centres should:

- Provide clear justification as to why sites within the network of centres have been discounted, demonstrating a sequential approach has been undertaken to site selection;
- Demonstrate that the development will contribute to the area without significantly impacting on the vitality and viability of the centres within the defined network;
- Demonstrate that proposals are of an appropriate scale and do not significantly impact upon the function, character and amenity of the surrounding area; and
- Demonstrate that the development would tackle deficiencies in qualitative or quantitative terms that cannot be met in the network of centres.

All development proposals will be assessed against the relevant criteria detailed in the New Development SG.



## LDP Objectives

- The regeneration and evolution of the Strategic Development Plan strategic centres and other town and village centres as places of municipal, commercial and community value
- An enhancement in the natural and built heritage environment of Renfrewshire in support of the health of its communities, attractiveness of its places and setting for economic recovery
- Regeneration and renewal of existing urban areas as energy efficient, healthy and safe places

## Programme of Delivery

The spatial strategy will be implemented through a number of key actions including:

- Work in partnership to develop Centre Strategies, Action Plans and Management Plans for centres to strengthen the role, function and diversification of uses within Renfrewshire's Network of Centres
- Continue to promote and develop initiatives such as Paisley Townscape Heritage Initiative to help building restoration and enhance public realm as well as leveraging in additional resources for investment
- Continue to develop initiatives targeted at promoting improvements to frontages and the fabric of our centres
- Develop more partnership approaches to tackling priority stalled sites and buildings such as joint venture arrangements, leveraging in more resources and skills to implement projects and proposals

(Please refer to the LDP Action Programme for full implementation and delivery details)