

STATEMENT FROM:



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Wednesday, 27 January 2010

Release: Immediate

Armstrong urges local people and community groups to get involved in Consultation process regarding future development in Magherafelt and Cookstown

Mid-Ulster MLA Billy Armstrong has welcomed the Social Development Minister's announcement that Town Centre Masterplans are to be prepared for Magherafelt and Cookstown

The Ulster Unionist representative said;

“The Minister's announcement of Town Centre Masterplans for Magherafelt and Cookstown is good news both for the people who live in the towns and for the wider Mid-Ulster area.

I met the Minister last week when she visited the towns, and her decision to appoint Consultants to begin work on the Masterplans will be welcomed by all those who want to see these towns thrive and meet the needs of local people and visitors in the 21st Century.

These plans will map out the future development of the two town centres and will guide both public and private development in the respective town centres for the next ten to 15 years.

The next twelve months will see the Department and the Consultants seek out the views of all those who will be affected.

While this will obviously involve bodies such as the local Councils, I would particularly appeal to local people and community groups and other local bodies to get involved in the consultation and have their say. Local people who live, work, socialise and shop in Magherafelt and or Cookstown town centres have the biggest stake in this process, and they need to help shape and guide these plans. It is too important to be left to politicians and Government Departments.”

ENDS