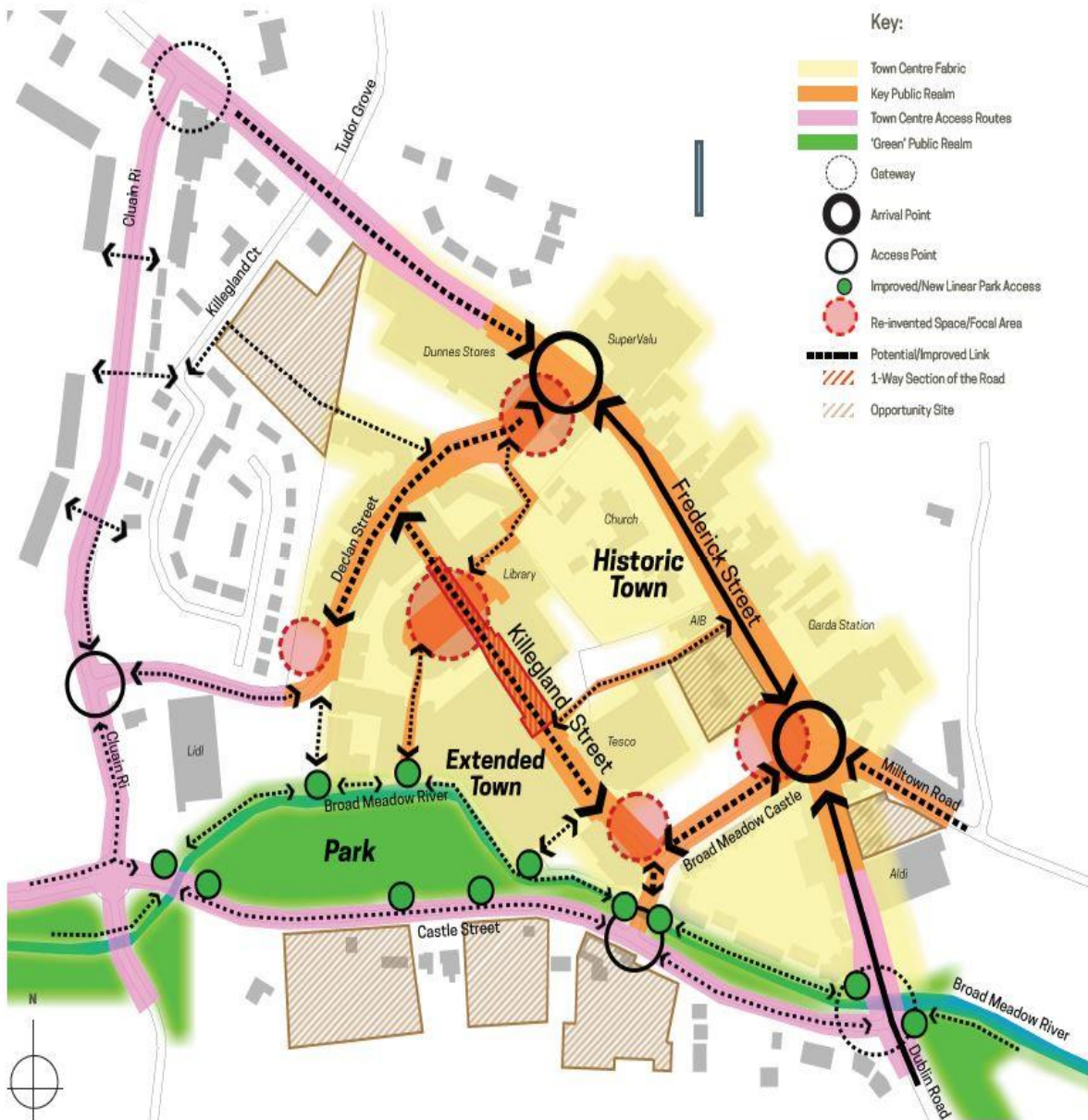


Ashbourne Public Realm Implementation Action Plan

VERSION ONE DECEMBER 2021

Public Realm Improvement Potential



The Public Realm Strategy for Ashbourne Town Centre was published in July 2018. The implementation of the Ashbourne Public Realm Strategy will make the town centre a more attractive place for people to live, visit, shop, and socialise in addition to making the town more appealing to potential investors.

Stakeholders/Partners

The Public Realm Strategy for Ashbourne sets out an ambitious and practical set of projects for delivery by a range of stakeholders. Projects should be delivered by a range of stakeholders to share the costs and resources required for implementation and ultimately to provide a sense of ownership for all involved. It is a recommendation of the Public Realm Strategy that a strong and meaningful identity for Ashbourne be established through collaboration and consultation with the local community and stakeholders.

Key Stakeholders include Public and Private Sector bodies, Community Groups and Individuals. Depending on the nature and scope of project/projects different stakeholders will need to take the lead in implementing the proposed strategy. In general terms, Meath County Council, in conjunction and collaboration with the Ashbourne MD, will take the lead on street and public space projects, whereas community groups, business and property owners and individuals will be responsible for projects relating to private property.

Other inputs from Key Stakeholders include , Meath Chamber of Commerce, Fáilte Ireland, Tidy Towns Committee, Community Groups and Private Sector Individuals.

The engagement/agreement of private landowners is critical for the progression of a number of the projects.

Funding

Each project will be dependant on funding and approvals, which will involve detailed design and public consultation. Community initiatives and funding opportunities should be actively pursued for the delivery of community led projects.

Project Ireland 2040 is a clear source of funding which supports ambitious and strategic projects which contribute to sustainable urban / rural regeneration and development. Other sources will include Fáilte Ireland, Our Rural Future 2021, Urban Regeneration Development Fund (URDF) and the Town and Village renewal schemes.

Achieving this new vision for Ashbourne will not happen overnight, the Public Realm Strategy for Ashbourne is the first step towards improving the built environment and streetscape in the town centre. The strategy needs to be embraced and implemented to encourage positive change in the town centre. In order for this plan to succeed,, close cooperation and coordination is vital between local community groups, the local business community, landowners, the general public and Meath County Council.

Implementing the Plan

The following are the key steps to implementing the Public Realm Plan;

1. The Public Realm Plan identifies 7 no. strategic projects which will have to be developed and delivered in order achieve full implementation of the plan. These are listed in the table below.
 2. Establish a project priority list with funding sources identified.
 3. Identity/Wayfinding Project
 - Commission and install distinctive welcome features at the gateways into the town.
 - Install clear directional signage at key locations to inform people of key destinations.
 - Commission and install bespoke street name plaques on streets, laneways and public spaces.
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<u>Projects</u>	<u>Actions</u>	<u>Partners and Stakeholders</u>	<u>Funding</u>
Frederick Street/ Broadmeadow Castle	1. Create a new civic space at town entrance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Land Owners - MCC Depts: Projects, Transport, Community, Economic Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Private Investment - Community Amenity Project Scheme - Streetscape Enhancement - URDF
	2. Improve street legibility - Introduce high quality paving, lighting, street furniture, planting and signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MCC Depts: Transport, Community, Economic Development - Land Owners - Local Business - Tidy Towns - Community Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - URDF - Private Investment - Streetscape Enhancement - Community Funding
	3. Optimise pedestrian space by de-cluttering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Land Owners - Local Business - Tidy Towns - Community Groups - MCC Depts: Transport. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Streetscape Enhancement - URDF

Declan Street / Frederick Street Park	1. Create a new pedestrian civic space (Pocket Park, with seating, outdoor gym and small playground)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Land Owner (Land owned by Dunnes Stores of 67 Upper Stephen Street, Dublin 8) - MCC Depts: Projects, Community - Tidy Towns - Community Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Private Investment - Community Amenity Project Scheme
	2. Improve street legibility - Introduce high quality paving, lighting, street furniture, planting and signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MCC Depts: Transport, Community, Economic Development - Land Owners - Local Business - Tidy Towns - Community Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - URDF - Private Investment - Streetscape Enhancement - Community Funding
	3. Improve pedestrian crossing facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MCC Transport - NTA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Active Travel Fund
	4. Potential for a pedestrian link through to Library square (Subject to agreement with stakeholders)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Land Owners - MCC Depts: Transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Private Investment - Streetscape Enhancement
Killegland Street South	1. Create a pedestrian focussed public space.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Land Owners - MCC Depts: Transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Private Investment - Community Amenity Project Scheme.
	2. Improve street legibility - Introduce high quality paving, lighting, street furniture, planting and signage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MCC Depts: Transport, Community, Economic Development - Land Owners - Local Business - Tidy Towns - Community Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - URDF - Private Investment - Streetscape Enhancement - Community Funding
	3. Improve pedestrian crossing facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MCC Depts: Transport - NTA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Active Travel Fund
Killegland Street	1. Improve street legibility - Introduce high quality paving/ lighting, street furniture, planting and signage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MCC Depts: Transport, Community, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - URDF - Private Investment

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic Development - Land Owners - Local Business - Tidy Towns - Community Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Streetscape Enhancement - Community Funding
	2. Activate street frontages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Economic Development - Shop Owners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shop Front Improvement Scheme
	3. Potential one-way vehicular section – reducing on street parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MCC Dept: Transport - NTA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Active Travel Fund
Killegland Street Square and Crescent	1. Reinforce a pedestrian focussed public space and, Connect the two public spaces visually and functionally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Land Owners - MCC Depts: Transport, Community, Economic Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Private Investment - Streetscape Enhancement
	2. Improve street legibility - Introduce high quality paving, lighting, street furniture, planting and signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MCC Depts: Transport, Community, Economic Development - Land Owners - Local Business - Tidy Towns - Community Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - URDF - Private Investment - Streetscape Enhancement - Community Funding
	3. Encourage street frontages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shop Owners - MCC Dept: Economic Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shop Front Improvement Scheme
	4. Potential one-way vehicular section – reducing on street parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local Authority/Transport Department - NTA - Land owners - Local Business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Active Travel Fund
Declan Street	1. Improve street legibility - Introduce high quality paving, lighting, street furniture, planting and signage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -MCC Depts: Transport, Community, Economic Development - Land Owners - Local Business - Tidy Towns - Community Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - URDF - Private Investment - Streetscape Enhancement - Community Funding
	2. Encourage street frontages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shop Owners - Local Business - Land owners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shop Front Improvement Scheme

		- MCC Depts: Economic Development	
	3. Improve pedestrian crossing facilities. Existing and new.	- MCC Depts: Transport - NTA	- Active Travel
Declan Street Pocket Park	1. Create new pedestrian focussed public space (pocket park)	- Land owners - MCC Depts: Community, Projects	- Private Investment - Community Amenity Project Scheme.
	2. Enhance built environment using high quality paving, lighting, seating, planting and signage.	- Land Owners - Local Business - Community Groups - Tidy towns - MCC Depts: Transport, Economic Development	- Streetscape Enhancement
	3. Improve pedestrian crossing facilities.	- MCC Depts: Transport. - NTA	- Active Travel

Conclusion

The success of the Ashbourne Public Realm Plan will depend exclusively on the buy-in and ownership taken by all stakeholders involved in the town. The number and range of stakeholders have been identified in the above table in order to highlight the level of coordination and collaboration that will be required to implement the plan. Detailed analysis and assessment of the town core, together with the views of the people of Ashbourne, has informed the content of the plan. It will therefore require a stakeholder forum / Steering Group to be established and operational in to provide the leadership and guidance required to deliver on all aspects of the plan throughout the town. Meath County Council, together with the Ashbourne Municipal District Staff and Members will be central to this work but ultimately it will be about the combined efforts of all stakeholders to deliver on this plan for a better Ashbourne in which to live, work, play and visit.

This implementation plan is a live document and will be updated as the projects are actioned.