

BALLINASLOE TOWN CENTRE FIRST DRAFT PLAN

INTRODUCTION TO THE CONSULTATION

Welcome to the public consultation process on the Draft Town Centre Plan for Ballinasloe. Once complete this community led plan will be used to drive regeneration projects across the town centre.

The following boards explain the process so far and introduce draft proposals of the plan. It is vital that as many local people as possible have their say and help shape this vision for Ballinasloe.

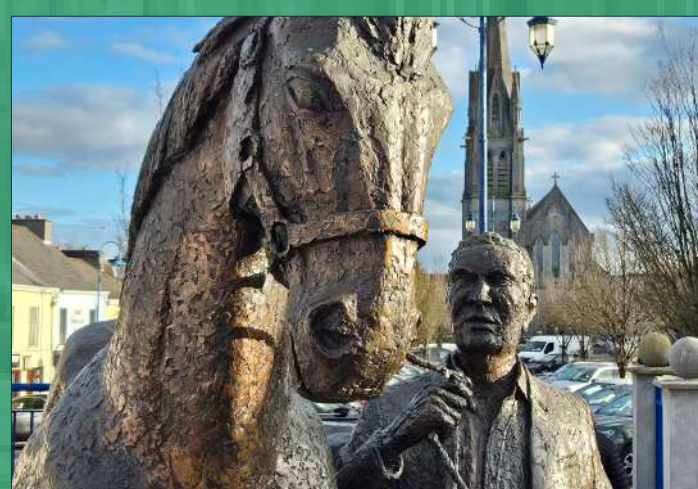
Please complete the boards and survey online at <https://consult.galway.ie/en/consultation/ballinasloe-town-centre-first-plan> or via the adjacent QR Code.



BALLINASLOE AND YOUR TOWN TODAY

Ballinasloe has many positive attributes of which local people are rightly proud. These include its unique buildings and built heritage, including open spaces such as the Fair Green. It also includes its natural landscape and especially the River Suck.

Yet like all town centres in Ireland, Ballinasloe also faces challenges. These include vacant buildings and a need to revitalise the town centre to attract new residents, businesses and visitors.



THE PROCESS AND THE TCF POLICY

The Ballinasloe Town Centre First Plan is being developed by the Ballinasloe Town Team, in collaboration with Galway County Council and The Paul Hogarth Company on behalf of local people..

The process focuses on engagement and collaboration, and has been driven by the findings from the first consultation and the insights from the town representatives on the Town Team. The Town Centre First (TCF) Policy is a government initiative that aims to prioritise the regeneration and revitalisation of town centres, focusing on making them more attractive, sustainable, and vibrant places to live, work, and visit.

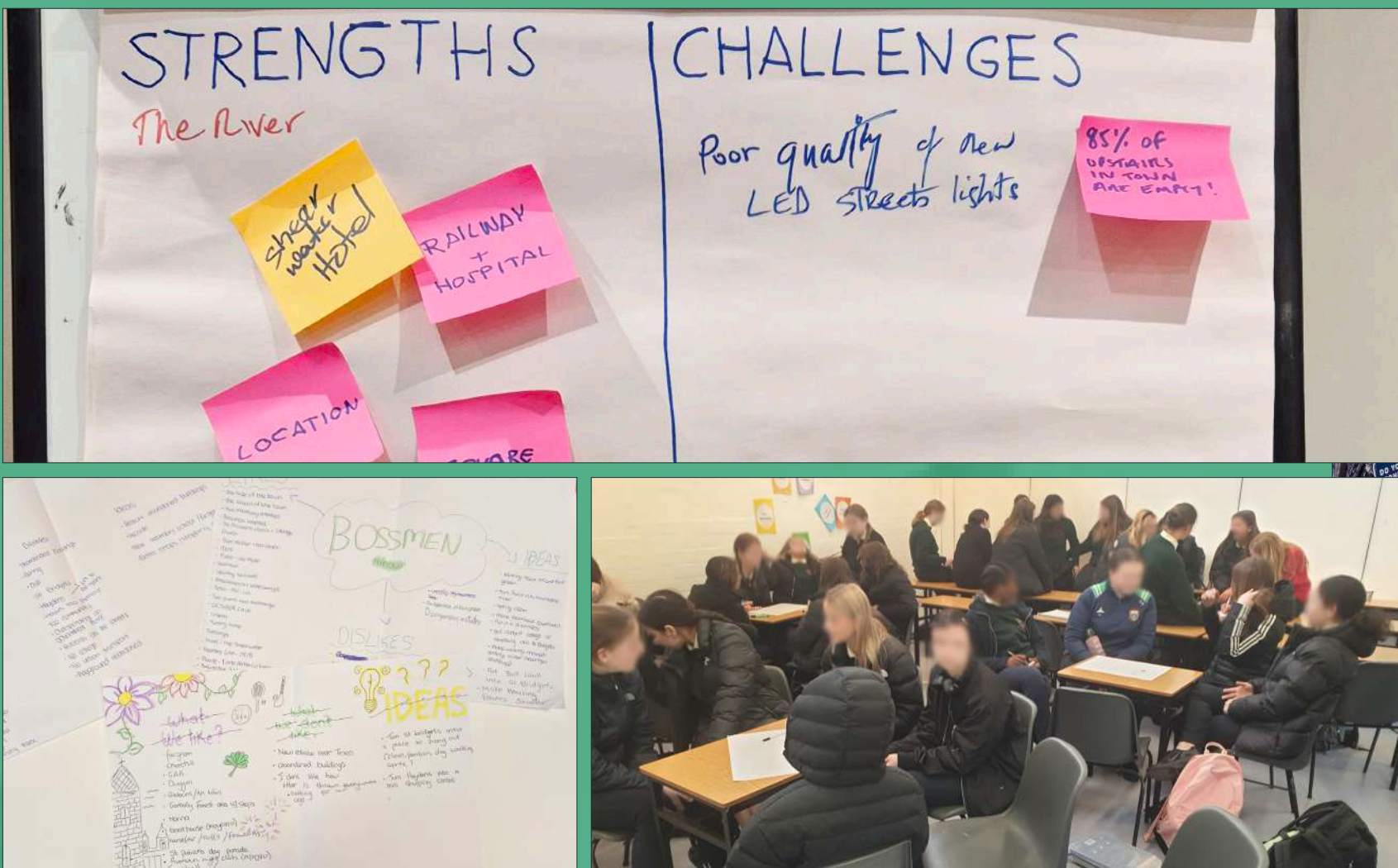


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WHAT BALLINASLOE HAD TO SAY...
FROM THE 1ST CONSULTATION

The first consultation findings highlighted that Ballinasloe is an attractive town with a well-planned layout and popular shops, facilities, and amenities. However, dereliction of key landmarks is affecting its overall appearance.

Local people have a strong interest in further developing the town centre, especially in relation to businesses, employment, and retail. Many opportunities were identified, including: enhancement of the public realm, improvement of green and blue spaces like the river and Fair Green, as well as the potential for residential development in the town centre, and to bring forward better facilities for young and old.



LIKES AND DISLIKES

LIKE

"People, amenities, convenience"

"Three streets connected, traffic both ways."

"Everything one needs can be found in the town, motorway access, **potential for development.**"

"Some very nice shopfronts. The new street scape is very good"

"The many historic buildings - town hall, library etc. The potential of the river, if access was opened up. **Fair Green has huge potential.**"

"It looks very welcoming. The food places are very good quality. **The church is beautiful.**"

"Compact town. Plenty of parking. **Friendly locals**"

"The town square with a tripod of streets leading out from it. The **meandering river** - which should be utilised more. Building facades ie upper floors windows etc."

DISLIKE

"Not much parking, **unsafe crossing** and not many stop signs."

"The town centre has a **high number of unoccupied retail units** that are also empty overhead."

"**Anti social behaviour**"

"**Public transport could be doubled.** There could be **more historical attractions.** The **library** could be **opened up more.**"

"Its feels disjointed, parking can be difficult, unsightly derelict buildings."

"Lack of nice walks, **derelict houses, nowhere to swim in river**"

"Paid parking, permanent barricades, **vacant businesses**"

"very little places to socialise"



COMMENTS AND IDEAS

"Making more use of the fair green by having family fun days, French markets, Christmas markets, concerts and much more"

"Tourism / tourists need to be top of mind. Rules around dereliction, signage, upkeep"

"Opening up the canal."

"Develop the vacant properties for residential and retail"

Kids indoor play centre. Make use of derelict buildings. Remove paid parking. Paint buildings. **More pedestrian crossings and speed ramps** around town.

Category	Count
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT	10
VACANCY & DERELICTION	15
ROAD INFRASTR.	10
COMMUNITY	10
GREEN & BLUE	10
RESIDENTIAL DEV	10
YOUTH FACILITIES	10
MAINTENANCE	10
ACTIVE TRAVEL	10
THINGS TO DO	10
COMMERCIAL DEV.	20
PUBLIC FACILITIES & SECTOR	20
CIVIC SPACES	20
INCLUSIVITY & BEHAVIOUR	20
TOURISM & PROMOTION	20
HERITAGE	20
MODERNISE & E-INFRASTR.	20
PUBLIC TRANSPORT	20
COMPETITION WITH OTHER	20
EXEMPLARS	20
OTHER	20



BALLINASLOE TOWN CENTRE FIRST DRAFT PLAN

THE VISION:

“**BALLINASLOE** EMBRACES ITS DISTINCTIVE CHARACTER AND HERITAGE, AS A WELCOMING, SAFE, AND VIBRANT PLACE **FOR EVERYONE.**”

GREAT POTENTIAL EXISTS TO ATTRACT MORE PEOPLE TO BALLINASLOE.



ARTIST IMPRESSION ONLY

OBJECTIVE 1

MAKING THE MOST OF BALLINASLOE’S WONDERFUL AND DIVERSE ASSETS

OBJECTIVE 2

CELEBRATING THE TOWN’S IDENTITY AND ENVISIONING OUR FUTURE

OBJECTIVE 3

CREATING A SAFE AND INCLUSIVE TOWN CENTRE TO LIVE IN, WORK IN, AND VISIT

PROJECTS

- a. FAIR GREEN
- b. RIVER SUCK
- c. MARKET SQUARE
- d. BALLINASLOE STORIES

- e. VACANT BUILDINGS
- f. HEALTHY STREETS
- g. TOWN CENTRE NEIGHBOURHOOD

PROJECTS



BALLINASLOE TOWN CENTRE FIRST DRAFT PLAN

a.

PROJECT: FAIR GREEN

The **FAIR GREEN** will enhance the town's animation through special and exciting events and reimagine itself as a space designed for play and other everyday uses for everyone.



PERFORMANCES



SEATING



PICNIC SPOTS



ANNUAL FAIR



WORKSHOPS



b.

PROJECT: RIVER SUCK

The **RIVER SUCK** will be a biodiverse and special amenity for the town centre offering multiple points of access, community connection to nature, protection from flooding, and hubs for outdoor recreation.



CANOEING



PLAY



NATURE WALKS



RESTING SPOTS



BOATING



c.

PROJECT: THE SQUARE

The **SQUARE** (originally Market Square) will be the vibrant heart of the town centre, bustling with activity, hosting events, and serving as a central gathering place for residents and visitors alike.



EVENTS



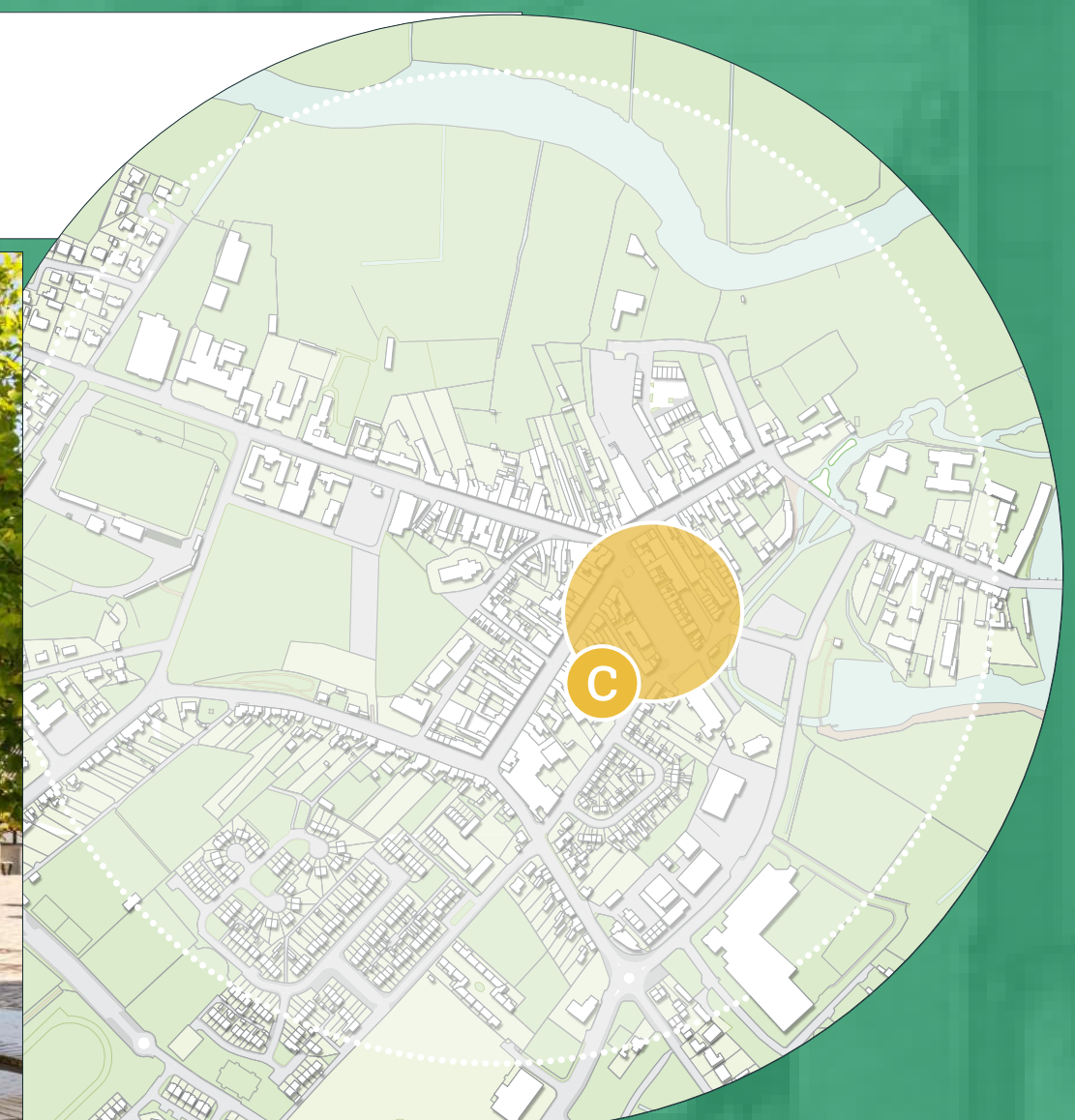
SEATING



PARKING



MARKETS



d.

PROJECT: BALLINASLOE STORIES

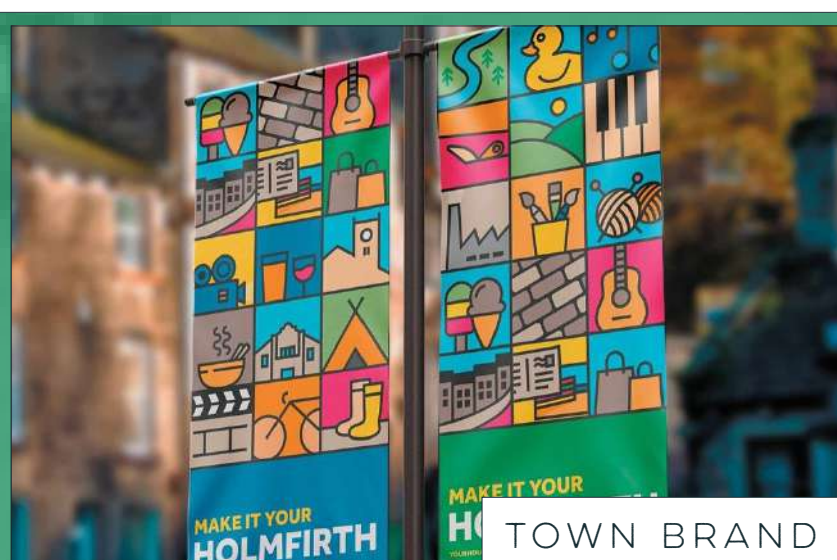
The **BALLINASLOE STORIES** will highlight the town's heritage and develop the town's identity and its welcome as a place to visit and stay, including a potential Ballinasloe Stories Centre.



ART AND...



...CULTURE



MAKE IT YOUR
HOLMFIRTH TOWN BRAND



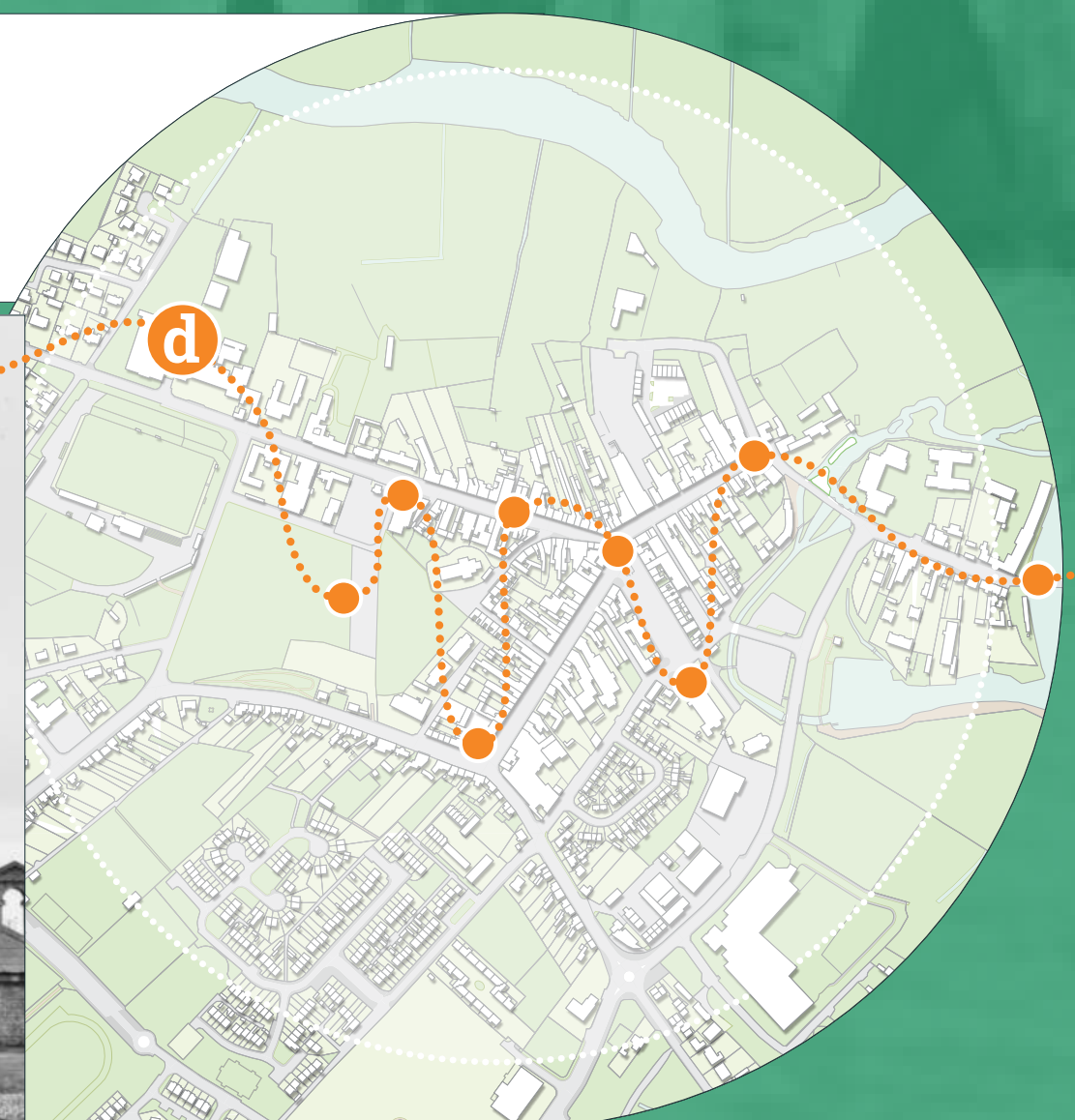
HERITAGE



SIGNS



LOCAL STORIES

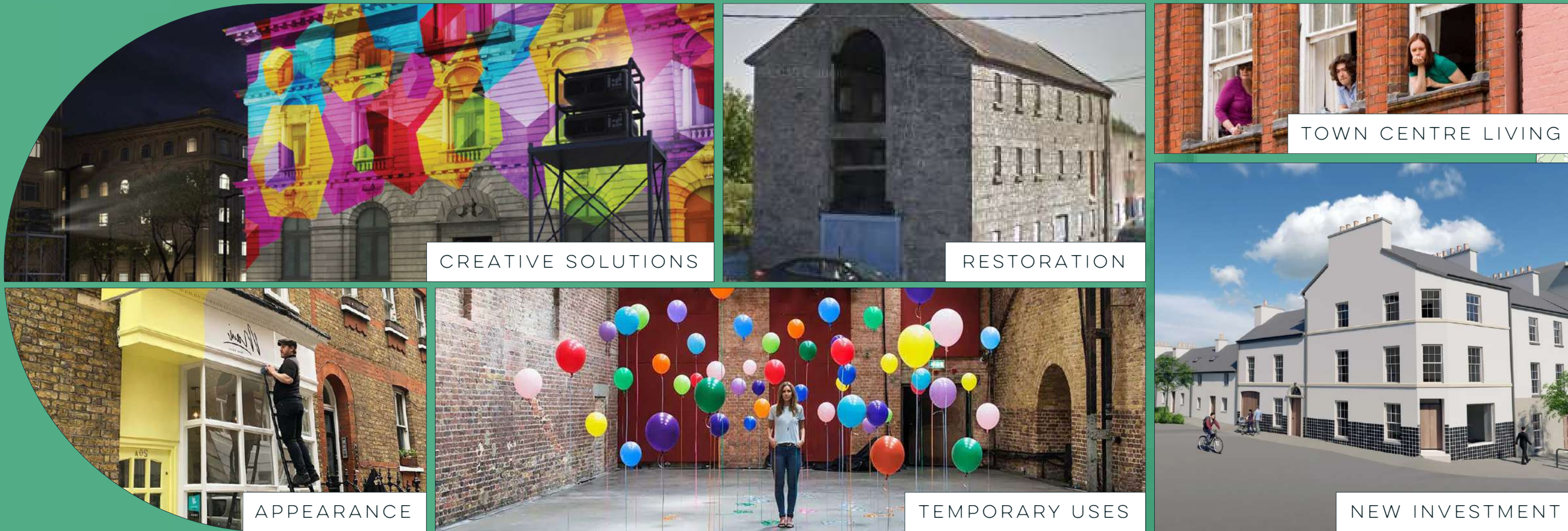


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e.

PROJECT: VACANT BUILDINGS

The **VACANT BUILDINGS** will discover new opportunities to revitalise the town centre through landmark buildings and overhead spaces for community, residential, and commercial use.



CREATIVE SOLUTIONS

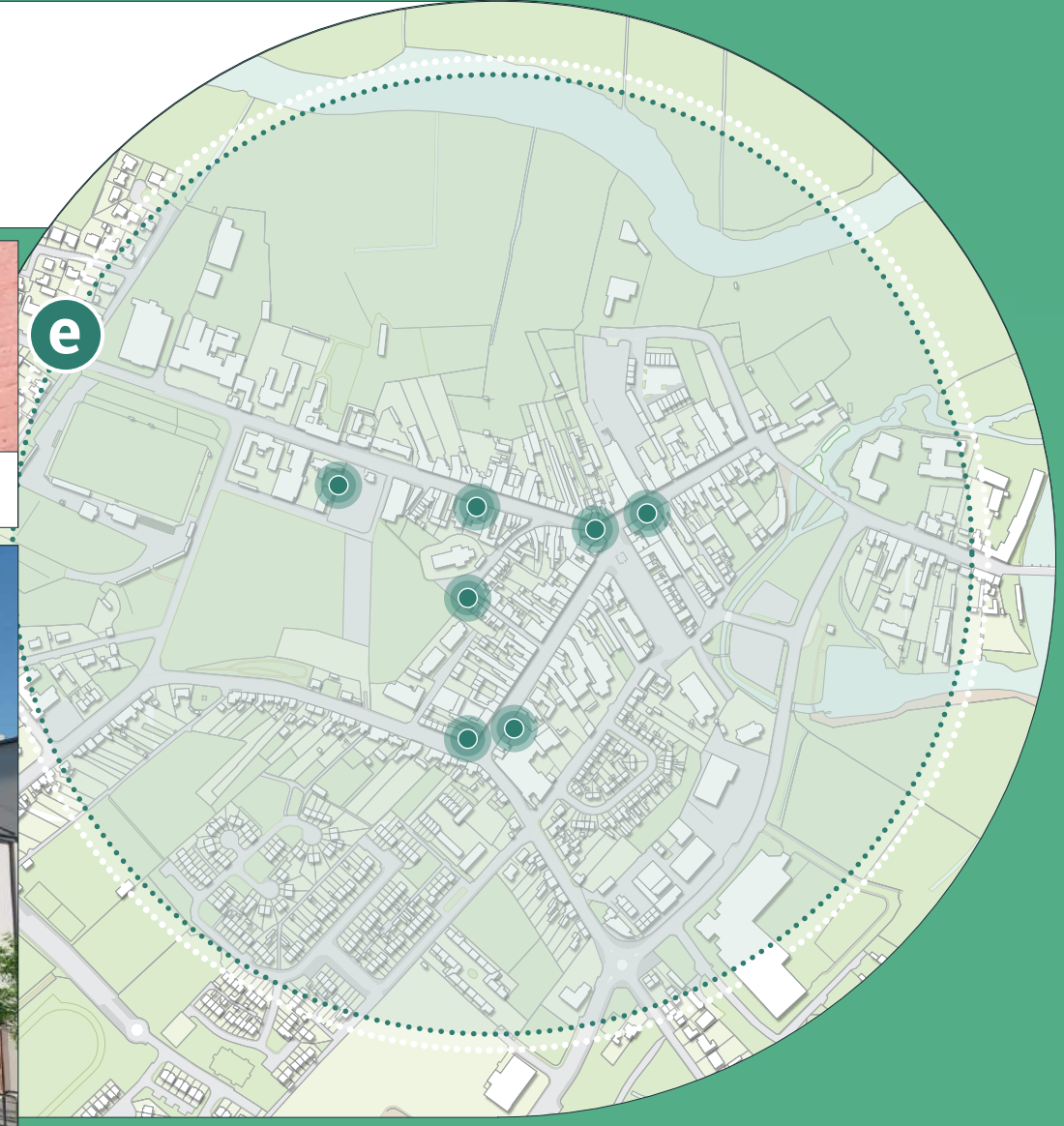
RESTORATION

TOWN CENTRE LIVING

APPEARANCE

TEMPORARY USES

NEW INVESTMENT



f.

PROJECT: HEALTHY STREETS

The **HEALTHY STREETS** will prioritise people by making them safe places that promote healthy lifestyles through lighting, walking and cycling infrastructure, and thoughtful design.



OUTDOOR SEATING

SAFER LANEWAYS

ACCESSIBLE

LIGHTING & SAFETY

CYCLE NETWORK



g.

PROJECT: TOWN CENTRE NEIGHBOURHOOD

The **TOWN CENTRE NEIGHBOURHOOD** will develop the town centre's integral backlands and shortcuts to create a thriving home for the community to live in, work in, and visit, with many facilities and amenities in close proximity.



HIGH QUALITY

COMMUNITY

PLAYFUL SPACES

EXISTING BUILDINGS

HISTORIC MATERIALS



HAVE YOUR SAY!

This draft plan has been developed for your town, based on your feedback to date. The final plan will be used to inform future investment in the town centre.

Therefore, it's important to let us know your thoughts and ideas, and to **have your say!**

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What do you think about the plan?

Do you have ideas for the projects?

HAVE YOUR SAY!

