The future of Dunoon Town Centre goes under the microscope at the end of March as we ThinkDunoon!

Dunoon Town Centre is next to benefit from this Scottish Government sponsored approach for involving the community in planning and regeneration. This follows the enthusiastic participation of Argyll and Bute residents and businesses in Rothesay, Tiree and the Crinan Canal which resulted in collaborative masterplans being created for the three areas. Scottish Urban Regeneration Forum (SURF) and Argyll and Bute Council are co-hosting the the ThinkDunoon charrette.

ThinkDunoon will look to build on the new investment at the Burgh Hall, Queen’s Hall, The Wooden Pier and the recently announced Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme.

Opportunities to Have Your Say

A charrette is an intensive consultation that includes planning workshops which engage local people in the design process for their community. The planning and design workshops will be held in the newly refurbished Wooden Pier Building on the Pier Esplanade over a three-day period running from Tuesday 28th of March to Thursday 30th of March, with a final exhibition in and a report back session at the same venue on 20th April.

This will be where the design team will be working to discuss issues, progress ideas and review options. Over the four days the public, designers and specialists will be working together, ‘hands on’, to prepare a long-term community inspired vision, masterplan and action plan for Dunoon Town Centre, with the ideas translated into plans and drawings.

The charrette offers a number of opportunities on different days for the public, local business, community groups and interested parties to get involved and have their say about the future of Dunoon Town Centre. You can choose the event that suits you. You can also drop by the Design Studio between the times identified in the Programme, over the four days, to see the ideas that are emerging. Design Team members will always be available to encourage feedback on and refine community inspired proposals. The programme is summarised below, so come along you will be made welcome!
Planning the future of Dunoon Town Centre requires ideas from everybody in the community - young, old, residents and businesses who know the town. This is not a consultation on an existing plan. The views of the community, at this early stage, will make a difference and play a key part in shaping the future of Dunoon Town Centre.

**Engagement Before The Main Events**

In preparation discussions and survey work in Dunoon are being undertaken. A team from art organisation, WAVEparticle, will be out and about in Dunoon this coming Friday 10th and Saturday 11th March. Everywhere they go they will bring a large $7m^2$ floor map of Dunoon. WAVEparticle will move through the town to speak directly to local people and invite their responses, thoughts and suggestions about the town - past, present and possible, as well as gather people’s experiences of living in Dunoon. All of which will inform and help to shape the vision and masterplan for the Town Centre in the years ahead. So look out for that!

WAVEparticle is also delighted to be visiting Dunoon Grammar School on Friday afternoon, to run a creative workshop which will bring together pupils from Dunoon Grammar and from Dunoon, Kirn, St. Muns and Sandbank primaries. Using the big floor map, along with a Postcard From The Future (see below). The Postcard asks pupils to transport themselves 10 years into the future and write a postcard to their earlier self, describing the future Dunoon - the workshop will encourage young people to invest in the future of their town and make sure their voices are represented. The schools’ material will be display at the ThinkDunoon charrette.

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**POSTCARD FROM THE FUTURE**

Imagine how Dunoon will look in 2027

How do you imagine the town will have changed? What changes would you like to see?

Send yourself this postcard from the future, using drawings & words to describe the changes you see in Dunoon 2027.
ThinkDunoon: Programme

The charrette offers a number of opportunities for YOU, the public to get involved and have your say. All the workshops are open with no need to register in advance. The timetable has just been finalised and is summarised below. Check out the programme and come along and give us your views.

**Tuesday 28 March – Setting the Agenda**

11.00am – 12.30pm  **Traffic & Transport: Walkabout & Workshop**  
Opportunity for agencies, Council officers and community representatives to take part in a walk and group discussions on the transport challenges and opportunities.

12.30pm – 8.30pm  **Drop-in Design Studio**  
Drop-in to the Design Studio to discuss your ideas for Dunoon

1.30pm – 3.30pm  **School Workshop - Setting the Agenda**  
With school students/young people and material from the pre-charrette activities.

6.00pm – 7.30pm  **Community Issues & Achievements Presentations**  
Short presentations from agencies, businesses, community groups and individuals discussing their role, thoughts and activities.

7.30pm – 9.00pm  **Setting the Agenda Workshop**  
Opportunity for everyone to view the initial exhibition, find out more about the events, help shape the agenda

**Wednesday 29 March – Gathering Ideas**

10.00am – 8.30pm  **Drop-in Design Studio**  
Drop-in to the Design Studio to discuss your ideas for Dunoon

10.30am – 11.30am  **Tourism Workshop**  
Opportunity for key stakeholders, businesses and individuals to take part in group discussions on the emerging tourism themes, challenges, ideas and the way forward.

2.00pm – 3.30pm  **Futurewalk**  
Walk & Talk Tour of Dunoon Town Centre with local historian, the public and interested parties.

4.00pm – 5.30pm  **Youth Workshop**  
Opportunity for everyone with an interest in youth provisions to take part in group discussions on the emerging themes, challenges, ideas and the way forward.

6.30pm – 8.30pm  **Business Workshop**  
Opportunity for local businesses to take part in discussions on the emerging business themes, challenges, ideas and the way forward.

**Thursday 30 March – Testing Ideas**

10.00am – 1.00pm  **Drop-in Design Studio**  
Drop-in to the Design Studio to discuss your ideas for Dunoon

4.30pm – 7.00pm  **Drop-in Design Studio**  
Drop-in to the Design Studio to discuss your ideas for Dunoon

7.00pm – 8.30pm  **Work in Progress Presentation**  
Opportunity for everyone to view how the exhibition has progressed, comment and ask questions.

**Thursday 20 April – Report Back**

2.00pm – 4.00pm  **Emerging Ideas Presentation**

6.30pm – 8.30pm  **Emerging Ideas Presentation**

- [Think Dunoon](http://thinkdunoon.com)
- [@ThinkDunoon](https://twitter.com/ThinkDunoon) #ThinkDunoon
Andy Milne, SURF Chief Executive, said:

“I’d encourage the general public to join in the workshops with the design team in the Wooden Pier Building. It’s important to have as many people as possible across the age groups, irrespective of background or experience, to contribute to the future of Dunoon town centre”.

“ThinkDunoon will look to build Dunoon’s many assets and strengths, including the new investment, confront what challenges there are locally and grasp the opportunities that lie ahead in the short, medium and long term.

“I hope everyone in the wider Dunoon community can play a part in ThinkDunoon.”

For further information contact:
Brian MacDonald
SURF - Scotland’s Regeneration Forum
Mobile: 07768253568
Email: brian@surf.scot

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