

Enfield Town Centre First Plan



Lár Bailte ar dTús
Town Centre First



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

ENFIELD TOWN TEAM

thepaulhogarthcompany



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Foreword

The Town Centre First Policy is one of the most ground-breaking approaches in Irish Planning History for the regeneration of smaller towns with specific challenges and rapidly growing populations. The opportunity for the town of Enfield to be part of this has been most welcomed by the people of Enfield who are excited about the possibilities for the future development for Enfield as a new vibrant town.

The Design Team and Town Regeneration Officer for Enfield fully engaged with the people of Enfield over many months through their Town Team members who were identified from a broad range of stakeholder groups. The process involved scheduling many meetings and using workshops and wider public surveys for feedback and ideas generation. This pro-active engagement with local community over a period of time using constructive feedback, helped shape the design of our Final Plan which we hope encapsulates the real needs of the town and the community.

This Masterplan and its projects for the town show the pathway for Planners and Townspeople to shape Enfield's future success as a vibrant, attractive, and user-friendly Town with a Civic Town Centre.

The Town Team will now work closely with Meath County Council to identify a logical sequence of projects who will then apply for funding to deliver them. We recognise that this process will take a number of years to complete, with funding being secured on a multi-annual basis to deliver the agreed projects.

We look forward to beginning this selection process very shortly.

We would like to sincerely thank James Hennessey, Laura Buschman of the Paul Hogarth Company (Design Team) for their expert facilitation of the process and careful consideration of feedback from the town in the preparation of the design. We would also like to thank Patrick Shore (Town Regeneration Officer) for his continued support and assistance during this process.

Shane Foley

Chairperson Town Team Enfield



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Enfield's Harbour

This Town Centre First Plan presents a vision for the future of Enfield, County Meath.

It has been shaped by a collaborative process involving people from right across the town, including the members of Enfield Town Team, and with support provided by Meath County Council and a professional consultancy.

Yet this plan is more than a vision. It sets out a series of transformative projects to be delivered in Enfield. These vary in scale and ambition, but all share the common goal of making Enfield the most attractive, vibrant, and green town, with welcoming spaces for everyone, while making the most of excellent local and regional connectivity.

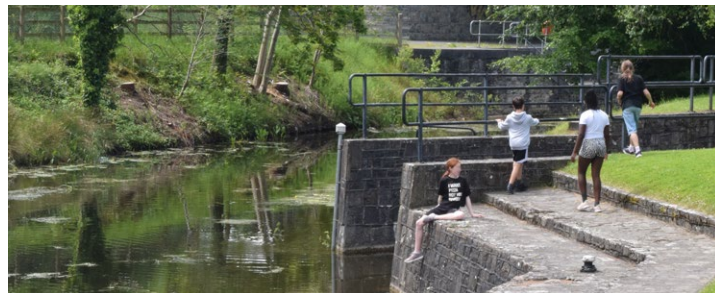


1 Introduction

Introduction

Welcome to Enfield

Enfield is a town of approximately 3,700 people located on the southern border of County Meath, some 30km to the west of Dublin. Enfield has long been associated with its position along the transport routes that run east and west across Ireland and was originally known as Innfield, reflecting its role as a stopping place along the way. Yet since the late 20th Century, Enfield has become a place to stay, with many new houses built on either side of its busy Main Street. Today the town is home to a young and vibrant community, retaining bonds to its rural origins while looking forward to a positive future.



Town Centre First Policy

The Town Centre First Policy was launched by the Irish Government in 2022. It aims "to create town centres that function as viable, vibrant and attractive locations for people to live, work and visit, while also functioning as the service, social, cultural and recreational hub for the local community". It recognises the many challenges being faced by traditional town centres, but also the important social and economic role they have to play in Ireland's future. The policy sets out an innovative approach to addressing issues and opportunities, including the appointment of Town Regeneration Officers in every county and the establishment of local Town Teams.

In response to this policy, Enfield was selected by Meath County Council to be the first settlement in the County to produce a Town Centre First Plan. This plan has been written and researched by appointed urban design consultants, The Paul Hogarth Company, through a series of consultations and workshops involving the public and members of the newly formed Enfield Town Team.



Role of this Plan

The Enfield Town Centre First Plan sets out a vision for the future and identifies a series of projects through which that vision will be realised. It is aimed at everyone with an interest in the future development of the town, including residents, communities, local groups and businesses, the local authority, central government, and private developers.

The Town Centre First plan is a non-statutory document that will be used to inform decision-making, funding applications and the delivery of projects. All actions that emerge from the plan will be subject to approval processes as necessary, including adherence to planning policy.

Policy Context

Two key policy references for the Town Centre First Plan are summarised as follows:

Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy (RSES) is the strategic plan and investment framework to shape the future development of the region with the aim of creating a sustainable and competitive region that supports the health and wellbeing of people and places, from urban to rural, with access to quality housing, travel and employment opportunities for all.

The *Meath County Development Plan 2021-2027* sets out a vision and overall strategy for the planning and sustainable development of County Meath. It sets out guiding policies and objectives in terms of physical growth and renewal, economic, social and cultural activity, and environmental protection and enhancement. Enfield is identified within the County Development Plan as a self-sustaining town with a vision to support the sustainable consolidation of the settlement with a balance of residential and employment development supported by its strategic location and availability of highly accessible lands suitable for enterprise, while pursuing development that respects its character.

More widely, it is essential that the TCF Plan responds to the ongoing climate crisis, by taking on board the sustainable development goals within its approach, projects and actions.



1 Introduction

Socio-economic Profile

According to census data, Enfield has a population of 3,663 (2022), with 1,823 males and 1,840 females, which has increased from 2,929 in 2011. The town has a young age profile with the majority of the population falling within the 0 to 59 age categories and 37% of its population under the age of 18, with only 339 residents being 60 and above, and the largest proportion of the population falling into the 40-44 category (427). Making it one of the youngest towns in the country.

The majority of the population identify with Ireland as their birthplace (2,917) with the remainder spread across the United Kingdom (140), Poland (112), India (42), Other EU (211) and rest of the world (229).

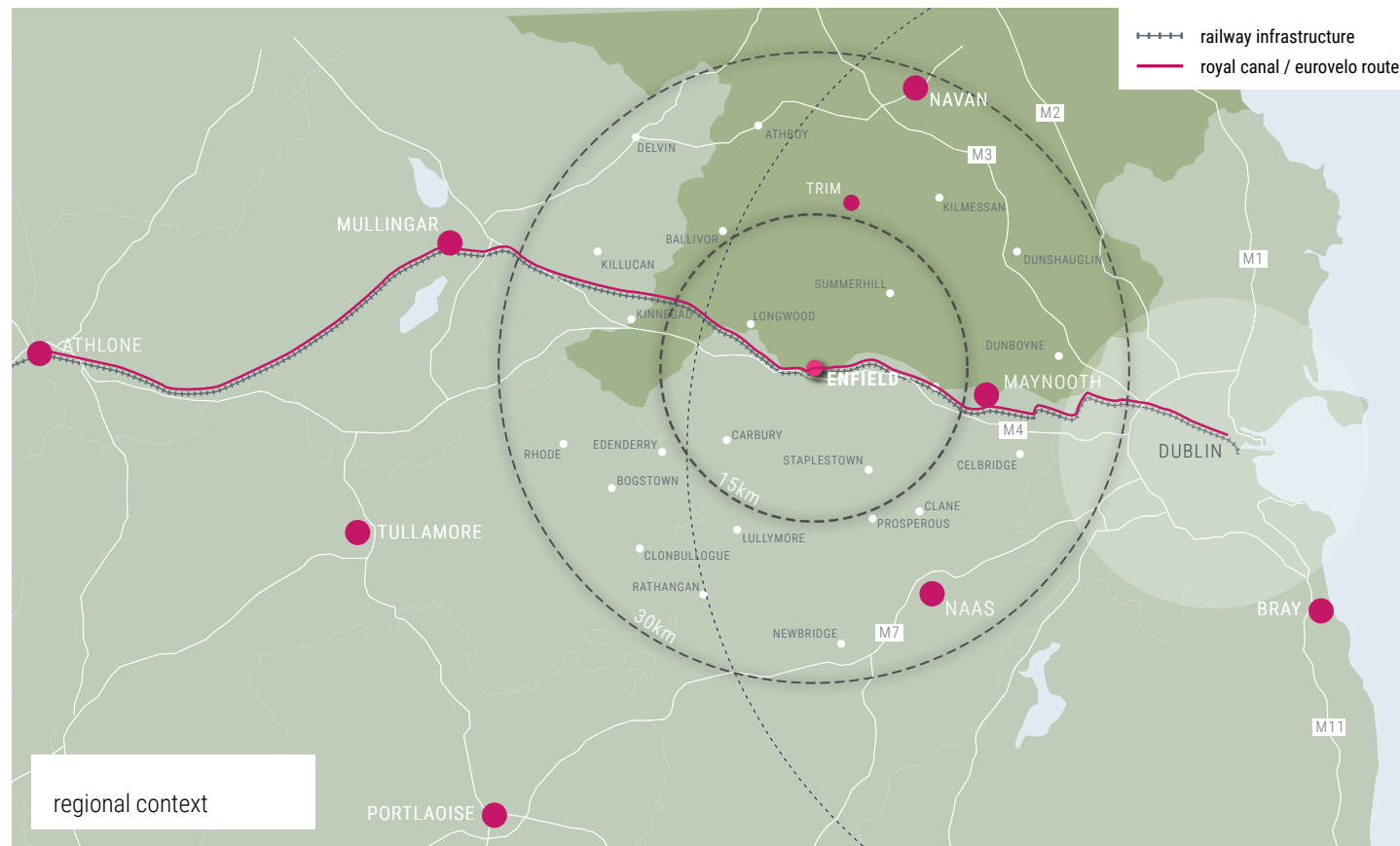
A total of 1,713 of the population aged 15 and over work as their principal economic status, with 323 students, 190 retired, 85 unable to work due to sickness or disability and a small number of long-term unemployed (52) and short-term unemployed (27). A total of 997 commute to work or school by car, with only 73 using the train, DART or LUAS, and 581 people travel to work, school or college by foot.

The general health of the population of Enfield is predominantly 'very good' with over 2000 in comparison to a small number considered bad health (40) and very bad (8).

Location and Context

Enfield is long associated with its East-West connectivity, strengthened by the Royal Canal Greenway, the rail and public transport network, and the M4 Motorway.

However, this excellent connectivity is underutilised and needs to be linked more effectively. A disconnect exists between the location of the bus stop, the train station, and commuter parking, causing strain locally. Enfield also encounters problems with its North-South connectivity, which is historically less established and makes residents reliant on the car to visit surrounding places.



Introduction

Urban Design Analysis

The consultancy team undertook an independent analysis of Enfield informed by map-based studies and on-site appraisals. The following headings summarise key findings from that exercise, further details of which are to be found in the appendices of this document.

Historically Enfield was a small town that has seen rapid growth in recent years. Though most of its buildings are modern, some heritage structures remain that are well-maintained due to ongoing use and restoration efforts. Most of the town centre buildings are in residential or commercial use, with limited public buildings in the town.

Enfield has been welcoming to its new residents and new developments have maintained a compact town footprint; however its growth has led to strain on some of the town's infrastructure. The town's strong commercial centre with limited vacancy, is supported by surrounding residential neighbourhoods.

Access between residential neighbourhoods and the town centre rely on one or two access points for all users. Shortcuts to encourage walking and cycling to the town centre are limited. Pedestrians are further discouraged due to traffic safety concerns on Main Street.

Footpaths on Main Street are uneven and inconsistent, with few pockets of space dedicated to pedestrians. Traffic safety is particularly concerning at the playground due to the intersections of several types of traffic in the area (bus traffic, carparking, Main Street traffic, and access point to adjacent neighbourhood). Enfield does have a bypass, but it is underutilised and the town still experiences high volumes of traffic on Main Street due to through-traffic and residents travelling to their homes.



What the Community Says...



Public Consultation Event

The Enfield Town Centre First Plan seeks to reflect the needs and aspirations of local people as much as possible. Consequently a highly collaborative methodology was followed through which to understand the town and develop ideas together.

The first community survey received 397 responses, with the public responding online and in person at an engagement event. The plan was then developed through a series of Town Team workshops, before being published as a draft and tested with the public through a second survey and well attended outdoor event that collected 561 responses.



2 What the Community Says...

Likes and Dislikes

The local community was asked to articulate its likes and dislikes about Enfield revealing a high degree of consensus. Locals shops and services ranked very highly among respondents, with many established businesses, as well as schools and sports clubs. Many people remarked upon Enfield's green and blue spaces, most notably the canal, as well as the cleanliness of the streets and the attractive floral displays by the Tidy Towns Committee and others. The compact size of the town was noted as a positive, with most of the town within easy reach by foot. Finally, Enfield's friendliness and sense of community were also cited as important attributes.

Dislikes about Enfield largely centred on a perceived lack of services and facilities, including indoor and outdoor spaces for the community, including places for young people. The town's relatively limited retail offer was also mentioned. Traffic on Main Street was also highlighted by many as a big problem that negatively impacts the town, as well as concerns around car parking, be it an underprovision or its impact on residential areas.

What three things do you *like* most about Enfield Town Centre?

- Canal walkway, effort made by tidy towns and to see empty buildings coming back to life
- The community spirit, the schools, the canal walkway
- It has independent Shops. A secondary school on the way and its close to the motorway
- Good shops, good pubs, friendly people
- Cleanliness thanks to the tidy towns, planters with flowers along the street and the canal amenities
- Village is small with a visible start and end point
- The variety of shops, the playground for the children and the transport system (train and bus)
- The people. The greenway. The potential.
- The ring road
- Atmosphere, locals you meet, feels welcoming
- Relatively clean, the town is centred on the Main Street, wide street
- It's walking distance from my house. There's a couple of nice shops. Enfield tidy towns keep it looking nice with flower planting.
- The variety of shops, the playground for the children and the transport system (train and bus)

What three things do you *dislike* most about Enfield Town Centre?

- Boat park, flower arrangements, playground
- Lack of restaurants, lack of space for more local businesses or start-ups, No remote working hub.
- No big supermarket. No public transport to the smaller villages around Enfield. No parking.
- Ugly street parking, closed shops, poor playground
- Too narrow sidewalks, not enough outdoor seating areas
- Lack of parking. Some run down looking shop fronts
- Traffic, no markets at the weekend, no car free days
- Lack of reasonable public transport options. Train so expensive ... Lack of a designated community space. The frequent issues with the water.
- Too many houses being built
- Unused/derelict buildings and lack of community spaces e.g. sports hall, library, a park/green space to walk especially for elderly people, basketball
- Nowhere for teenagers to go, no community hall, can't cycle safely

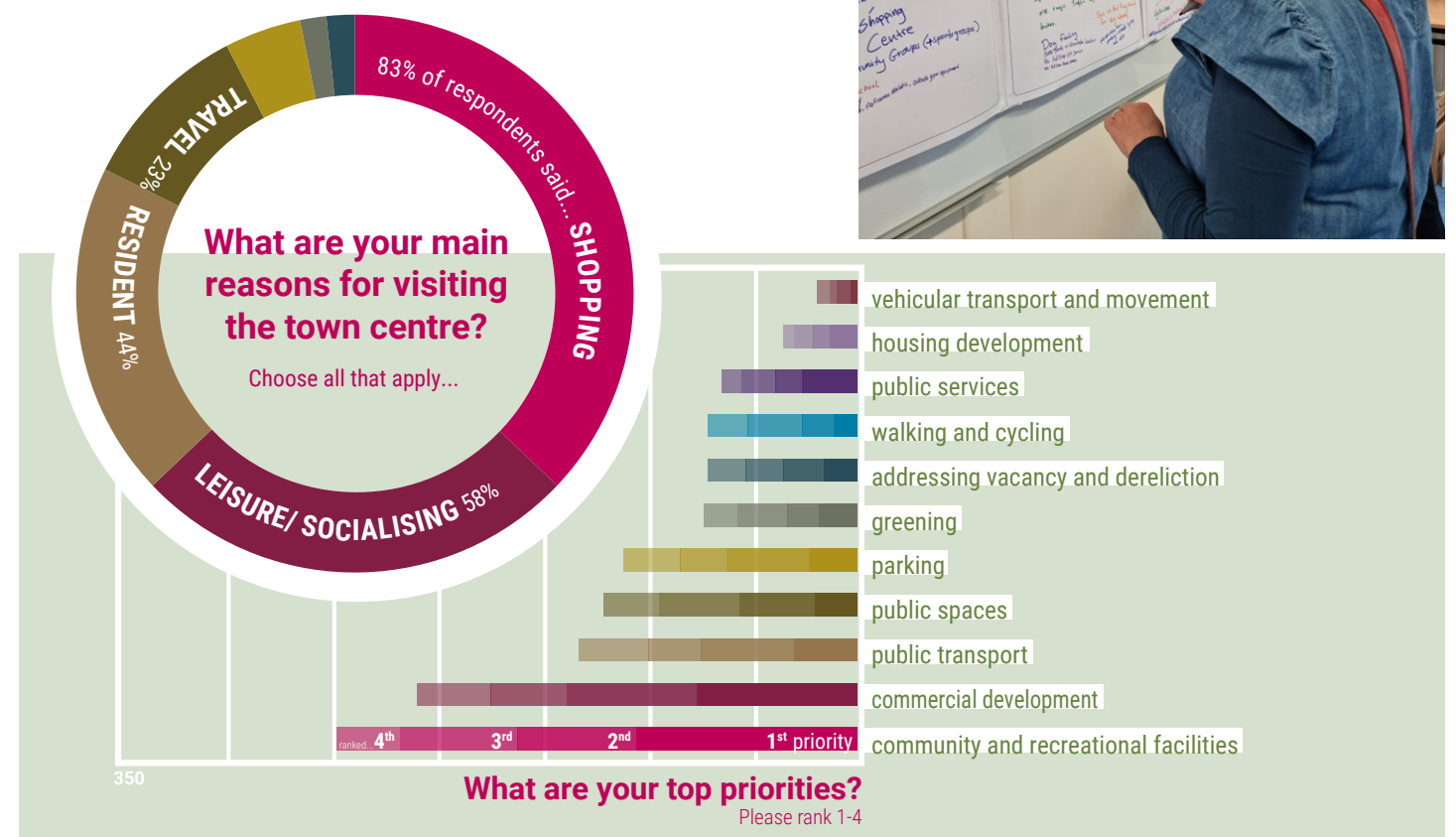
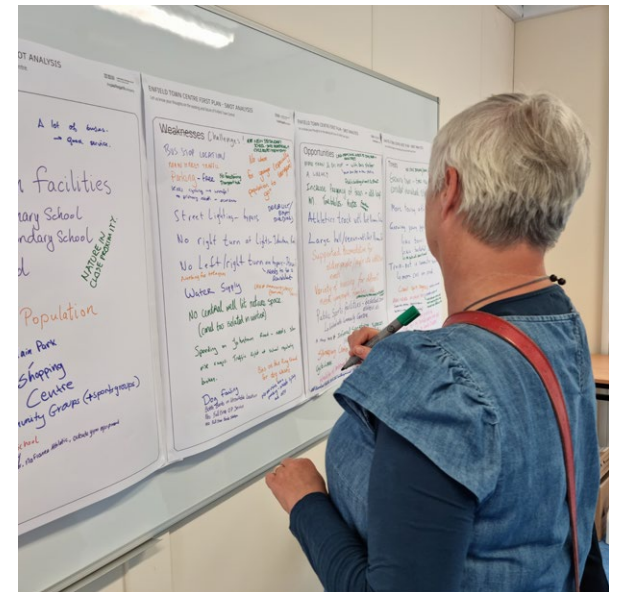
Consultation

Community Priorities

Respondents to the survey wanted to see many more facilities and services brought to Enfield. These included youth provision and a greater choice of shops, as well as green spaces for recreation and exercise. Such concerns were linked to the construction of new houses and its potential to place further strain on the town.

Dealing with Enfield's traffic problem was another priority emphasised in the survey results. People suggested reducing the flow of through traffic along Main Street, while also clamping down on the dominance of parked cars - especially those belonging to commuters parking all day.

Linked to the issue of commuting was the location of the town's only bus stop. This was identified as being problematic by generating traffic problems and encouraging high levels of car parking.



2 What the Community Says...

Town Team

SCOT Analysis

One of the first activities of the newly formed Town Team was to undertake a SCOT Analysis of Enfield, identifying its Strengths, Challenges, Opportunities and Threats. The full table can be viewed in the Appendix. The Strengths and Challenges mirrored many of the likes and dislikes raised by the local community, enabling a detailed discussion on the background to these and potential opportunities that would respond to them.

One common theme was helping people safely move through Enfield on foot and bicycle. While the town is relatively compact and benefits from a flat topography, it was felt to be disconnected and in places unsafe for walking and cycling to be the logical choice for short journeys over taking the car.

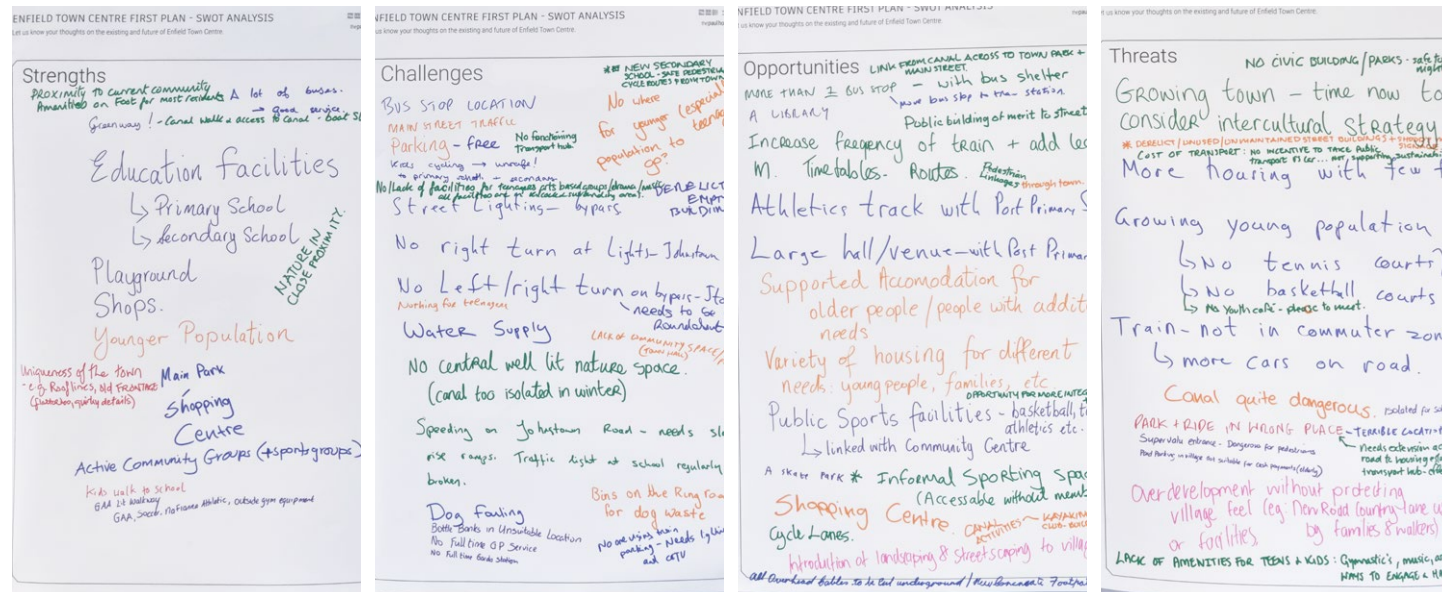
Town Team Workshops

The Town Centre First Plan was developed through 5 Town Team workshops and augmented by additional meetings. Facilitated by the consultant team and including the Meath County Council Town Regeneration Officer, the workshops were structured to ensure all members of the Town Team could participate in shaping the plan.

Workshop exercises include a reflection on the survey results and the exploration of the question - what makes a great town centre? Town team members were able to draw upon their knowledge and understanding of Enfield, while also discussing other places they have been to and experienced.

Another key activity undertaken by the Town Team was to jointly develop the Town Centre Vision, Aims and Draft Projects. This involved a shared reflection on priorities and the qualities of a future Enfield. The diversity of the Town Team helped to ensure many voices and perspectives were heard.

As the Draft Town Centre First Plan evolved with assistance from the The Paul Hogarth Company, the Town Team played a further crucial role in discussing and developing the proposals, before they were presented to the public in draft.



The Town Centre First Plan



The Town Centre First Plan is the outcome of the extensive participative process described thus far. The intention is to achieve a clear link between the views and aspirations of local people and the resultant proposals contained within the plan.

Inevitably differences of opinion will exist on some aspects the town centre development. Yet the Town Team was struck by a high degree of consistency in the views expressed by the public, which was further reflected through feedback on the draft Town Centre First Plan as it was presented.

The following page summarise the Vision, Aims and Projects of the Enfield Town Centre First Plan.



3 Town Centre First Plan

Vision and Aims

The Vision

It is vital to have a shared vision for the future of Enfield. This is an opportunity to ensure that everyone in the town works together towards the fulfilment of a common goal.

The following Vision Statement for Enfield was written collaboratively. It builds on the existing strengths of the town, while emphasising key priorities that emerged from the public. Any proposals for Enfield, whether in this plan or others, should seek to fulfil this ambition.

“Enfield will be the most attractive, vibrant, and green town, with welcoming spaces for everyone and making the most of excellent local and regional connectivity.”



The Aims

There are 5 aims of the Town Centre First Plan. These represent the priorities identified for Enfield in response to the town’s core characteristics, as well as its prevalent issues and opportunities. Every project within the Town Centre First Plan seeks to deliver on these aims, be it one, two or all of them together within the same proposal.

- Attractive** Buildings and spaces of the highest quality design and upkeep
- Vibrant** An active and supported community and flourishing economy
- Community** A friendly and safe place with accessible spaces for everyone
- Sustainable** A cleaner and far greener environment for people and nature
- Connected** A compact town for walking and cycling, while making the most of strong regional links



3 Town Centre First Plan

The Plan Components

The following pages illustrate 15 Town Centre Projects for Enfield organised by four thematic groupings. These vary in scale and character, but all seek to fulfill the vision and aims for the town.

MAIN STREET	
a	Main Street
b	The Square
c	The Bypass
d	Dublin Road
GREEN AND BLUE	
e	Green Enfield
f	The Canal
g	The Park
h	Smart Enfield
LINKAGES	
i	Bus and Train Network
j	The Station
k	The Town's Schools
l	Walk & Cycle Network
COMMUNITY	
m	Community Spaces
n	Enfield Art + Town Brand
o	Pop-up Enfield



Main Street

Main Street Projects

The projects on the next pages aim to enable vibrancy on the Main Street of Enfield Town Centre. The first two projects focus on Main Street - a vital thoroughfare for traffic, but more importantly, for people, cyclists, local businesses and the community. The next two projects seek to sustain the town centre, complement proposals for Main Street and address road safety issues concerning traffic.



3 TCF Plan: Main Street Projects

a | Main Street

Designing a Main Street that focuses on people; high quality, commercially vibrant, and safe for walking and cycling.

Main Street is the lifeblood of Enfield and it must therefore work as well as possible for everyone in the town. Commercially, Main Street is thriving with high occupancy rates; however, at present it is dominated by vehicles and unattractive in places. For example, the pavements suffer from clutter and issues surrounding accessibility.

This project would involve a comprehensive redesign of Main Street to increase space for pedestrians and cyclists while managing vehicular speeds and car parking. The design would consider traffic calming measures, safe pedestrian crossings and segregated cycling facilities. The safe design of these pedestrian spaces should be inclusive for people of all ages and abilities.

For vehicles, it would aim to encourage the use of the bypass and reduce through-traffic in the town centre. A redesign should also incorporate a parking strategy for the Town Centre with opportunities around prioritising parking spaces for vulnerable users.

The quality of the redesign should be inclusive and of the highest quality. This could include natural stone paving with consideration for accessibility, as well as seating and other street furniture. The environment should feel safe and pleasant through the use of street trees and better lighting. Overhead cables should also be buried beneath the ground. Delivered in phases, this project would also include a programme of frontage improvements, helping make shops and other Main Street buildings more attractive.



Main Street for People

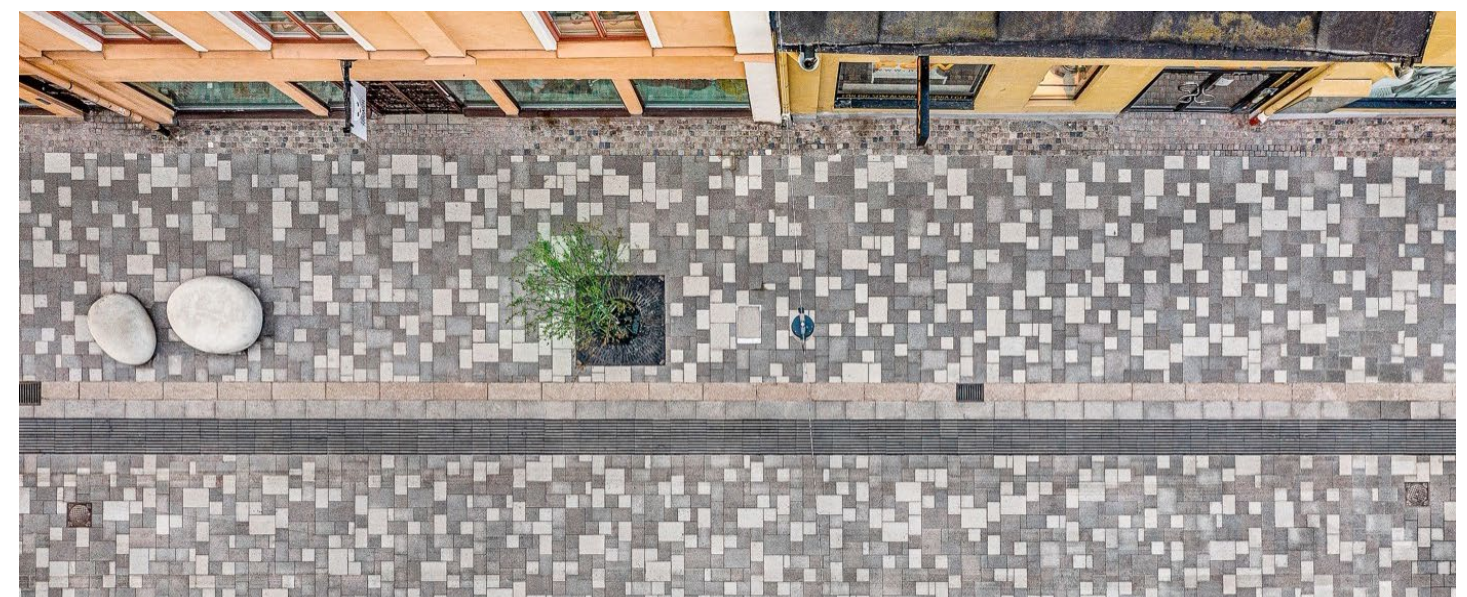
Main Street

While the project would involve major works, opportunities exist for temporary measures. Through tidy towns and other community groups, efforts are already ongoing towards greening Main Street with flowers, which can be supported and encouraged further. Similarly, reimagined parking bays can provide temporary spill-out spaces to bring more vibrancy to the centre. Finally, town events like Saint Patrick's Parade are good opportunities to explore how Main Street could be reimagined as a space for people instead of cars. For such events, the street could be closed to traffic occasionally. The combination of these actions and interventions would create a Main Street that further encourages the vibrancy and sense of community that exist in Enfield.



Project Actions

- i. Prepare public realm and streetscape scheme for phased delivery
- ii. Initiate frontage improvement programme
- iii. Organise short term pop up activities



3 TCF Plan: Main Street Projects

b | The Square

Creating welcoming civic spaces for events and everyday activities by looking at the role of the community hub area as a whole.

Enfield lacks a central civic space where the community can come together and events can take place, such as markets or small performances. With the moving of Enfield Community College to its new home, the opportunity exists for the local authority to develop this site in the vicinity of the Community Hub building.

A civic space in this location would cement the important role to be played by Enfield's Town Centre as the heart of the community. It would also generate additional footfall of benefit to local shops and hospitality outlets. The Town Centre First consultation event held outside the Community Hub in September 2023 served as an excellent pilot study in this regard.

A number of observations regarding the site should be taken into account when bringing forward a design. Firstly, road safety is of paramount importance, especially along the busy Main Street and supermarket car park, but also in the vicinity of the play area. A redesign would help to make sure this becomes a much safer place for children. Secondly, work is required to ensure that any development is safe and does not feel 'hidden around the back'. This could be countered by providing pedestrian links through the space to adjacent areas, while also giving consideration to small community buildings that present frontage and overlook the site.

As with all proposals contained within the Town Centre First Plan, a commitment to quality will be key. Civic spaces in this location must be designed, constructed and maintained to a high standard. Arrangements should also be put in place to ensure that the space is inclusive and well-programmed with events and activities to maximise its contribution to the town centre and local community.



- Key**
- Potential pedestrian link
 - Safer access to play area
 - Scope to rationalise vehicular access
 - Civic space to either side of Main Street
 - Opportunity for mixed use development comprising public realm, landscape, and community buildings



Main Street

As per the current County Development Plan (which was in place before the Town Centre First process), the Local Authority is preparing a proposal at the time of writing that includes improved access to the adjoining play area, the creation of a new public space onto Main Street and a public car park. It is vital for Enfield that the best possible solution is found for this valuable town centre site.

Through the Town Centre First process the Town Team has concluded that car parking does not present the optimum use for this site. It is acknowledged that commuter car parking does present an issue for Enfield Town Centre, but that the Town Team's preferred solution could be to make the most of existing car parks, to relocate the bus stop and to provide a designated commuter parking facility elsewhere in the town. This would then enable priority for publicly accessible space for use by the local community, with some limited parking provision for community hub users only.



Project Actions

- i. Co-design a site proposal with the local authority and professional support.
- ii. Bring forward a scheme, ensuring provisions for ongoing management.



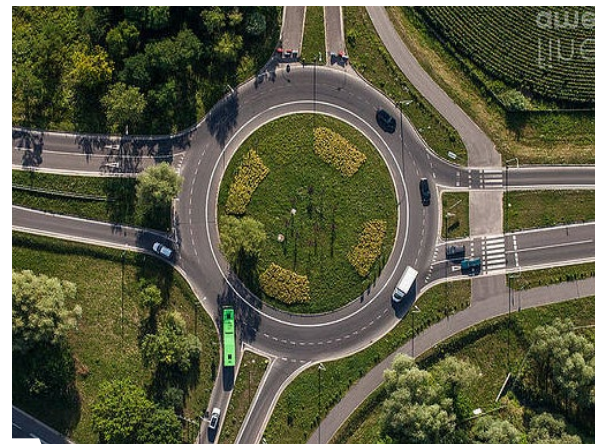
3 TCF Plan: Main Street Projects

c | The Bypass

Enhancing the bypass to improve its usage and reduce traffic congestion in the town centre.

Reducing traffic on Main Street would greatly help improve the vibrancy and safety of Enfield Town Centre. The bypass is a vital part of that, but is currently underutilised due to a number of reasons.

In the short term, the bypass will need to discourage traffic in the town centre through signage to promote the use of the bypass and the potential for traffic calming measures into town. Additionally, a new junction or roundabout at the Johnstown intersection should be explored to improve its use. In the longer term, the Town Centre First process also identified the opportunity for environmental improvements, including lighting to make the route more attractive and safer for pedestrians and cyclists. An amenity space adjacent to the bypass can be explored in collaboration with the development of new residential neighbourhoods that are planned for the area.



Project Actions

- i. Review and improve bypass signage
- ii. Introduce calming on alternative route
- iii. Bring forward environmental improvements
- iv. Advance detailed study for junction redesigns



Safe Pedestrian Crossings on Dublin Road

Main Street

d | Dublin Road

Improving the public realm with a focus on walking and cycling connections between the Town Centre and new developments.

Dublin Road is an important entrance into Enfield Town Centre for vehicular traffic. With the construction of the new school (with a capacity for <1000 students) and recent residential developments on the road, Dublin Road will also see an increase in people walking and cycling. Excellent connectivity between Dublin Road and Main Street will be critical to avoiding traffic generation.

As per the TCF process, this road should provide safe travel to vulnerable users and be exemplary in quality of the rest of the Town Centre. Given the width of Dublin Road, a redesign would allow the prioritisation of pedestrian and cycling movement through wider pavements and guarded cycling lanes. This should also include street trees and sustainable drainage interventions. Traffic calming measures should be utilised to encourage the use of the bypass for vehicular traffic.



Project Actions

- i. Develop a cohesive Dublin Road scheme with a focus on safe active travel
- ii. Delivery in phases as appropriate
- iii. Promote walking, cycling and bus use

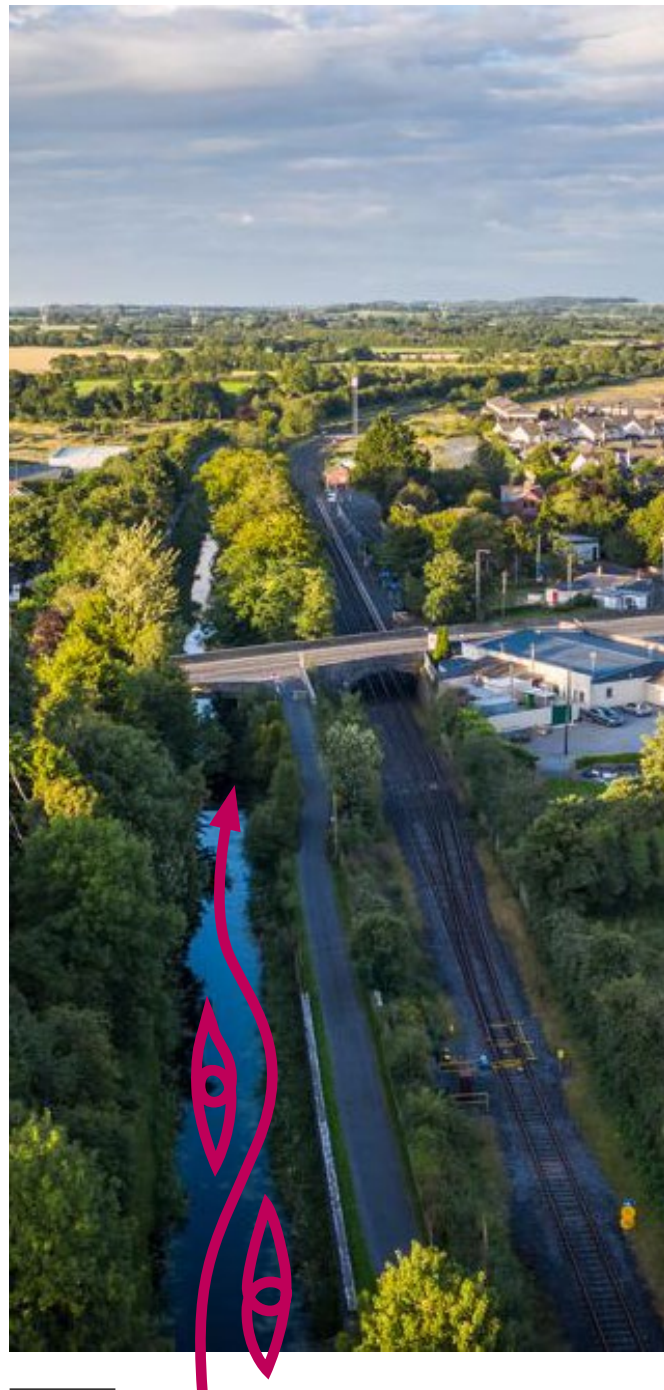


Cycling Network in Enfield

3 TCF Plan: Green and Blue Projects

Green and Blue Projects

The projects on these pages relate to Enfield's Green and Blue future. They focus on green infrastructure, amenity and recreational space, and sustainable initiatives.



Green and Blue

e | Green Enfield

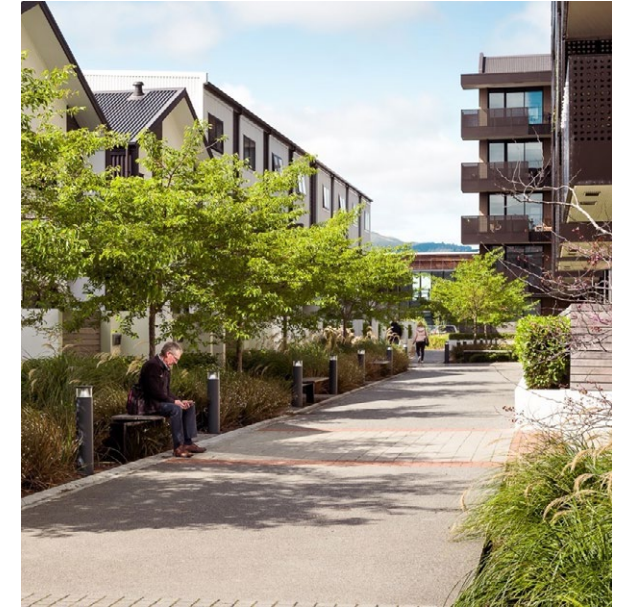
Making Enfield greener through increased planting of trees, better ecological habitats and Sustainable Urban Drainage.

The Town Centre First process identified a desire from the community for Enfield to be greener. Encouragingly, Enfield is already a place with several green spaces in its residential neighbourhoods, but they often don't fulfil their potential as spaces for communities and wildlife. Locals have the opportunity to reconsider the use of their grassy areas. There might be a number of small interventions that increase biodiversity, or create space for recreation and community gardens. Perhaps some provide the opportunity for safe and natural play areas. Enfield would also benefit from the planting of more street trees that would not only improve appearance and natural habitat, but also contribute to traffic calming.

In addition to small interventions, a more holistic approach can be taken through the creation of a Greening Strategy that looks at introducing sustainable urban drainage and wildlife protection in new and existing areas. All interventions should be based on ecological advice to maximise the contribution they can make.

Project Actions

- i. Require interconnected green infrastructure in new developments
- ii. Instigate site specific community projects
- iii. Explore viability of SUDs and new street trees



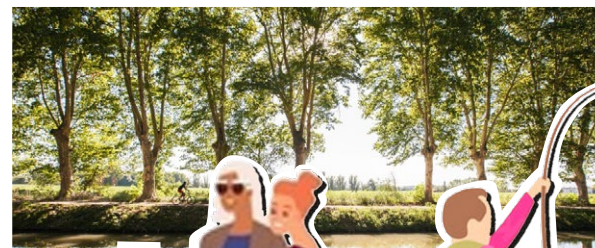
3 TCF Plan: Green and Blue Projects

f | The Canal

Encouraging use of this blue asset with improved recreation opportunities, wayfinding, lighting, animation and a new pedestrian bridge and cycle bridge.

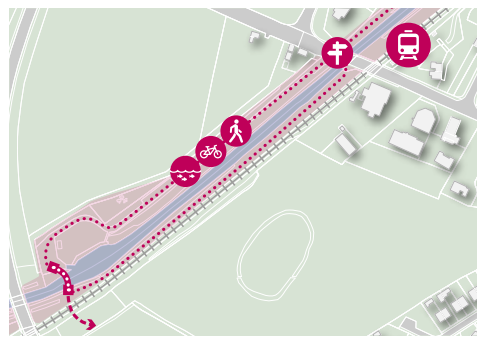
The Royal Canal is a major asset for Enfield as a space for locals and visitors alike. Locally, it has great qualities by being a car-free space with the Fairy Trail and the new facilities at the harbour, and regionally it has the potential to bring in visitors as part of a larger network.

A series of interventions that look at the canal could improve its benefit to the town. These should focus on increasing a sense of safety and a point of arrival for visitors. This could be achieved through high-quality signage and lighting. A particular intervention that was identified in the Town Centre First process is the opportunity for a pedestrian and cycle bridge across the canal, which would create a looped walk at this blue asset. The Canal can be further animated through initiatives around water-based clubs, activities, and events for all ages.



Project Actions

- i. Enhance canal signage and lighting
- ii. Develop a pedestrian and cycle bridge and connections
- iii. Increase canal based activities and promote usage locally and further afield



- Key**
- Signed Arrival Point
 - Connections with Train Station
 - Space for Recreation
 - Potential Location for Pedestrian and Cycling Bridge(s)



Activities on the Royal Canal

Green and Blue

g | The Park

Linking the Town Centre and Canal with a new Town Park. This should include areas for active and passive recreation for all ages, as well as heritage and wildlife interpretation.

As part of Enfield's green future, the opportunity exists for a town park in proximity to the Royal Canal. An area of land, including a national monument mound site, is zoned for this purpose in the County Development Plan. Although other areas may also be suitable.

In discussion with landowners, this green space must be of the highest design quality. The park should include informal sports facilities, dogwalking areas, rewilding, artwork, and interpretation of the archeological remains on the site.

A sense of safety for all users is important in green spaces, which should be achieved through the development of adjacent housing overlooking the space at all times of the day. This new park would bring significant benefits to existing and future residents while also being an attraction to visitors using the canal.



Project Actions

- i. Secure land for a town park development
- ii. Codesign park with input from local groups and young people, informed by surveys
- iii. Advance scheme and management provisions



Space for Recreational Walks

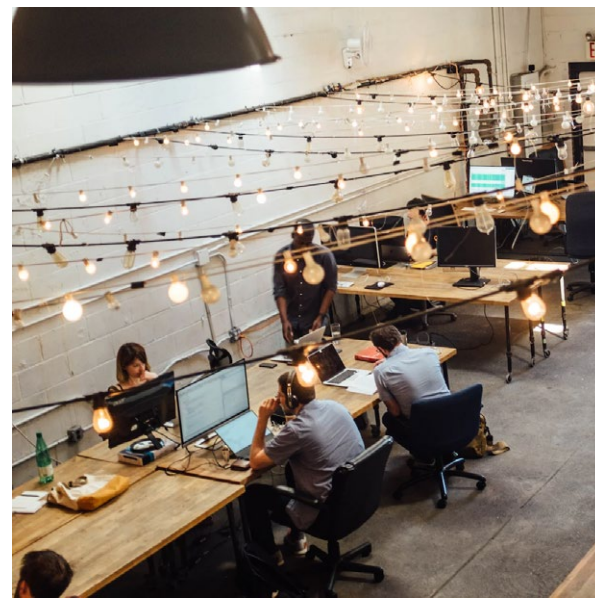
3 TCF Plan: Green and Blue Projects

h | Smart Enfield

Futureproofing the town through its digital and green energy infrastructure, including increased Wi-Fi and community energy initiatives.

Decarbonising Enfield’s energy systems will take many years to achieve and require national and regional action. However, efforts should be made locally to bring forward community initiatives where possible, especially for new developments, but also for existing homes and businesses. This will include the introduction of renewable energy in the form of solar, wind, and ground source heat as appropriate, as well as improved home insulation, bringing economic as well as environmental benefits to the population.

Meanwhile, the digital connectivity of Enfield should be further enhanced by addressing some of its weaknesses as identified/outlined in the recent digital blue print report undertaken for the town. In addition to achieving higher broadband speeds, free Town Centre WiFi and remote working hubs. Local education and awareness campaigns should also help residents and businesses maximise benefits.



Project Actions

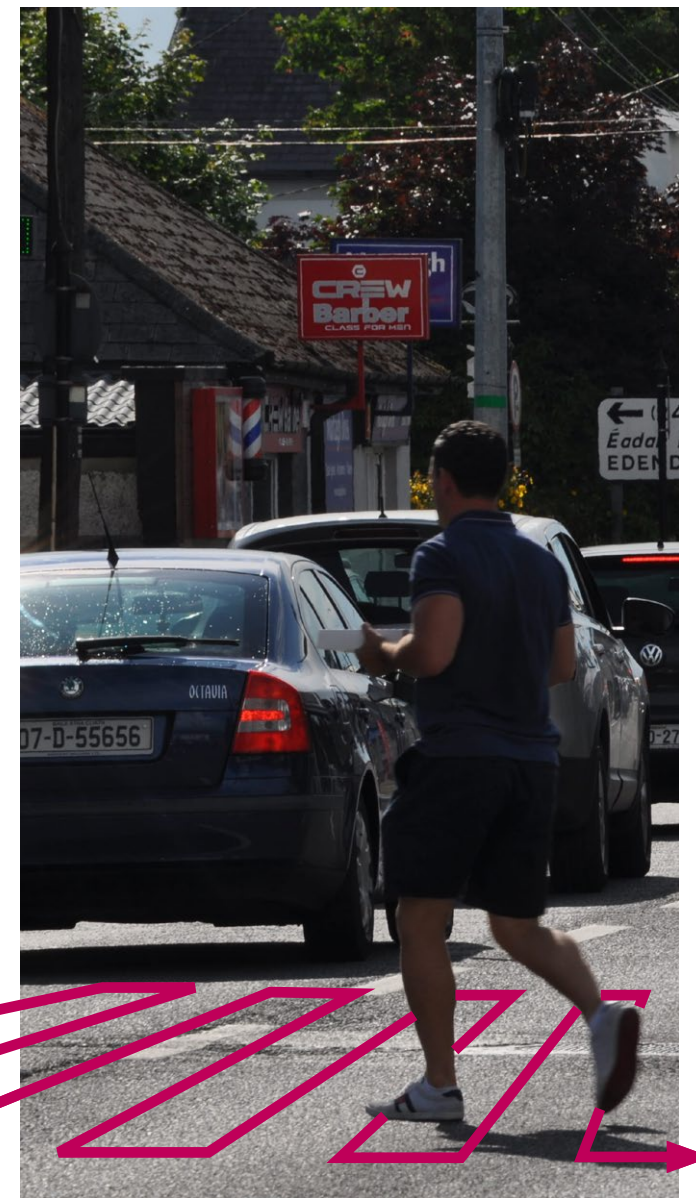
- i. Engage with locally available support programmes on Sustainable Energy and Digital Connectivity, raising awareness
- ii. Identify specific actions for Enfield



Linkages

Linkage Projects

The four projects on these pages aim to make the most of Enfield’s good connectivity, ensuring that everyone (be they residents, commuters or tourists) are encouraged to move through the town on foot and bicycle as much as possible. They also aim to make the most of two key assets the train station town’s schools (and preschools).



3 TCF Plan: Linkage Projects

i | Bus and Train Network

Improving access to public transport, through additional bus stop locations, public transport frequency, and where possible, costs.

Enfield has the opportunity to make better use of its local and regional connections. It is already uniquely well-connected with a train and bus network, connections to the motorway, and the canal. However, the TCF process has highlighted the potential for increased public transport usage in the town.

A key consideration for Enfield is the location of bus stops. At present the one bus stop on Main Street generates traffic and parking problems. Engagement with the operator should therefore explore the possibility of moving and/or adding new stops, potentially serving the train station and a designated park and ride area in proximity to the school and/or on other suitable sites identified within the curtilage of the town extents.

In addition, through engagement with Irish Rail, a process is required to address local disincentives to rail travel, including the costs of tickets and parking.



Project Actions

- i. Engage positively with bus and rail service providers to identify shared issues and solutions
- ii. Promote local public transport use



Combining Modes of Transport

Linkages

j | The Station

Creating a more welcoming, safe, and user-friendly Transport Hub at the station through environmental improvements, while making better use of the available space.

Enfield Train Station is currently somewhat hidden at the edge of the Town Centre and underused by local people. This location should be redesigned as a multi-modal transport hub that offers a comfortable arrival into the town centre along the transport corridor.

Such a hub should feature high quality materials and spaces with shelter, as well as better lighting, making it feel much safer after dark. There is also the opportunity for a cafe or other buildings to add animation and overlook the space. With the addition of a new bus stop and bike hire on site the transport hub could facilitate connections between modes of transport. In addition, its adjacent carpark would benefit from further promotion as a more affordable alternative for commuters.



Project Actions

- i. Develop a site development plan with Irish Rail and other partners
- ii. Identify 'quick wins' for short term impact
- iii. Deliver improvements on a phased basis



Facilities at the Train Station

3 TCF Plan: Linkage Projects

k | The Town's Schools

Prioritising safe access to both schools, the preschools and the creche through traffic calming and a focus on walking and cycling.

With Enfield's young population and the schools and preschools spread across the town, it is important that the town's infrastructure focus on the safety of its vulnerable users. A safe walking and cycling route to school encourages kids to be active and independent.

Whilst the Town Centre First Plan identifies that Enfield can be a walking and cycling town in general, these routes from residential neighbourhoods to schools are vitally important first and foremost.

Interventions under this project include increased traffic calming, segregated cycle lanes, and safe pedestrian crossings and signage at the schools, with the design focusing on visibility and overview. This should be accompanied by awareness campaigns and education around cycle proficiency and safe travel for all users.



- ### Project Actions
- i. Prepare Road Safety Audit for school areas
 - ii. Develop site specific traffic calming, pedestrian safety and active travel measures
 - iii. Educate and promote walking and cycling



Linkages

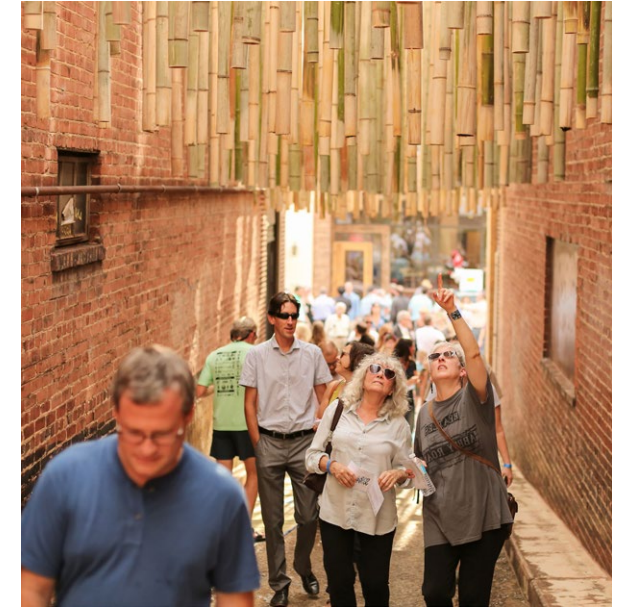
T | Walk & Cycle Network

Capitalising on Enfield's compact layout by creating better connections for walking and cycling throughout, including more routes between the centre and residential areas.

Enfield's compact layout and flat topography lend themselves well to a place where people walk and cycle. However, road safety concerns and a lack of infrastructure prevent residents from capitalising on these opportunities, leading to the car being used for short journeys.

Existing routes should be well mapped, signed and promoted. Specific opportunities to create direct pedestrian links between the town centre and residential areas must be found. More broadly, this project should involve redesigning road layouts to incorporate wide footpaths and segregated cycling lanes. Ultimately, this should create a accessible walking and cycling network separate from the car, making it safer, healthier, and convenient.

- ### Project Actions
- i. Map, sign and promote existing walk & cycle routes
 - ii. Identify new connections to the town centre
 - iii. Grow a safe town-wide network



3 TCF Plan: Community Projects

Community Projects

The three projects on these pages aim to inject more life and vitality into Enfield. Many of these are suited to smaller, less expensive projects that can take place in the shorter term.



Community

m | Community Spaces

Working to coordinate and enhance access to community spaces for all the community, including the Community Hall and schools.

Enfield needs spaces, both indoor and outdoor, for its vibrant community to thrive. These are places for meetings, events, and activities of various sizes to take place that are inclusive, welcoming, and accessible to all, including children and young people.

Firstly, enhancing access to existing town facilities should be a priority so that their use is fully maximised. (e.g. community hub, schools, and clubs). This may require resources and support, including staffing and insurance. Secondly, current projects such as the Community Hall must be progressed, ensuring the complementarity of function with other spaces. Finally, new projects that fulfil identified gaps should be brought forward, including the civic spaces featured in this plan.

Project Actions

- i. Maximise access and use of existing spaces
- ii. Progress Community Hall and other existing projects
- iii. Identify gaps in provision for targeted action



3 TCF Plan: Community Projects

Community

n | Enfield Art + Town Brand

Sharing Enfield's stories through art initiatives, sculptures and developing the Enfield Brand.

Enfield has an interesting history and story to tell as a place of passage, including the canal and turnpike road. It is also a vibrant modern-day community, with many newcomers to the town. This project is about exploring that identity as a community and sharing it with each other and visitors through creative endeavours.

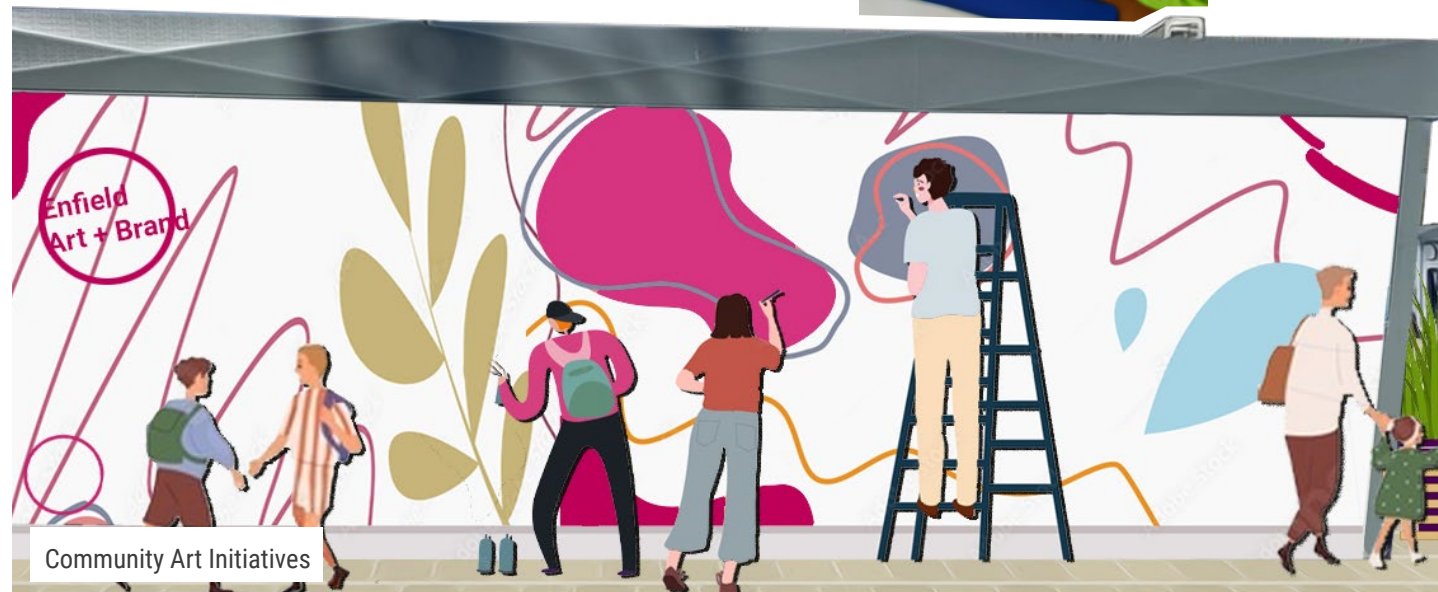
The development of the Town Brand is much more than just designing a logo. It is an opportunity to establish what makes Enfield unique and to develop effective ways by which that can be communicated. Unique gateway sculptures on the town's roundabouts for example, would help reinforce Enfield's identity, encourage consideration of its history and create a warm welcome to all.

Countless other opportunities exist for temporary and permanent artworks in Enfield that bring the community together from all walks of life.



Project Actions

- i. Develop the Enfield Town Brand
- ii. Commission gateway sculptures
- iii. Initiate local artistic interventions in Enfield



Community Art Initiatives

o | Pop-up Enfield

Energising Enfield through more temporary pop-up activities and coordinated community events, both large and small.

While many of the Town Centre First infrastructure projects will require time and resources to bring to fruition, there are opportunities to enliven the town centre and bring the community together in the short term. These should build on the skills and experience of local groups while welcoming new energies and collaborations.

The concept of 'pop-up' activities is useful in this regard, allowing the opportunity to pilot town centre interventions. For example, thematic market days could help inject footfall onto Main Street and surrounding spaces. Pop-play opportunities could bring families into the town centre. Urban sports exhibitions could encourage young people to engage and interact. Consideration may also be given to a larger annual event that brings everyone together in celebration of the town.



Project Actions

- i. Coordinate and publicise events and activities into a town centre programme
- ii. Identify new opportunities and pilot initiatives



Using Temporary Spaces

3 Town Centre First Plan

The Town Centre First Plan

The Enfield Town Centre Plan comprises 15 headline projects, alongside which multiple actions are identified for development and delivery. While these vary greatly in scale and complexity, all projects are designed to complement one another in the fulfilment of the vision set out for Enfield and its town centre.

A plan is provided on the adjacent page that shows the spatial distribution of the Town Centre First projects. Some, such as Main Street and the Square, relate to clearly defined locations, while other projects apply more generally to the town as a whole. It is key, however, that these projects are carefully coordinated with one another to reduce the risk of oversights and increase positive, cumulative impacts.

The Town Centre First Plan should not be viewed as a static blueprint, but rather as a live framework for the ongoing rejuvenation of the town centre. This means that the plan, and specifically the Action Plan should be regularly monitored, reviewed, and updated. This allows a response to be made to new opportunities as they arise (such as funding streams, new planning policies and new developments) and for progress to be documented.

A key function of the Town Centre First Plan is to attract funding and investment. At the time of writing, the most likely sources of projects' funding include the Rural Regeneration Fund, Town and Village Renewal Scheme, and LEADER Funding. Many other opportunities will arise from other sources, including Meath County Council, government agencies, and departments. Themes such as Active Travel, Heritage Restoration, Digital Connectivity, and Biodiversity will have most relevance to specific projects in this plan. It will therefore be important to continuously monitor such opportunities and to mobilise quickly in response. Furthermore, consideration should be given to potential sources of private and philanthropic funding, as well as the possibility of local fundraising.

Larger projects will likely require funding at different stages of their development and for phased delivery. For example, Main Street will require an initial outlay to develop the project with the involvement of a full design team and planning approval, before funding of the delivery of capital works is secured.

A fundamental aspect of any proposed developments in Enfield must be a commitment to quality. Funding should not be spread thinly, but allocated to quality investments in the future of the town. This will require excellent standards in design and planning, construction and workmanship, and in the management and maintenance of the town centre.

TOWN CENTRE FIRST PROJECTS

MAIN STREET

- a** Main Street
- b** The Square
- c** The Bypass
- d** Dublin Road

GREEN AND BLUE

- e** Green Enfield
- f** The Canal
- g** The Park
- h** Smart Enfield

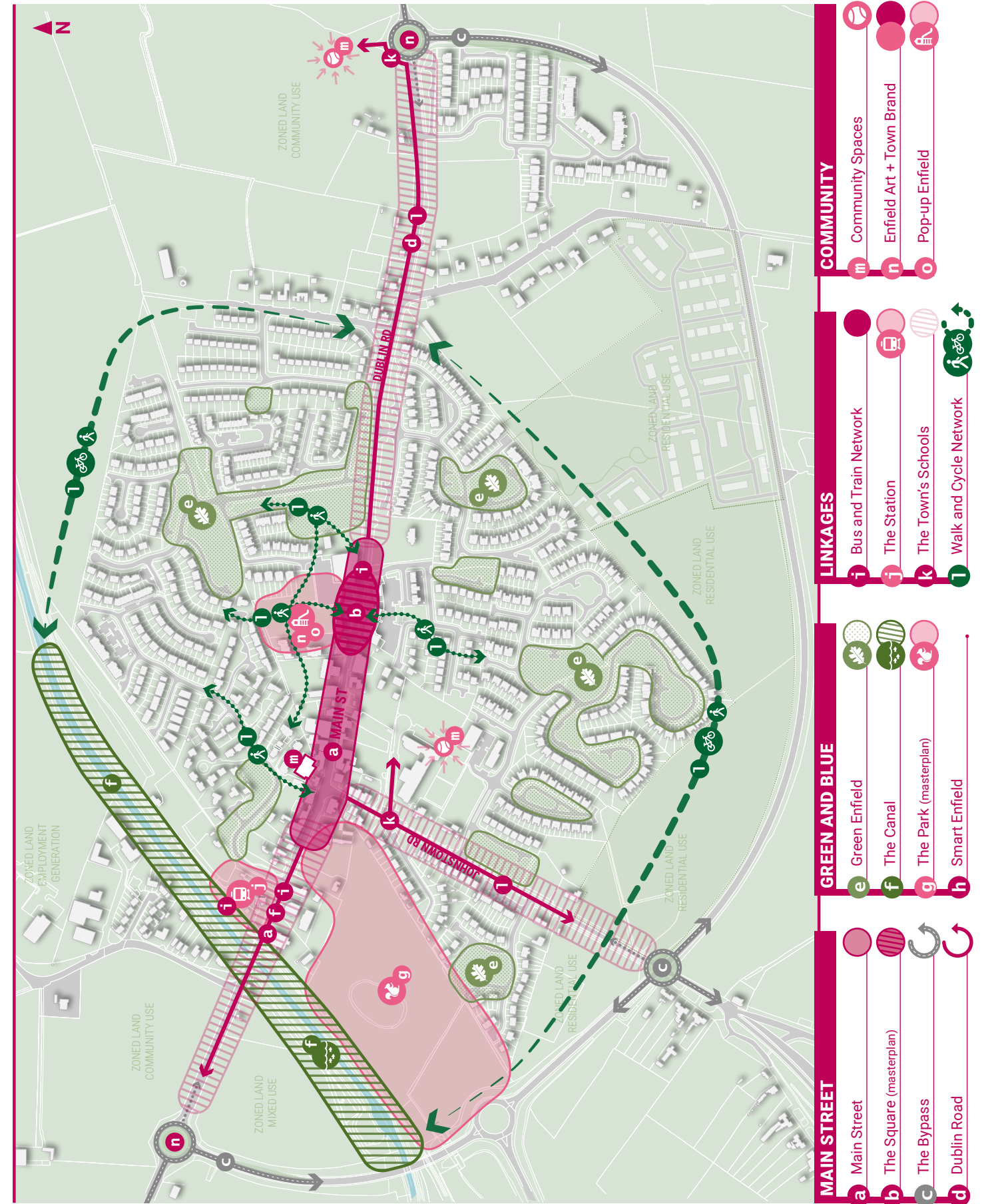
LINKAGES

- i** Bus and Train Network
- j** The Station
- k** The Town's Schools
- l** Walk & Cycle Network

COMMUNITY

- m** Community Spaces
- n** Enfield Art + Town Brand
- o** Pop-up Enfield

TCF Plan



3 TCF Plan: Action Plan

Action Plan and Prioritisation

The Action Plan should be regularly reviewed and updated at regular intervals by the Town Team and its partners, most notably Meath County Council. An initial indication of priority is noted on the table which may change going forward. Any new projects that emerge should be checked for alignment and complementarity with the Town Centre First Plan before being added to the Action Plan.

Communication and Collaboration

Delivery of projects will be very much a team effort involving many stakeholders from the town and further afield. Some key partners are identified on the table below. Key to the success will be the continuation of a collaborative ethos with the people of Enfield, requiring clear and regular communication and ensuring opportunities for genuine participation and co-design.

TOWN CENTRE FIRST PROJECTS		Potential PRIORITIES	Potential BUDGET	Potential PROJECT PARTNERS
MAIN STREET				
a	Main Street	very high	€€€€	MCC Roads, Businesses
b	The Square	high	€€€	MCC Comm, Library, Parks
c	The Bypass	high	€€	MCC Roads
d	Dublin Road	very high	€€	MCC Roads & Active Travel
GREEN AND BLUE				
e	Green Enfield	medium	€	MCC Parks, Tidy Towns
f	The Canal	high	€€€	Waterways Ireland
g	The Park	medium	€€€€	MCC Parks, Tidy Towns
h	Smart Enfield	medium	€€	MCC Economic Development
LINKAGES				
i	Bus and Train Network	high	€€	NTA, Bus Eireann, Irish Rail
j	The Station	medium	€€€	Irish Rail, Bus Operators
k	The Town's Schools	high	€€	Schools, MCC Roads & Active Travel
l	Walk & Cycle Network	medium	€€€	MCC Active Travel
COMMUNITY				
m	Community Spaces	very high	€€	Community Groups
n	Enfield Art + Town Brand	medium	€€	Community Groups
o	Pop-up Enfield	high	€	Community Groups & Businesses

TCF Plan

Overview of Project Actions

<p>a. 'Main Street' POTENTIAL PROJECT ACTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Prepare public realm and streetscape scheme for phased delivery ii. Initiate frontage improvement programme iii. Organise short term pop up activities 	<p>f. 'The Canal' POTENTIAL PROJECT ACTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Enhance canal signage and lighting ii. Develop a pedestrian and cycle bridge and connections iii. Increase canal based activities and promote usage locally and further afield 	<p>k. 'The Town's Schools' POTENTIAL PROJECT ACTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Prepare Road Safety Audit for school areas ii. Develop site specific traffic calming, pedestrian safety and active travel measures iii. Educate and promote walking and cycling
<p>b. 'The Square' POTENTIAL PROJECT ACTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Co-design a site proposal with the local authority and professional support. ii. Bring forward a scheme, ensuring provisions for ongoing management. 	<p>g. 'The Park' POTENTIAL PROJECT ACTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Secure land for a town park development ii. Codesign park with input from local groups and young people, informed by surveys iii. Advance scheme and management provisions 	<p>l. 'Walk & Cycle Network' POTENTIAL PROJECT ACTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Map, sign and promote existing walk & cycle routes ii. Identify new connections to the town centre iii. Grow a safe town-wide network
<p>c. 'The Bypass' POTENTIAL PROJECT ACTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Review and improve bypass signage ii. Introduce calming on alternative route iii. Bring forward environmental improvements iv. Advance detailed study for junction redesigns 	<p>h. 'Smart Enfield' Actions POTENTIAL PROJECT ACTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Engage with locally available support programmes on Sustainable Energy and Digital Connectivity, raising awareness ii. Identify specific actions for Enfield 	<p>m. 'Community Spaces' POTENTIAL PROJECT ACTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Maximise access and use of existing spaces ii. Progress Community Hall and other existing projects iii. Identify gaps in provision for targetted action
<p>d. 'Dublin Road' POTENTIAL PROJECT ACTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Develop a Dublin Road scheme to incorporate all elements in a cohesive project ii. Delivery in phases as appropriate iii. Promote walking, cycling and bus use 	<p>i. 'Bus and Train Network' POTENTIAL PROJECT ACTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Engage positively with bus and rail service providers to identify shared issues and solutions ii. Promote local public transport use 	<p>n. 'Enfield Art + Brand' POTENTIAL PROJECT ACTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Develop the Enfield Town Brand ii. Commission gateway sculptures iii. Initiate local artistic interventions
<p>e. 'Green Enfield' POTENTIAL PROJECT ACTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Require interconnected green infrastructure in new developments ii. Instigate site specific community projects iii. Explore viability of SUDs and new street trees 	<p>j. 'The Station' POTENTIAL PROJECT ACTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Develop a site development plan with Irish Rail and other partners ii. Identify 'quick wins' for short term impact iii. Deliver improvements on a phased basis 	<p>o. 'Pop-up Enfield' POTENTIAL PROJECT ACTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Coordinate and publicise events and activities into a town centre programme ii. Identify new opportunities and pilot initiatives

4 Conclusion

Conclusion

This Town Centre First Plan set outs an exciting vision for the future of Enfield and presents a series of projects for delivery over the short, medium and longer terms. It has been developed through an extensive process of engagement with people from across the town to whom everyone involved with the project is truly grateful.

The stage is now set for the delivery of this vision and working together to realise the full potential of Enfield.



Appendix

The TCF document is supported by a big body of work to understand the current context of Enfield, the community's needs and desires for the future, and the national context within which the plan sits.

The following appendices give more insight into some the work that's been done to ensure that the TCF plan, projects and proposals are reflective of Enfield and its community.



a Appendix: Town Team

Town Team

Members of the Enfield Town Team, May 2023

- **Tom Curran** - Enfield GAA
- **Shane Foley** - Education
- **Rory Hannon** - Business
- **Vera Kelly** - Tidy Towns
- **Angela Smith** - Enfield Development Group
- **John O Lone** - Residents
- **Alison Walsh** - Disability Rep
- **Michael Daly** - Development
- **Frank Hughes** - Urban Design
- **Aisling Tormey** - Engineering
- **Laura Anne Daly** - Macra Na Feirme
- **Darragh Potteron** - Comhairle na nOg
- **Cllr Ronan Moore** - Councillor
- **Cllr Niamh Souhan** - Councillor

Member of the Enfield Support/Pillar Group

- **Joe Morris** - Enfield Development Group
- **Andrea Garrad** - Residents
- **Ken Mitchell** - Engineering
- **Niamh Flynn** - Youth
- **Edward Carey** - Business
- **Brian O' Donoghue** - Tidy Towns



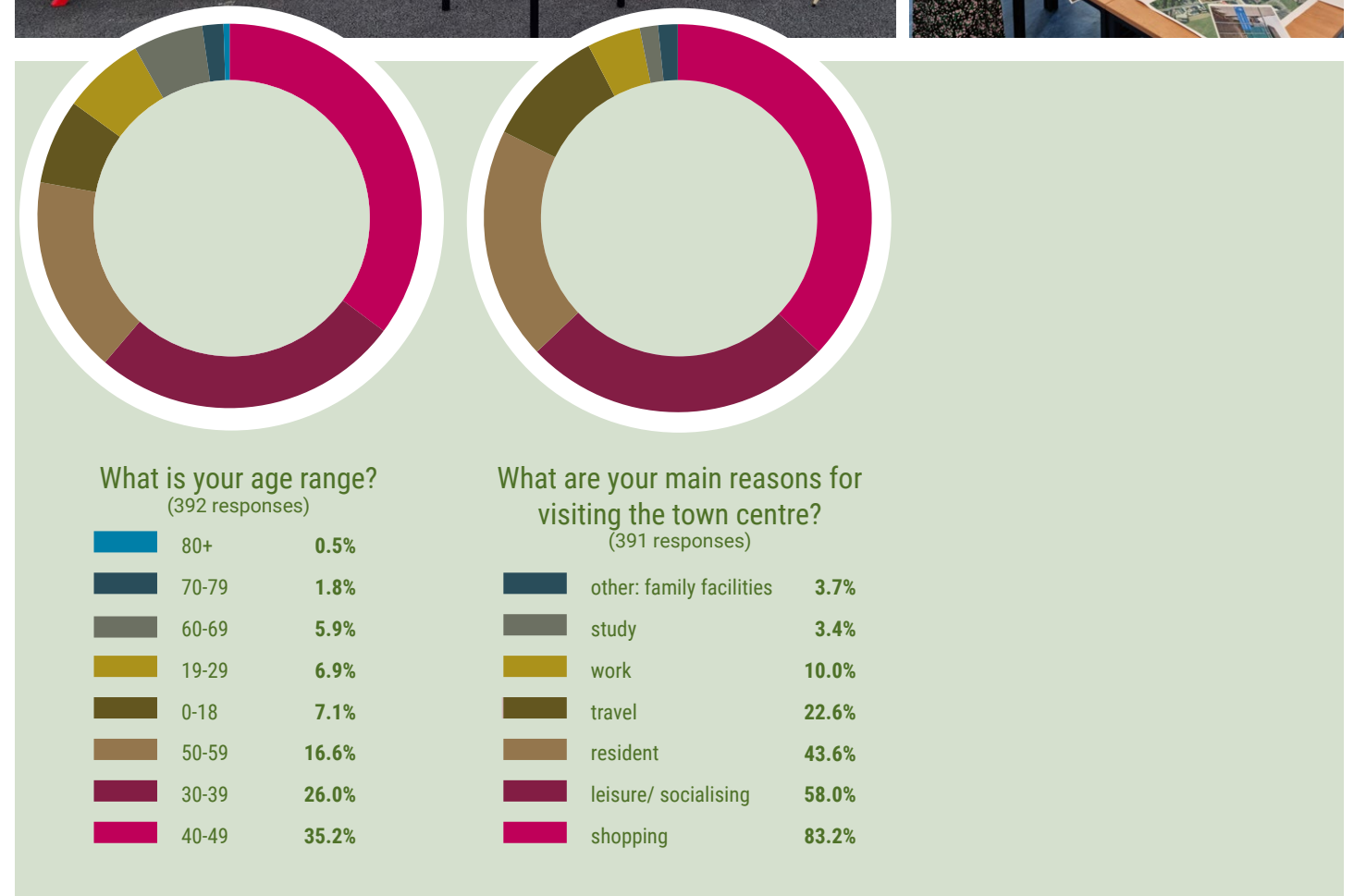
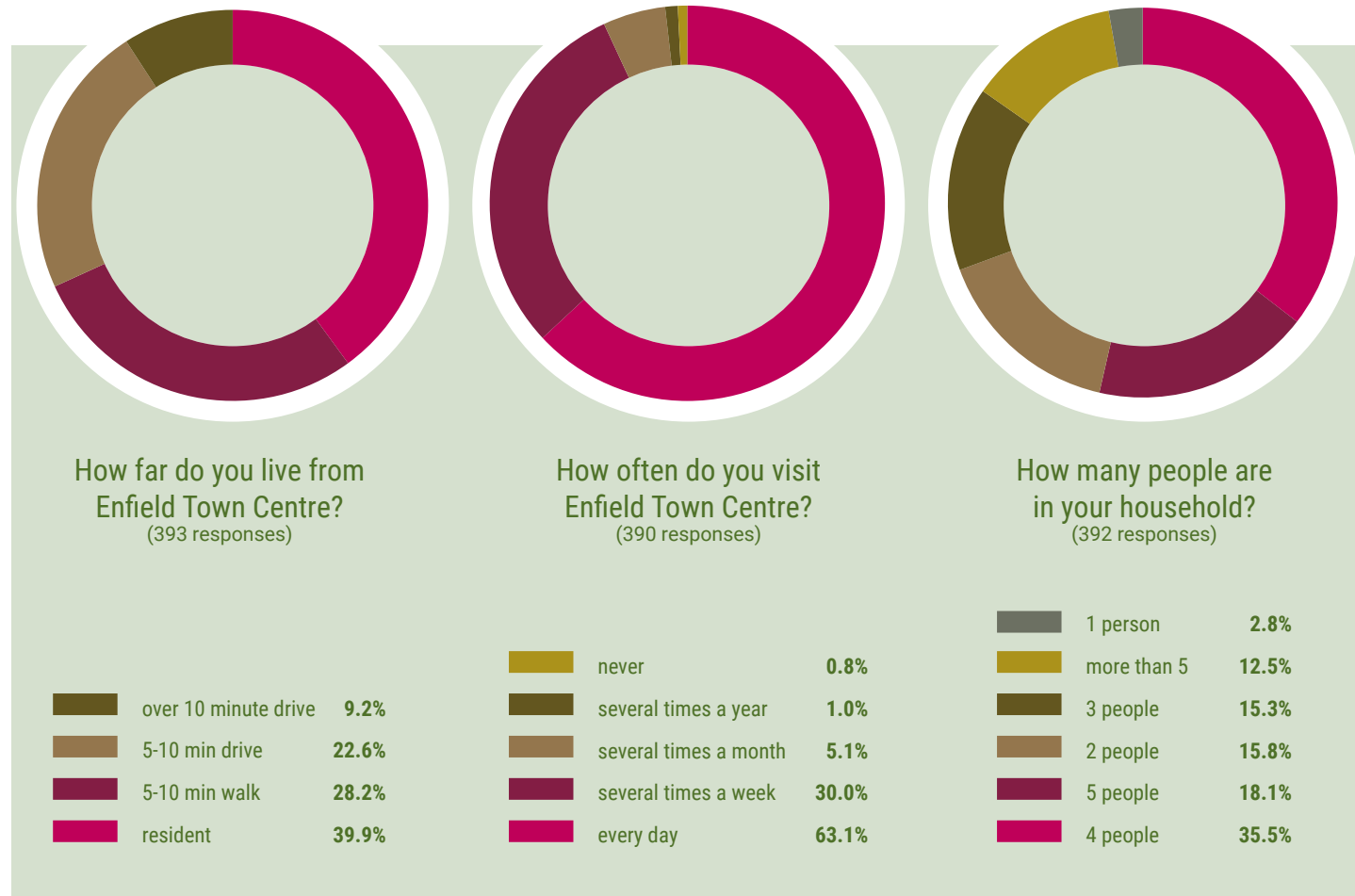
b Appendix: First Consultation

Consultation Process

As per the main document, the first consultation gathered insight into resident's thought and wants for Enfield Town Centre. The consultation ran over several weeks in the summer of 2022, during which an online survey was available and an in-person event was held. The following pages present the survey results for the questions asked.

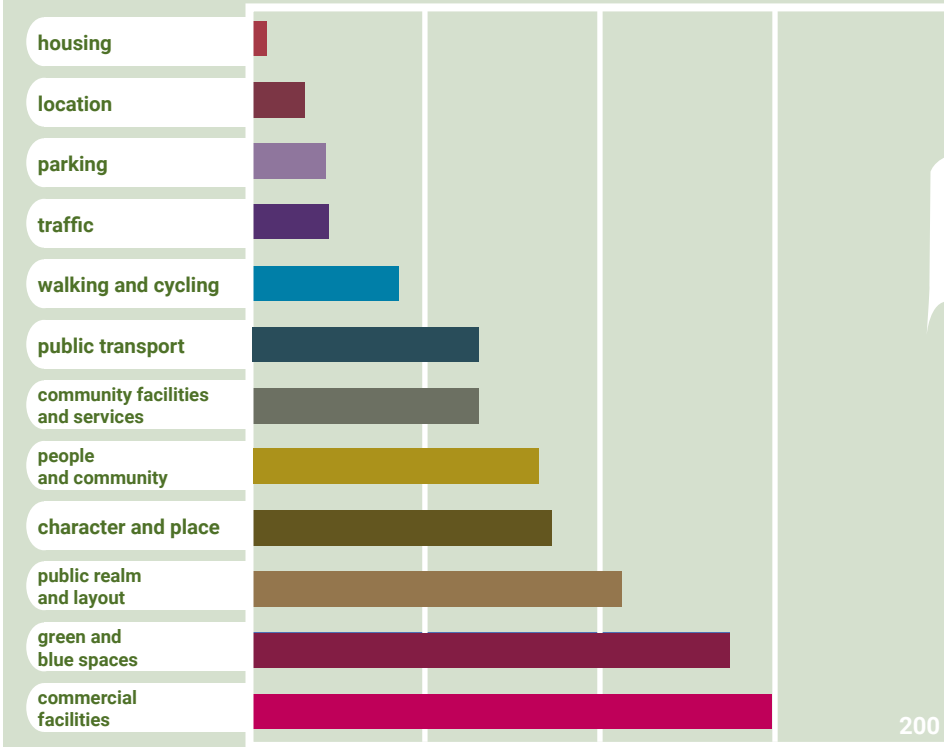
The findings based on the first consultation are the basis of the TCF Plan and can be referred to at *Section 2: What the Community Says...*

First Consultation



b Appendix: First Consultation

What three things do you ***like*** most about Enfield Town Centre? (372 responses)



Wide street with parking.

Village is small with a visible start and end point

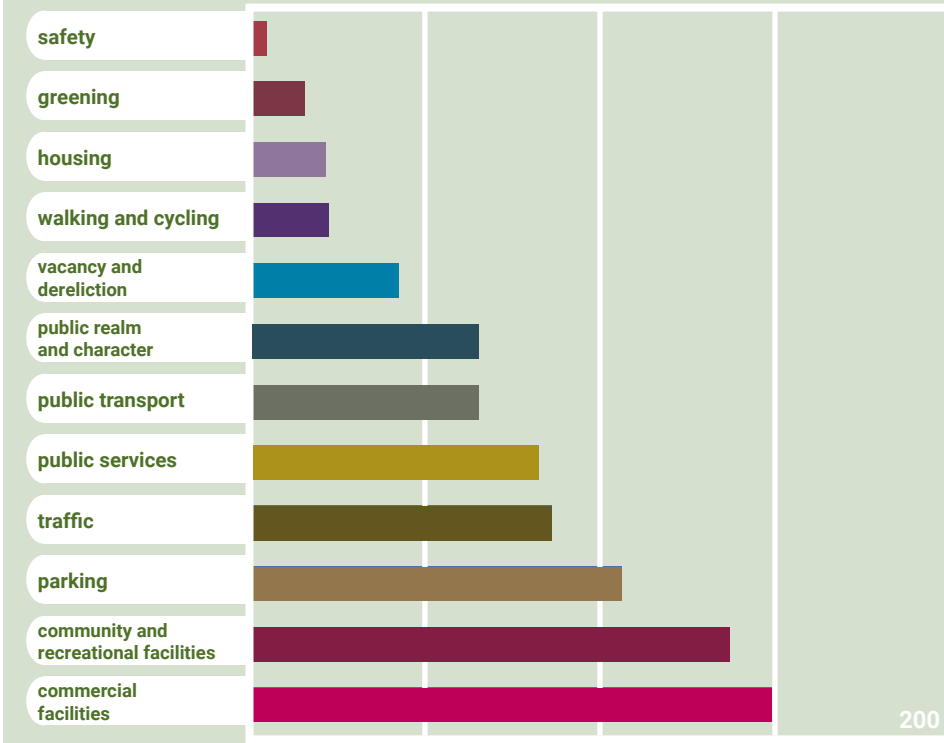
The variety of shops, the playground for the children and the transport system (train and bus).

Cleanliness thanks to the tidy towns, planters with flowers along the street and the canal amenities.

Good shops, good pubs, friendly people.

The people. The greenway. The potential.

What three things do you ***dislike*** most about Enfield Town Centre? (377 responses)



Lack of restaurants, lack of space for more local businesses or start-ups, No remote working hub.

Nowhere for teenagers to go, no community hall, can't cycle safely

Too many houses being built

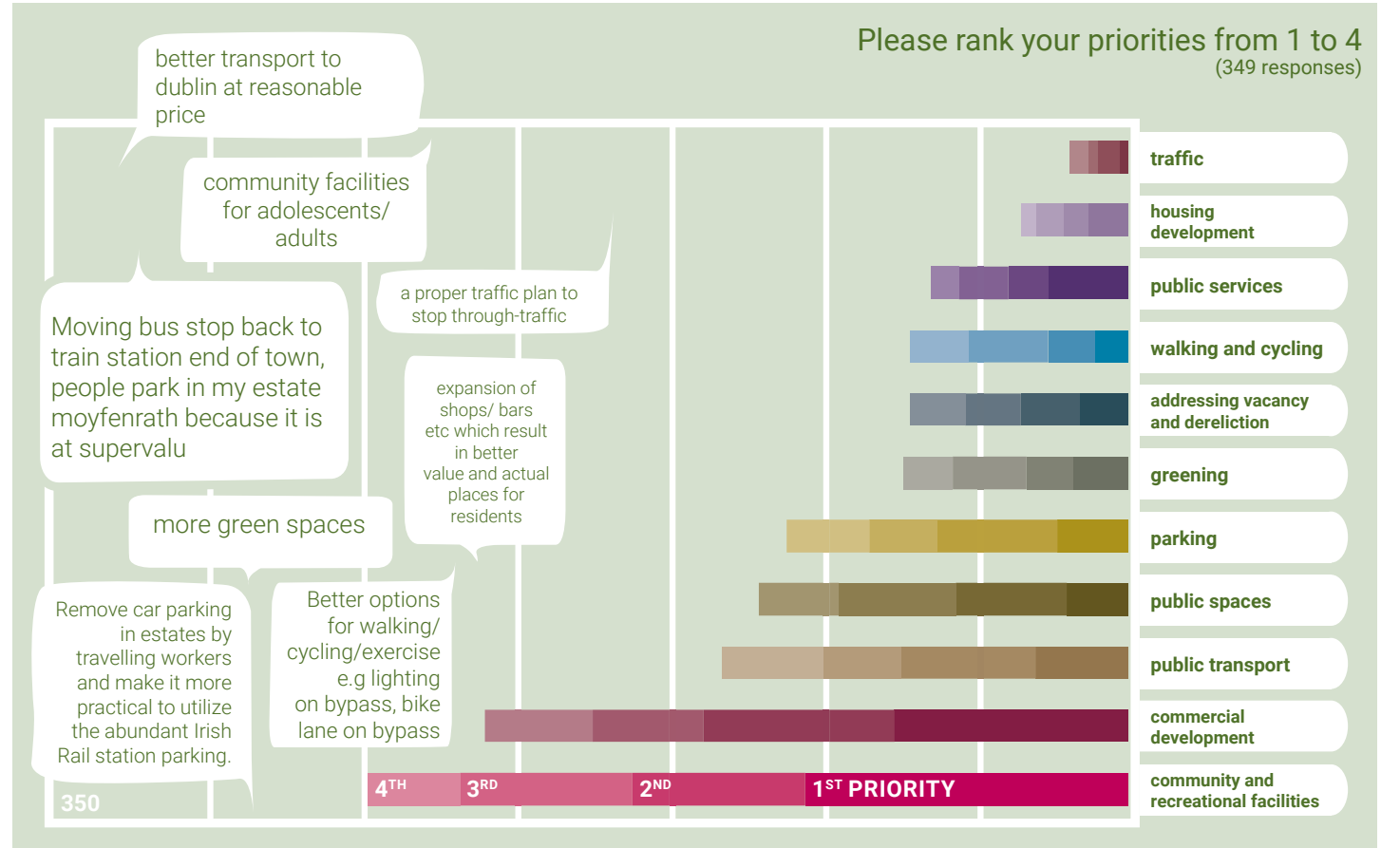
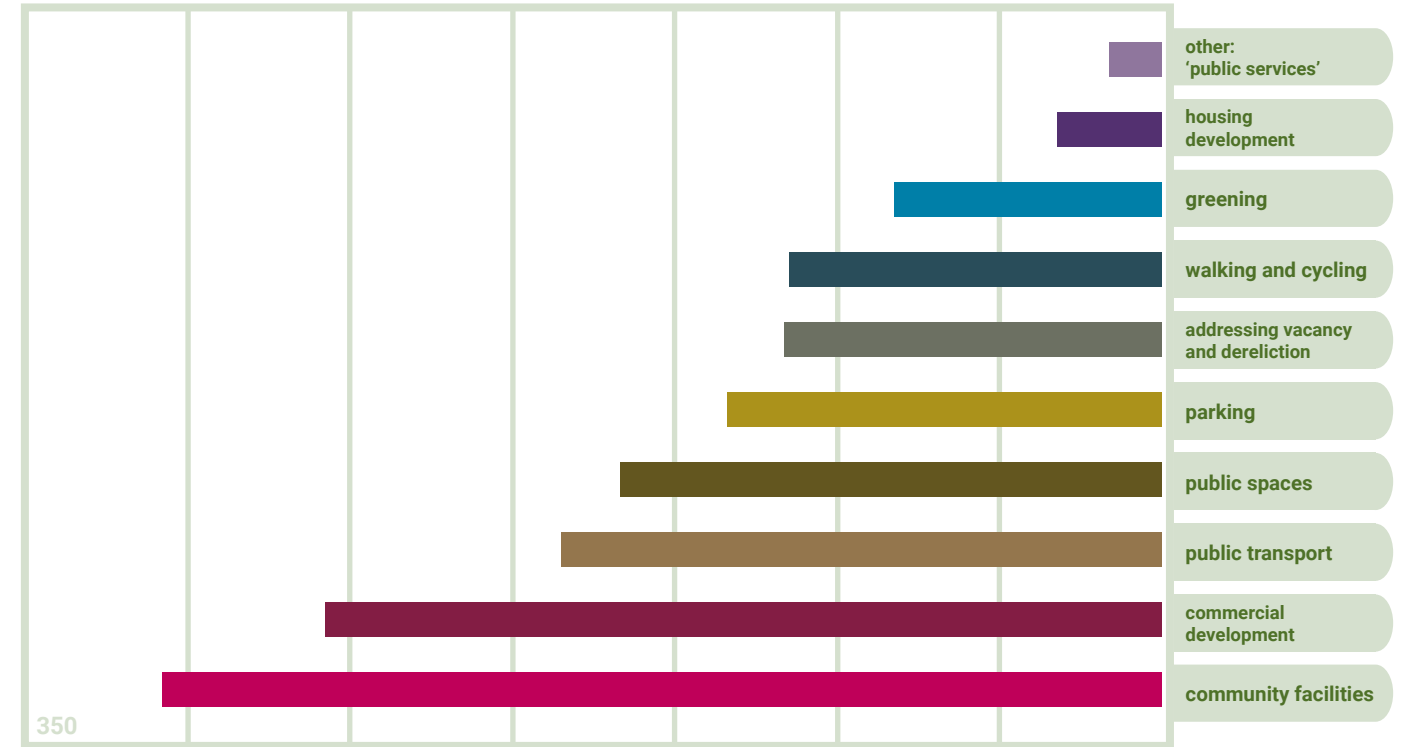
Unused/derelict buildings and lack of community spaces e.g. sports hall, library, a park/green space to walk especially for elderly people, basketball

Traffic, no markets at the weekend, no car free days

No big supermarket. No public transport to the smaller villages around Enfield. No parking.

First Consultation

What are your top priorities? (394 responses)



better transport to dublin at reasonable price

community facilities for adolescents/ adults

Moving bus stop back to train station end of town, people park in my estate moyferath because it is at supervalu

a proper traffic plan to stop through-traffic

expansion of shops/ bars etc which result in better value and actual places for residents

more green spaces

Remove car parking in estates by travelling workers and make it more practical to utilize the abundant Irish Rail station parking.

Better options for walking/ cycling/exercise e.g lighting on bypass, bike lane on bypass

Lack of restaurants, lack of space for more local businesses or start-ups, No remote working hub.

Nowhere for teenagers to go, no community hall, can't cycle safely

Too many houses being built

Unused/derelict buildings and lack of community spaces e.g. sports hall, library, a park/green space to walk especially for elderly people, basketball

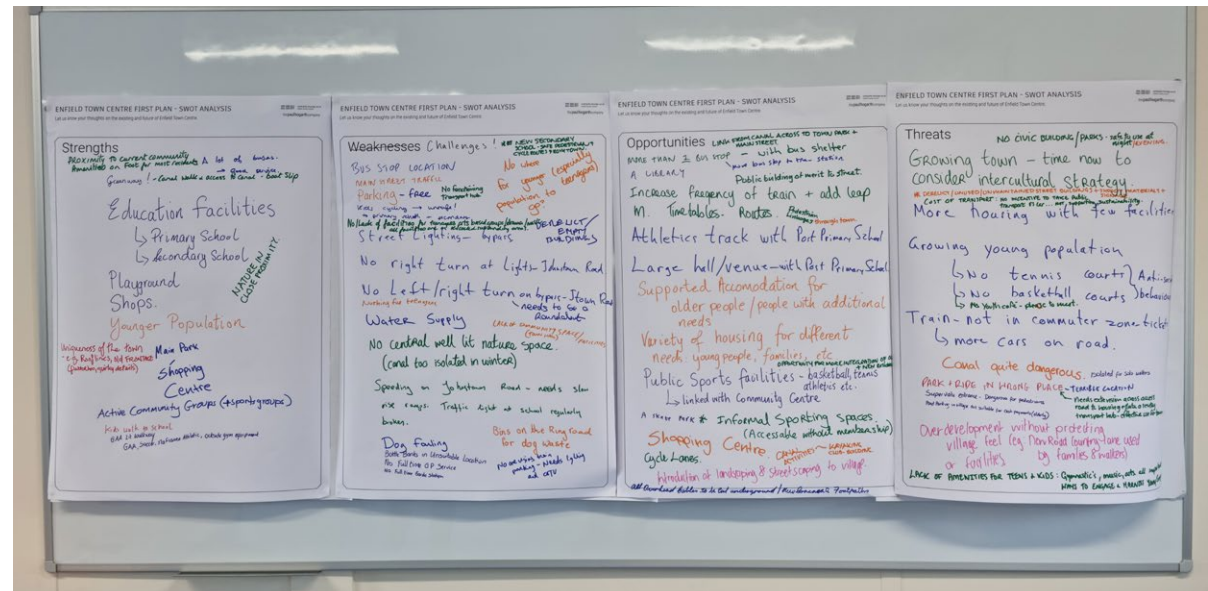
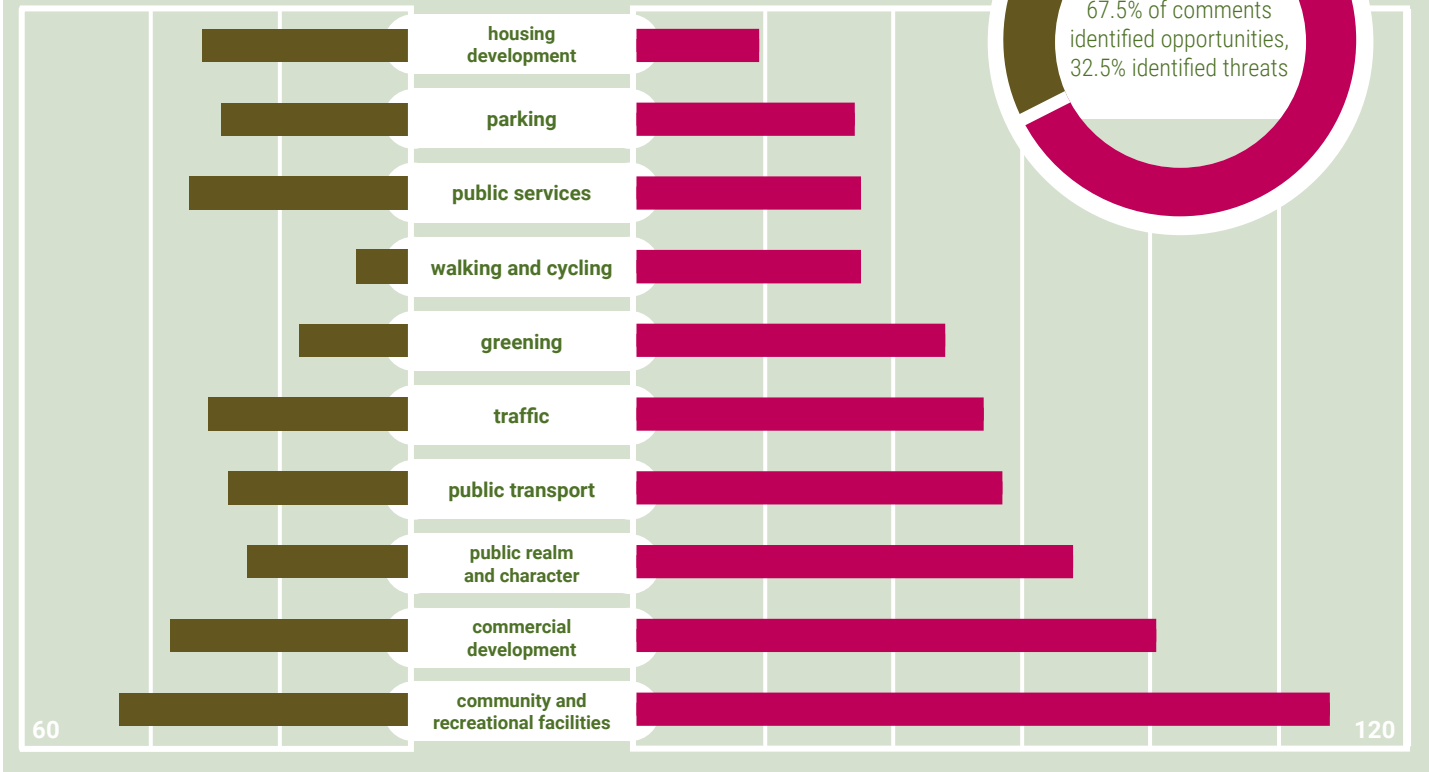
Traffic, no markets at the weekend, no car free days

No big supermarket. No public transport to the smaller villages around Enfield. No parking.

First Consultation

b Appendix: First Consultation

Do you have any other ideas or comments? (285 responses)



I love living in Enfield but without a car I would be lost

a serious lack of good restaurants, shops and parking given the population.

Unfortunately the new housing developments have very little green space. This is going to cause serious antisocial behaviour in years to come.

No more housing should be developed in the locality until services are improved.

Too much focus on traffic and parking on street.

A town centre is needed such as a square. The town is by passed so anything is achievable. Maybe the town square could be located where the old hall is.

Lights on ring road

As part of Town Centre First Scheme to develop coherent pedestrian / cycling linkages between estates, parks and facilities.

Derelict buildings should be taken over by council after 1-2 years being vacant and used for community facilities.

Removal of non local traffic from town centre

Great to see more businesses open- I shop and socialize out of town - would prefer to give back locally

A secondary school would be great

remove on street parking and plant trees in spaces created

Bring the leap card to Enfield

Every age group needs consideration for the development



Appendix: SCOT Analysis

Strengths, Challenges, Opportunities, Threats

The following two pages set out all the feedback received on the SCOT analysis that was undertaken during the TCF process. This includes feedback from the consultation and from Town Team workshops.

Strengths

- **Proximity** to current community amenities on foot for most residents
- A lot of buses - **good service**
- **Greenway - canal walk** + access to canal/ boat slip
- Education Facilities
 - Primary School
 - Secondary School
- **Playground**
- **Shops**
- **Younger** population
- **Nature** in close proximity
- **Uniqueness** of the town - e.g. Rooflines, old frontage (flattertes(?), **quirky** details)
- Main Park
- Shopping Centre
- **Active Community** groups (+ sports groups)
- Kids **walk** to school
- **GAA lit walkway**
- **GAA, Soccer, Na Fianna Athletic, Outside gym** equipment
- People who **want the best** for the town
- **Young people** who respect the town and want to be **part of a holistic community**
- **Growing diversity**, opportunity to lead in being a peaceful intercultural community
- **High level of volunteerism**
- **well-kept** -> not much vandalism

Challenges

- **Bus stop** location
- Main Street traffic **parking** - it's free
- Kids **cycling** to primary and secondary school - **unsafe!**
- **No functioning transport** hub
- No / **Lack of facilities** for teenagers art-based groups / drama / music - all facilities are in Kilcock + surrounding areas
- Poor street lighting on bypass
- No right turn at lights **Johnstown Road**
 - No left/ right turn on bypass
 - Johnstown Road - needs to be a roundabout - makes bypass less usable
- **Nothing for teenagers**
- **Water supply**
- **Lack of communitiy space/** facilities (town hall)
- **No central** well lit **nature** spaace (canal too isolated in winter)
- **Speeding** on Johnstown Road - needs slow rise ramps. Traffic light at school regularly broken.
- Lack of bins on the ring road for dog waste
- **Dog fouling**
- Bottle banks in unsuitable location
- **No fulltime GP service**
- **No fulltime Garda station**
- No one using train **parking** - needs lighting and CCTV
- **Council permissions**, eg: structural decisions
- How do we take **traffic** our of the main street?
 - - **make ring road more attractive** than going through the town
- **inclusive places** for wheelchair users, people with additional needs
- **No 'prestige' town centre** definition @ junction of main st johnstown
 - - Building
 - - Civic Space
 - - Public Sculpture
- **No major employer**
- no **safe cycling**
- no **space for safe seating**
- **Limited** council owned **land**
- **lack of support for older people**

Opportunities

- Link from **Canal** across to town park + main street
- More than 1 **bus stop**
 - With bus shelter
 - Move bus stop to train station
- **Library - new hub**
- Increase **frequency of train** + add leap m timetables. routes.
- **Pedestrian linkages** - through town
- Athletics track with Post Primary School
- **Large hall / venue** - with Post primary School
- Supported accommodation for older people / people with additional needs
- Opportunity for more **integration** of OI + new residents
- Variety of housing for differen needs: Young people, families, etc.
- Public sports facilities - basketball, tennis, athletics etc. - Linked with **community centre**
- A **skate park**
- **Informal** sporting **spaces** (accessible without membership) - new ecc facilities
- Shopping centre
- **Canal activities** - kayaking / club - buiconuc (?) - increase acnd
- **Cycle** lanes - segregated lanes
- Introduction of **landscaping & streetscaping** to village
- All overhead cables to be put underground / new bonenak (?) **footpaths**
- **Urban greenness** -> a lot of cement walls
- **Intergenerational** mixing (connected/shared spaces)
- Parish land
- Functional/ **diverse housing**
- **Decarbonising** zones
- **Sustainable** towns
- Land behind petrol station or middle of town
- **Sheltered** walkways -> weather
- Secondary school (current) could be vitalised for recreation
- **Expand canal walk** and fairy trail
- Intergenerational areas
- **Activate community** HAhh + link to town centre focal building courtyard / acre
- **Temporary use** for ECC Space for Community
- Opportunity to create service roads behind streets. ECC school to slighe mór
- **Segregated Cycle lanes**
- Urban Green
- Intergenerational mixing
- **Men's + Women's Sheds**
- Opportunities to get involved

Threats

- **No civic building / parks** - safe to use at night / evening
- **Growing** town - time now to consider **intercultural** strategy
- **Derelict** / unused / unmaintained street buildings + shoddy materials + signage
- **Cost of transport:** no incentive to take public transport vs car **not supporting sustainability**
- **More housing with few facilities**
- Growing **young** population
 - No tennis courts
 - No basketball courts
 - - anti-social behaviour
- Train - not in commuter zone-tickets
 - More cars on road
- Canal quite dangerous. Isolated for solo walkers
- **Park + Ride** in wrong place - terrible location
 - Needs extension across access road to housing estate a sentry transport hub - effective to use for town
- Supervalu entrance - **dangerous for pedestrians**
- Paid **parking** in village not suitable for cash payments (elderly)
- **Overdevelopment** without protecting village feel or facilities (e.g. New road country lane used by families & walkers)
- **Lack of amenities** for teens + kids: Gymnastic's, music, arts, all important ways to engage & harness Young E.....
- **Lack of co-ordination** of underground services allowing for
- Later connections
- **Vandalism** in areas without supervision (Canal + GAA)
- **bypass**

SCOT Analysis

d Appendix: Second Consultation

Consultation Findings

During the second consultation, a similar format was followed as the first consultation. The consultation ran over 3 weeks during the summer of 2023, during which an online survey was available and an in-person event was held. This consultation presented the draft TCF Plan for feedback from the public.

In general, the findings of the consultation showed support for the (draft) TCF plan. Over 80% of respondents agreed with the Vision and Aims, and over 85% agreed with the TCF plan.

The TCF projects that focus on green spaces (the Park, the Canal, and Green Enfield) rated especially high. Whilst bigger infrastructural projects (Main Street, the Square, and the Bus & Train Network) were of high priority for commencement.

Feedback for the final plan mainly consisted of ideas for specific interventions within the projects (i.e. markets, basketball courts, sheltered bus stops). Importantly, feedback was given around explicitly expressing the need for inclusive spaces for young people within the plan and projects. Finally, much feedback was received around the Park+Ride proposal, which is reflected in 'Project b - The Square' and has since been through a separate process under Meath County Council.



big and busy

colourful, busy, popular, retail

Fun, exciting, accessible, connected.

A friendly, vibrant, fast network, big, fun and enjoyable place.

Overall, the vision is excellent. The only thing I would add is ... "making the most of its topography and excellent local and regional connectivity".

Maybe add 'safe' to the list? And 'inclusive'?

Lively. Friendly

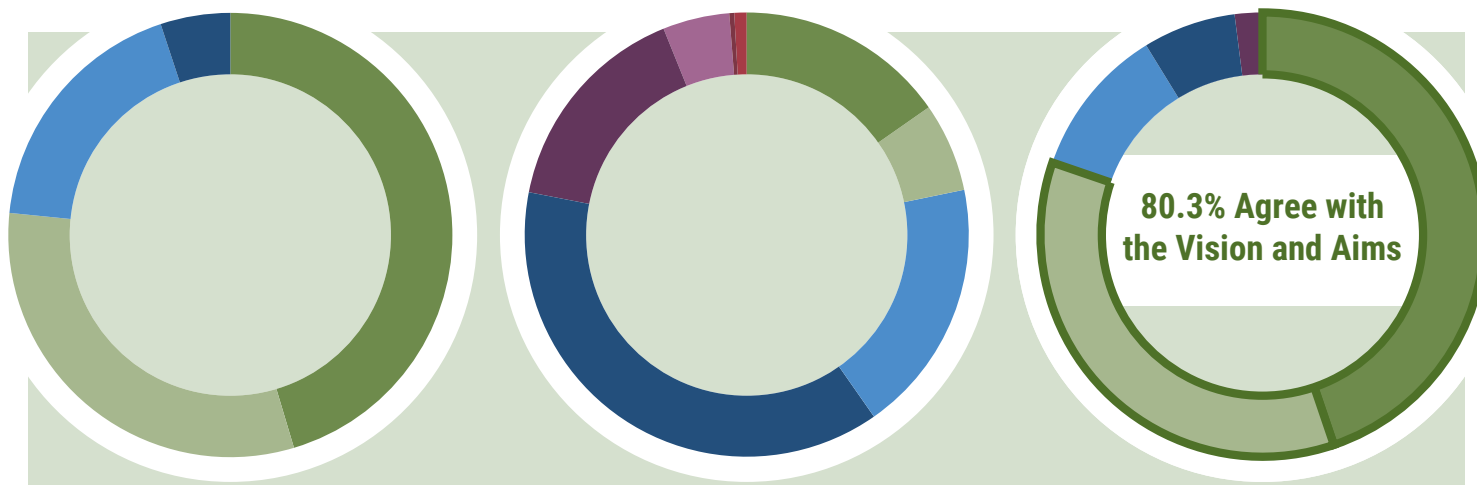
Our vision should connect to our past, acknowledging our position as a transit post for people travelling long journeys. We have always, and will continue to welcome visitors to our town.

Environmentally friendly

Making Enfield Town Centre Better place for the future and for next Generation to enjoy.

Colourful fun exciting sporty

to make it peaceful



How far do you live from Enfield Town Centre? (551 responses)

over 10 minute drive	5.1%
5-10 min drive	18.3%
5-10 min walk	31.2%
resident	45.5%

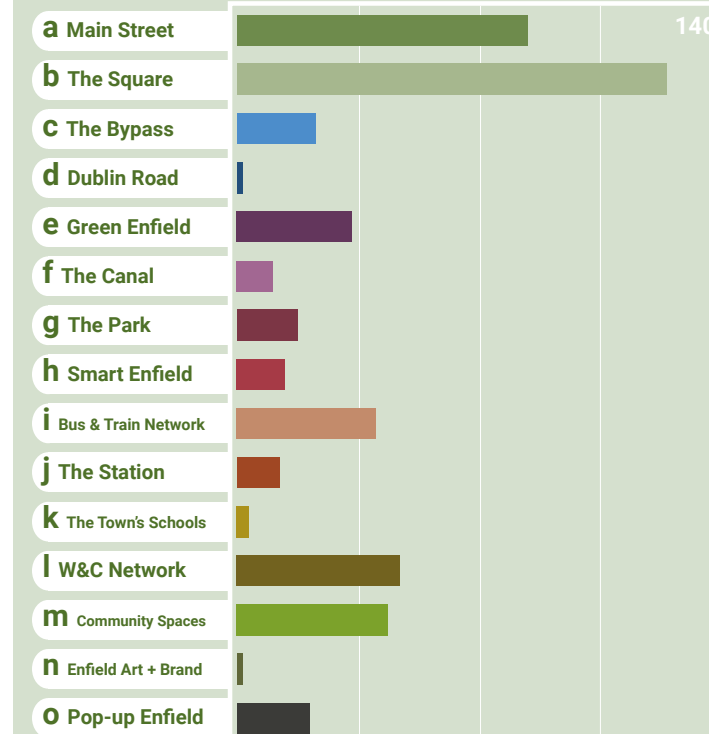
What is your age range? (556 responses)

80+	0.9%
70-79	0.4%
60-69	4.9%
50-59	15.8%
40-49	37.8%
30-39	18.5%
19-29	6.5%
0-18	15.3%

To what extent do you agree with the vision and aims? (547 responses)

entirely disagree	2.0%
somewhat disagree	6.8%
neutral	11.0%
somewhat agree	35.5%
entirely agree	44.8%

Please add any comments or ideas for the Vision and Aims: (315 responses)



d Appendix: Second Consultation

Second Consultation



Just think it's a pity we don't have more access to spaces. I ... would love a space to offer more variety classes for young children, teenagers and older generation.

and wider paths for children going to and from school - they are very narrow in places.

tree line the entire town

Love the idea of having markets, events held in centre of town for sense of community. Keep cars out as much as possible

We need benches along Main Road and the Canal.

Some joined up thinking is required in relation to positioning of bus stops, car parking facilities and traffic congestion.

I think the canal would be very nice and a cool walk

Maybe we can have art on the wall + benches.

Promote music festivals twice yearly where village closed off to traffic etc.

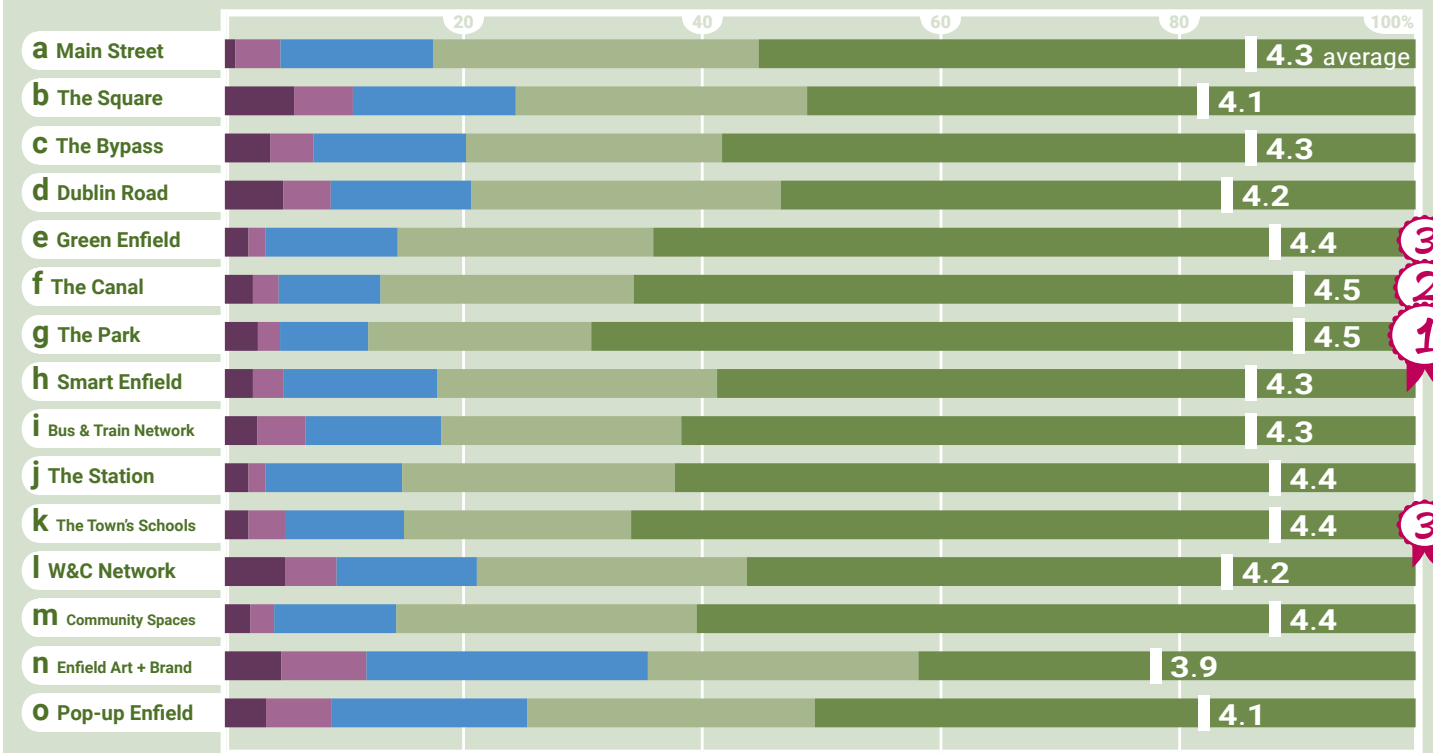
We need covered bus stops (e.g. in front of Supervalu) and covered train station.

dublin road needs more lights

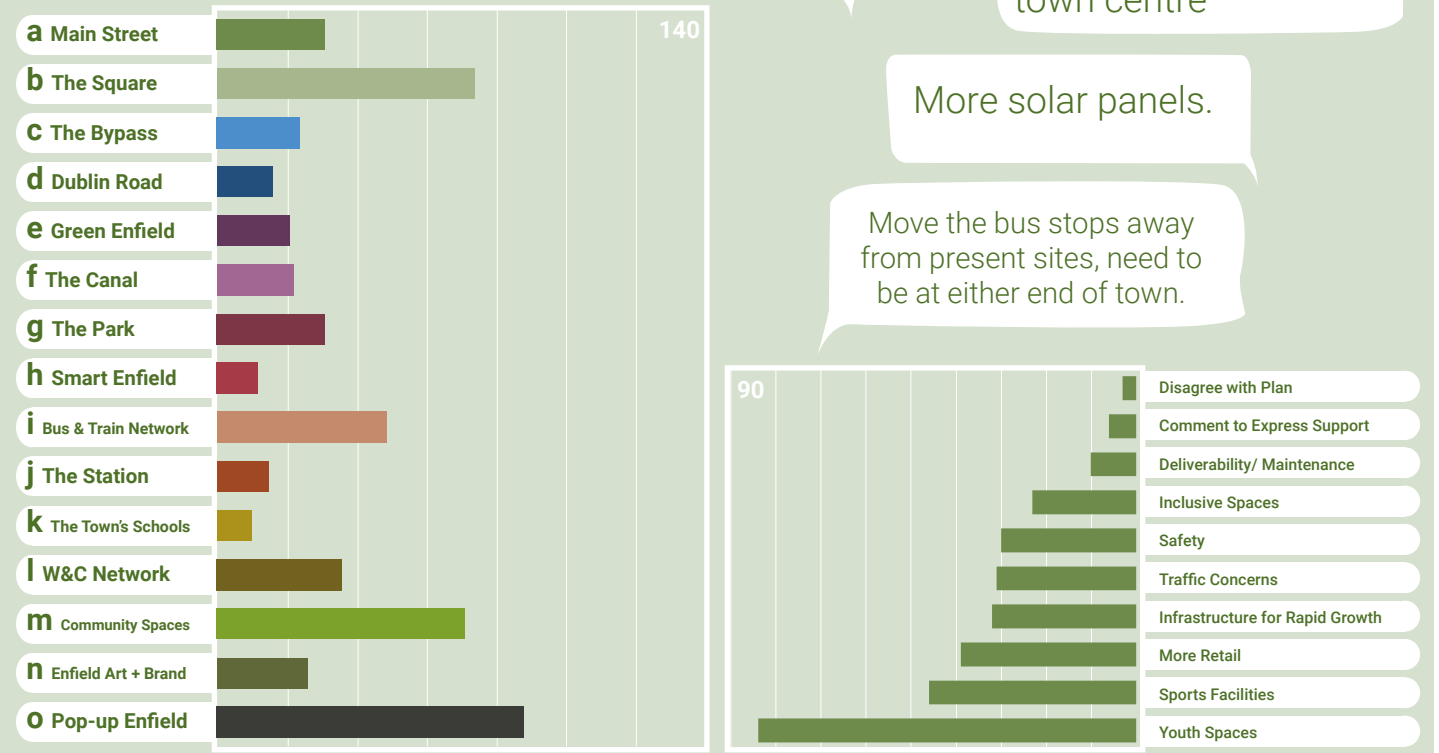
park big enough to play sports

More facilities for children of all ages

How would you rate the following projects? (1 = poor, 5 = excellent) (avg. 549 responses)



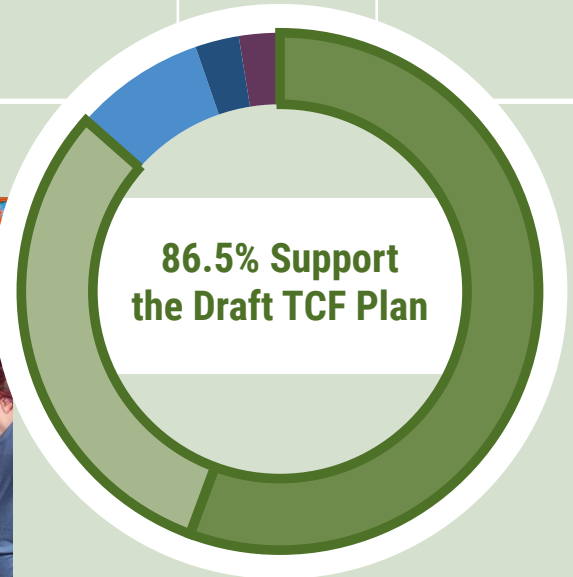
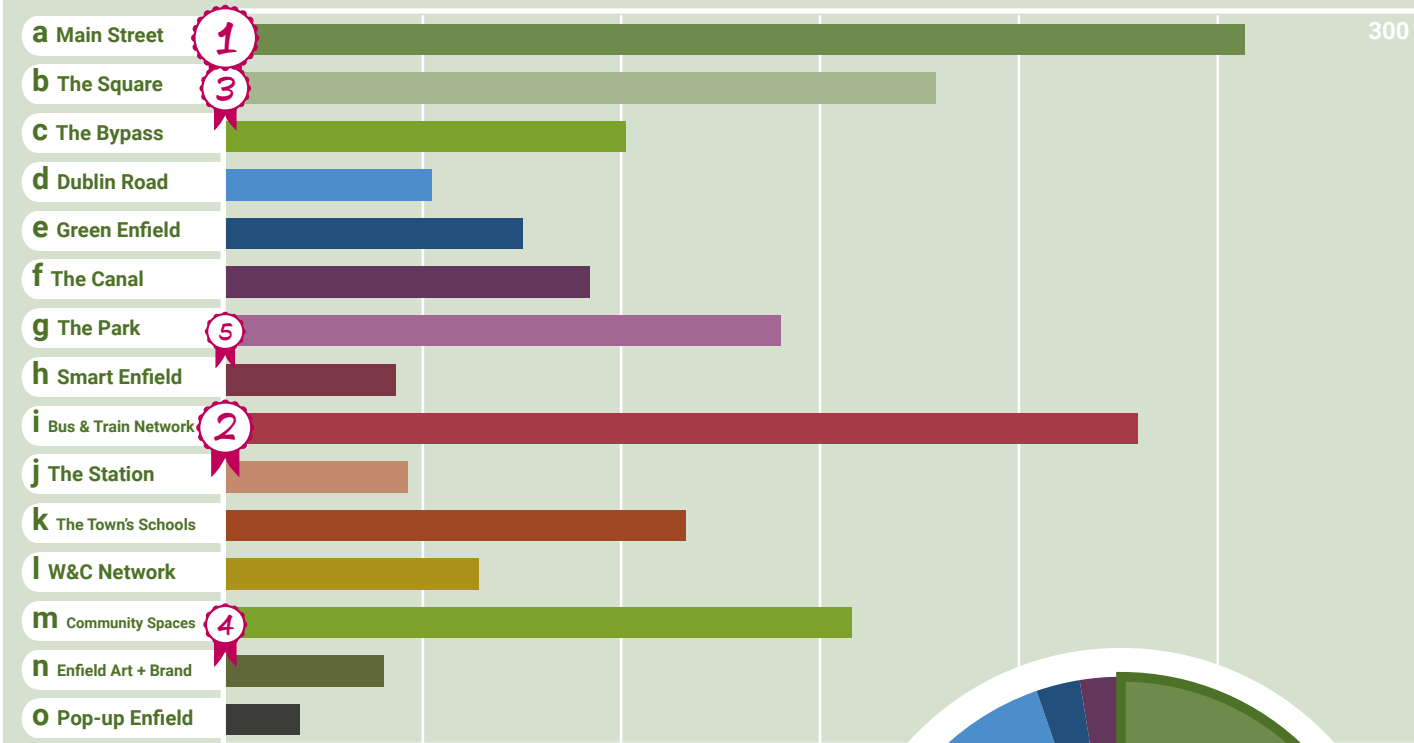
Please elaborate with your comments and suggestions... (334 responses)



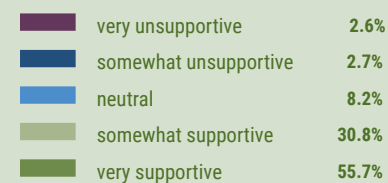
d Appendix: Second Consultation

Second Consultation

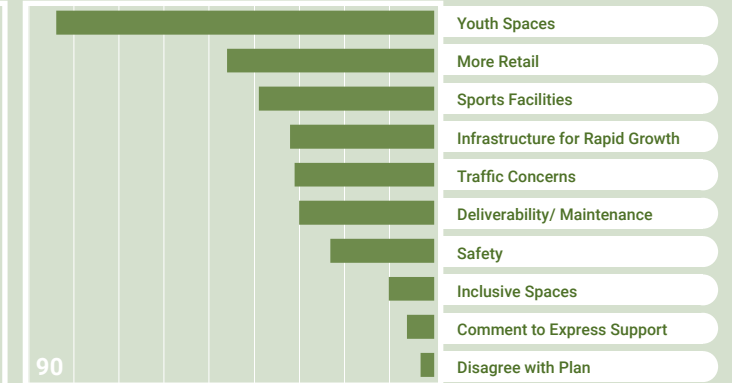
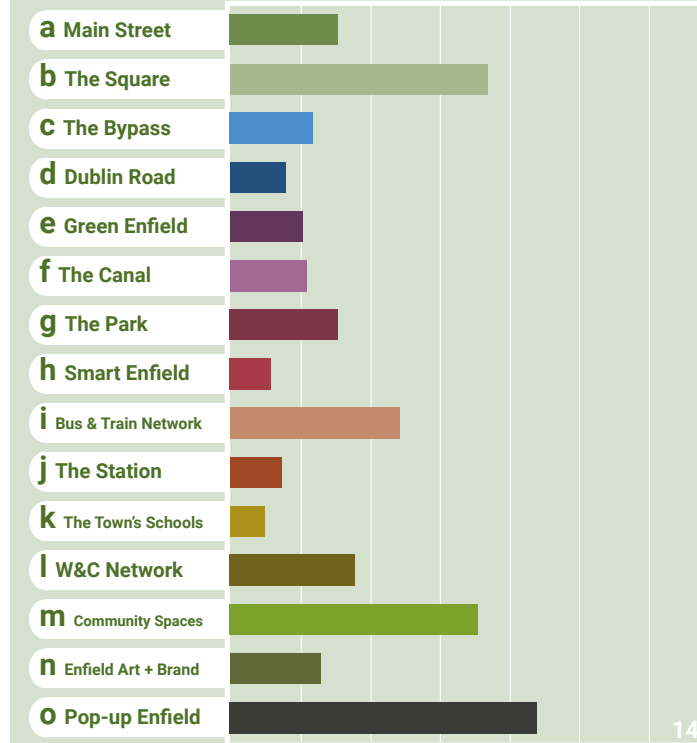
Which 3 draft projects are your top priorities? (548 responses)



Overall, how supportive are you of the draft town centre first plan? (548 responses)



Do you have any other comments or ideas for projects in the draft TCF Plan? (269 responses)



the square / hub should be a cure / community space and should be developed to be all- inclusive - for people of all ages and abilities

Boat house area is under-utilised and would allow for outdoor concerts and events

We need to make the town attractive and a place people want to live in. The town centre /square need to be in the old school and should include things for all ages

I would love to see Enfield town centre move towards a vehicle free zone where bicycles are the predominant mode of transport.

A open market place / bazaar area should be included in the town centre plan to support local economy. Certain day or days in week local farmers, art and craft makers can sell or present their products.

Please add foot path and ramps on the dublin Road

There should be more bus stops in town. It would be great to have variety for public transport.

I would like a plaza in the town and a museum

i think that a park would be useful for more exercise and fun

Keep the natural environment

cinema and amazing internet/ wifi

Central transport hub at the station is a great idea

sweet shop, teen discos, fast food, acting class, hangout place

safe routes to schools especially the secondary school.

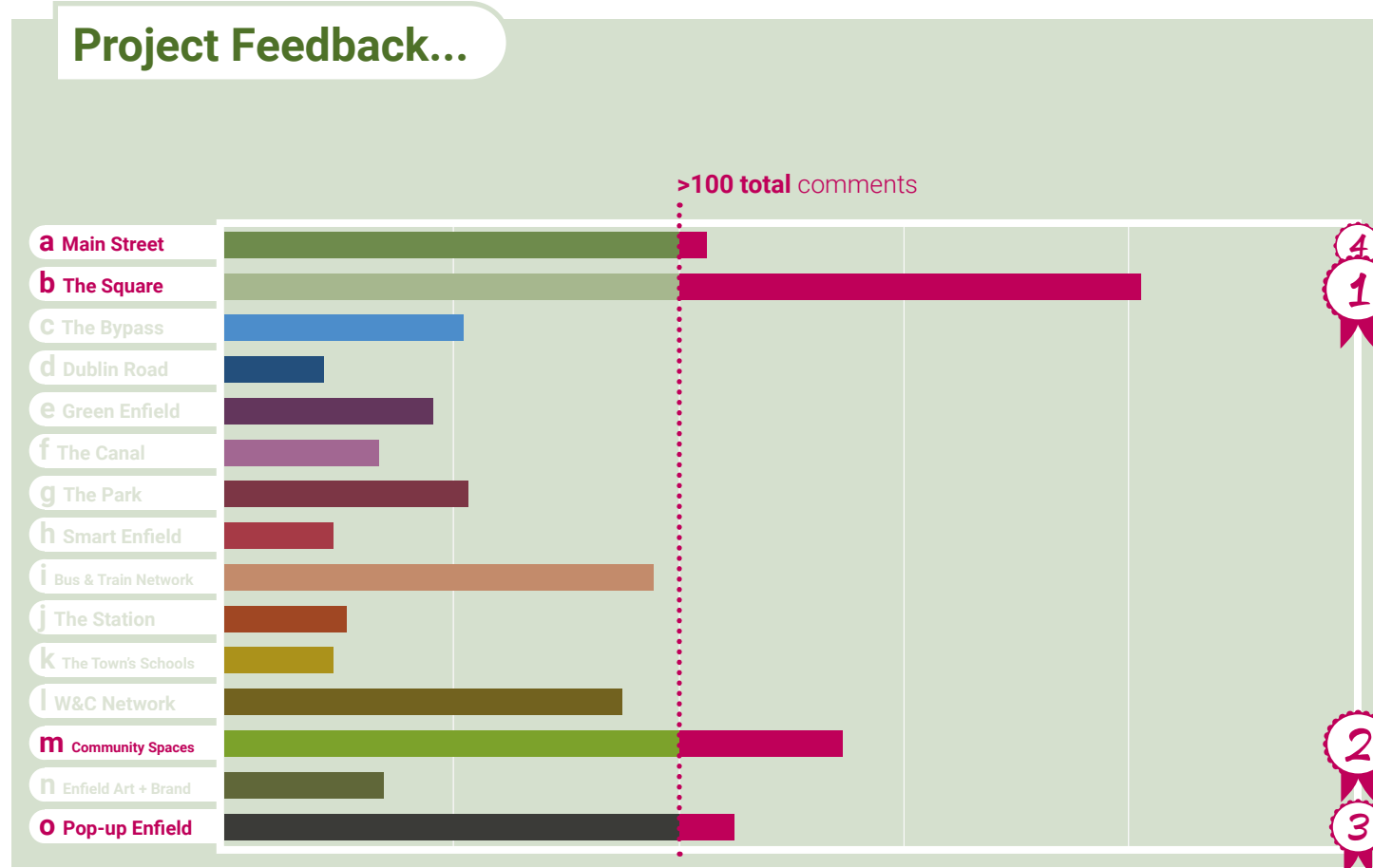
I think you should try to make it very youth friendly when I go out with my friends we have nowhere to sit but the playground. I think you do need for markets

d Appendix: Second Consultation

A detailed look at the feedback...

All feedback from the public consultations has been taken into consideration during the drafting of this document. However, certain projects and topics were especially prevalent in the responses to the open-ended questions during the second consultation. Effectively, the three open-ended questions in the second public consultation provided a lot of overlap in the responses that were given.

The following pages have looked at the combination of these responses, and taken an indepth look at the topics that were most discussed across the survey responses. Any topic that was discussed over a 100 times in total, across the 3 questions, has been highlighted and explored in more detail.



Second Consultation

a | Main Street

107 total comments

*this assesment includes comments relating to village/ town centre, traffic congestion and risks, town centre seating

how would you rate...

4.3/5
average rating

comments on vision and aims...

48/315
comments

please elaborate on rating...

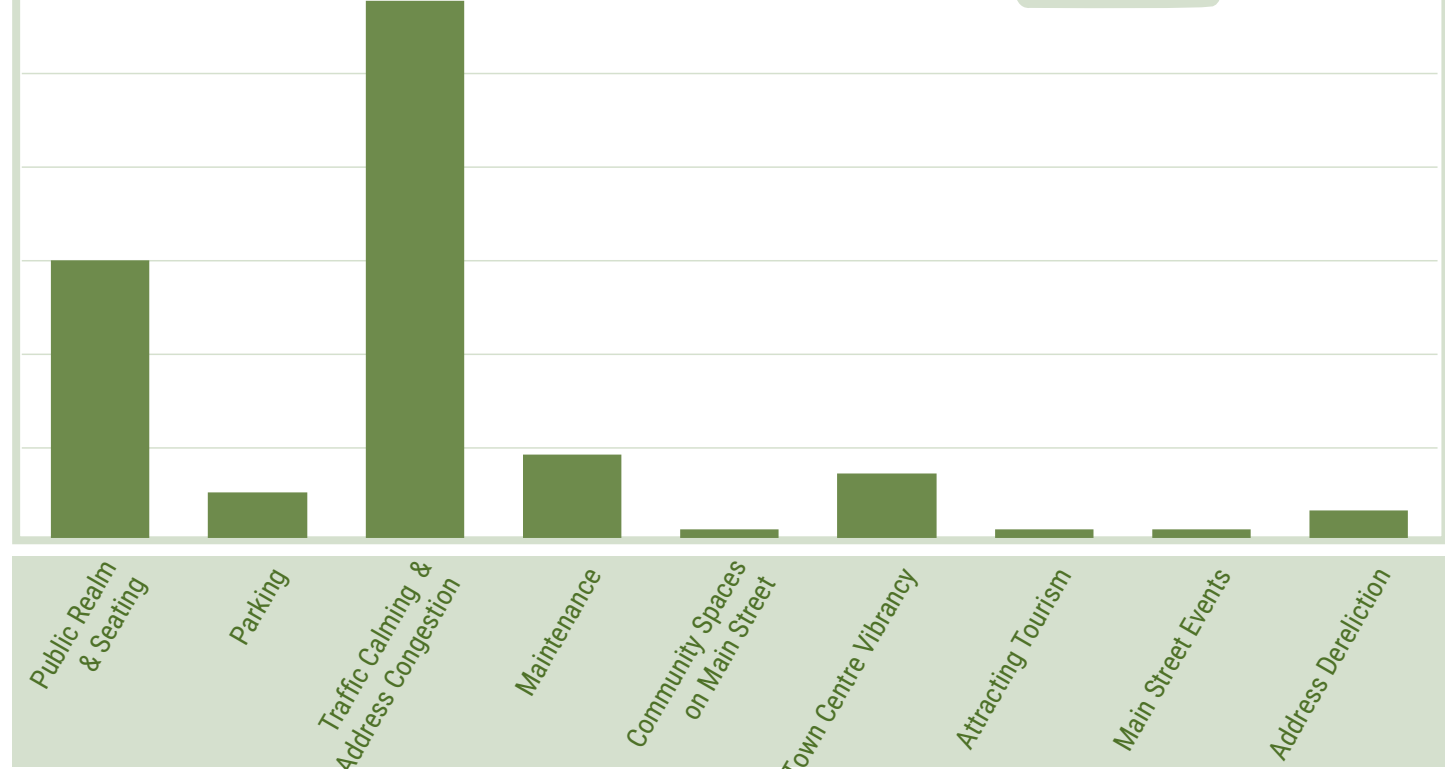
31/344
comments

any other comments or ideas...

28/269
comments

benches, address traffic congestion through town centre, traffic calming, measures to limit traffic

- A town that has less traffic congestion every day.
- Make it all transport friendly (roller skates, skateboards)
- Traffic management and adequate parking around the main street to allow for safer pedestrian and cycling routes is essential to creating a vibrant and community focused town centre.
- Keep cars out as much as possible
- For these goals to be met , it is critical that nothing is done to make them unattainable. Specifically rationalise transport in the town to eliminate traffic congestion in Main Street and deliver an attractive and usable public realm
- The town center desperately needs zebra pedestrian crossings at the entrance of Blackwater Park.
- I would love to see a one way traffic flow through the town with wider paths, cycle lanes, and outdoor spaces where people could sit and enjoy a coffee outside.
- It would be nice to have broad pavements for passengers and easy crossing options from one side of the road to another
- ...traffic calming is badly needed on main street...
- We need benches along Main Road and the Canal.



70

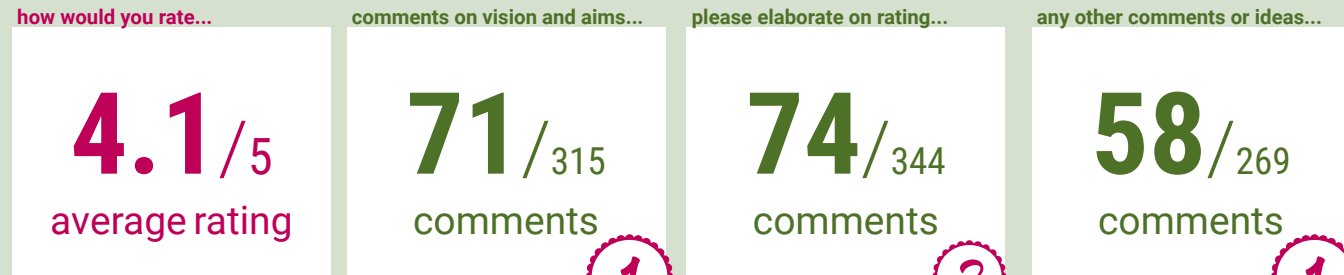
d Appendix: Second Consultation

Second Consultation

b | The Square

203 total comments

*this assesment includes comments relating to the square, public spaces, P+R, town centre parking



public (community) spaces, youth spaces, markets on the square, park + ride, informal meetups

I think a good idea for the Square if possibly a little shopping centre, I believe it would make a lot of money and be very useful.

Add something exciting to the Square like a cinema and a subway back to Apple Green

I would like to see the square, as a farmers market and shops to bring in jobs and revenue

Parking behind the hub will just be awful for the town. It should be a community space. A garden.

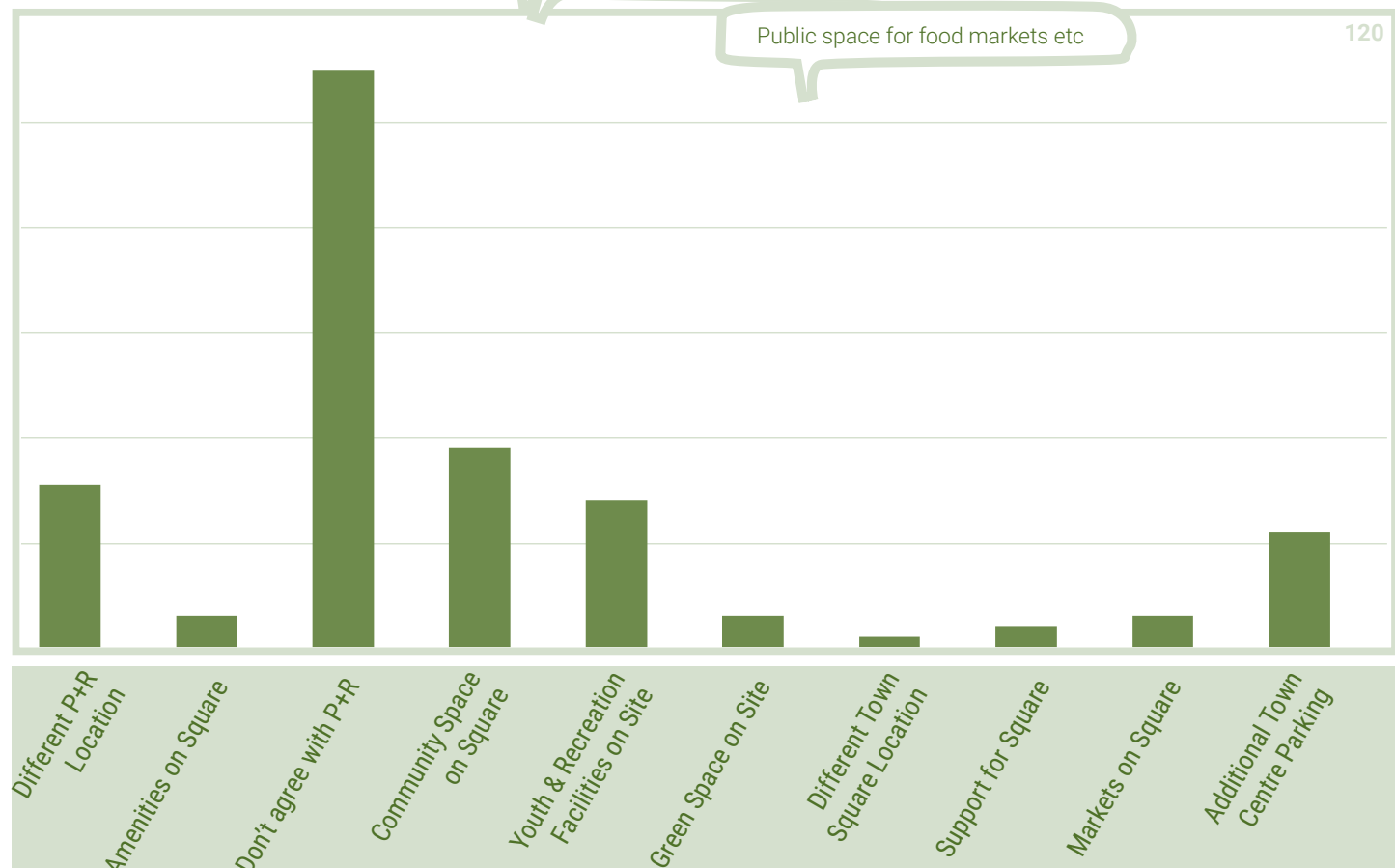
The town square is essential to enable local events and facilities. We are lacking a sense of community due to lack of provision of community spaces.

Access to open spaces and easily accessible

Idea of getting place for people to gather together is brilliant. Kids and teens needs a space to meet up.

A community garden or a square would be a lovely addition to the town as a nice meeting place

Public space for food markets etc



m | Community Spaces

137 total comments

*this assesment includes comments relating to community classes, facilities, spaces, atmosphere, inclusivity, youth spaces



community hall, access to existing places, to hang out, library etc., bulletin board, sports equipment

Indoor or sheltered area for rainy days with places to sit

Create spaces for young people to chill out and make them nice so they are respected.

The development of more community facilities is essential in the town.

More public spaces available to rent for activities for clubs etc

A cinema or a nice fun hangout space with some markets

Also, a library/rental space for community projects/inaitives - developments on the town hall and community hub.

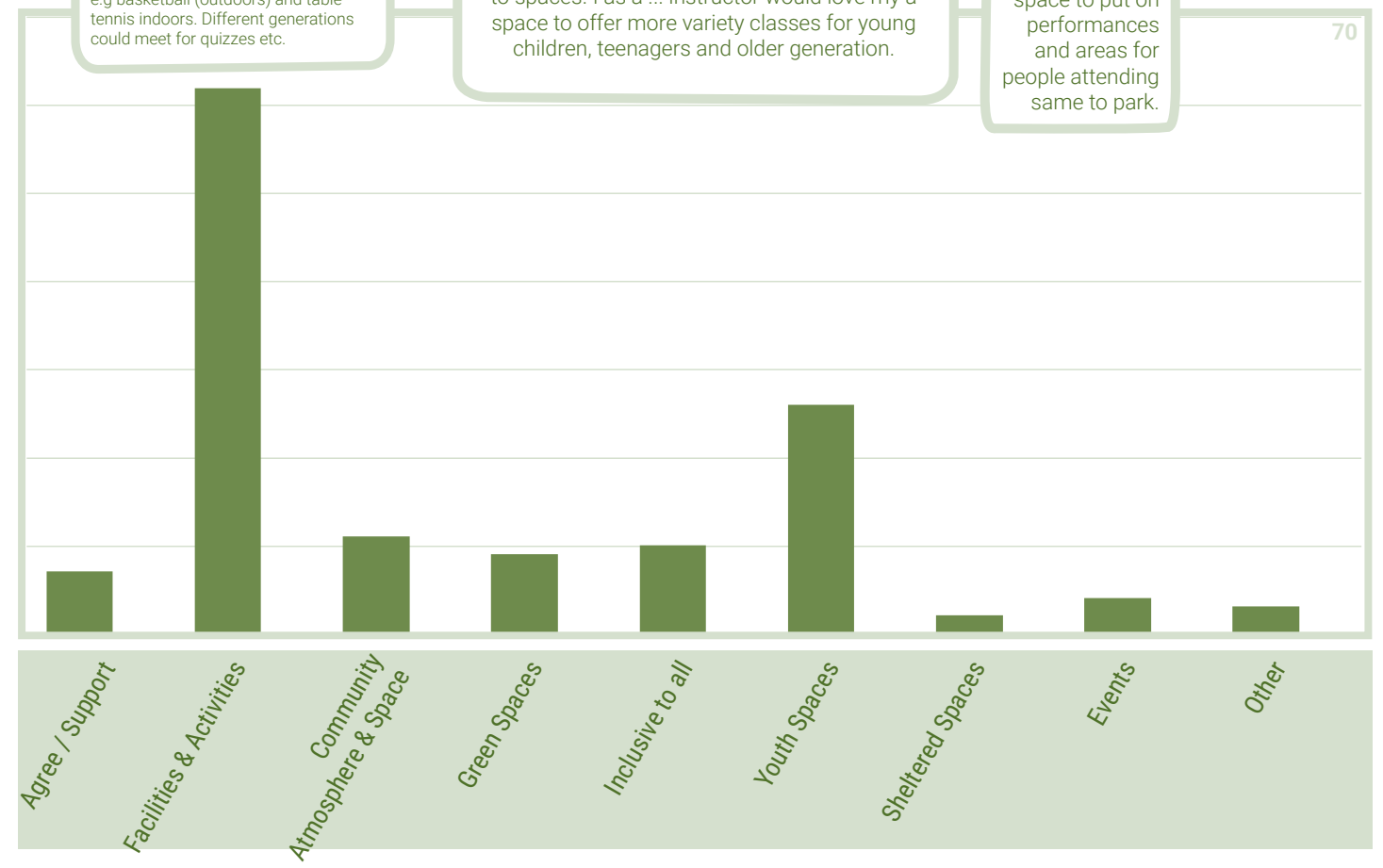
Library, dog park, open the town hall

Schools to be used as community centres.

It would be lovely to have an outdoor and indoor space in the town for use by all generations, older people could meet for events and activities and young people could meet, chat and play sport e.g basketball (outdoors) and table-tennis indoors. Different generations could meet for quizzes etc.

Just think it's a pity we don't have more access to spaces. I as a ... instructor would love my a space to offer more variety classes for young children, teenagers and older generation.

We need a hall that has space to put on performances and areas for people attending same to park.



d Appendix: Second Consultation

0 | Pop-up Enfield

113 total comments

*this assesment includes comments relating to pop-up events, festivals, community projects, markets and temporary ideas

how would you rate...

4.1/5

average rating

comments on vision and aims...

12/315

comments

please elaborate on rating...

88/344

comments

any other comments or ideas...

13/269

comments



art and music initiatives, classes and education initiatives, spaces for rent, festivals and events

Promote music festivals twice yearly where village closed off to traffic etc.

Love the ideas for more community space, eg markets, etc

It would be lovely to have an outdoor and indoor space in the town for use by all generations, older people could meet for events and activities and young people could meet, chat and play sport e.g basketball (outdoors) and table-tennis indoors. Different generations could meet for quizzes etc.

Sensory friendly services

These mixed-use spaces would encourage families to spend quality time outdoors, enhancing community interaction and overall well-being

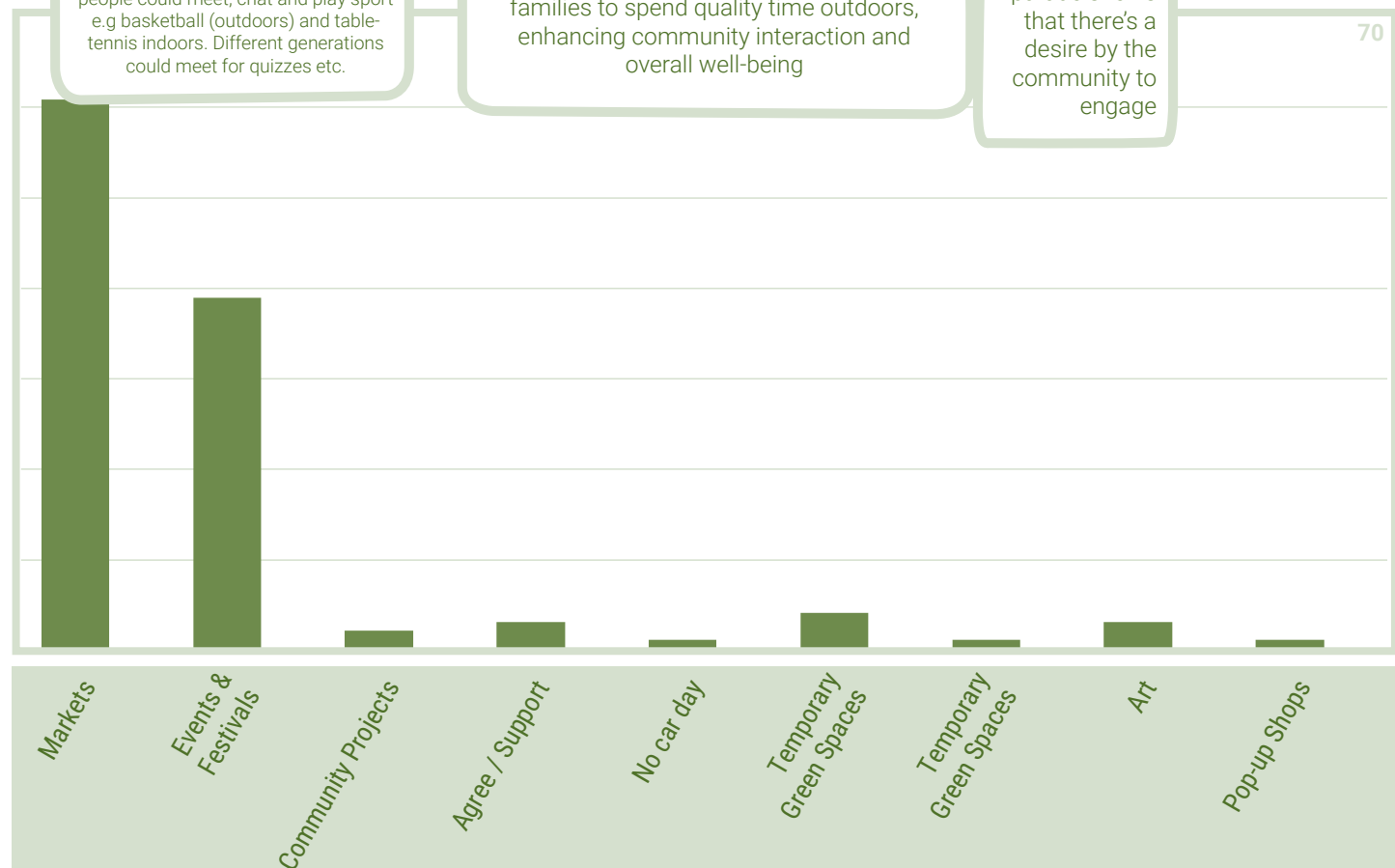
One idea i have not seen mentioned is creating some kind of annual festival that could showcase Enfield / Johnstown Bridge and the surrounding areas. For example Durrow in Laois has an annual scarecrow festival, Kilkenny Cats Laugh festival etc

make it lit up with led lights to change for the holiday, easter, christmas, halloween

A cinema or a nice fun hangout space with some markets

St Patrick's day parade shows that there's a desire by the community to engage

Markets and craft fairs. Festivals and concerts



Second Consultation

Youth Spaces...

194 total comments

more stuff for teenagers and places to hang out that have shelter

Places for young kids and teenagers to go and feel free to enjoy themselves

Seems unclear how the plan will cater for younger people, there is more spaces to include everyone but if those spaces are similar to what's there at the moment it doesn't cater to younger people

i think we need a senior playground for ages 12-18

new astro pitch

Hang out spaces, skate park, sports courts (basketball, tennis etc)

The town plan seems to have completely forgotten about the youth of our town who currently have nowhere to hang out and spend their time

More facilities for children of all ages

Traffic Concerns...

108 total comments

There are fantastic ideas but I do not wish to see changes if it's going to involve more traffic in the town.

Don't totally isolate cars people need to drive too

Relief of traffic congestion

Better entry and exit to super valu is needed

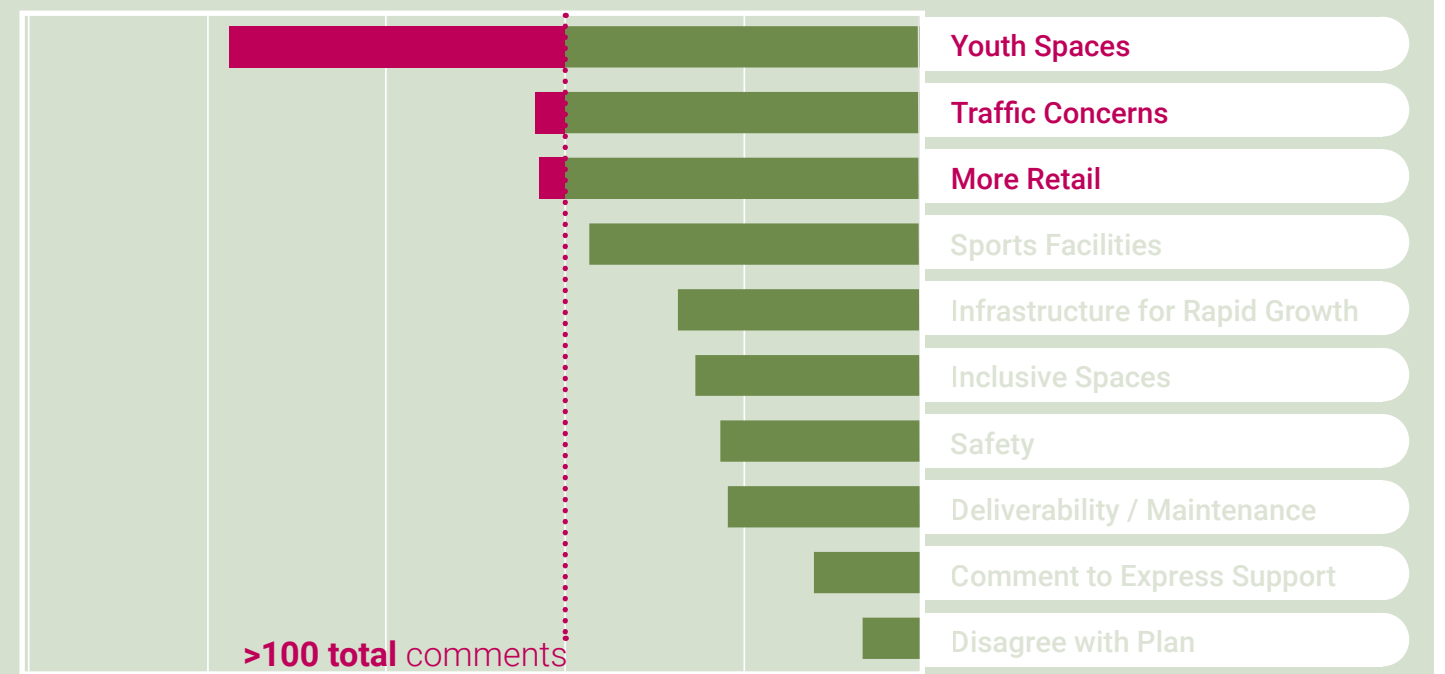
the town is already congested with far too many car and trucks and currently not safe for children walking to school

The area around supervalu is very dangerous

There is a ring road to access both sides of the town. When you're in the town and parked, you should walk everywhere.

Residential estates being used as all day car parks is unfair on residents.

first of all, the traffic needs be sorted



More Retail...

107 total comments

Enfield is a growing town and we are lucky that we have a long Main Street that allows for future development. A town centre that has good commercial ... space

i think there should be a sports shop

i would like a sport shop and an equestrian shop to save us traveling to maynooth or trim just to get one thing

We really could do with some more supermarkets in the town

fast food chain, sweets shop, and markets

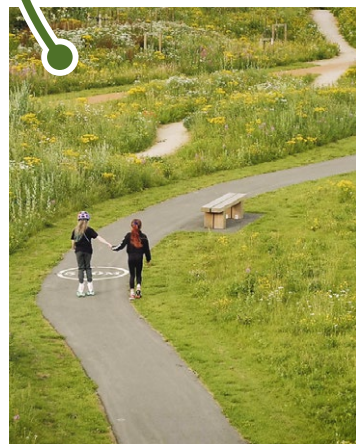
Appendix: Case Studies & Policy Context

Case Studies for Enfield

To identify and specify the qualities that the Town Team wants to see thrive in Enfield, the TCF process looked at several case studies. These case studies serve as examples for the end result, but also help identify the steps that should be taken to develop the similar qualities in Enfield, though the detailed design will be unique to the Enfield context.



“Enfield will be the most attractive, vibrant, and green town, with welcoming spaces for everyone and making the most of excellent local and regional connectivity.”



Attractive

An attractive space means buildings and spaces of the highest quality design and upkeep. An attractive place invites further quality investments in the future.

Waterford Town Centre has taken a phased approach to their Town Centre, which has had a focus on quality over quantity. Every new design or intervention has to follow the previously set high quality of materials and design. In time that will mean a transformation of the entire Town Centre into an attractive place.

Waterford Town Centre

What made it successful?

- Consistency across the city centre
- High quality materials
- Staged approach

Vibrant

Vibrancy is an active and supported community and flourishing economy. It is people spending their leisure time in the Town Centre.

Clonakilty has made a transformation towards a vibrant Town Centre through redesign of the area with a focus on pedestrians over vehicular traffic. Additionally, the town has developed its brand and encouraged events.

Clonakilty Town Centre

What made it successful?

- Removed cars from town centre
- People-centric design
- Change supported by public events

Case Studies



Appendix: Case Studies & Policy Context

Case Studies

Community (Friendly)

A friendly town is a welcoming place with spaces for everyone, with a focus on providing spaces to interact and hangout for all ages and abilities.

CS Lewis Square has created such a space through design that allows for flexibility of use. This has allowed a range of events to take place in the area, encouraging interaction between people. Throughout the year, the square's design provides seating options for informal gatherings. Sculpture and interpretation provide points of interest and conversation pieces.



CS Lewis Square Events

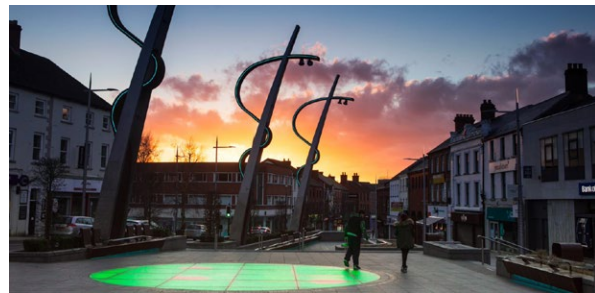
What made it successful?

- Welcoming;
- Flexible space for users and events
- Lots of space for people to sit

Community (Safe)

A safe place for everyone to move through day and night.

Lisburn Town Centre creates a safe space throughout the day through a combination of factors. Foremost, the adjacent buildings overlook a well-lit space to ensure a passerby feels seen and safe. Additionally, the creative design of the lightning and space encourages people to stay and create vibrancy to enhance a sense of safety.



Lisburn Town Centre

What made it successful?

- Creative lighting solutions
- Integrate public art with function
- Flexible space for different uses

Sustainable

Sustainable places are places with a cleaner and far greener environment for people and nature.

Sheffield's approach to green interventions in their city centre brought several benefits to the area. The green served as a buffer between people and traffic, whilst also providing biodiversity and natural water drainage. The green planting also provided the area with visual interest and diversity and has prompted further discussions about sustainable interventions.



Sheffield Grey-to-Green

What made it successful?

- Dual function;
- Visually engaging
- Green and blue approach

Connected

A compact town for walking and cycling, while making the most of strong regional links.

Dun Laoighaire in Dublin has been undergoing changes to their street sections, in a phased approach. Through temporary interventions and test-cases, more and more streets have reduced space for cars and safe cycling lanes and spillout spaces for shops and cafes.



Dun Laoighaire Active Travel

What made it successful?

- Temporary measures and test cases;
- To move towards permanent changes
- Reclaiming the streets from cars

e Appendix: Case Studies & Policy Context

Case Studies

National Urban Design Policies & Guidance

The following National Policies and Guidance are of relevance:

- *Department of Transport: [National Sustainable Mobility Policy](#)*
- *[Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets \(DMURS\)](#)*
- *Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage: [Section 28 Guidelines for Planning Authorities – Design Standards for New Apartments](#)*
- *Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage: [Urban Development and Building Height Guidelines](#)*
- *Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage: [Sustainable Urban Housing Design Standards for New Apartments Guidelines for Planning Authorities](#)*
- *Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage: [Nature-based Solutions to the Management of Rainwater and Surface Water Runoff in Urban Areas Water Sensitive Urban Design Best Practice Interim Guidance Document](#)*
- *Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage: [Best Practice Urban Design Manual \(Part 1\)](#)*
- *Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage: [Best Practice Urban Design Manual \(Part 2\)](#)*
- *NDA: [Buildings for Everyone: Buildings for Everyone: A Universal Design Approach](#)*
- *Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage: [Sustainable and Compact Settlements Guidelines for Planning Authorities – Proposed Policy Approach](#)*
- *Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage: [Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas – Guidelines for Planning Authorities](#)*
- *Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage: [Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities](#)*
- *Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage: [Retail Design Manual](#)*

The Meath County Development Plan

(REGIONAL POLICY: 2021-2027)

Enfield is identified within the County Development Plan as a self-sustaining town with a vision to support the sustainable consolidation of the settlement with a balance of residential and employment development supported by its strategic location and availability of highly accessible lands suitable for employment and enterprise, whilst pursuing a continued pattern of development that respects its natural and built character.

It is highlighted within the County Development Plan that Enfield is a multi-modal location with access to a train station, unique for a town of its size, that is also in close proximity to Dublin and provides an opportunity for the town to expand as well as facilitating further growth.

Relevant policy and objectives within the Meath County Development Plan includes, but is not limited to:

ENF POL 1: It is the policy of the Council to support sustainable consolidation of the multi-modal settlement with a balance of residential and employment development supported by its strategic location on the M4 Corridor and the availability of highly accessible lands for employment and enterprise.

This Settlement Strategy will support the strengthening of urban structures and networks in the County and the creation of an attractive living and working environment that will make the County an attractive location for economic investment. It also recognises the complementary role of settlements in the County in supporting growth and providing services.

SH POL 1: To ensure that all settlements, in as far as practicable, develop in a self-sufficient manner with population growth occurring in tandem with the provision of physical and social infrastructure.

SH POL 2: To promote the consolidation of existing settlements and the creation of compact urban forms through the utilisation of infill and brownfield lands in preference to edge of centre locations.

SH POL 3: To support the creation of healthy and sustainable communities that encourages and facilitates walking and cycling and general physical activity through the implementation of best practices in urban design that promotes permeability and interconnecting spaces.

A key priority for the Plan is the development of a sustainable transport system, promoting measures to increase the use of public transport, while also increasing the modal share for walking and cycling in towns and villages across the County. Maintaining and improving transport networks is a priority and a policy of the Council to continue to support the effective integration of land-use and transportation in order to reinforce sustainable development that reduces the need to travel by car.

MOV POL 1: To support and facilitate the integration of land use with transportation infrastructure, through the development of sustainable compact settlements which are well served by public transport, in line with guiding principles outlined in RPO 8.1 of the EMRA RSES 2019-2031.

MOV POL 3: To promote sustainable land use planning measures which facilitate transportation efficiency, economic returns on transport investment, minimisation of environmental impact and a general shift towards the greater use of public transportation throughout the County.

MOV OBJ 21: To facilitate the provision of a new car parking facility at Enfield Train Station in conjunction with the NTA and Irish Rail.

The Plan seeks to support and facilitate an increase in modal share for cycling and increase the use of the bus network. The Council recognises walking and cycling as the most sustainable modes of transport available in terms of their positive impacts on the environment and will continue to improve facilities in conjunction with the NTA.

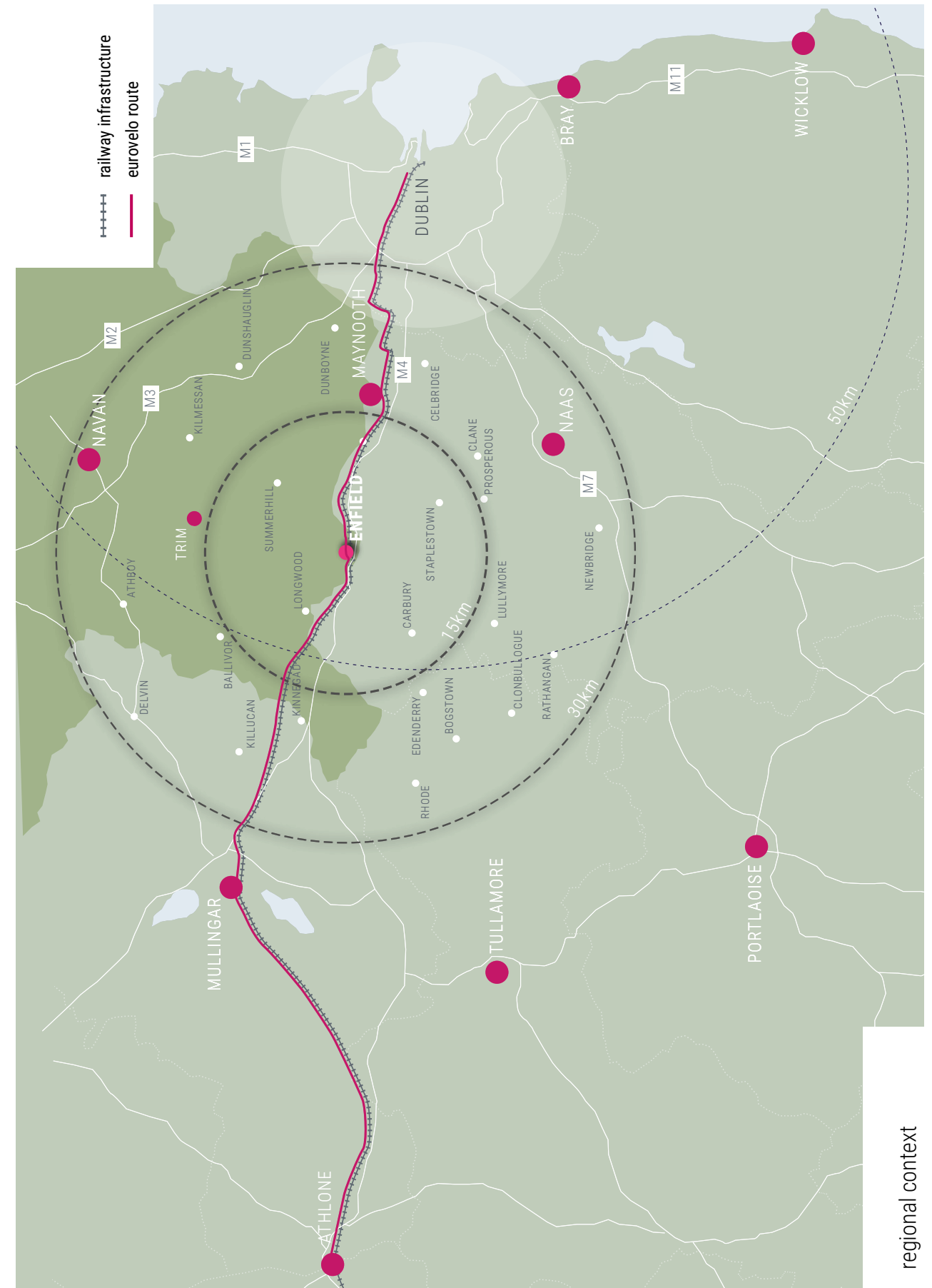
f Appendix: Town Analysis

Town Analysis

Town Analysis & Site Appraisal

In support of the proposals brought forward in the TCF plan, an analysis of the town was undertaken. The findings of this analysis, in conjunction with the consultation findings and town team workshops provide the rationale for the plan and the projects.

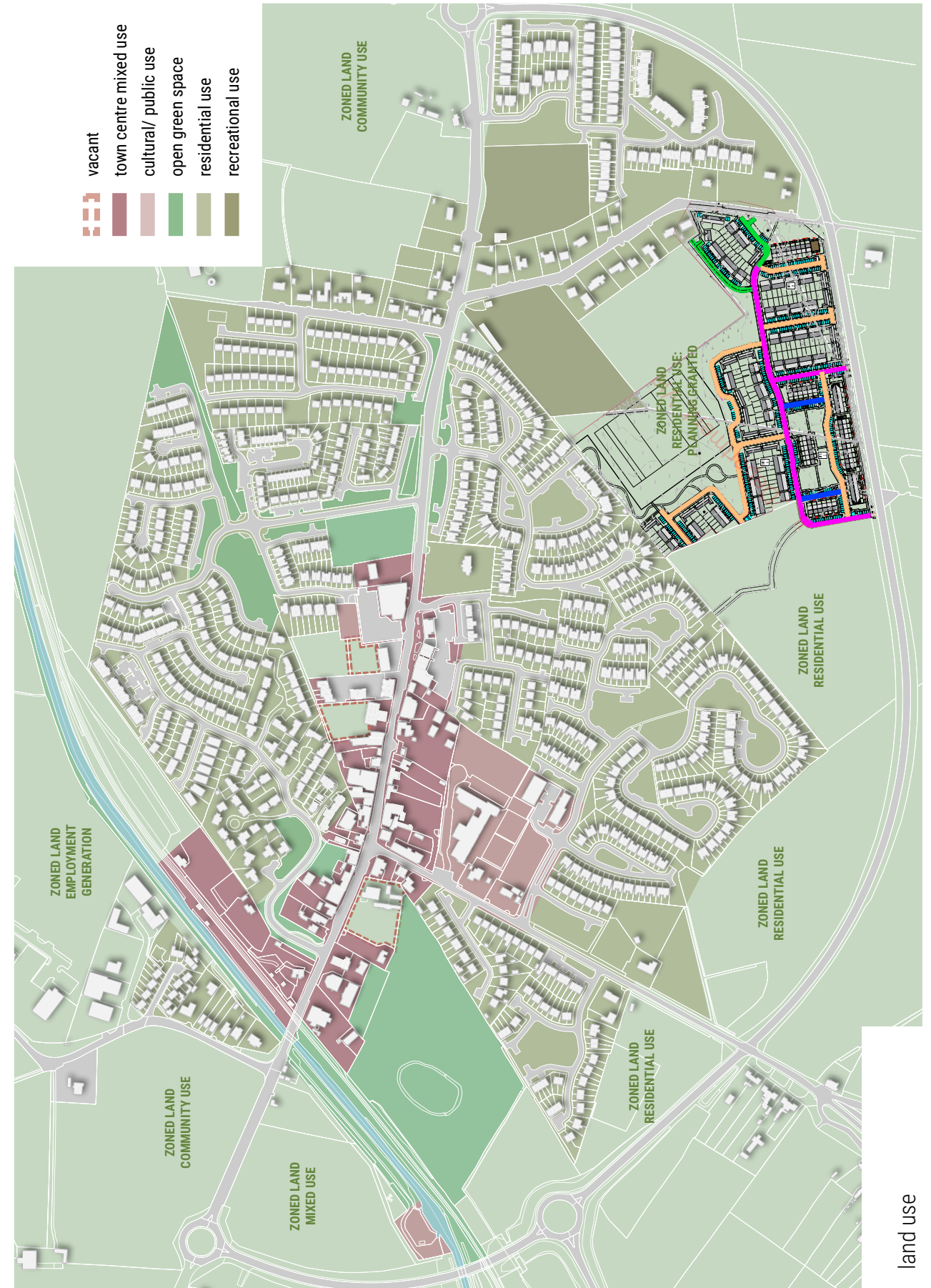
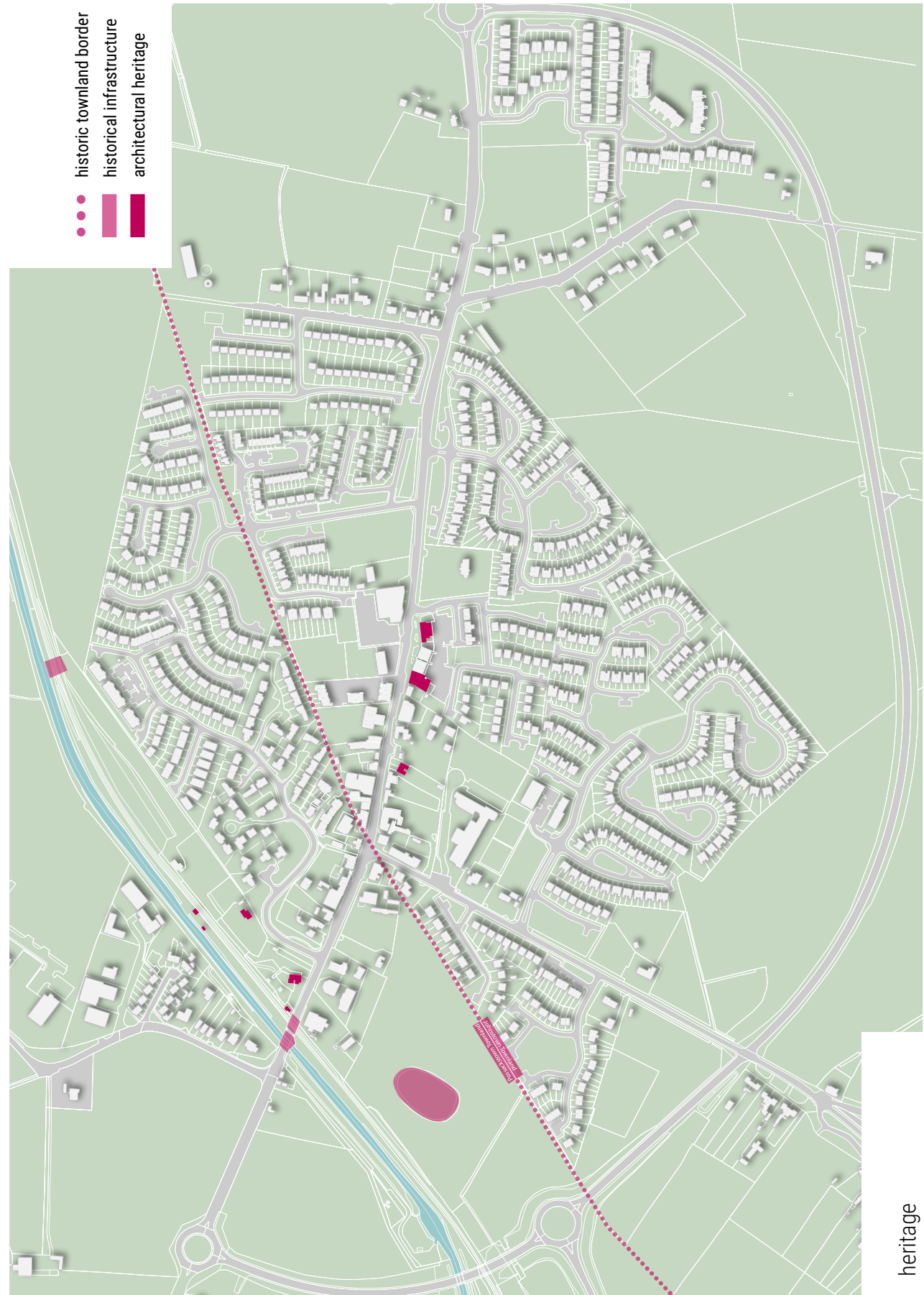
The following pages provide an overview of the analysis that was undertaken during the TCF process.



regional context

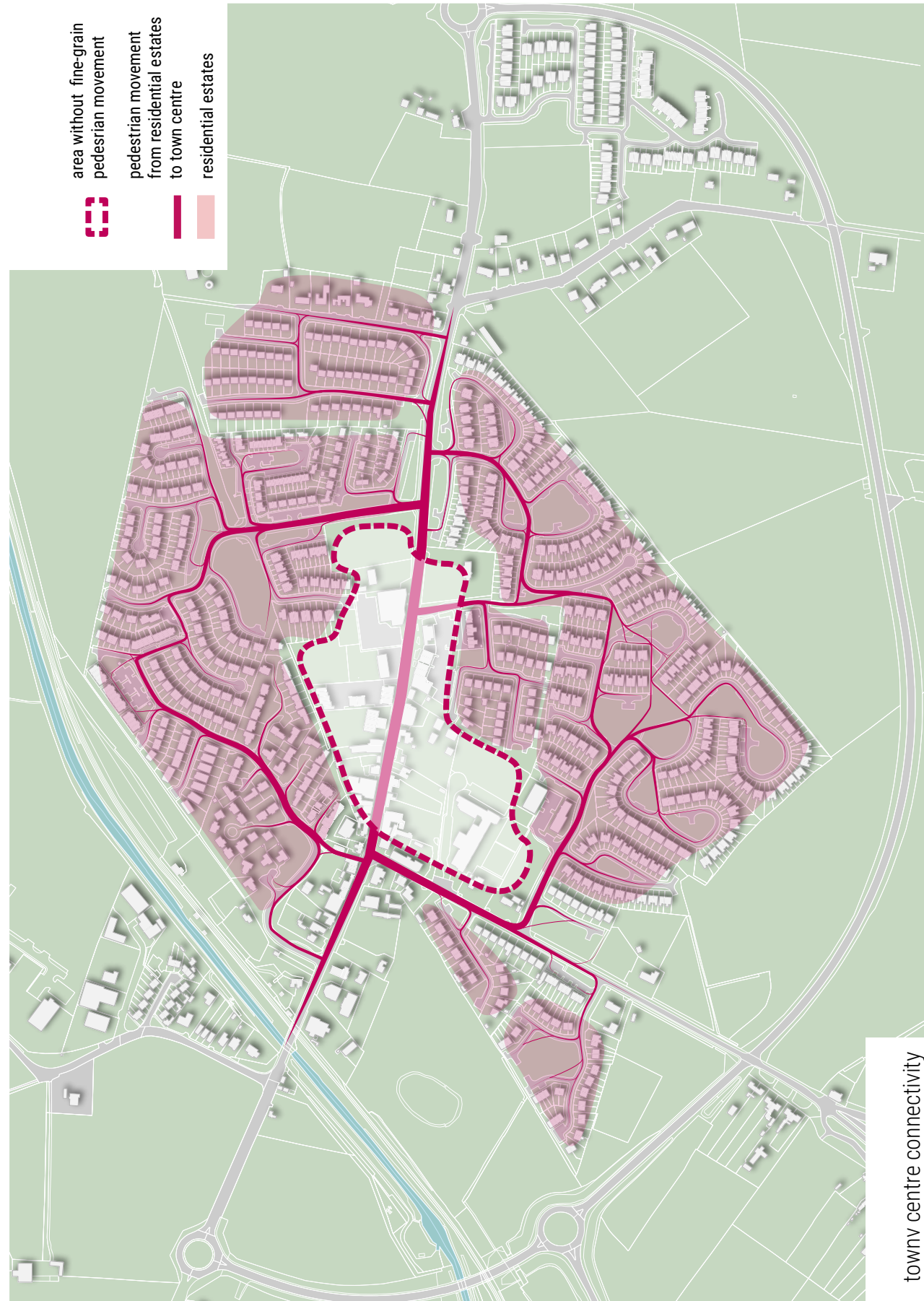
f Appendix: Town Analysis

Town Analysis



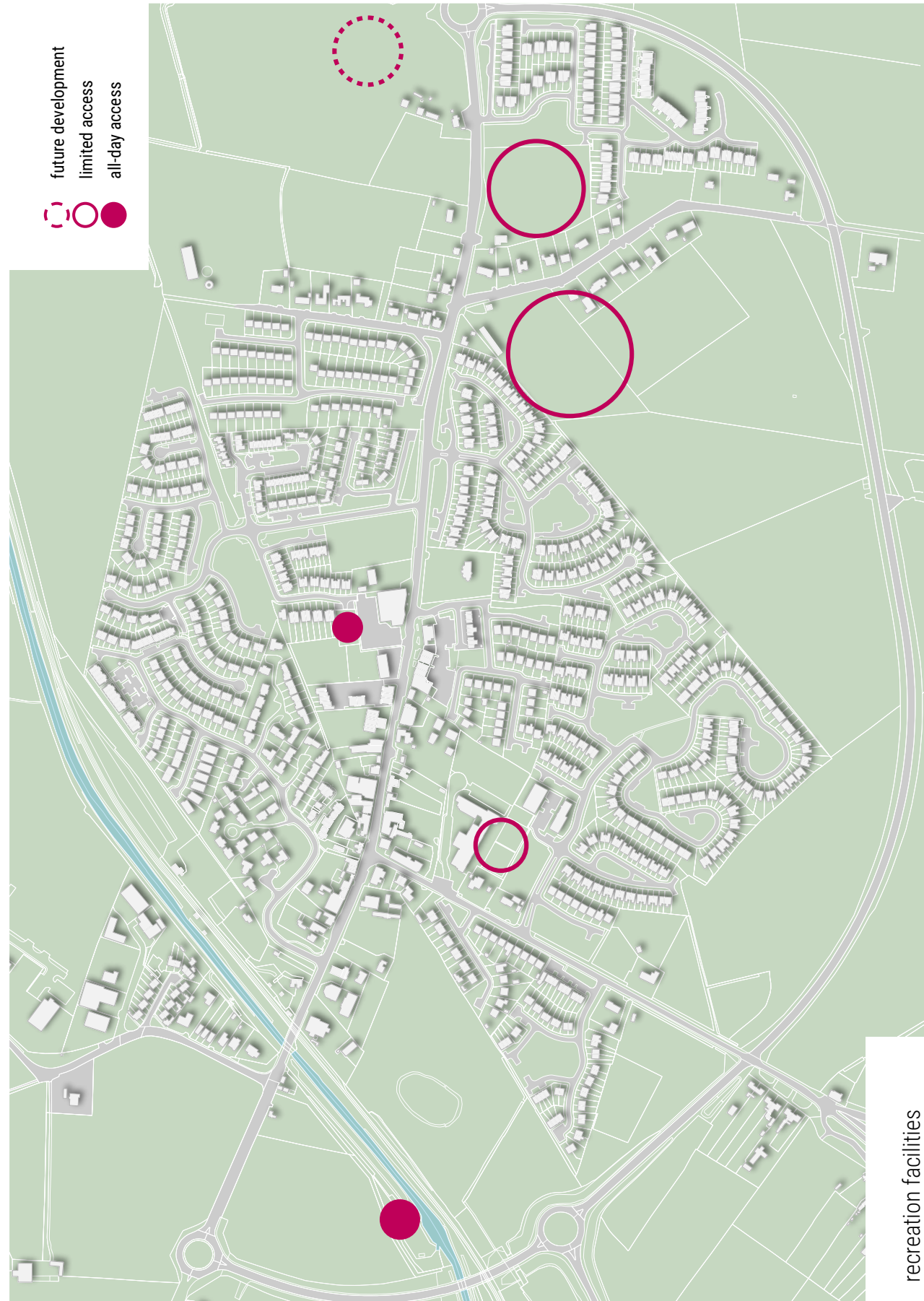
f Appendix: Town Analysis

Town Analysis



f Appendix: Town Analysis

Town Analysis





Lár Bailte ar dTús
Town Centre First



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

ENFIELD TOWN TEAM

the paul hogarth company



comhairle chontae na mí
meath county council

