

## Appendix 2 Elgin City Centre Masterplan (Draft) – Consultation Responses

### Vison & Objectives

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D001	<i>Sound vision and objectives as part of post Covid recovery and longer term</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D007	<i>I think this plan is wonderful, if we can retain our Scottish heritage but give Elgin a more Scandinavian and European feel to attract tourists but also locals to a cafe/food culture in town. I do think more provision for teenagers is needed and more affordable housing.</i>	Noted. The Council will continue to pursue projects for a range of age groups, including teenagers. Proposals include spaces at the Town Hall for digital media and music recording and a space for students.  One of the key aims of the Plan is to provide more housing opportunities within the City Centre, which will help to support activity beyond 5pm.
ECCMP_D008	<i>Regarding the plans to create a social/educational hub I think it vital to ensure and support that what already exists in Elgin library. Given the fact it was not that long ago announced to be in danger of closing, any vision of Elgin must include supporting the library as a vital community resource for those most vulnerable. Not only to attract new people to Elgin but also support those already here and in need of such support. A future of Elgin must include our Library</i>	Noted. The proposals are considered complementary to Elgin library.
ECCMP_D009	<i>The vision and objectives are a nice concept</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D010	<i>Waste of time effort and money, an angel fountain really. Try lowering business rates to attract town centre shops as it's dying, no amount of chincy rubbish or connections (that already exists) between park and town centre will help. Untidy side streets and lanes are a part of Elgin charm, modernisation not required just fix the basics first.</i>	Noted. The angel fountain is being reconsidered.
ECCMP_D012	<i>I think the plan is generally forward-thinking and achievable and welcome the amount of thought and consideration that has clearly gone into its production.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D013	<i>I do think that overall this will improve the dreary city centre and inject some atmosphere and hopefully more people to</i>	Noted. The angel fountain is being re-considered as part of the work on a Public Art Strategy.

	<i>visit. However I don't see the point of redeveloping the Cooper Park pond with an angel fountain as it will look out of place and using the example of the town centre fountain it will probably hardly be on or will constantly require upkeep.</i>	
ECCMP_D019	<i>It's great to see a vision that will benefit Elgin and the surrounding areas, also the visual views of the plans look very appealing.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D020	<i>I think improvement in Elgin centre is desperately needed. A place to socialise, for all ages and tastes, relax, shop and eat. Making affordable housing for people will inject life into town, be good for first time buyers and bring money into the centre. The Europeans use their town centres in this way. It brings life and vibrancy which Elgin is sadly lacking now. We have some beautiful buildings, restoring civic pride ( think of batches st) will transform the town. I am embarrassed to bring visitors into our town and would take them out for the day or avoid the central Elgin. Great work let's move forward.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D021a	<i>The vision is great. However, it needs more community initiatives. When I look around Elgin on a daily basis whether walking or driving, the lack of trees and hedging is atrocious. The snow drifting onto roads can be eased with hedging. The high winds, especially where we live in Elgin is ridiculous due partly from lack of shelter and obstacles trees provide. On top of that, greenery is proven to increase people's wellbeing. I hand on heart believe Elgin can be just as beautiful and happy with more greenery, shelter and a way for communities to sustain their own food.</i>	Noted. One of the aims of the plan is to “green the Centre” to include more trees, hedges and shrub planting for biodiversity and pollination. Further detail of these proposals will be set out in the final version of the Masterplan.
ECCMP_D021b	<i>After reading and viewing the whole plan again and again, I really like what I read and see. Elgin has been promised so much in the past and many projects have been deceased by previous council members. I love Elgin, I moved here as a child in 1995 and came here for holidays as a toddler every year, twice a year to visit grandparents and relatives. I enjoyed the use of Cooper Park with trampolines, boats, summer and Easter activities etc. It was the best holiday as a child and moving here was exciting. My Dad often says</i>	Noted.

	<i>how he enjoyed working in the tailors on South Street and going around Elgin City centre for entertainment. City. I hardly hear anyone say City of Elgin. A football club is called City, we have a beautiful Cathedral and Elgin is certainly GROWING, so why not implement City more than town' Elgin is a great place often disguised with a rundown thought, it needs promotion and it needs this masterplan to be implemented, especially if my kids and other generations want to still be here.</i>	
ECCMP_D023	<i>I believe Elgin is sorely in need of a facelift however many of the individual projects are pie in the sky and are not going to be beneficial to the town as a whole. The overall project seems to be more worried about improving the town for the tourists rather than the people who live in Elgin. There are unnecessary radical changes that are proposed that could be softened to apply to currently existing parts of Elgin.</i>	<p>The projects are considered to be realistic and achievable. Significant funding opportunities to help transform the Centre are available through the Moray Growth Deal and other funding initiatives which the Council is pursuing.</p> <p>It is unclear what the unnecessary radical changes comment refers to, however, if that is the connections between the Centre and the Park, then these types of radical changes are required to address the longstanding issue of “severance” between Park and Centre and to support objectives relating to cutting carbon and promoting health and wellbeing.</p>
ECCMP_D024	<i>It is great to see that Elgin is being looked at and invested in. Keep up the good work.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D025	<i>Absolutely brilliant, Elgin is so beautiful and is in dire need of this upgrade. The public have the money to spend, we definitely need to use the town centre to its full capacity. More restaurants with covered outdoor seating, concerts outside the St. Giles Church etc. I think the plans look great, anything would be better than how it is now. We need to embrace our beautiful architecture and make shop sign vintage instead of the ghastly modern ones that just make the city centre look poor!</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D027	<i>The Elgin master plan is all well and good. The high street is dirty and unkempt there's no flagship stores to attract shoppers all I can see is cafes/restaurants charity shops beauty salons and phone shops nestled among empty buildings and dirty pub fronts. The front of Wetherspoons is like a job centre hangout it looks dirty with all the folk</i>	Noted. Investing in the proposed projects will attract people and businesses to the town. Elgin is facing the same challenges that Centres across the country are facing in terms of shop closures and declining footfall. Centres are all having to compete with online retailing and changing consumer demands.

	<p><i>standing outside throwing cigarette butts and swearing loudly. The St. Giles centre has nothing in it apart from cafes and phone shops. The area around farm foods and Northport is outdated and dirty. That area needs a focal point to bring people into it. The dandelion was a waste of money never seen anything so ugly and the seating next to it is ugly. Bus station is dirty and cramped and the town hall is so 1950s . Why don't you allow traffic down one side of the high street.</i></p>	
ECCMP_D030	<p><i>The pedestrianisation of the entire city centre is a mistake - the High Street and surrounding streets have suffered greatly since the High Street was pedestrianised</i></p> <p><i>The state of our High Street and surrounding shopping areas are an eyesore, especially with the unattractive lion statue erected. Shops have been unable to carry on trading due to high rents and reduced footfall due to pedestrianisation. There are no decent shops left in our town. When I was young there was a multitude of shops to choose from (Luckpenny, Elgar, Arnold's, grocers, sweet shops, sports shops, toy shops shoe shops, clothes shops, gift shops etc) - now it's second hand shops and very little else! Bring back the days when it used to be a joy to spend hours up the town!!</i></p>	Noted.
ECCMP_D031	<p><i>The draft master plan addresses the major concerns people have regarding the town centre. I particularly like the plan to tackle the shopfronts and landscaping.</i></p>	Noted.
ECCMP_D034	<p><i>It is all very well having vision and objective, however, as a cash strapped council it would be interesting to know how you intend to pay for everything proposed' You advertise it as being for a city but this is very misleading as Elgin is a town, not a city (7 cities in Scotland, Elgin is not one of them). Visitors to Elgin (including my own family when they come to visit) are disappointed by the lack of facilities in the supposed city. The town centre does need major upgrading, however, it is more important in the first instance to attract shops, and shoppers. Stop with the retail parks and start</i></p>	<p>The aim of investing in the Centre is to attract more people and businesses to Elgin. The Moray Growth Deal will provide significant funding towards the proposals at Elgin Town Hall, Grant Lodge and the proposed Business Enterprise Hub. The Council will investigate and apply for other significant funding available to bring about the regeneration of the Centre.</p>

	<i>lowering rates to get businesses back into town centres. It's the same story everywhere.</i>	
ECCMP_D036	<i>The vision and objectives are contradicting what the council have said before many of them the council have said we can't do that because we don't own the buildings</i>	While the Council don't own all the buildings the Council are working with partners to support the refurbishment of buildings.
ECCMP_D039	<i>Looks VERY nice and like the green aspect of it.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D047	<i>It is bold and imaginative</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D048	<i>Blind vision - blind to the simple fact that the more you try to push the car out, the more people will ignore the high street and continue to use out-of-town retail etc. Who wants a High St full of coffee shops when you can't park? People will drive to somewhere like Brodie or Baxters and go there instead.</i>	The Masterplan does not try to "push the car out". It aims to provide better connections for walking and cycling and improved public transport infrastructure. The only loss of car parking would be through one of the sites being considered for the hotel as part of the Cultural Quarter project, however hotel site options are being explored.
ECCMP_D049	<i>The overall vision is very good. I am excited to see it progress.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D050	<i>In my 75 years living in Moray and in Elgin in particular I have read and seen many City Centre plans. Sadly most of them fell through because of lack of public and private funding. I am well aware about the Growth Deal but the time scale of that funding is lengthy and we need action now. Much of this is to be achieved by 2030 or beyond. This is too long a time scale. Grant Lodge restoration needs to start now in 2021 and be completed in two years.</i>	Noted. In addition to the Moray Growth Deal funding, the Council is considering other funding sources to support regeneration of the Centre.  The timescales for regeneration will be driven by the availability of finance and the Council will endeavour to bring projects forward as early as possible.
ECCMP_D053	<i>Visions and objectives appear ambitious but very impressive and will certainly benefit residents and visitors to the town</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D057	<i>It is a really positive and necessary project that will bring the town into the 21st century</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D058	<i>Will it be good for the whole of moray?</i>	Elgin is considered as the regional centre for Moray and many of the projects will benefit the whole of Moray, including having a regional creative arts centre, regional entertainment venue, improved job and education opportunities and improved retail and leisure experience.  Other Centres through Moray are having similar Masterplans prepared and officers are working to secure funding to support their regeneration.

ECCMP_D062b	<i>Who is going to pay for this you cannot even cut grass near where i live</i>	There are a number of regional level funding initiatives such as the Moray Growth Deal and UK Levelling Up Fund which the Council are pursuing to secure funding for the regeneration of the Centre.
ECCMP_D063	<i>Far too little. Sticking plasters always come off! Improve selection of shops, fill empty shops so reduce or better still remove costs for a year then replace with figures shop owners can afford. Bring in larger nationwide stores. Make an outlet like at Gretna- always busy. This will bring people from outside the area into Elgin. Please improve this plan before you start spending ! A town centre needs people and in order for people to go into the town centre they need to have a reason to go and 95% will need to drive there!</i>	The Plan aims to increase the attractiveness of the Centre to people and businesses. Without improving the Centre it is difficult to see how empty shops will be filled and there is also a need to recognise that Elgin is not alone in facing the current challenges.
ECCMP_D066	<i>"...serving Moray and beyond." There may well be 'something for (almost) everyone' in this plan, but I'd like to see this statement fleshed out more, to identify and set targets for key 'populations' and priority projects; otherwise, especially if money is tight, and it will be!, there is a temptation to cherry pick the less challenging and lower cost rather than the most important in terms of the overall scheme. Creative industries. yes, but promote other sectors too eg food &amp; drink, obviously. Active travel, yes, but ambitions need to be tempered by the realities of our climate. To "increase opportunities" for city centre living is too weak an expression of a clear priority.</i>	Agreed. Further detail will be added to ensure the progress and success of the Masterplan projects can be measured. There is no cherry picking of the projects to avoid the most difficult, in fact, quite the opposite, with numerous barriers to overcome to bring some projects forward.
ECCMP_D067	<i>I think its great.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D069	<i>I would like to see an open minded approach and a true visionary to the upgrade of Elgin Centre. After living overseas I have seen many great modern innovations that fit with local culture and offer a vision of life that not only supports the local population, businesses but is an attraction to visitors. Give the tourists and locals something that can be enjoyed year long and for years to come.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D072a	<i>Some of the visuals are really good, ideas are creative and can very much be implemented as long as the Amphitheatre idea is binned!</i>	Noted. However, the amphitheatre project is seen as providing an attractive outdoor performance space as part of the Cultural Quarter project. Further public consultation will take place as proposals for Cooper Park are worked up.

ECCMP_D072b	<i>Really excited about other areas that the plan is covering. Exciting for the future sustainability of our city centre.</i>	
ECCMP_D077	<i>Congratulations on developing such an ambitious plan. Elgin needs and deserves a vibrant city centre as the area continues to grow. Thank you and good luck turning the plan into reality.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D078	<i>I support the plan, in particular the development of music and art, improved cycling and pedestrian pathways and electric charge points.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D086	<i>On the whole I absolutely support and looking forward to the investment in what is an amazing town centre - however - if you are to attract more residential investment and living then waste and parking must be addressed as it is currently not working. What additional parking is being introduced' Who is controlling the parking as at the moment neither the council or police are addressing the issue. Waste - currently streets are full of bins both commercial and residential - tying in with being greener what solutions are being looked at before permission is granted. Bins on Batchen Street are currently blocking fire escapes etc and already additional planning has been granted for four more residencies - and although I addressed the waste issue it was deemed as not an issue.</i>	Noted.  It is not the intention of the draft Masterplan to introduce additional car parking within the town centre to support residential living. Town centre living enables access to facilities without the need for car ownership. Additional secure parking for cycles would be sought for residential uses and dedicated parking spaces for Car Share providers identified.  On the issue of waste and bins, the Council will discuss this further with Elgin BID.
ECCMP_D087	<i>These are really good. Inclusive of all. Carbon conscious - which needs to be taken very seriously, with the net zero carbon target we all need to reach. Making the city centre a good and healthy place to live and be.</i>  <i>So many important values and objectives, and so much imagination. It acknowledges heritage and history while looking forward to the needs of a changing world.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D089	<i>Excellent vision and objectives which I wholeheartedly support. However, one major aspect of the vision is missing and needs addressing. Car Parking. Car parking is a serious drawback to any visitor or resident in Elgin which is unique within the county using pay to park. This does not go down well with anyone wishing to use the town centre when there are free parking alternatives to the south of the railway.</i>	The Council has an approved Parking Strategy for Elgin City Centre. Charges for parking are reviewed on a regular basis in line with the Strategy, including the regular use of 'Free after Three' promotions in the run up to Christmas.  Parking restrictions on streets within the City Centre, including nearby residential streets, are the subject of a

	<p><i>Visitors need encouragement. All pay to park should be terminated and free access promoted. Alternatively, other cities offer the first hour free with subsequent time subject to charge. This scheme deals with office workers clogging the car parks nearest town; these workers would continue to use residential streets. Along with free parking, the use of double yellow lines should be totally reviewed and severely restricted. Moray Street for instance is a very wide thoroughfare but is double yellow lines along the entire length. Why? Where's the logic when narrower streets remain free. Businesses need to be attracted to the town centre with a viable footfall. The current parking arrangements are killing the town centre. I personally am unaffected as I am only a short walk from town.</i></p>	<p>Traffic Regulation Order which has been through a full consultation process at the time of development and prior to its implementation.</p>
ECCMP_D091	<p><i>This section of the Draft Masterplan makes a number of broad visions and objectives for Elgin which the provisions of the Masterplan will seek to support. In summary the objective seeks to make Elgin City Centre a vibrant centre for a number of uses, as a carbon conscious place, an attractive place to live and work amongst other provisions. Overall, our client supports the broad vision for Elgin City Centre and welcomes the emphasis placed on attracting people into the centre, which will in turn increase economic activity. They also support the focus on the evening economy and improved active travel connections between the centre and other areas of Elgin. It is considered that these broad goals are imperative to revitalising the city centre in the wake of on-going changes to traditional centres, online shopping habits and effects caused by the on-going Covid-19 pandemic. It is crucial that the masterplan takes a flexible approach to its designations to ensure that the centre is not constrained by restrictive planning policies. This is a theme which is emerging across Scotland (and the wider UK as seen by the implementation of the new Class E permitted development right in England) and should also be applied to this masterplan document. In this regard it is worth briefly highlighting the Scottish Government's Town Centre Action</i></p>	<p>Noted.</p>

	<p><i>Plan which was first published in 2013 which emphasised the role of town centres and the need to support them. In July 2020 the Scottish Government sought to review the Plan and consider how it could be updated. The report, inter alia, notes that the most successful town centres offer a diverse and mix of uses which are distinct to meet the needs of local communities. They require a sense of community, place and identity which can be used by all members of society. It is also important to highlight how the Covid-19 Pandemic has placed more an emphasis on shopping local and the benefits a vibrant town centre can play. Thus, it is also important to improve the linkages between the City Centre and other areas of Elgin allowing local residents to also easily access the services in the town. Therefore, the Vision and Objectives are supported in so far as they support to ensure the sustainability of the city centre as a place to shop, visit and work in line with modern demands and trends.</i></p>	
<p>ECCMP_D093</p>	<p><i>This is one of multiple references to potential roles for the Elgin Museum contained within the Masterplan. We are actively delivering these Visions and Objectives already but no mention is made anywhere of TMS/ELGNM being an existing or future major contributor that is already long established and with a strong community agenda.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• p. 9 Vibrant retail and commercial centre – You quote “fantastic opportunities...to increase number of people visiting the High Street...” The Elgin Museum is not mentioned, yet it showcases “the City’s amazing history”. Otherwise, we agree with this V&amp;O.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>p. 10 Carbon Conscious – We cannot wait for the present A96 bypass to become responsibility of MC for improvements to through ATRs across Alexandra Road. They should be adequately lit to promote confident 24 hr use. Specific ornamental lighting would be contrary to being Carbon Conscious. Re-use of empty properties – we strongly</i></p>	<p>Noted. Council officers have subsequently met with representatives of Elgin Museum to discuss these comments. The Museum will be included as a project within the Masterplan and officers are working with the Museum to explore potential funding sources.</p> <p>In terms of crossing points on the A96, a Transport Assessment will be done to consider connections between the proposed Cultural Quarter project and Cooper Park. All options, including retention of the existing bridge and a new crossing at the east end of Alexandra Road will be considered.</p> <p>Options for the provision of additional/enhanced pedestrian crossing facilities on the A96 Alexandra Road will be investigated and sited where there is a strong ‘desire line’ for pedestrians and the location meets design and safety standards. The options will include the</p>

	<p><i>support this as providing an indication of a town centre on the up not down. Otherwise, we agree with this V&amp;O.</i></p> <p><i>p. 11 Green place – beware trees affecting built structures and paved surfaces.</i>  <i>Lighting, interpretation, public art – Elgin Museum has already met with the consultant carrying out the Public Art Strategy and has held positive discussions and made some excellent suggestions. We must not forget Andrew Wright’s 2012 report on the Conservation Area which highlighted existing gems - some of which require conservation work. We would suggest the use of functional lighting, improved to facilitate safe 24 hr perambulation, to showcase architecture as an added value rather than specific ornamental lighting.</i></p> <p><i>p. 12 Inclusive place – Please keep the bridge. But add a surface crossing, at the east end of Alexandra Road.</i></p>	<p>retention/improvement/replacement of the pedestrian bridge as well as removal.</p>
<p>ECCMP_D099</p>	<p><i>The Plan is innovative, imaginative and bold in its ambition which is generally to be commended if meaningful and lasting regeneration is to be achieved. This however needs to be tempered with an element of realism. The Plan gives little detail as to how what are costly projects will be funded other than reference to a partnership approach. Indeed once the projects have been implemented there will be considerable ongoing maintenance costs of new access infrastructure which will need to be met most likely by the Council. This will be most evident particularly with the range of new facilities (CP projects in the masterplan) proposed for Cooper Park How these new facilities can be looked after and sustained in the long term needs to be factored up front in the document.</i></p> <p><i>Whilst a huge uplift to Elgin is much needed and most of what’s proposed should greatly improve the general appearance, upgrade the infrastructure, provide better environment and wildlife habitats; the main concern and point that needs emphasising is this will all need huge</i></p>	<p>The final draft of the Masterplan is accompanied by a Delivery Plan which sets out more detail on partnerships, potential funding and timescales. This will be supported by the creation of a Steering Group to help co-ordinate and communicate progress with the Masterplan.</p>

	<i>amount of additional maintenance budget after its built. We used to have a specific 'park squad' which looked after the park and city centre which might be worth revisiting as a way of sustaining the proposed new infrastructure.</i>	
ECCMP_D100	<p><i>The Archaeology Service supports the overall Vision and Objectives of the Elgin City Centre Masterplan, and the positive impact the proposals could have.</i></p> <p><i>Looking specifically at the vision focussing on heritage ("To respect, embrace and market Elgin's amazing heritage through lighting, interpretation and public art") while again we are generally supportive, we would ask that visual and setting impact on the historic environment is taken into consideration when it comes to the positioning and number of interpretation and public art installations proposed within the historic core and conservation area of Elgin.</i></p>	Noted.
ECCMP_D101	<p><i>We understand that due to the nature of the government funding and private enterprise interest the Moray Council has not been able to publicise much of the workings behind these proposals. However, from what we have seen we have confidence that the work is being progressed in the best interests of the area. The overall objectives of making Elgin town centre vibrant, connected to the wider area of Lossie Green and the Cooper Park, and make it inclusive to the whole population are well received. The funding that the Growth Deal brings across Moray gives confidence that the plans have some chance of becoming reality.</i></p> <p><i>It is important that all age groups are catered for in the end product. We are pleased that younger people becoming involved in the consultations. ECC are supportive of reducing carbon emissions. We and have taken action on this in the past.</i></p>	Noted.
ECCMP_D102	<i>We are generally happy with the Draft Masterplan and its ambitions to "transform Elgin City Centre with a range of projects aiming to support local businesses, attract investment, regenerate vacant and derelict buildings, encourage more people to live and work in the Centre, to</i>	Noted. The retro fitting of SUDs will be investigated as part of the development of public realm improvements. We are aware of several London Boroughs and Local Authorities which have successfully incorporated retro-fitted SUDs into

	<p><i>showcase Elgin’s fascinating history and to improve walking and cycling connections."</i></p> <p><i>We ask that the principles of development within the Masterplan should adhere to Policy PP1 of the adopted MLDP. The emphasis should be to ensure a strategic delivery of a city centre which is inviting and a place which enhances health and wellbeing.</i></p> <p><i>Whilst pursuing these proposals, the masterplan should at all times pursue opportunities for environmental enhancement schemes which contribute to the improvement of the city centre areas. Some examples could be using SuDs which accords with the principles of the CIRIA C753 Manual in ensuing water quality and promoting biodiversity and promoting blue green corridors where possible within and where possible beyond the masterplan area.</i></p> <p><i>We are happy to actively engage with you regarding the progress of the delivery of the outcomes of the Masterplan for example the regeneration of the Cooper Park.</i></p>	<p>their urban realm, and will be taking their experiences into consideration.</p>
<p>ECCMP_D103</p>	<p><i>Firstly I’d like to congratulate the team on producing such a modern-thinking draft plan for Elgin City Centre. I really enjoyed reading the plan and was inspired to feel that the objectives are all possible.</i></p> <p><i>I hope that your bold approach to tackling the major issues facing the town centre gets a good response from the public. Fortifying the plan’s vision in hearts and minds will be important to maximise the buy-in from all.</i></p> <p><i>We are constantly learning more about successful examples of how to use nature to offer climate resilience and help save our biodiversity. The Masterplan can help persuade developers and investors of the benefits to business of integrating nature-based solutions within their build.</i></p> <p><i>The strong focus on active travel and promoting Elgin as a Carbon Conscious place to live, work and visit is welcomed. Reducing the carbon we produce is a massive challenge and</i></p>	<p>Noted.</p>

	<i>the Masterplan can help create an adaptive and thoughtful urban culture that will be well-placed to make the behavioural changes required.</i>	
ECCMP_D104	<i>We would very much like to understand further, how you will sustain some of the proposed projects in the future once they are completed' Are the objectives set out achievable in the proposed timelines and could some key areas be pulled forward and delivered earlier than proposed' Will the Heritage Trail replace Castle, to Cathedral to Cashmere trail'</i>	Detailed design of projects will set out maintenance costs for the Council to consider. Timescales will be dependent on many factors, especially funding and will be subject to ongoing review.  The Heritage Trail is intended to complement the CCC trail.
ECCMP_D105	<i>Somewhere for Elgin and surrounding areas to meet and listen to concerts, plays, performances. There are no music venues to listen to concerts etc. Somewhere to benefit all. No music venues other than Inverness or Aberdeen.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D110	<i>Great plans Please can you consider disabled people. There are few disabled parking spots at present. Often they are used by people or work vans, not displaying a disabled user permit. Please consider disabled people using wheelchairs or mobility scooters.</i>	Noted. The Masterplan aims to provide more accessible parking and toilets for disabled people.
ECCMP_D112	<i>I like the look of the new plans especially looking to the future but there are many more things i would add especially for young families</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D114	<i>This section of the Draft Masterplan does refer to strong leadership being required and that 'The Partnership' meet regularly. This needs some clarification. This isn't the first masterplan to be presented for Elgin town centre - I wonder how exactly the project will be taken forward and actually executed without the slowing and diluting effect of 'government by committee'. Great to produce this. It needs to be delivered (before 2030).</i>	Noted. It is proposed to set up a Steering Group in early 2022 to co-ordinate and communicate delivery of the Masterplan.

## CR1 Active Travel Connections

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D003	<i>It is essential that you have distinct and enforced separation of cyclists and pedestrians. Twice recently as I stepped out of a shop door I have been very narrowly missed by cyclists speeding as fast as they can along the pavement. In one</i>	Noted. The design of Active Travel routes will be taken into account Guidance in the new version of the Scottish Government document 'Cycling by Design' and their

	<i>case the cyclist was so close that he frightened himself, and wobbled along the pavement for 10 metres before recovering his balance. At my age (76) such an incident is likely to end my enjoyment of life by putting me in a care home, and having my life taken over by Social Services.</i>	guidance on designing for vulnerable road users 'Roads for All'.
ECCMP_D009	<i>I understand the want for more walking and cycling areas however you have not addressed where cars would go. By pedestrianising a lot of these areas and creating a hotel on the current car parking site where will people coming into the town park' Also where will driving lessons and tests come and go from and larger vehicles like lorries and campervans park over night' As a non Elgin resident this seems to focus on Elgin residents instead of attracting more people from surrounding areas into the area. Also it doesn't address people who are not on a bus or train route such as rural speyside.</i>	<p>The use of an area or public car park by driving instructors/driving test centres is not a matter for this Masterplan.</p> <p>Areas for overnight parking for heavy goods vehicles will be considered as part of the development of detailed proposals.</p> <p>The retention of the majority of existing city centre public car parks will mean that parking remains available for those visitors for who active travel and/or public transport are not a viable option.</p>
ECCMP_D011	<i>I know a lot is being spent on removing the bridge and underpass and putting in Pelican Crossings but a Pelican Crossing is needed at the bottom of South Guildry Street by the railway station also as there are nurseries there and also college students cross there if travelling over the railway.</i>	Pedestrian islands are already present on Station Road, including in the vicinity of South Guildry Street. This level of crossing provision is appropriate for the levels of road users and the existing road layout.
ECCMP_D021b	<i>The A96 bridge has awful personal memories. It's a place that just invites troubling thoughts and gives off a bad impression these days. Having a crossing needs to happen but, I wonder if that would cause traffic congestion'. Better pedestrian and cycle access is much preferred due to having to always go on the road for passing other people.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D023	<i>Removal of the overpass bridge on the A96 and installing a crossing will only cause additional gridlock. By adding another crossing just up the road from and already established crossing will not increase traffic flow, only hinder it. Installation of an island and widening of the road would be a much better and efficient use of the space. This would allow pedestrians to cross one lane at a time safely and allow the traffic to continue to flow without unnecessary hold up. Widening of the overpass to accommodate a cycle lane</i>	Options for the provision of additional/enhanced pedestrian crossing facilities on the A96 Alexandra Road will be investigated and sited where there is a strong 'desire line' for pedestrians and the location meets design and safety standards. The options will include the retention/improvement/replacement of the pedestrian bridge as well as its removal.

	<i>would be a more efficient use of the space. bypassing the traffic entirely. This would be a much safer option for cyclists and pedestrians rather than crossing a main road.</i>	
ECCMP_D028	<i>Please bear in mind the disabled in this whole project. I completely agree that the High Street/Batchen Street/South Street etc look lovely on your plans but as always, disabled parking is not indicated or I feel has been completely overlooked. This has got gradually worse over the years with designated parking being situated on hills/slopes or away from the main thoroughfare making it so difficult. I'm all for going green but for those who rely on their cars and being able to park close to amenities to allow them to work and contribute to the economy rather than relying on benefits etc and to be able live their lives healthy and safely, then this must be considered and catered for.</i>	One of the aims of the masterplan is to make Elgin and inclusive place where everyone of all ages and mobilities can come to enjoy. All proposals will seek to ensure that all disability and mobility issues are taken into consideration. The masterplan does not seek to entirely remove the car from the City Centre but to improve pedestrian, cycle, and public transport infrastructure.
ECCMP_D033	<i>Please do not remove the footbridge over the A96 from the town centre. It is the safest route into the park by keeping pedestrians and children fully away from the road. I have had more than one close call at the pelican crossing with drivers not paying attention and speeding towards the crossing.</i>	A Transport Assessment will be done to consider improving connections from City Centre to Cooper Park and the Cultural Quarter.  Options for the provision of additional/enhanced pedestrian crossing facilities on the A96 Alexandra Road will be investigated and sited where there is a strong 'desire line' for pedestrians and the location meets design and safety standards. The options will include the retention/improvement/replacement of the pedestrian bridge as well as its removal.
ECCMP_D034	<i>Do not remove the footbridge over the A96 or the underpass. They are the only 2 safe crossing places on the A96. Removal of them in favour of further surface pedestrian crossings would frustrate drivers. As a pedestrian I already feel unsafe using the pedestrian crossings in the high volume of traffic on that route, always fearing that someone is not going to stop.</i>	A Transport Assessment will be done to consider improving connections from City Centre to Cooper Park and the Cultural Quarter.  Options for the provision of additional/enhanced pedestrian crossing facilities on the A96 Alexandra Road will be investigated and sited where there is a strong 'desire line' for pedestrians and the location meets design and safety standards. The options will include the retention/improvement/replacement of the pedestrian bridge as well as its removal.

ECCMP_D035	<p><i>The whole centre from High St at Kombucha Cafe to the Wee Cross with all roads either side (South St, Commerce St etc) need pedestrianised except for essential traffic.</i></p> <p><i>The town needs more safe places for pedestrians and cyclists to cross (zebra crossings preferred).</i></p>	<p>The masterplan proposes to significantly improve the active travel infrastructure in the City Centre to support the aim of making walking and cycling the preferred choice for people making short journeys in and around Elgin. Improvements to the public realm will also make these key routes more attractive for pedestrians and cyclists. The types of crossing will be determined as the projects are developed.</p>
ECCMP_D036	<p><i>Feel that removing the bridge and underpass isn't a safe option feel they are safer options when walking with younger children.</i></p>	<p>A Transport Assessment will be done to consider improving connections from City Centre to Cooper Park and the Cultural Quarter.</p> <p>Options for the provision of additional/enhanced pedestrian crossing facilities on the A96 Alexandra Road will be investigated and sited where there is a strong 'desire line' for pedestrians and the location meets design and safety standards. The options will include the retention/improvement/replacement of the pedestrian bridge as well as its removal.</p>
ECCMP_D039	<p><i>Unsure if pedestrian crossings would work on the busy roads.</i></p>	<p>Concerns noted. In conjunction the de-trunking of the A96, the nature of the road would be altered to slow cars through planting, paving etc to ensure that it is safe and that pedestrians have priority.</p> <p>Options for the provision of additional/enhanced pedestrian crossing facilities on the A96 Alexandra Road will be investigated and sited where there is a strong 'desire line' for pedestrians and the location meets design and safety standards.</p>
ECCMP_D042	<p><i>More cycle/walk paths.</i></p>	<p>Agreed. One of the key aims of the masterplan is to provide better connections for walking and cycling to make it the preferred choice for people making short journeys in and around Elgin.</p>
ECCMP_D044	<p><i>Getting rid of the underground at bus station is bad idea many people prefer using it than crossing.</i></p>	<p>Noted. Options for the provision of additional/enhanced pedestrian crossing facilities on the A96 Alexandra Road will be investigated and sited where there is a strong 'desire line'</p>

		for pedestrians and the location meets design and safety standards.
ECCMP_D050	<p><i>All the work proposed on the present A96 has to happen after the new A96 is built as a city by-pass. At the present rate of progress of Scotland road improvements this will not happen until 2050 or later. How will this impact of all your A96 proposals.</i></p> <p><i>Elgin Museum is mentioned twice I think throughout this. I would propose that a pedestrian crossing be created from the present car park beside the museum across to Grant Lodge. Thus encouraging visitors to pass and hope fully enter the Museum.</i></p> <p><i>Why remove the present bridge into the Cooper Park' Why not keep it and add to it with other pedestrian crossings'</i></p>	<p>A Transport Assessment will be done to consider improving connections from City Centre (including Elgin Museum) to Cooper Park and the Cultural Quarter.</p> <p>Options for the provision of additional/enhanced pedestrian crossing facilities on the A96 Alexandra Road will be investigated and sited where there is a strong 'desire line' for pedestrians and the location meets design and safety standards. The options will include the retention/improvement/replacement of the pedestrian bridge as well as its removal.</p>
ECCMP_D057	<p><i>Think a lot of the plans for the town centre will rely on an elgin bypass. A cycle lane on Alexandra Road will require less cars for this plan to work effectively.</i></p>	Noted.
ECCMP_D064	<p><i>There is nothing wrong with the footbridge. Pedestrian crossings will only hold up traffic even more!</i></p>	<p>A Transport Assessment will be done to consider improving connections from City Centre to Cooper Park and the Cultural Quarter.</p> <p>Options for the provision of additional/enhanced pedestrian crossing facilities on the A96 Alexandra Road will be investigated and sited where there is a strong 'desire line' for pedestrians and the location meets design and safety standards. The options will include the retention/improvement/replacement of the pedestrian bridge as well as its removal.</p>
ECCMP_D083	<p><i>These measures are not effective enough. Adding cycle lanes to existing roads has been proven multiple times to not be an effective method of encouraging cycling especially in this local area. Our planning department have the right idea but it's not applying the right methods. Dutch planning practices are vastly more effective. Promoting dedicated</i></p>	<p>Elgin City Centre has a historic layout, which influences the available space for roads and footways. The type of infrastructure sought for pedestrians and cyclists will be dependent on the road layout, traffic flows and predicted numbers of cyclists and pedestrians, and will follow the Guidance set out in the Scottish Government document</p>

	<p><i>walk and cycle paths offset from the road with physical barriers and fully pedestrianizing central areas so able bodied drivers are forced to walk farther while encouraging cycling as the more efficient method. Even the example image on slide 20 where there is a dedicated path lacks a key point, the crossing should be raised to reduce car speeds while setting in mind the pedestrian and cyclist have priority. The same should be in place where any junction mets a cycle path, the cyclist should maintain grade and the car should be forced to elevate. Not only encouraging cycling but decreasing accidents through speed reduction and focus grabbing.</i></p> <p><i>I want to say I think we're a decade ahead of Inverness in this endeavour and we need to progress it full steam ahead but if we don't future proof this with other countries methods we'll always be behind them.</i></p>	<p>Cycling by Design. It should be noted that cycle lanes have proved to be effective throughout the United Kingdom, including urban areas throughout Scotland. Raised crossings for pedestrians and cyclists where cycle paths cross side roads are included in Cycling by Design and are a measure being considered (subject to funding) at a number of locations across Moray.</p>
ECCMP_D084	<p><i>As a keen cyclists and bike retailer in the town huge attention must be paid to preventing vehicles parking on bike lanes such as those on lossie wynd. It is infuriating for cyclists to have to cycle either on the pavement posing a danger to people leaving the shops or into oncoming traffic. Physical barriers must be erected as vehicles do not adhere to the solid white line and favour the convenience to block the path to go to the butcher's etc.</i></p>	<p>The infrastructure on Lossie Wynd has been designed to accommodate the specific needs for businesses who have no other options for delivery to their premises. The arrangements are a compromise from the original proposal. Future provision within the city centre will seek to ensure that cycle routes are kept clear wherever possible.</p>
ECCMP_D087	<p><i>This is so important, as part of a network allowing people to connect through Elgin to/from the rest of Moray. I am glad to hear that there is still consideration of those who don't have the option to travel actively because of disability and caring concerns - wherever people can walk or cycle they should, but all areas must still be accessible for those who rely on cars and other vehicles.</i></p>	<p>Noted. All proposals will take into consideration people with disabilities and mobility issues to create an inclusive town centre.</p>
ECCMP_D090	<p><i>I would have serious concerns about taking away the overpass bridge and putting in zebra crossing on the main A96 both there and behind the cinema (which is also a huge eyesore for the road). I have seen many near misses at the traffic lights where people have somehow managed not to be</i></p>	<p>Options for the provision of additional/enhanced pedestrian crossing facilities on the A96 Alexandra Road will be investigated and sited where there is a strong 'desire line' for pedestrians and the location meets design and safety standards. The options will include the</p>

	<p><i>run over when the lights are red. Please don't risk lives by changing that as it's not going to make Elgin any more attractive.</i></p>	<p>retention/improvement/replacement of the pedestrian bridge as well as its removal.</p>
<p>ECCMP_D092</p>	<p><i>Improvements to pedestrian/cyclist circulation (ATRs) should not be predicated on an Elgin Bypass. They must be incorporated into the Elgin Plan at an early stage and assume the continuance either of the A96 as a trunk road or as continuing to need to carry significant local traffic. Alexandra Road crossing from Elgin Museum to Cooper Park/Cathedral etc a high priority and would fit with an effective circular town trail. But unrealistic to set 2032 as the date for completion of effective ATRs across Alexandra Road with the probable timing of A96 dualling ? unlikely even by then. Anyway, the likely continuing traffic use of Alexandra Road even once there is a bypass means no point in delaying improving Elgin's ATRs. Effective 24 hour lighting for safe and confident movement of pedestrians, cyclists, etc. Some of existing ATRs need rethinking ' in line with Cycling by Design. Eg Lossie Wynd ? if its use were encouraged as is, an even more uncomfortable mix of cars, bicycles, pedestrians with poor sight lines. Involve Local Access Officer and Forum. Realistic and clear road markings or other means of traffic separation.</i></p>	<p>The A96 Alexandra Road is a Trunk Road under the control of Transport Scotland.</p> <p>Whilst Moray Council officers can approach Transport Scotland and seek improvements to pedestrian crossings, active travel routes until Elgin is bypassed and Alexandra Road de-trunked, any such improvements would be at the discretion of Transport Scotland.</p> <p>The new version of Cycling by Design was published in September 2021d will be used, along with the Scottish Government guidance Roads for All, in the detailed development of Active Travel proposals.</p>
<p>ECCMP_D093</p>	<p><i>TMS/ELGNM's concerns here are in relation to the timing of dualling. The potential delay in creating more safe crossings is a major constraint on this plan. There is a real urgent need for a new controlled zebra crossing at the east of Alexandra Parade as a route from High Street past Elgin Museum to the Cathedral and Cooper Park.</i></p> <p><i>Improvements to pedestrian/cyclist circulation (ATRs) should not be predicated on an Elgin Bypass. They should be incorporated into the Elgin Plan at an early stage and assume the continuance either of the A96 as a trunk road or as continuing to need to carry significant local traffic. An Alexandra Road crossing from Elgin Museum to Cooper</i></p>	<p>The A96 Alexandra Road is a Trunk Road under the control of Transport Scotland.</p> <p>Whilst Moray Council officers can approach Transport Scotland and seek improvements to pedestrian crossings, active travel routes until Elgin is bypassed and Alexandra Road de-trunked, any such improvements would be at the discretion of Transport Scotland.</p>

	<p><i>Park/Cathedral etc is a high priority and would fit with an effective circular town trail.</i></p> <p><i>Effective 24-hour lighting for safe and confident movement of pedestrians, cyclists, etc. is an urgent necessity. It is our view that some of existing ATRs need rethinking in line with the "Cycling by Design" Policy. TMS/ELGNM would also like to see realistic and clear road markings or other means of traffic separation</i></p>	
ECCMP_D094	<p><i>We are really impressed with the proposals to provide safe, convenient and attractive routes for walkers, wheelers and cyclists in Elgin. The proposals to reduce dominance of vehicle movements in the city centre and create a more attractive environment for pedestrians and cyclists are ambitious, well thought out and will make a huge difference to the experience of spending time in Elgin. This project is very welcome and we will look forward to Elgin's transformation over the next 10 years.</i></p>	Comments of support are noted.
ECCMP_D096	<p><i>While I can understand wanting to remove the bridge, I'd rather the underpass stayed as I don't want having to stand and wait and bring traffic to a halt to be the only way to cross the A96, especially since it is a very busy road. I think it would be better if you were to keep the underpass and maybe modernize it instead, but still display some artwork inside.</i></p>	Noted. The implications of the removal of the underpass will be fully investigated as part of the Transport Assessment for the Cultural Quarter and Cooper Park.
ECCMP_D097	<p><i>The removal of the pedestrian flyover and underpass on the A96 and the proposal to replace them with pedestrian crossings on Alexandra Road will cause serious traffic congestion and tailbacks similar to what is experienced when travelling through Nairn where there are nine traffic light crossings. This proposal should not be implemented until we have a bypass for Elgin and reduced traffic flow shown to be able to cope with such crossings.</i></p>	Noted concerns regarding timing of these proposals.
ECCMP_D098	<p><i>For future development of land bordering Maisondieu Road opening up of the culverted section of the Tyock watercourse and improving drainage in the area to accommodate SUDs systems would help to alleviate some of the surface water flooding of the Maisondieu Road itself.</i></p>	Noted.

ECCMP_D098	<p><i>We applaud the fact that improving walking and cycling opportunities is a main theme throughout the document including being highlighted from the start in the Foreword. Active travel is a key tenant of the Masterplan which is to be lauded as a main component of tackling climate change; strengthened by being included in the vision and objectives relating to being 'carbon conscious'. Connectivity is also quite rightly a major theme and it is crucial that people can easily move around without needing to use motorised transport which is in line with the governments climate change targets..</i></p> <p><i>The major barriers to connectivity for an active travel network have been addressed to some extent in the masterplan i.e. the Railway and the A96. Providing better connectivity between Cooper Park and the town centre is paramount particularly enhancing links to the major cycle routes linking through Cooper Park and the masterplan highlights this as a priority suggesting several A96 crossing solutions. The railway is currently a major barrier to active travel movement south from the town centre and can only really be resolved through providing a new separate bridge perhaps adjacent to the A941. Whilst the document makes reference to this, provision of a new active travel connection across the railway as identified on page 12 should be prioritised as this is currently the main barrier to effective north /south active travel.</i></p> <p><i>It is crucial that the Town centre and it's immediate environs are not viewed in isolation in terms of active travel. The masterplan should consider how to develop active travel routes that build on the existing network radiating out from the town centre to the fringes of Elgin's built up area. This would encompass a more holistic approach to active travel for the whole town with the town centre at the core. The precedent for considering areas beyond the town centre has</i></p>	Comments of support are noted.
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	<p><i>already been set in OP1 which looks at roundabouts, gateways and entrances to the town.</i></p> <p><i>It is commendable that a number of ambitious and imaginative projects have been identified in the plan several of which encompass active travel. CR1 aims to provide better active travel links between the town centre and Cooper park is fully supported as being key to overall regeneration in a sustainable way with a focus on inverting the current travel hierarchy giving priority to cycling and walking.</i></p> <p><i>Proposed new 'at level' crossing points of the A96 may lead to considerable increased traffic congestion on the A96.</i></p>	
ECCMP_D114	<p><i>Removing barriers to pedestrians and cyclists isn't the only issue. Pedestrians and cyclists need to feel safe. Even near Elgin's schools, where there are regular walking routes which are used well, pedestrians are never given priority (take a look at children trying to cross the road to Bishopmill Primary and Elgin Academy on a weekday morning to see the car culture that pervades in the town). This has to change. Removing barriers is commendable but the reliance on cars for journeys in the town is partly down to people (especially young people and the female population) not feeling safe on foot or bike. Good lighting is also vital. I would question whether it's practical to lose the pedestrian bridge over the A96 by the library' I would worry if all these projects have to wait for the dualling of the A96. Surely some elements can be addressed sooner than that.</i></p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>The provision of a traffic signal controlled pedestrian crossing on Morrison Road is programmed for 2022 (installation during School holidays to. Avoid disruption to the schools).</p>

## **CR2 Bringing Vacant Properties Back**

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D001	<p><i>Increasing city centre population vital to reuse property increase footfall and sustain night time economy.</i></p>	<p>Agreed. One of the key aims of the masterplan is to create housing opportunities within the City Centre. This includes developing gap sites and bringing vacant and derelict properties back in use. The masterplan aims to transform</p>

		the city centre to create a vibrant place and in particular improve the night time economy after 5pm. A number of projects have been identified in the masterplan that seek to achieve this.
ECCMP_D002	<i>The buildings in town are all scruffy, even encouraging owners to have a jet wash and a paint would help.</i>	The maintenance of buildings is up to the individual owners.
ECCMP_D023	<i>Vacant properties are due to over zealous rates and astronomical rents. These must be addressed, by either implementing a rental cap or offering financial assistance to pay rates/astronomical rents. Small business in Elgin is suffering due to the greed of landlords and making the establishments of many businesses near on impossible. I understand the need for the properties to be in a suitable condition, this should be encouraged to be done by the landlords rather than Moray Council.</i>	Comments relating to rates and rents are noted but this is not an issue that the masterplan can address.  The masterplan seeks to bring vacant buildings within the town centre back into use. The Council will seek to engage and work collaboratively with landlords/property owners on any proposal to bring a vacant property back into use.
ECCMP_D035	<i>Vacant &amp; derelict properties: These properties are not new builds and the standards set out by building control should not treat them as such. The 'white book' does not take into account an age of a property and treating them like new build spec for conversion will put off every property developer.</i>	Noted. The issue raised is a Building Standards issue.
ECCMP_D037b	<i>The high street is a disgrace. The poundland work has all but destroyed trade in the centre. Batchen street and the plain stones should be made available at little cost to cafes, pop up shops etc for outside seating in nice weather. We are the centre of the whisky trade. Elgin centre should be a tourist Mecca. We have such an opportunity for elgin to thrive but our extortionate business rates and falling down buildings drive companies out of town. Low cost short lease for vacant buildings to allow local low income tourist style shops should be afforded. Make the town centre attractive not only financially for small businesses but to families and shoppers.</i>	Noted. The Masterplan sets out a range of proposals aimed at supporting the Centre.
ECCMP_D038	<i>Concern with the state of the High Street and the number of empty units.</i>	Agreed. Elgin City Centre faces the same challenges and pressures that town centres and High Streets are facing nationwide due to changing shopping habits and in particular online retailing. This has led to declining footfall and ultimately shop closures.

ECCMP_D046	<i>Housing – support for refurbishment and use of green technologies. Affordable homes should be for local people.</i>	<p>Making Elgin a carbon conscious town is a key aim of the masterplan and contains many projects aimed to address climate change issues. This includes plans to “green the Centre” to include more trees, hedges and shrub planting to support biodiversity.</p> <p>One of the key aims of the masterplan is to provide more housing opportunities within the City Centre to increase vitality and support economic growth. The Local Development Plan contains policies to ensure that housing proposals provide an element of affordable housing.</p>
ECCMP_D050	<i>Elgin Museum has a derelict building No 3 High Street. Why not use that as an immediate opportunity to help develop a vacant property'</i>	<p>Council officers have subsequently met with representatives of Elgin Museum to discuss these comments. The Museum will be included as a project within the Masterplan and officers are working with the Museum to support a potential funding bid.</p>
ECCMP_D056	<i>Rather than build flats that lock people into collective fees and responsibilities often not thought of, and managed, by Factors, which can financially cripple depending on any issues which arise. Why not look ahead more and demolish some buildings in the town centre which have no historic features pertaining specifically to Elgin and build Town houses in between. This would remove collective responsibility to any roof structures that have a tendency to fail at some point. They could add individual character to the remaining buildings left which still have the ability to support businesses that can thrive in the declining demand for High Street stores. Consider also removing or lowering the top unused parts of larger premises if they have become decayed long term empty. Proper housing, not over heating glass fronted flats above food or entertainment premises which may not survive, could bring in resident custom to the remaining small shops : cafes, hairdressers, gift, jewelers etc and create a nicer environment for the rest of us locals and visitors.</i>	<p>The masterplan has identified a number of vacant properties such as the Jailhouse/Junners but this list is not exhaustive and there are numerous other vacant properties within the City Centre. The majority of properties within the Core Retail Area and the City Centre are covered by a conservation area designation with many of these buildings also being listed.</p> <p>These designations seek to protect the character and built heritage of the City Centre. The comment refers to demolishing buildings and reducing building heights and while the comment about roof structures and collective responsibility is noted these issues will be addressed when individual proposals come forward. All proposals will have to comply with the relevant Local Development Plan policies to ensure that the character of the conservation area and/or listed building is retained.</p>
ECCMP_D074	<i>Could some of the residential considerations include homes for disabled etc to allow them to be central to amenities.</i>	<p>One of the key aims of the masterplan is to create housing opportunities to support the vitality of the City Centre. The</p>

	<i>Might save on giving over so many central parking options and allow more people into the town. Residential development centrally should be encouraged before more developments are approved on our belts</i>	masterplan also seeks to make the City Centre an inclusive place to cater for people of all mobilities which will be embedded in all of the projects as the detail is developed further.
ECCMP_D089	<i>Excellent idea. However the current Gull population in Elgin needs removal before any smartening up of the town. The buildings, pavements and anything out in the open - including pedestrians - are subjected to a hail of bird excrement which is unhealthy and positively revolting. A short walk up the High Street reveals all premises stained with bird droppings, often with the perpetrators perched on buildings creating a public nuisance. Visitors to the town invariably pass comment on this unsightly mess which adds to the impression that our Town Centre is in terminal decay.</i>	The problem of gulls is a recognised problem in Moray and actions are being progressed through other initiatives. The Masterplan proposes to ensure that new buildings and street furniture do not exacerbate the problem and to investigate funding to retrofit measures on existing properties as well as raising awareness among the public.
ECCMP_D092	<i>It will be interesting to see what properties you have identified, and whether the owners are interested in bringing vacant properties back. Will there be financial incentives to owners or lessees to bring vacant properties back into occupancy, including financial assistance to make the properties fit for use? Will parking be facilitated?</i>	<p>The masterplan has identified a number of buildings that could be brought back into use however this is not an exhaustive list. The Council is willing to engage with any property owner seeking to bring it back into use. While no financial assistance is available at the time of writing, town centre grants or other potential funding opportunities such as the levelling up fund may become available that landowners or the Council could apply for. It is therefore important that masterplan is in place so that the redevelopment of the City Centre is done in a cohesive manner.</p> <p>The Council has parking standards set out in the Local Development Plan. The Council's Transportation section will be able to advise on the parking requirements for any future proposal.</p>
ECCMP_D093	<i>We would hope for support to refurbish/repurpose No 3 High Street. There are other plans for Elgin Museum's buildings (which include No 3, the Museum and the Side Hall). These link with several Masterplan developments eg CR2, CR 13, Moray Growth Deal (Housing Mix Delivery), Cultural Quarter. We will share these plans with you and seek your help, advice and guidance.</i>	A key aim of the masterplan is to bring vacant and derelict properties back into use. The Council encourages property owners to come forward to discuss individual proposals with Council Officers at an early stage. Council officers have subsequently met with representatives of Elgin Museum to discuss these comments. The Museum will be included as a project within the Masterplan and officers are working with the Museum to support a potential funding bid.

	<i>No 3 High Street – Our own plans for our property at No 3 High Street are in line with this Objective, and we would support this approach throughout the city centre area. We think that the refurbishment and development of No 3 for town centre accommodation (which will provide additional financial security for the Museum) aligns with the Plan’s overall Vision. If a pilot project was wanted, we would offer this as one</i>	
ECCMP_D100	<i>We welcome the encouragement of reusing empty and vacant buildings coupled with sympathetic restoration instead of demolition of buildings within the city centre. The quality and character of historic buildings within the city centre is high, and their retention is seen as a positive addition visually as well as retaining the city's own distinctive personality as expressed through its built environment.</i>	The core retail area is within the Elgin Conservation Area and the Local Development Plan contains policies to ensure that proposals protect and enhance the conservation area by reflecting Elgin’s rich built heritage.
ECCMP_D101	<i>ECC has, for some years, commented favourably on planning applications that seek to reduce the number of vacant properties in the town centre. The proposals to transform the larger vacant properties like Junners and Grant Lodge will clearly help.</i>	Support noted. The masterplan supports bringing vacant and derelict properties back into use to create an attractive town centre to attract both people and businesses.
ECCMP_D104	<i>This is an important area that needs to be addressed within the town centre, we would be interested to understand how you are going to engage with the current property owners and get them to invest in their properties, unfortunately, many properties have fallen into disrepair due to lack of investment from the owners who have no interest to spend money upgrading.</i>	The Council aims to make direct contact with property owners to explore options to bring buildings and spaces back into use.
ECCMP_D108	<i>It would be nice to see more shops and restaurants, I see that things will look nicer but rent is so high in town that shops struggle to stay afloat.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D112	<i>more investment into bringing back great shops on the high Street. Listen to the types of shops people want to see.</i>	Noted, however the Centre has to be viable in order to attract the types of shops people want to see.
ECCMP_D114	<i>Please do not continue to allow developers to demolish town centre buildings (as happened opposite Marks and Spencers) to make way for modern, unsympathetic and densely crammed flats. The creation of living accommodation in the city centre is vital but does not need</i>	Noted.

	<i>to be at the expense of the architecture of the town centre. Please improve all lighting in the town centre to make everyone feel safer and encourage active travel even in winter months.</i>	
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### CR3 Former Victorian Market between High Street & South Street (Junners/Jailhouse)

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D005	<i>Brilliant idea. We need to embrace our history and in some cases go back to what was so successful in the previous eras, this being one of those cases. Important to ensure we embrace the historical value of these buildings and return them to their former glory, not necessarily go for modern exteriors.</i>	Support noted.
ECCMP_D021b	<i>The Victorian market is a dream to see. I enjoy the Victoria Market in Inverness, it's inviting and interesting with some amazing local shops. I would love to see a similar thing for the Victorian Market with a lovely wee cafe. My Grandad would have been so chuffed too see that place open up again. The streets surrounding the area are also very welcoming.</i>	Support noted.
ECCMP_D022	<i>The old Victorian market on south street instead of a cafe as in the impression what about be like inverness or merchant square in Glasgow. Local small independent businesses given a chance to have some where permanent on the high street. An entrance on south street another from the old Jailhouse close. In there you could have cafes with indoor and outdoor seating, This would also create more business rates for the council but it would also bring small business into Elgin.</i>	Redevelopment proposals are being explored which will consider different redesign options, including a courtyard for food/drink and incorporation of smaller units for independent businesses to reflect the history of the site. Supporting the growth of independent retailers in the city centre is a key objective of the Masterplan.
ECCMP_D023	<i>The idea of a small marketplace is very appealing however when there is no new business being established in the properties that already exist, how do you expect any to thrive by adding in MORE units to remain empty. If this is a "once a week" market, it is a complete waste of space and money as a larger business or development could take on the area. If it is to be a constant feature then you will require enough small</i>	A key aim of the Masterplan is to bring vacant properties back into use and support the growth of independent businesses in the City Centre, building on the success of Batchen Street and South Street which are in close proximity to the Jailhouse/Victorian Market.

	<i>quality businesses to take up units. This will prove difficult as small business is being crushed by ridiculous rates. I assume they will receive assistant funding to become established in these units. This needs to be looked at from a business perspective rather than an "ideal world" perspective as it is unfeasible. By looking at Inverness' "Victorian Market" you can see it will eventually become a wasteland of empty derelict units.</i>	Comments relating to rates and rents are noted but this is not an issue that the masterplan can address.
ECCMP_D039	<i>Like the idea of it bringing in new businesses and people to the area, as MUCH needed. Especially around the old Junners toy shop area, a cafe there would be nice and doing up the area in general would be lovely for everyone.</i>	Support noted.
ECCMP_D066	<i>Open up the old mart between South Street and High Street with units for small businesses, similar to the Victorian Market in Inverness. This would make a tremendous asset for the town.</i>	Support noted. The Masterplan aims to support the growth of independent businesses in the City Centre.
ECCMP_D097	<i>I was in retail for over 30 years and owned and managed Junner and Company on South Street until my retirement in 2000. I sold the business to George Duncan who unfortunately went into receivership in 2015. I still own the premises at 57-61 South Street and have a keen interest in seeing the town regenerated. The premises have been on the market for five years but contrary to recent press reports it is not derelict and was only once offered at auction. I have spent a lot of money making sure it wind and watertight and it would be available for immediate occupation for retail or redevelopment. In 2016 it was under offer but unfortunately when Brexit came along the funders of the project pulled their offer of finance to the developer due to lack of confidence in the then economic climate. Brexit and Covid have made it a very uncertain market place, but there has been more interest of late in the premises. I have been in discussions with developers over the last few years with a view to redevelopment along the lines that are proposed in your regeneration plan, which I am supportive of.</i>	Support for the reuse/refurbishment of vacant buildings is noted.
ECCMP_D100	<i>We welcome the encouragement of reusing empty and vacant buildings coupled with sympathetic restoration</i>	Support noted.

	<i>instead of demolition of buildings within the city centre. The quality and character of historic buildings within the city centre is high, and their retention is seen as a positive addition visually as well as retaining the city's own distinctive personality as expressed through its built environment.</i>	
ECCMP_D114	<i>Please do not continue to allow developers to demolish town centre buildings (as happened opposite Marks and Spencers) to make way for modern, unsympathetic and densely crammed flats. The creation of living accommodation in the city centre is vital but does not need to be at the expense of the architecture of the town centre. Please improve all lighting in the town centre to make everyone feel safer and encourage active travel even in winter months.</i>	Proposals will seek to safeguard the built heritage of Elgin as the City's architecture is one of its key assets. Any new development proposals will be sympathetically designed to reflect and compliment the built heritage. Comments noted regarding lighting. A lighting strategy which will consider lighting up lanes, etc. forms part of the draft Public Art Strategy.

#### CR4 Sustainable Travel Interchange & Infrastructure

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D003	<i>The current bus station area is revolting - it stinks of cigarette smoke (although 'outdoors' it should have a specified smoking area well away from the stances) and is covered with spat-out chewing gum. Because the destination signs are on the end of the stances, the queues that form in front of them are actually for the stance next up the line - how are foreign tourists supposed to know that? They should be replaced with 'Queue here f ....' signs. Also, the electric 'departures' sign needs to be able to say 'delayed by x minutes' and not list a bus as 'departed' when it hasn't actually arrived.</i>	The masterplan seeks to develop a Sustainable Travel Interchange which would involve rethinking the existing bus station. Part of this would be make this more welcoming and it is acknowledged that the current configuration is visually attractive.
ECCMP_D038	<i>Need to ensure that there is adequate EV infrastructure within car parks so people can come and go and use them as they please and are not waiting in a queues to use them.</i>	The masterplan seeks to promote active travel and create a carbon conscious City Centre. Part of this is to support the use of electric vehicles for longer journeys to the City Centre which will require the necessary vehicle charging infrastructure to be provided. This will be embedded in all proposals as they are progressed. The current Local Development Plan also contains policies that requires proposals to provide this infrastructure.

ECCMP_D066	<p><i>In my travels, I have come across (although all too occasionally!) some excellent Travel Interchanges. Business Elgin has already advised of the need for a rail/bus link. But for public transport ever to work well (including being affordable and covering the right routes and time periods) is the availability of safe, warm &amp; dry, clean &amp; comfortable, accessible waiting accommodation for prospective users. This means extended opening (say 20/7), and provision of services - travel info, wi-fi, toilet, vending machines and security. This costs, and is ongoing, and so not easy, but the plan must address this.</i></p>	<p>Support for a travel interchange are noted.</p>
ECCMP_D074	<p><i>We are not London! We are a small town really and we need easy access to town, the rest of the town does not lend itself to residents to adopt cycle as the norm. Don?t waste money on fanciful ideas.</i></p>	<p>Elgin is the largest settlement within Moray and providing the necessary active travel infrastructure is important so that people have the choice to travel into the City Centre by other means other than by using a car. Providing this infrastructure will help to encourage more walking and cycling which will contribute to the masterplans aims of the City Centre being carbon conscious. It will also help to encourage healthier lifestyles and improve mental well-being.</p>
ECCMP_D078	<p><i>Please ensure that electric vehicle charge points are charged by electricity provided with no minimum charge. Having a minimum charge discourages drivers from charging hybrid vehicles since the cost per mile is prohibitive at the current rates.</i></p>	<p>The masterplan acknowledges that to meet demand for charging facilities a network of EV charging points will be required. Having a good network of charge points in the right location will be important to encourage drivers to visit the City Centre and use them. This will be as important as the costs to use the chargers. While this point is noted the detail regarding costs will be determined once the projects fully developed.</p>
ECCMP_D092	<p><i>Bus station urgently needs improvements. It gives a very sad impression of the town at the moment. Given the empty shop premises downstairs in the St Giles Centre, are there opportunities to expand into that space eg waiting room and information/ticketing desk? Electric vehicle charging points ? again concerned at suggested time scale if we are serious about electric vehicles. Electric buses? A more obvious bus service between High Street and railway station?</i></p>	<p>The masterplan seeks to develop a Sustainable Travel Interchange which would involve rethinking the existing bus station. Part of this would be make this more welcoming. As the comment suggested this could potentially involve expanding into the downstairs area of the St Giles Centre if necessary but no details with regards to the project have been developed thus far.</p>

		<p>The masterplan seeks to provide a network of EV charge points across the City Centre to meet the projected demand.</p> <p>Comments regarding a bus connection between the High Street and the train station are noted.</p>
ECCMP_D094	<p><i>This proposal is welcomed. There is much scope for improvement of the bus station area, which could be a key mobility hub for Moray. Clear walking and cycling links to the centre of Elgin and also to connect with the railway station are key to changing travel behaviour to more sustainable modes. The proposal for high quality cycle parking facilities and provision of e-bikes is welcomed - an ebike link between bus and rail stations would be fantastic. Good information on public transport services and cycle and pedestrian routes to key destinations in the city centre are vital.</i></p>	<p>Support noted.</p>
ECCMP_D114	<p><i>Please create cycle networks that feel safe and take a priority.</i></p>	

### CR5 Properties Above M&Co.

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D003	<p><i>I couldn't find a 'project' for the Plainstones area - what do you mean by 'natural surveillance'? Some kind of Neighbourhood watch? You can't rely on that to protect people from jobs and muggers.</i></p>	<p>No specific project has been identified for the plainstones area. However, as the plainstones are within the City Centre they may indirectly feature in other projects that have been identified in the masterplan such as the public art and public realm strategies.</p> <p>The term “natural surveillance” is used when a building fronts onto an area or open space with its principal elevation. While it is not possible for it to completely stop crime it can help to deter antisocial behaviour.</p>
ECCMP_D013	<p><i>I do think that these properties could be converted to residential use or back to a hotel, however if working from home is the future norm we could look at converting an empty building into a homeworking hub similar to something in Inverness where workers can book a office space (table etc) and work from there. It would also possibly generate</i></p>	<p>Comment supporting returning the property back to a hotel or for residential use is noted. The masterplan acknowledges that providing flexible working space is likely to be in demand due to working habits changing following the pandemic. As the masterplan progresses looking at providing this flexible space will be looked at.</p>

	<i>more spend for these workers having lunch breaks in local cafes</i>	
ECCMP_D070	<i>With additional residential plans for the town centre what waste solutions will be put in place? At the moment there are far too many bins on the street - pointless making it look attractive to be blighted with bins.</i>	It is acknowledged that bins can be unsightly however they are necessary. The public realm project seeks to provide consistency to all elements of the public realm which could include providing better bins or bin storage facilities so that they are consistent across the City Centre.
ECCMP_092	<i>Reuse as hotel accommodation would tick a number of boxes including evening use of town centre including patronage of food and drink premises, reuse of derelict buildings and maintenance of and showcasing of architectural features. It is hoped a stand will be made against the demolition of listed and conservation area buildings and swifter and realistic development agreements to prevent decay and a rationale for demolition on economic and safety grounds.</i>	Support for return to the building as a hotel is noted. The City Centre is covered by a conservation area designation with many buildings being listed. The nature of these designations means that any planning application proposing alterations to building covered by these designations must comply with the relevant Local Development Plan policies to ensure that the integrity of the character of the conservation area and/or listed building is retained. The Local Development Plan has an individual listed building policy which contains a set of policy criteria which must be met if a listed building is to be permitted for demolition.
ECCMP_D100	<i>We welcome the encouragement of reusing empty and vacant buildings coupled with sympathetic restoration instead of demolition of buildings within the city centre. The quality and character of historic buildings within the city centre is high, and their retention is seen as a positive addition visually as well as retaining the city's own distinctive personality as expressed through its built environment.</i>	Support noted.

## CR6 A96 Frontage

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D050	<i>My concern here is that all the work proposed on the present A96 has to happen after the new A96 is built as a city by-pass. At the present rate of progress of Scotland road improvements this will not happen until 2050 or later. How will this impact of all your A96 proposals.</i>	The de-trunking of the current A96 will be taken into consideration in the proposals for the frontage. A staged approach can be taken to the redesign/redevelopment which will allow some elements to come forward such as wall art, greening and redeveloping vacant sites prior to the opening of the new A96.

ECCMP_D066	<i>Sorry, but tarting up the A96 frontage is neither here nor there. The fracture between centre and park/cultural quarter still looms.</i>	The A96 frontage is a key gateway into Elgin and improving its appearance is important in attracting people into the City Centre. The redesign of the frontage through art and lighting will form part of a cohesive and comprehensive public art strategy. Providing better pedestrian and cyclist connections across the current A96 will remove barriers and make it easier for people to move between the Core Retail Area, Cooper Park and the Cultural Quarter.
ECCMP_D087	<i>Green/living walls of appropriate plants are a particularly good idea, as they will also improve air quality, cool the city centre in the summer, and provide some carbon sink. The whole emphasis on inverting the travel hierarchy is great.</i>	Support noted.
ECCMP_D091	<i>This objective aims to improve the relationship between the A96 and the city centre through improved aesthetics/public art and active travel connections. Firstly, our client supports the aim to improve the public realm and visual impact of the blank facades which front the A96 (a key arterial route through Elgin). It is agreed that new public art/murals, illumination/lighting and such ideas as ?living walls? would improve the townscape inviting people into the city centre. This would indeed create a more inviting environment for people to be attracted towards. However, in order to achieve the 2030 target of redesigning blank facades and 2032 removal of the pedestrian bridge/underpass there needs to be a level of support from the Council (and other Government sources) to make this a success. Our client would happily work with the Council to achieve these aims but it is clear that financial support would be required, especially in light of the challenging retailing environment. It is considered that the masterplan should include, as a ?Proposal? for CR6, that ways of providing financial support will be investigated and clarified by a certain date.</i>	Support noted. The Council welcome the opportunity to work with businesses to achieve the aims and objectives of the Masterplan. Further public consultation will take place on a Delivery Plan for the Masterplan which will set out funding mechanisms, key parties/lead, and timescales for delivery of the proposals.
ECCMP_D092	<i>Obviously there are residual challenges from the creation of Alexandra Road that are not easy to address. CR6 links with CR1 and ATRs across Alexandra Road. For these to happen, we cannot wait for an Elgin By-pass and must accept that Alexandra Road will continue to be a busy road</i>	Support for active travel and redevelopment of brownfield sites is noted.  The A96 Alexandra Road is a Trunk Road under the control of Transport Scotland.

	<p><i>for vehicular traffic. Meanwhile, opportunities should be taken to provide an ATR alongside the vehicular lanes to make it ?a less hostile environment for walking and cycling? but being realistic that adequate provision has to be made for all if the intention is to prioritise active travel over the car. It will not help active travellers if provision for vehicular traffic is reduced causing traffic jams ? and this applies whatever the timing of the bypass. It may be this could involve road widening taking space from Cooper Park ? and given the history of the road itself, this could surely be made to fit the deed of gift. And again, keep the bridge but yes please, a level crossing at the east end of Alexandra Road to restore the route from the High Street, past the Museum and into Cooper Park, the Cathedral and also Johnstons Mills. A place for investigating brown field sites along the frontage that could be developed and finished with a more attractive A96 frontage. In general, please be wary of schemes where maintenance costs and responsibility long outlast capital costs eg ?living walls? ? and are they even carbon neutral?</i></p>	<p>Whilst Moray Council officers can approach Transport Scotland and seek improvements to pedestrian crossings, active travel routes until Elgin is bypassed and Alexandra Road de-trunked, any such improvements would be at the discretion of Transport Scotland.</p>
<p>ECCMP_D093</p>	<p><i>Obviously, there are residual challenges from the creation of Alexandra Road that are not easy to address. CR6 links with CR1 and ATRs across Alexandra Road. For these to happen, we cannot wait for an Elgin By-pass and must accept that Alexandra Road will continue to be a busy road for vehicular traffic.</i></p> <p><i>Meanwhile, opportunities should be taken to provide an ATR alongside the vehicular lanes to make it “a less hostile environment for walking and cycling” but being realistic that adequate provision has to be made for all, if the intention is to prioritise active travel over the car.</i></p> <p><i>It will not help active travellers if provision for vehicular traffic is reduced causing traffic jams – and this applies whatever the timing of the bypass. It may be this could involve road widening taking space from Cooper Park – and given the history of the road itself, this could surely be made to fit the Deed of Gift.</i></p>	<p>Support for active travel and redevelopment of brownfield sites is noted.</p> <p>The A96 Alexandra Road is a Trunk Road under the control of Transport Scotland.</p> <p>Whilst Moray Council officers can approach Transport Scotland and seek improvements to pedestrian crossings, active travel routes until Elgin is bypassed and Alexandra Road de-trunked, any such improvements would be at the discretion of Transport Scotland.</p>

	<p><i>And again, keep the bridge but please, we would like to see a pedestrian crossing at the east end of Alexandra Road to restore the route from the High Street, past the Museum and into Cooper Park, the Cathedral and also Johnston's Mills. A place for investigating brown field sites along the frontage that could be developed and finished with a more attractive A96 frontage.</i></p> <p><i>In general, please be wary of schemes where maintenance costs and responsibility long outlast capital costs eg "living walls".</i></p>	
ECCMP_D094	<p><i>Concept drawings for transforming the A96 are very impressive and most welcome. The A96 dualling project presents an excellent opportunity to re-think use of space on the existing A96. This would transform an existing barrier to active travel into an active travel corridor.</i></p>	Support noted.

## CR7 South Street

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D029	<p><i>Why' Have you learnt nothing from the mistakes made by the pedestrianisation of the High Street. Empty shops, litter, run-down buildings, Unsightly and ridiculous statues, chewing gum embedded in the pavements. Nothing here to attract or welcome visitors or shoppers because you cannot drive through the town to see what is on offer. Pedestrianise South Street!, what a joke You might as well put signs up at the 4 entrances to Elgin saying Town centre is Closed ( you already have the gates for 2 of the entrances) another waste of taxpayers money, would have been better spent on cleaning up the town centre to make it more attractive. Might I suggest you pedestrianise Edgar Road and see what response you get from that! A City the size of Elgin needs traffic flowing through the centre to let people see what is on offer, then they can find somewhere to park and hopefully enjoy a bustling town centre not the Dustbowl we have at present. Have a look at Linlithgow near Edinburgh, a town with a thriving town centre and still has traffic flowing through</i></p>	<p>It is not proposed to pedestrianise South Street. The proposal is to make South Street more 'pedestrian friendly'. This means redesigning the street by using hard and soft landscaping, public art and street furniture to make it a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists and a more attractive place to spend time which will benefit businesses. Access for vehicles will be retained.</p>

	<p><i>it on a daily basis! There would be no benefit in the Pedestrianisation of South Street which would only restrict visitors and access for deliveries, collections and the disabled also. This is not Barcelona or Madrid, with vast open squares, Plazas and the weather to encourage pedestrians. In general people are lazy and want to park as close as possible to their choice of business that is why Edgar road is so popular but the more out of town facilities with easy parking are available the worse it will become for the centre of Elgin. Having been a business owner in the Centre of Elgin for over 40 Years and seen many changes, unfortunately I feel that when the town centre was Pedestrianised it cut off access for a lot of people and the result is many empty properties. It would not be too difficult to open up even one side of the high street ( the south side would lend itself better) to allow traffic one way at a restricted 15mph speed limit, this would at least allow visitors who would find it difficult to find the centre otherwise the chance to see how beautiful our town really is or could be. Please open your minds and give every suggestion serious thought before you close the gates forever!</i></p>	
<p>ECCMP_D061</p>	<p><i>I have had a business on South Street for nearly 6 years. We recently moved property and actively chose to stay on South Street because it is not pedestrianised. As a UPS Access Point, and as a service provider where people need to use vehicles to drop off machines, it would seriously impact our business in a negative way to have the area pedestrianised. Generally the vehicles on South Street are driven at a reasonable speed, although there are issues with people parking in loading bays and on double yellow lines who are not loading from shops on South Street. These are often people who are accessing the High Street shops and some who live on South Street itself. I think there is scope to improve the appearance of the area, and potentially making it access only to prevent some of the issues.</i></p>	<p>It is not proposed to pedestrianise South Street. The proposal is to make South Street more 'pedestrian friendly'. This means redesigning the street by using hard and soft landscaping, public art and street furniture to make it a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists and a more attractive place to spend time which will benefit businesses. Access for vehicles will be retained.</p>
<p>ECCMP_D070</p>	<p><i>Is pedestrianisation of South Street a good idea? Businesses will suffer from no cars passing by and being able to park</i></p>	<p>It is not proposed to pedestrianise South Street. The proposal is to make South Street more 'pedestrian friendly'.</p>

	<i>outside. is there a plan for access for deliveries for these businesses? Consultation with businesses in this area will be paramount.</i>	This means redesigning the street by using hard and soft landscaping, public art and street furniture to make it a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists and a more attractive place to spend time which will benefit businesses. Access for vehicles will be retained.
ECCMP_D074	<i>Don't pedestrianise this, we need to be able to drive around town</i>	Comments noted. It is not proposed to pedestrianise South Street. The proposal is to make South Street more 'pedestrian friendly'. This means redesigning the street by using hard and soft landscaping, public art and street furniture to make it a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists and a more attractive place to spend time which will benefit businesses. Access for vehicles will be retained.
ECCMP_D092	<i>Pedestrianisation beware tree roots and leaves, unexpected street furniture (what is the point of the stone balls in the photo?) affecting free movement of visually and physically impaired people, and uneven surfaces as trip hazards and awkward for people with poor walking ability; first ensure what is there is adequately maintained ? seagulls, Buddleia, chewing gum.</i>	The images in the ECCMP are conceptual. Detailed proposals will be designed to ensure ease of movement for all pedestrians, including those with mobility issues.
ECCMP_D094	<i>Again, we welcome plans to redesign streets to make them more attractive for pedestrians and cycles, reducing car dominance. There is plenty of evidence now supporting the economic benefits to local businesses of reduced vehicle movements and increased pedestrian and cycle flows.</i>	Support noted.
ECCMP_D100	<i>We welcome the encouragement of reusing empty and vacant buildings coupled with sympathetic restoration instead of demolition of buildings within the city centre. The quality and character of historic buildings within the city centre is high, and their retention is seen as a positive addition visually as well as retaining the city's own distinctive personality as expressed through its built environment.</i>	Support noted.
ECCMP_D104	<i>The proposed works on South Street sound great, and it is also positive to understand that it will be pedestrian-friendly and still allow access for vehicles, as this will be extremely important for businesses.</i>	Support noted.

## CR8 Poundland

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D081	<i>The biggest eyesore in Elgin High St. is the is the ongoing scaffolding and repair work taking place at the poundland store. This has been going on for years now, and doesn't seem to be getting anywhere. It is taking up a lot of space and is just an absolute monstrosity. Local people are having to live with this, but to visitors it must be a complete and utter mess. High time this job was completed and get the street back to looking somewhat decent again.</i>	Works are currently on going at the Poundland building to demolish and reinstate the existing building and provide new residential accommodation to the rear. The Council has no control over when these will be completed. While the scaffolding may be unsightly, the long term benefits of the proposed mixed use development far outweigh these particularly with the residential element which will help to support the vitality of the City Centre.
ECCMP_D090	<i>Elgin has certainly become a sorry state and needs a makeover for sure. I meet many people in the course of,life and this includes tourists to the area. The most common complaint about. Elgin is the eyesore that is Poundland in Elgin. The scaffolding taking up what is half the road and covers what little view there is of the high street. This in itself being taken down, would improve the high street immediately as would make it look huge!</i>	Works are currently on going at the Poundland building to demolish and reinstate the existing building and provide new residential accommodation to the rear. The Council has no control over when these will be completed. While the scaffolding may be unsightly, the long term benefits of the proposed mixed use development far outweigh these particularly with the residential element which will help to support the vitality of the City Centre.
ECCMP_D092	<i>To be hoped that the best remaining features relating to its listing can be retained and the building repurposed in line with the aspirations of the Master Plan, however, as with other proposals in the Master Plan how is cooperation of individual owners and lessees to be obtained?</i>	The Poundland building fronting the High Street is category B listed. The original building was in poor condition with severe damage to the historic fabric and internal structure. The approved consent currently under construction will fully reinstate the building with all of its original historic features. The Council is willing to engage with any property owner and would encourages anybody with a proposal regarding a vacant or derelict buildings to engage with Council officers and it is hoped that the masterplan will help to stimulate further discussions.
ECCMP_D100	<i>We welcome the encouragement of reusing empty and vacant buildings coupled with sympathetic restoration instead of demolition of buildings within the city centre. The quality and character of historic buildings within the city centre is high, and their retention is seen as a positive addition visually as well as retaining the city's own distinctive personality as expressed through its built environment.</i>	The City Centre is covered by a conservation area designation and contains a number of listed buildings all of which ensures that they are protected from inappropriate development. Embracing Elgin's rich built heritage is a key element of the masterplan and its projects.

## CR9 Shopfronts

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D021b	<i>Better shop fronts would also be welcoming.</i>	Agreed. The masterplan acknowledges the role that traditional shopfronts have to the character of the City Centre and creating an attractive place for visitors and business to invest. The proposed design guide would help to ensure proposals are done sensitively in addition to the Council's built heritage policies in the Local Development Plan.
ECCMP_D046	<i>Shopfronts – support for improving shopfronts and need to ensure national chains have more attractive signage too.</i>	Agreed. The core retail area is covered is within a conservation area and the Local Development Plan contains policies that ensure that development, including signage, is done sensitively to respect the traditional character.
ECCMP_D070	<i>Will the criteria be based on similar CARS? What is proposed to ensure buildings benefitting will maintain the standards? We have seen the standards fall after the CARS project and buildings go back to the same previous state. This is a much needed scheme and sooner rather than later would be better to maintain the businesses we have here and encourage locals to shop in Elgin through and improved appearance in the city centre.</i>	The support for the project is welcomed and the masterplan seeks to embrace Elgin's built heritage through many of the identified projects. The project has not been developed yet so it is not possible to say at this stage if it would be in a similar vein to the previous CARS scheme. The comment regarding on-going maintenance is acknowledged and is an issue. While the Council has no control over how individuals maintain their properties, it is hoped through the various projects (public realm, public art etc) identified in the masterplan which seek to improve the overall attractiveness of the City Centre that it will encourage owners to maintain their buildings to a high standard.
ECCMP_D086	<i>I love this project idea as I believe it is certainly a town asset to have such wonderful shop fronts however like many building improvement schemes - what will be put in place for maintaining the standards as the CARS project standard has already dropped and some of the buildings which benefitted from such a scheme are back to looking neglected</i>	The support for the project is welcomed and the masterplan seeks to embrace Elgin's built heritage through many of the identified projects. The comment regarding on-going maintenance is acknowledged and is an issue. While the Council has no control over how individuals maintain their properties, it is hoped through the various projects (public realm, public art etc) identified in the masterplan which seek to improve the overall attractiveness of the City Centre that it will encourage owners to maintain their buildings to a high standard.

ECCMP_D091	<p><i>Similarly, this is a positive proposal for Elgin City Centre which will be of benefit to all users. It is crucial that the core retail area provides a welcoming and quality environment for users to enjoy and be encouraged to re-visit. The St Giles Centre entrance occupies a prominent frontage on to High Street with key retailers occupying this frontage including WHSmith and Vodafone. The frontage of the St Giles Centre is category listed and plays a part in contribution to the historic nature of Elgin Town Centre (as aforementioned, the Centre is located within a designated conservation area and there is an abundance of other listed buildings in close proximity). The unique heritage of Elgin should be recognised in the document. However, the improvements to shopfronts may be limited by legislative listed building restrictions. This is an area that the Masterplan should address in further detail to explain how the historic built environment can be modernised/updated in a way which respects its heritage. It is promising that the Masterplan wishes to implement such a scheme by 2025. However, as noted above, it is considered that further details are required on how this will work with regards to funding and other regulatory procedures including planning permission/listed building consent. The proposal currently lacks this detail but it is important to understand if public funding will be made available and if regulatory tools will be relaxed to ensure improved shopfronts are implemented in a timely manner.</i></p>	<p>The importance of Elgin’s built heritage to the regeneration of the City Centre is reflected in the vision and aims of the masterplan. It is also acknowledged in many of the individual projects which state the importance that the historic environment plays to the character and attractiveness of Elgin.</p> <p>As acknowledged in the comment, the proposal has not been worked up in detail and so no further information can be provided at this stage. The City Centre is covered by conservation area status with many buildings, including those with shopfronts, being listed. The nature of these designations means that any planning application proposing alterations to a shopfront must comply with the relevant Local Development Plan policies to ensure that the integrity of the character of the conservation area and/or listed building is retained. Having a design guide and improvement scheme in place could potentially help with any funding applications at a later date should one become available.</p>
ECCMP_D092	<p><i>Refer to Andrew Wright’s Conservation Area Report 2012, especially where renovations and repairs already required. Be aware of Elgin’s crumbling sandstone fabric, public safety and aesthetics! We already have demolition of listed buildings as precedents. Plan should aim to facilitate prompt redevelopment before developers can claim essential demolition is the only answer.</i></p>	<p>The Local Development Plan has an individual listed building policy which contains a set of policy criteria which must be met if a listed building is to be permitted for demolition.</p>
ECCMP_D100	<p><i>The proposals to enhance shop frontages, through retention of original features and reinstatement of more traditional signage and proportions, is welcomed.</i></p>	<p>Support noted.</p>

## CR10 North Port

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D038	<i>Glad to see North Port identified as development opportunity as it is currently dated and a wasted opportunity.</i>	Support noted.
ECCMP_D046	<i>Opportunity for arts and crafts businesses/hub/workshops with low rent and regular turnover (e.g. 6 monthly) to create more activity in this area.</i>	The area has been identified in the masterplan as an opportunity to positively transform this area which is currently dated and not visually attractive. Details of the potential uses that could be accommodated as part of the redevelopment will be discussed as the project progress. Comments on the potential uses are noted and the concept of providing hubs or flexible working space is a concept that the Council is willing to explore
ECCMP_D066	<i>North Port is a ghastly reminder of just how bad cheap &amp; nasty development can be. It must be obliterated without trace ie comprehensively redeveloped sympathetically.</i>	Comments noted.
ECCMP_D074	<i>This may be a good option for a cafe culture rather than Grant Lodge ideas. Short route from Park and help encourage footfall between town centre and park</i>	One of the key elements of the project would be to provide better connections towards Cooper Park and the Cathedral through public realm improvements.  It is proposed to introduce high quality public realm improvements which could help to facilitate outdoor eating/seating which would improve the vitality of the City Centre which is a key aim of the masterplan.
ECCMP_D076	<i>I feel as though removing the bridge beside the library will be a great change</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D092	<i>Links with CR6 and CR2 as a good example of potential for improvement of the space. However, parking is still essential for access to the town centre. This and other developments should not decrease the availability of parking if the intention is to revitalise the town centre and bring back custom that has defected to the Edgar Road shopping area with its free and easy parking. Linear park an interesting idea but again not if it takes out the parking. And the bridge and also the underpass should remain at least until the bypass is a reality, even if they are meanwhile supplemented by level crossings.</i>	The Masterplan does not try to remove parking entirely from the City Centre but provide better connections for walking and cycling and improving public transport infrastructure. The detailed transportation issues mentioned in the comment will be addressed as the detail of the project develops.

ECCMP_D093	<p><i>We think that Links with CR6 and CR2 are a good example of potential for improvement of the space. However, parking is still essential for access to the town centre. This and other developments should not decrease the availability of parking if the intention is to revitalise the town centre and bring back custom that has defected to the Edgar Road shopping area (which has free and easy parking).</i></p> <p><i>A Linear park is an interesting idea but again not if it takes out the parking. We think that the bridge and underpass should remain at least until the bypass is a reality, even if they are meanwhile supplemented by pedestrian crossings.</i></p>	<p>The Masterplan does not try to remove parking entirely from the City Centre but provide better connections for walking and cycling and improving public transport infrastructure. The detailed transportation issues mentioned in the comment will be addressed as the detail of the project develops.</p>
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### CR11 Moss Street

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D064	<i>Making Moss Street one-way is another daft idea!</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D074	<i>One way seems ok, care to determine which way to keep a flow through town</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D077	<p><i>I often walk along Moss street and agree improvements are needed to make it more welcoming, particularly for pedestrians and cyclists. A one-way system would help but can I please ask where the southbound traffic is expected to go' There was considerable traffic increase on Duff Avenue when Moss street was closed recently. With two primary schools nearby, it would not be adequate to send traffic down Abbey Street, Institution Road and Duff Avenue. I am sure you have considered this. It just wasn't clear what the solution is when I read the master plan.</i></p>	<p>Comments of support are noted.</p> <p>There will be a review of the potential re-routing of traffic as part of the detailed development of any proposed changes to Moss Street.</p>
ECCMP_D092	<i>Improvements to ATR opportunities would be welcomed but residents parking and south bound route are not mentioned.</i>	<p>There will be a review of the potential re-routing of traffic as part of the detailed development of any proposed changes to Moss Street.</p>
ECCMP_D094	<p><i>We welcome plans to redesign streets to make them more attractive for pedestrians and cycles, reducing car dominance. There is plenty of evidence now supporting the economic benefits to local businesses of reduced vehicle movements and increased pedestrian and cycle flows.</i></p>	<p>Comments of support are noted.</p>

ECCMP_D114	<i>The impact of making Moss Street one way is going to have a significant impact on neighbouring streets, which are already impacted by Council staff and others parking on both sides of the road. Duff Ave and Seafield Street will be particularly affected. A clear assessment needs to be undertaken.</i>	There will be a review of the potential re-routing of traffic as part of the detailed development of any proposed changes to Moss Street.
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### CR12 Batchen Land (Northfield Terrace Car Park to Thunderton Place) & Thunderton Place

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D005	<i>Thunderton Place is a main access to the High Street and is under-utilised at present. The proposed changes are very welcome by the businesses on this street. The proposal for changes to surfaces, added greenery and supporting a cafe culture will be integral to the continuation of the high street. The traffic entering this area at present is the main problem, I wonder if this could be addressed sooner than 2023, and therefore start the progression to having this a pedestrian friendly zone around the High Street.</i>	The proposal seeks to improve this area to create a more visually attractive space on what is a busy through route. The project has not been worked up in detail at this stage and it is therefore not possible to comment on the proposed timescale mentioned in the comment at this stage.
ECCMP_D070	<i>How will traffic control on Batchen Street be managed? What will this entail as something will need to be done to stop the traffic going up Batchen Street once Poundland is completed. With street works proposed, what measures will be put in place to reduce interference with businesses?</i>	Rise and Fall bollards would be installed at each end of Batchen Street to control access.  Authorised vehicles would be provided with a transponder or a key fob which would be read and trigger the bollards to go down. When it was safe for the authorised vehicle to proceed the warning lights would shine green. After the vehicle has passed the bollards would automatically return their original raised position.
ECCMP_D092	<i>Same caveats as for other pedestrianised areas - maintenance to be budgeted for, unwanted effects of trees on buildings, uneven surfaces and unnecessary street ornaments and their effects on the easy passage of the less-able bodied and with Covid distancing, lighting effective for safe and confident passage rather than wasteful ornamental lighting.</i>	The masterplan identifies three key projects in the public art, lighting, and public realm strategies. While each is an individual strategy they are all linked. These projects seek to bring a consistency to the public realm which is currently lacking to make the City Centre and attractive and safe place. The comment refers to “wasteful ornamental lighting”. However, good quality street lighting can play two roles in providing the primary function for light and security but also

		creating attractive features in the street. This could be in the form of individual pieces of lighting or simply lighting up historic buildings which is in abundance in Elgin. All proposals in the masterplan will consider people of all mobilities to ensure that Elgin City Centre is inclusive for everybody.
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### CR13 Public Realm Action Plan

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D002	<i>Get rid of the ugly lion and big chunky seating areas that are in the way next to Poundland, especially as we're squeezing past scaffolding.</i>	The location of the Dandy Lion will be considered through a draft Public Art Strategy which will be subject to public consultation. The seating area in the Plainstones has recently been replaced with attractive parklets.
ECCMP_D003	<i>There seems to be an awful lot of 'illuminated panels' and 'lighting' proposed. I thought I saw constant 'green' labelling when reading the proposals - what is 'green' or 'energy saving' about so much electricity use? Especially as most of the time when the weather is suitable for outdoor 'cafe culture' we have such long daylight that extra illumination is unnecessary?</i>	A comprehensive approach to lighting will be considered through the draft Public Art Strategy that will be subject to public consultation. The energy efficiency of lighting will be taken into consideration in the development of proposals.
ECCMP_D012	<i>I must disagree with the idea of placing a metal angel fountain in the middle of the pond. It is utterly out of keeping with the gentle, green surroundings and would stand out like a hideous carbuncle. The pond is lovely because of its natural, gentle, calming appearance, so in tune with nature and bird life. A gross, metal angel spurting water into the middle of this peaceful scene is not a good fit.</i>	The angel in the pond is being reconsidered through the draft Public Art Strategy which will be subject to public consultation.
ECCMP_D013	<i>I don't see the point of redeveloping the Cooper Park pond with an angel fountain as it will look out of place and using the example of the town centre fountain it will probably hardly be on or will constantly require upkeep. I am also not sure what an angel has to do with Elgin'</i>	The angel in the pond is being reconsidered through the draft Public Art Strategy which will be subject to public consultation.
ECCMP_D015	<i>Changes should be subtle and architecturally pleasing - an angel in the pond brings nothing!</i>	The angel in the pond is being reconsidered through the draft Public Art Strategy which will be subject to public consultation.

ECCMP_D016	<i>I like everything proposed except for the horrible angel statue in the Cooper Park. The dandelion in the town is absolutely disgusting and embarrassing and that isn't too much better. Just ruins the aesthetic of Elgin.</i>	The angel in the pond and location of the Dandy Lion is being reconsidered through the draft Public Art Strategy which will be subject to public consultation.
ECCMP_D022	<i>I think that everything looks fantastic apart from the statue in the pond.</i>	Support noted. The angel in the pond is being reconsidered through the draft Public Art Strategy which will be subject to public consultation.
ECCMP_D023	<i>With regard to the public arts section. The installation of the "statues" in town have been met with mockery and disdain by the public, especially the "Dandy Lion" and the apparently polio riddled Wolf of Badenoch. removal of these "statues" and replacement with sentiments more fitting for the town would be a better use of the space. By having a statue of a man who burned and destroyed the town as a public draw is beyond my belief. Establishing memorial statues of people who have done important things for the town such as Dr Gray's for his establishment of the hospital or other notable figures from Elgin and Moray who were of benefit to the town. These can again be used for educational purposes and draw in tourism via interest in history rather than to post social media posts about the slightly melted Dandy Lion.</i>	Comments noted. The contribution of existing public art is being considered through the draft Public Art Strategy. Focusing on people who have contributed positively to Elgin (and Moray as a whole) is also being considered through the draft Public Art Strategy. The draft strategy will be subject to public consultation.
ECCMP_D031	<i>Concerned that we will end up with more disjointed, unattractive street art, such as the dandelion and the seating area next to it. The high street is a mish mash of bins, picnic tables and poor quality "art" and the depressing appearance deters me from shopping there. I am also concerned about maintenance and upkeep, street cleaning needs and will need to be increased. I do not understand why we need a massive statue of an angel in the Cooper park pond, it sounds like another dandelion and the money could probably be better spent on bins or flowers or play equipment (anything really!).</i>	A draft Public Art Strategy is being prepared that will provide a comprehensive, consistent approach to public art and realm in the City Centre. The draft strategy will reconsider the location of the Dandy Lion and angel in the pond, and will be the subject of public consultation.
ECCMP_D034	<i>Get rid of that ridiculous seating in the high street, and also that ridiculous looking lion statue thing. It makes a mockery</i>	The existing seating in the Plainstones has recently been replaced with attractive parklets which are in keeping with the natural materials of Elgin City Centre. The location of the

	<i>of the high street and the town centre would look so much better without it there.</i>	Dandy Lion is being reconsidered through the draft Public Art Strategy that will be the subject of public consultation.
ECCMP_D035	<p><i>Switch the fountain on!! Get rid of the hideous Dandy Lion Statue.</i></p> <p><i>Planting of planters: Elgin needs a designated action group (maybe attached to the horticultural college) to grow their own plants for planters, plant them in baskets around town and most important of all, to water them (buy a bowser and small towing vehicle and rota volunteers to water) Every year they get planted and within 4 weeks they are a dead mess as nobody looks after them, what a waste.</i></p>	Comments regarding the fountain and maintenance of planting are noted and will be taken into consideration in the development of proposals for the City Centre. The location of the Dandy Lion will be reconsidered through a draft Public Art Strategy that is currently being prepared which will be subject to public consultation.
ECCMP_D038	<p><i>Very supportive of the public art strategy especially as local artists would be involved but was did not want to see generic bits of art that are straight out of a catalogue.</i></p> <p><i>Get rid of the dandy lion and move the wolf of badenoch statue to Cooper Park.</i></p>	Support noted. The relocation of existing public art is being considered through the draft Public Art Strategy which will be the subject of public consultation.
ECCMP_D042	<i>Please do not put any type of statue in the middle of the pond! Removal of "The Dandy Lion" in the high street, the other statues are lovely and in keeping with the local area however this is awful, please look at Trip Advisor comments if there is any doubt!</i>	The relocation of the Dandy Lion is being considered through the draft Public Art Strategy which will be the subject of public consultation.
ECCMP_D046	<i>Angel's share - scale is too big and scary. Utrecht example of involving local community – mural of books where local people chose their favourite book and this was included in art work. Liked pencils bench – opportunity to involve young people.</i>	The angel in the pond is being reconsidered through the draft Public Art Strategy which will be the subject of public consultation. Further work on developing public art proposals will involve the local community, including young people.
ECCMP_D050	<i>Why not include Elgin Museum in the list of buildings you wish to light up at night'</i>	Comments noted. The lighting up of key buildings such as Elgin Museum will be further considered through the draft Public Art Strategy which will be subject to public consultation.
ECCMP_DO56	<i>How many people will connect with an Angel that covers people in seagull and litter contaminated water'</i>	The angel in the pond is being reconsidered through the draft Public Art Strategy which will be subject to public

	<i>If a sculpture is required can it be kept to something relevant to nature. We have offers local to the pond, sadly one lost its life last year by becoming too close to people but at least it gave joy to those who treated it responsibly. No cones on its head.</i>	consultation when there will be further opportunities to contribute to the form that public art could take.
ECCMP_D057	<i>Hopefully further sculptures in town are relevant and tasteful in comparison to the dandyllion.</i>	Concepts and themes for public art are being considered through the draft Public Art Strategy that will be subject to public consultation.
ECCMP_D066	<i>Tricky!; I've seen good, bad and indifferent. But if done well... Identify and be guided by locals who know (and understand the brief and their role), not the 'usual suspects', and involve them from the start. Use professional landscape architects, artists etc. that understand Elgin/Moray/the NE. I recognise that 'Highlands' chimes with external audiences, but Moray/Elgin has a Doric Scots culture that must not be lost. Nor should whisky over dominate. Is Moray's Great Places really such a success (as your document claims, without any reference to targets delivered!)? For me, it was not bottom up enough, with too much 'travel' behind the scenes before the local voice was invited in.</i>  <i>The Angel's Share etc. is at best a difficult concept to communicate in sculpture. This requires a LOT more thought. (Incidentally, however, and I'm not suggesting it here [Cooper Park Pond] but in a more appropriate location, I have always thought - and it would be relatively inexpensive, further there is evidence for this from around the world - that a strategically placed 'giant' Moray Speyside Malt Whisky bottle would both attract attention and divert visitors to the area and open up the 'whisky market' to a much broader audience. <a href="http://bigpineapple.com.au">bigpineapple.com.au</a>)</i>	Comments noted. A draft Public Art Strategy is being prepared which will develop themes that reflect Elgin's heritage further. The draft strategy will be subject to public consultation and further engagement with communities will be sought by artists in the development of public art works.
ECCMP_D070	<i>Are the project deadlines in place realistic? For example the Jailhouse and Grant Lodge to be completed by 2026? Could certain projects be pulled forward such as the buildings above M&amp;Co and the Green walls and illuminated panels through the Public Art Strategy? Overall feel the Public</i>	Support for public realm action plan is noted. The timescales proposed within the ECCMP are primarily related to funding and resources. The draft Public Art Strategy is currently being prepared and will be consulted on to gauge the public's views on the concepts and themes proposed.

	<p><i>Realm Action Plan is brilliant and feel is very important to have implemented sooner rather than later to publicise to the public and businesses what the set in stone plans are. Will the Angel Share not be too similar to the Angel of the North and cause confusion?</i></p> <p><i>The Heritage Trail needs to really be considered what is to be achieved as the current Castle to Cathedral to Cashmere is not well publicised or used and information is incorrect on it. Proper research needs to be undertaken and if there is a need for it. Could an all singing all dancing app be created that is really a one stop shop which can offer restaurant bookings, information on shops, attractions and events and even event bookings through Town Hall' Elgin BID would be happy to help facilitate in any way.</i></p>	<p>Further research and community engagement will take place to inform the development of the public art works</p>
ECCMP_D084	<p><i>Angel fountain screams tacky and will date very quickly. A plain, timeless item will be much better placed. Don't let this become the Dandy Lion of cooper park!</i></p>	<p>A draft Public Art Strategy is being prepared and will be consulted on to further gauge the public's views on concepts and themes for public art works.</p>
ECCMP_D086	<p><i>Develop a Visit Elgin app. by 2023 An app already exists so surely it would save money and time to utilise the existing. Project. Develop a heritage trail by 2023 It needs to be a lot more effective and present - the CCC project doesn't work. Locals and visitors are unable to distinguish what the statues relate to and they are not coherent.</i></p> <p><i>Project. Current seating around the Plainstones - both the temporary and around the trees do not work as they are not sociable. Seating facing each other makes it more sociable and people would be more inclined to utilise it. There was an Italian architect who did this as part of a town redevelopment in Ireland a few years ago and she spoke at the Scottish Towns Partnership meeting in Aberdeen in 2019. Any seating should also be long lasting and fitting to the town whether is be stone or metal.</i></p>	<p>Comments noted. The seating within the Plainstones has recently been replaced with parklets that are more reflective of Elgin's built heritage and materials. The ECCMP includes an action to build upon the current heritage trail.</p>
ECCMP_D087	<p><i>This is very interesting stuff. There are so many factors to weigh up. Lighting needs to be good for visibility and safety for people at night, not just atmospheric or creating shadow spaces - including in lanes. Public art and signage needs to</i></p>	<p>Support noted. A Public Art Strategy is currently being prepared which will address lighting and signage/street furniture and will be publically consulted on.</p>

	<i>be accessible and also not add too much clutter for those with sight issues. This will need significant ongoing budget if it is to avoid stuff getting out of date - which is crucial to be useful and trusted. Again natural materials, including materials and planting that can act as a carbon sink, and planting that can improve air quality and absorb heat, will all be good.</i>	
ECCMP_D091	<i>This objective aims to specifically improve the attractiveness of the city centre. This is a key component of any successful town and city centre and helps people feel welcomes as they move around; whilst also providing spaces to relax and eat, lengthening the time spent in the town and the associated economic benefits that brings. This initiative will be very important in the context of the historic nature of Elgin City Centre which contains an abundance of category listed buildings and is a designated conservation area (Elgin High Street Reference CA183). It is welcomed that this action point provides a clear route forward on how this will be achieved i.e. commissioning an independent artists to work with the public and key stakeholders. This consultation process will be very important to ensure that any new Public Art Strategy understands the current weaknesses and needs of the city centre. As the development of this strategy progresses, it would be wise to review other such schemes or examples from Scottish Town Centres. Such an analysis would highlight early issues which would need to be overcomes and examples of best practice, for example. A central information hub in the area surrounding St Giles Church is also considered sensible and welcomed allowing shoppers and visitors to find their bearings in a central and attractive location. Perhaps there is opportunity here for the information hub(s) to be located in other prominent areas of the centre and wider city which will guarantee consistency and ensure visitors/tourists can regularly find information for the location they are in.</i>	Support noted. A draft Public Art Strategy is currently being prepared and will be publically consulted on. Other examples of how public art has contributed to the success of a town centre will be researched as part of this strategy.
ECCMP_D092	<i>Has LBC been considered, and also possible development consents involving archaeological assessments? And the</i>	All the necessary consents and assessments will be undertaken/put in place for any development proposals. The

*Council's Conservation Area Policy Agree with identified problems and aims of the project but would question the time scale (ref. 2022) ? sooner is necessary for decisions in principle. A coordinated design policy and concept needs to be considered and introduced before the public realm AP is finalised or rolled out. If the value of history is a key in the Masterplan development, as acknowledged in the Introduction, it makes sense to be cautious in the introduction of modern art which may not be in keeping with Elgin's townscape and can soon become dated and tacky. Local public opinion alone may not be the best arbiter for what is attractive to visitors. Covid in whatever variant is going to continue to be an issue for consideration in public space management. This is relevant to new street art contributing to over cluttering of the streetscape and lanes. Lighting strategy - Comments already made about functional lighting which can be used also to have value-added highlighting important structures. Public Art Strategy - What is the reason for the ballerina on p.42? This is not a dignified prolonged pose for a young woman in a public place. Also consider long term maintenance and vulnerability to neglect and vandalism as exemplified by existing street art. Way-marking, etc - Signage ? font and contrast must be selected as suitable for all users. Plenty of advice on the internet. Any images should be captioned for example with name of building, species of bird or plant ? then they are educational as well as ?art?. QR codes only of use if there is internet coverage. Suggest specific consultation with representatives and individuals who are less able, for design hazards that may not be apparent to the planners and designers. The angel statue shown in the picture is completely out of scale, vulgar and insensitive. There is no need for such a man-made structure to compete with the nature ? leave the pond to be enhanced by the trees and birds. Maximise space for the boaters and birds, and let nature be light-touch managed. Just because you've got the money to fund a sculpture doesn't mean it is right in this case to have a*

public will be able to make comments on any planning applications pertaining to the development proposals in the ECCMP. The draft Public Art Strategy will provided a consistent approach to public realm and art works. The draft strategy is currently being prepared and will be the subject of public consultation. The images contained within the ECCMP are to conceptualise ideas. Bodies such as Parent Able and the Moray Disability Forum have been consulted on the draft ECCMP and will be consulted on any further consultations pertaining to the proposals and the draft Public Art Strategy.

	<p><i>sculpture in the pond. Don't overplay whisky. How about an otter?</i></p>	
<p>ECCMP_D093</p>	<p><i>Could consideration and due care be given to what impact there will be on (A) the Conservation Area streetscape and (B) the setting of listed buildings before new public art, interpretation, etc. is installed.</i></p> <p><i>We agree with the identified problems and aims of the project but would question the time scale (ref. 2022) – sooner is necessary for decisions in principle. A coordinated design policy and concept needs to be considered and introduced before the public realm Action Plan is finalised or rolled out.</i></p> <p><i>Elgin Museum would be very interested to work in partnership in connection with all the elements of CR 13 – among the Moray Society members, volunteers and Trustees there is a broad and detailed knowledge of Elgin's architecture, history and heritage and an awareness of previous town centre changes extending back over many years.</i></p> <p><i>The value of history is a key principle throughout the Masterplan and is clearly acknowledged in the Introduction. It makes sense to be cautious in the introduction of modern art which may not be in keeping with Elgin's townscape and can soon become dated and tacky. Local public opinion alone may not be the best arbiter for what is attractive to visitors. However greater involvement of younger generations and communities in the creation of public art is encouraged, as well as working with local groups of all ages/abilities/interest in order to better understand how the local community use the space currently and in the future. This is especially important for the younger generations. Their "buy in" is essential to securing a sense of care, ownership and place.</i></p> <p><i>Covid (in whatever variant or permutation that may be) will continue to be an issue for consideration in public space</i></p>	<p>Welcome Elgin Museum's support to work with the Council on the public realm action plan. The draft Public Art Strategy is currently being prepared and will be the subject of public consultation. The draft strategy will include proposals for lighting. Further community engagement with a wide range of groups including young people and specialist needs will take place in both the preparation of the strategy and development of public art proposals. As set out in the draft ECCMP public art will reflect Elgin's rich heritage.</p>

	<p><i>management. This should be taken into account when planning new street art which may contribute to the over-cluttering of streetscapes and lanes.</i></p> <p><i>Lighting strategy – We have already made comments about functional lighting, which can be used also to highlight important structures. The C2C2C lighting project was never put in place, and the buildings selected were expected to pay for installation and maintenance.</i></p> <p><i>Way-marking, etc. - Signage – font and contrast must be selected as suitable for all users. Any images should, where possible, be described/captioned – i.e. with the name of the building, (or whatever the case may be) creating something informative/engaging beyond just a piece of art</i></p>	
ECCMP_D100	<p><i>The proposals to improve cohesion in signage and street furniture is noted. Materials which take their cues from the historic streetscape is encouraged. Although there is a place for further interpretation and public art within the city centre, these should complement the existing historic streetscape and care should be taken that the conservation area does not begin to appear cluttered and difficult to navigate as a result of further additions.</i></p>	<p>Support noted. It is intended that public art will reflect and complement the historic environment.</p>
ECCMP_D101	<p><i>The proposal for a piece of public art may not be popular. We all know of the mixed reactions to the Dandy Lion! The other art works in the High Street the Drummer, and the Wolf of Badenoch seem to be received better. The Duke of Gordon works because of its scale and location and offers a measuring stick for any other art piece. Any public art should be of a timeless quality and possibly relate to our history. Contemporary doesn't seem to fit with Elgin because it detracts from our history and erodes our uniqueness. The features highlighted in the documentation are entirely appropriate and we have some confidence that the planning department will get this right.</i></p>	<p>Support noted. As set out in the draft ECCMP public art is to reflect the rich heritage of Elgin.</p> <p>Grant Lodge is proposed as a food and drink heritage experience which will act as an information service for Elgin and the whole of Moray.</p>

	<p><i>The location of tourist information services has been of interest to us in the past. Information is the key to getting around Elgin and finding what you need and whilst digital solutions are needed they are not the end of the story. Not everyone is connected, some can't afford data, batteries can go flat, etc etc. It is important that reliable navigation information is provided and the challenge is to do that without a forest of street signs and without using paper leaflets that become litter.</i></p>	
<p>ECCMP_D103</p>	<p><i>It's clear from the draft plan that there is ample opportunity to use soft landscaping to enhance the experience of Elgin and that will have added benefits for nature/biodiversity. The plan gives several examples of when and where planting and other 'bio-friendly' techniques can be used to enhance buildings/streetscapes etc. There is also the commitment to CR13, the Public Realm Action Plan where the aim is</i></p> <p><i>'to improve the attractiveness and vitality of the city centre by taking a comprehensive approach to improving the public realm, which is defined for this purpose as the pedestrian areas, street furniture (such as benches and bins), signage, public art and lighting.'</i></p> <p><i>A small point is that soft landscaping is referred to in the highlighted project outcomes but missed from the paragraph above. It is however likely inferred.</i></p> <p><i>This is an important project to ensure that the soft, or natural, landscaping elements are truly embedded into any future improvements and developments. This project should explore the real evidence to ensure that biodiversity does gain from actions taken. For example getting the right planting in the right places, making sure that lighting doesn't create problems for wildlife, future proofing and selecting options that really are low maintenance will be essential to ensure their longevity and that we are able to capitalise on the nature-based solutions they offer (air cleaning and</i></p>	<p>Making Elgin a green and healthy, and carbon conscious place are key objectives of the ECCMP. The proposals seek to embrace this through improving the public realm and incorporating soft landscaping and green walls, where possible.</p>

	<i>cooling, shelter from elements, surface water attenuation etc.).</i>	
ECCMP_D104	<i>Lighting Strategy- It would be beneficial to include some areas like the Lido Close Lane and Harrow Inn Close.</i>	Comments noted.
ECCMP_D111	<i>I am not sure that the Angel statue come fountain in the pond is in keeping with the area.</i>	Comments noted. The draft Public Art Strategy which will develop the themes and concepts for Elgin is currently being prepared and will be the subject of public consultation.
ECCMP_D112	<i>Less money spent on statues etc and more investment into bringing back great shops on the high Street.</i>	All proposals contribute to the aims and objectives of the Masterplan, individually and holistically. An attractive public realm, which incorporates public art, will encourage people to visit and spend time in the City Centre which in turn, support shops and services.
ECCMP_D114	<i>Lighting to make people feel safe throughout the town centre and in the cooper park is desperately needed. With short winter days and significant issues relating to people not being active enough, lighting along footpaths (along the flood scheme route and other paths) pavements and roads needs to be looked at carefully to ensure no-one - especially the older population, women and girls - feels vulnerable.</i>	Comments noted.

## CR14 Lanes

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D003	<i>The first thing you need to do is get rid of the pigeons. Apart from their droppings messing the area on a daily basis, such droppings are a major health hazard - especially in an area where you want to encourage outdoor food and drink.</i>	This is an Environmental Health issue and not a planning matter.
ECCMP_D070	<i>It would be good to add in some lighting or artwork down Harrow Inn Close, Lido Close and the next lane along from Lido Close as these are very dark and untidy looking lanes.</i>	Comments noted. Lighting will form part of the draft public art strategy which will be publically consulted upon.
ECCMP_D092	<i>Covid remaining endemic ? open up Lanes rather than obstructing them with new ornamental features; encourage natural ?distancing?. In general, facilitation of natural social distancing will be a great help to our adapting to the need not</i>	The lanes are a distinctive characteristic of Elgin and improving these will encourage people to use them and offer direct routes to/from the High Street to Cooper Park and the Cultural Quarter.

	<i>to share expired breath without feeling we are being bullied by a nanny state.</i>	
ECCMP_D100	<i>The historic lanes are a distinctive feature of the city centre, and their enhancement is seen as having a positive benefit on the historic environment as well on the experience of those using these spaces.</i>	Support noted.
ECCMP_D114	<i>Improve lighting on all lanes and do everything to prevent them becoming ashtrays and covered with bird poo. The photos in this masterplan document make them look much cleaner and tidier than they actually are.</i>	Comments noted.

### CR15 Batchen Street

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D074	<i>Happy to see this pedestrianised provided access to west end of high street via North Street remains. Town must be accessible for so many reasons</i>	Comments of support noted.
ECCMP_D086	<i>Seating needs to be equally spaced without blocking access to windows and doorways. Canopies could darken some businesses which are often already dark depending on what side of the street they are on.</i>	The masterplan identifies that a public realm action plan will be undertaken for the City Centre which seeks to improve the vitality and attractiveness of the city centre. Part of this project will involve creating good seating opportunities so that people can use the City Centre to meet and socialise and well and use shops and other amenities. Comments relating to seating blocking access and windows are noted.
ECCMP_D092	<i>Close it completely to vehicular traffic a good idea as currently confusing to pedestrians.</i>	Measures are to enforce existing pedestrianisation order which has no access for unauthorised vehicles at any time of the day. Access for authorised vehicles will be maintained and businesses encouraged limit access to start and end of day.

### CQ1 Elgin Town Hall

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D047	<i>Know it is a listed building but still consider that the future would be much better served by demolition and rebuild as per Elgin's two secondary schools Extension and</i>	The proposals and initial concept schemes show that the existing building can be refurbished and extended to create a modern, multi- purpose Town Hall, while respecting the listed status of the building.

	<i>modification will still not give us the modern, multi purpose town hall required for the future</i>	Demolition of the building is unlikely to be supported by Historic Environment Scotland and is not an option being pursued by the Council.
ECCMP_D049	<i>Hope a proper visual art gallery capable of taking national touring exhibitions as well as local exhibitions will be included and, as with the rest of the facilities, on going revenue costs will need to be considered.</i>	A visual art gallery is being considered as an option within the Town Hall, however, it is also being considered at another location within the City Centre, with the aim of attracting national and international touring exhibitions, which will complement the Cultural Quarter and support the evening economy in Elgin.
ECCMP_D064	<i>We have a cinema and don't need another one.</i>	The cinema is not seen as directly competing with the main cinema in Elgin, it is seen as a multi- functional space which could be used in a similar way to the cinema at Eden Court, showing a range of alternative and possibly foreign language films, also doubling as a lecture/ learning space.
ECCMP_D074	<i>Are your proposals good use of money, any extensions and redesign of existing will be massive and I feel so much money has been spent on this ailing building that is limited in its use. Would it not be better starting again. Thousands have been spent on heating and lighting and year after year we seem to be able to have smaller occupancy for one reason or another.</i>	<p>The proposals and initial concept schemes show that the existing building can be refurbished and extended to create a modern, multi- purpose Town Hall, while respecting the listed status of the building.</p> <p>Demolition of the building is unlikely to be supported by Historic Environment Scotland and is not an option being pursued by the Council.</p> <p>The refurbishment and extension will aim to reduce the buildings carbon footprint and create an inspiring space for learning and entertainment purposes.</p>
ECCMP_D087	<i>While I understand hard landscaping/paved surfaces are important for accessibility, the images around the Town Hall are very grey with little green for absorbing heat or carbon, or providing the acknowledged health benefits of green space. Particularly if the park is behind a new hotel.</i>	Noted. This will be addressed in the brief for the design of the Town Hall. While the intention is to create a “grand plaza” type approach to the Town Hall, it should incorporate additional greening.
ECCMP_D092	<i>General points on Cultural Quarter - not sure how set in stone the elements are, even though Cultural Quarter appears in this consultation. Given the intention stated in the Introduction, it is disappointing that Elgin Museum and the Library and Heritage Centre are not included in the key</i>	Noted. During the consultation on the draft Masterplan, meetings have been held with the Elgin Museum who have shared their proposals for enhancements to the Museum and some diversification of uses. This will be included as a standalone project in the Masterplan. Council officers are

	<p><i>elements, or at all as possible contributors to a Cultural Quarter. Hopefully, the concept of a Cultural Quarter means a return of Moray Council's recognition of history, both as a culture and beneficial to Moray's economic development through education and tourism. There is no reference even to the Museum's being A listed and designed by Elgin architects, Thomas Mackenzie and his son. CQ1 Elgin Town Hall The development of the open space links with CR13. Potential negative effect on the existing town centre cinema? Water features again Carbon Conscious? Wetting pedestrians? Remember we still need parking space for commuters, lorries, shoppers, visitors to the attractions you seek to develop</i></p>	<p>working with the Museum to consider potential funding sources to support the proposals.</p> <p>Moray Council has always recognised the value of history and culture, which feature throughout the Masterplan's proposals.</p>
ECCMP_D095	<p><i>I feel that there is no need to add on to the town hall as there isn't exactly the space at the back due to the SSE bit just behind and seems like a unnecessary expansion to a recently refurbished building.</i></p>	<p>Noted. However additional space is required to provide learning and entertainment spaces which have been identified through earlier consultation exercises.</p> <p>Options for how that space is provided will be explored through the detailed design stage.</p>
ECCMP_D096	<p><i>Of all the projects that are included in the draft masterplan, the plans for the town hall to become a creative arts centre is the project that I am most excited about as I have always wanted Elgin to have an arts centre. I am interested in the arts and this will encourage me to visit the city centre more often. As someone who is interested in film, I was really happy to hear that an arts cinema is part of the plan as the Moray Playhouse misses out on a lot of films that I want to see which is annoying since I don't have the time to go to Inverness that often (where they are shown at Eden Court) and I end up missing these films as a result. I also look forward to seeing bigger events and shows coming to Elgin as a result of the arts centre, so I hope the plans go ahead.</i></p>	<p>Noted.</p>
ECCMP_D101	<p><i>Improvements to the Town Hall are welcomed. We have been impressed at how well the Town Hall has been run following the Community Asset Transfer. As we have said before, it is important that the enthusiasm of the current management team is maintained and that they continue to</i></p>	<p>Noted. The chair of the Elgin Town Hall for the Community Group is represented on the Cultural Quarter Project Board and has been involved in the concept design work.</p>

	<i>operate the facility. It is essential that the Town Hall team have an active role in defining the implementing of the various options because they will have the best insight into how well the options will work and how likely they are to be resourced.</i>	
ECCMP_D114	<i>How can you include a section about a 'cultural quarter' in Elgin and omit Elgin Museum? This comes across as not just an accidental omission, but a decision not to include it. This is absolutely shameful. I am astounded that the Elgin Museum does not feature in this masterplan. This is a valuable and precious asset of the town and should be included in the travel connections and the 'cultural quarter' aspirations of this masterplan.</i>	The cultural quarter reference was included to reflect the Moray Growth Deal Cultural Quarter project. However, in response to comments received the Cultural Quarter aspects of the Masterplan include additional projects, some labelled as "CQ" projects and others throughout the Masterplan such as heritage trail, regeneration of historic buildings and public art.

## CQ2 Grant Lodge

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D005	<i>Brilliant to see the plans to transform grant lodge. Important to ensure that the cafe culture proposed will be supported by a local business not a franchise such as Cobbs, costa, Starbucks etc. This should be a chance for local business people to invest and be involved rather than offered to nationals. This will be key in the success of Grant lodge as a café. National chains will not ensure that visitors are given fresh local produce, therefore showcasing what we have in this area.</i>	The proposal is to create a high quality food and drink heritage visitor experience. The main aim of which is to showcase the diverse range of food and drink that is produced throughout Moray and the heritage behind it. The intention is for the café/bar to complement this using local food and drink including tasting experiences.
ECCMP_D007	<i>If done properly this could be a wonderful attraction.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D035	<i>Grant Lodge should have been made into a great family friendly restaurant/bar.</i>	Grant Lodge is located at a key point of the proposed cultural corridor and is also well placed close to key tourist destinations including the Cathedral. This position and the setting within Cooper Park make it a good location for a visitor attraction. There are opportunities for family friendly restaurant/bars within vacant properties in the Core Retail Area of Elgin or the proposed extension to the café at the library.
ECCMP_D050	<i>The time scale needs shortened. The restoration should commence now in 2021 and be completed more quickly.</i>	The refurbishment and extension of Grant Lodge is a key part of the Moray Growth Deal Cultural Quarter project and

	<i>Agree with removing the fencing on the A96 and letting us see Grant Lodge.</i>	therefore the timing of work commencing is dependent on funding streams for this.  Noted regarding removing fencing and opening up views to Grant Lodge.
ECCMP_D066	<i>Want to see Grant Lodge revived but doubts the proposed use. A public case should be made for the proposed new use.</i>	The refurbishment and extension of Grant Lodge is a key part of the Moray Growth Deal Cultural Quarter.
ECCMP_D074	<i>This would be better converted as a hostel offering low cost stay options for tourists. Plenty local businesses promoting our local food, drinks etc. This building will run away with masses of money due to its current state of repair</i>	Grant Lodge is located in a key point of the proposed cultural corridor and is also well placed close to key tourist destinations including the Cathedral. This position and the setting within Cooper Park make it a good location for a visitor attraction. There are opportunities for a hostel to provide low cost options for tourists within vacant properties in the Core Retail Area of Elgin.  The refurbishment and extension of Grant Lodge is a key part of the Moray Growth Deal Cultural Quarter project.
ECCMP_D092	<i>The overwhelming need to get something done to restore Grant Lodge from dereliction is understood and if the Moray Food and Drink Heritage Experience has already been agreed, then disappointing as this is, perhaps there is little point in making representations at this stage. BUT. Whisky and food are somewhat niche subjects and how will this focus benefit local life and sit with the Cooper bequest? or is precedent the answer? The Cathedral has already lost some of its immediate relevance to local people with its pricing structure managed by HES.  Any restoration work should have the outcome of a building that is adaptive in case there is a need for repurposing. Is it intended to be an income generator?</i>	The focus of the visitor attraction will not solely be whisky. The broad range of food and drink produced in Moray would be showcased. The visitor attraction would also have a heritage element to bring Moray's history alive through interactive exhibits. The centre would also be used to signpost other Moray attractions.  Visitor numbers have been derived from advice from consultants advising the Council which has informed the outline business case for the proposal.

	<p><i>Who are the expected 50k visitors and where did this figure come from? How will this number of visitors be managed e.g. with Covid distancing?</i></p> <p><i>Will there be further loss of the Park as a green space to car parking?</i></p> <p><i>It will be interesting to see what support there is from the community, businesses prepared to invest in it or visitors to visit. As a heritage tourism and community centre (along the lines of the Council funded archive centre and Moray hub design produced by LDN) it might have ticked more boxes both for local and young people's inclusion; it would be good to see promotion of heritage tourism as an alternative to whisky and golf as tourism foci for Moray. The distilleries and for example Baxters and Dufftown Whisky Museum, already provide whisky and food visitor experiences and extend Moray's heritage offering outwith Elgin (plus we have Glen Moray in Elgin); competition for Elgin Town Centre hospitality businesses and even the Council's library café would seem counter-intuitive.</i></p>	
ECCMP_D093	<p><i>The overwhelming need to do something to restore Grant Lodge from dereliction is understood and has TMS/ELGNM's full support. Indeed, we look on it as a near neighbour in desperate need of help. We would be happy to discuss/co-operate with the Masterplan to see if we could be involved with exhibitions/displays to "link" us to tourists attending Grant Lodge</i></p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>The masterplan sets out the programme of projects to help achieve the masterplan vision. Detailed design work, including the design of exhibition/displays within Grant Lodge, would be undertaken on an individual project basis. This detailed design work would involve input from key stakeholders including commercial, tourism and cultural and heritage groups.</p>
ECCMP_D100	<p><i>Welcome the encouragement of reusing empty and vacant buildings coupled with sympathetic restoration instead of demolition of buildings within the city centre. The quality and character of historic buildings within the city centre is high, and their retention is seen as a positive addition visually as well as retaining the city's own distinctive personality as expressed through its built environment.</i></p>	<p>Noted.</p>

## CQ3 Proposed Hotel

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D021b	<i>Also, having the hotel nearby [Cooper Park] is fantastic for tourism, if done right.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D023	<i>I am assuming this will be replacing the vacant community centre however by adding additional competition to already struggling hotels in Elgin you are just going to create more vacant empty properties and reduce visitor choice. The funding of this would be better used as a grant to help hotels in elgin raise their star level into the brackets you required rather than create unnecessary competition. I am also assuming it will mean the loss of some of the car parking in front of said area. By it being privately funded it comes across as someone using the council to push an agenda to establish their business and monopolise the market in the centre of town.</i>	<p>This is not replacing the Community Centre.</p> <p>There is no end user pushing this agenda. The need for a high quality, centrally located hotel has been identified by key stakeholders and forms part of the aspirations in the Moray Growth Deal Cultural Quarter project.</p> <p>Yes, parking spaces would be lost, however, this is just one option being explored for the proposed hotel and if the car park was to be developed, the Transport Assessment for the Cultural Quarter and Cooper Park will identify any requirement for replacement parking provision in this area.</p>
ECCMP_D056	<i>Its counter productive to create a hotel if one is no longer required. We had one in the centre its no longer there.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D064	<i>It would be a stupid mistake to take away Lossie Green Car Park. It is well used by people working, shopping, going to the football and lorries park there. As a lady, I do not like the multi-storey car parks. There are plenty of hotels in Elgin and again you are closing in open space! These so called investors should buy their own private land and get their own place!.</i>	Noted, Discussion during the consultation period has identified a number of possible alternative locations for the proposed hotel and for the purposes of the Masterplan, a wider search area has been identified rather than a specific location. Officers will continue to explore options with landowners and potential investors.
ECCMP_D070	<i>Is the location for the hotel the right location? Would it not benefit from being in a more central location for example where the St Giles Shopping Centre is if there was discussions with the centre owner, parking is already there too? The centre will not recover from this and better to be converted into something instead of potentially closing and leaving a big whole in Elgin High Street. Would a unique boutique hotel or a worldwide branded hotel work well as it would then get Elgin on the map if people are searching for worldwide brands.</i>	Noted, Discussion during the consultation period has identified a number of possible alternative locations for the proposed hotel and for the purposes of the Masterplan, a wider search area has been identified rather than a specific location. Officers will continue to explore options with landowners and potential investors.

ECCMP_D087	<i>I don't understand the need for this, when within reasonable city centre walking distance there are the Mansion House, the Mansefield and Sunninghill hotels. Adding another building in this area - reducing access to park-side space for people and reducing flood plain - seems unnecessary and potentially damaging to other aspects of the vision and objectives.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D092	<i>It is to be hoped this will be strongly linked with CR2. There are plenty of brown field? opportunities in or accessible to the Town Centre. Although it is understood the new hotel project would only proceed if seen as practicable by a developer, it would be interesting to know where the apparent need was arrived at for the Plan. What about support for the Mansion House which had a prestigious reputation for excellence? Some of the distilleries are also developing high end hospitality already. A new build on the sight line between Castle and Cathedral, taking further ground from the Cooper Park and from Elgin?s already poor parking resource would be particularly disappointing. Has any thought been given to hostel/backpacking accommodation to extend the range of visitor accommodation, especially to increase town centre evening activity and visits by younger people?</i>	Noted, Discussion during the consultation period has identified a number of possible alternative locations for the proposed hotel and for the purposes of the Masterplan, a wider search area has been identified rather than a specific location. Officers will continue to explore options with landowners and potential investors.
ECCMP_D099	<i>The proposed hotel will do away with well used car parking spaces for visitors to the Cooper Park. Surely this would better be accommodated up the town centre where there are many empty buildings.</i>	Noted, Discussion during the consultation period has identified a number of possible alternative locations for the proposed hotel and for the purposes of the Masterplan, a wider search area has been identified rather than a specific location. Officers will continue to explore options with landowners and potential investors.
ECCMP_D101	<i>The proposed hotel raises some concern. There would need to be some certainty that it is going to be popular otherwise it may become another unused building. Furthermore, the potential visitor and service traffic would be at odds with the decarbonizing objective. There are also concerns about how much of the Cooper Park or other open space it could occupy. On the other hand, if the hotel works it will be an asset. It is difficult to see how a hotel of the size and</i>	Noted, Discussion during the consultation period has identified a number of possible alternative locations for the proposed hotel and for the purposes of the Masterplan, a wider search area has been identified rather than a specific location. Officers will continue to explore options with landowners and potential investors.

	<i>standard proposed would work in the town centre location. The hotel feels like a make or break item and we recommend that it's viability should be thoroughly verified before allowing anyone to go ahead with it.</i>	
ECCMP_D104	<i>Could a more suitable location be suggested for the proposed hotel, there is a real demand for more rooms in the local area, and this would be beneficial but situated in another location but still allowing for it to support the Cultural Quarter.</i>	
ECCMP_D111	<i>The current Lossie Wynd car park is to become a Hotel - where are all the people who currently use that car park going to park? Lossie Green is quite often full to capacity, it is used as a lorry park so will not have the capacity to take the the parking from Lossie Wynd. Does the hotel have a car park? People are clearly being discouraged from using their cars in city centres but where are you expecting them to park to use these amazing facilities?</i>	

### CP1 Gateways

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D021b	States that having better and appealing access to the park is a refreshing thought.	Support is noted.
ECCMP_D092	Clarification regarding timescales and ability to achieve is required over the concept of active travel connections across Alexandra Road if the Council has to wait until responsibility for the A96 is passed to them. Precipitate removal of existing crossings, including the bridge, would be reckless. Whilst active travel connections are a very good idea, there is a need for adequate lighting to engender public confidence for use, especially during winter. Hopes that a circular route from the High Street to the Cathedral and Johnstons, with a Cooper Park Gateway could link to Elgin Museum.	Noted.  Elgin Museum will be included as a project within the Masterplan, which will include consideration of improved connectivity opportunities.
ECCMP_D093	Clarification regarding timescales and ability to achieve is required over the concept of active travel connections across Alexandra Road if the Council has to wait until responsibility for the A96 is passed to them. Precipitate removal of existing	Noted.

	crossings, including the bridge, would be reckless. Whilst active travel connections are a very good idea, there is a need for adequate lighting to engender public confidence for use, especially during winter. Hopes that a circular route from the High Street to the Cathedral and Johnstons, with a Cooper Park Gateway could link to Elgin Museum.	Elgin Museum will be included as a project within the Masterplan, which will include consideration of improved connectivity opportunities.
ECCMP_D114	Lighting in and around Cooper Park should be looked at as everyone should feel safe and included, including during winters' evening. Footpath surfaces need to be improved for safe active use.	<p>The Public Art Strategy will include proposals to address lighting in order to provide pleasant safe environments across the City Centre.</p> <p>The Masterplan seeks to upgrade the path network throughout the park to encourage use, making the park more inclusive and accessible for all.</p>

## CP2 Education, Health & the Environment

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D002	Need for Cooper Park to be improved, with planting throughout to brighten it up.	The Masterplan aims to refresh Cooper Park and make it a green, vibrant and inclusive place for everyone. This will include soft landscaping which will improve the attractiveness as well as enhancing biodiversity value across the park.
ECCMP_D021b	Cooper Park needs to be the place to go to for entertainment, relaxation, socialising and exercise. Cooper Park looks like a field with areas for cricket, skaters, dog walkers and play park. By making it attractive and inviting, Cooper Park would feel like a day out for people and place to play and watch sports, performances and wildlife. Surprised the bird aviary is not included – Council should advertise for a small committee to look after it, alongside UHI students.	<p>The vision for Cooper Park is “a green, vibrant, inclusive place for everyone. A destination where you can be healthy, relax, learn, play and socialise.” The projects set out in the Masterplan have been identified to achieve this vision and provide a varied offer that attracts people to Cooper Park.</p> <p>The bird aviary has not been used for that purpose for a number of years and has fallen into a poor state and is therefore not fit for purpose. Alternative proposals for aviary have been incorporated into the Masterplan in order to make full use of the area.</p>
ECCMP_D092	The need for education about nature and responsible access to the great outdoors is becoming even more important and urgent. Covid has increased the public's realisation of the	The Masterplan will seek to create an educational resource within the park which will promote a better understanding of the environment. Appropriate bins will be located throughout the park in accordance with the Public Realm Action Plan.

	attraction of being outdoors but new users would benefit from a greater awareness of care for the environment. Management of Cooper Park could include strategies for teaching responsible access, supported by dog poo and recycling bins as notices alone will not prompt responsible behaviour. Will there be support for the Biblical Garden and UHI nursery, as well as the Park Run and Tennis Courts?	Projects such as improved path networks and a replacement Sports Hub are included in the Masterplan which will support sports users in the park.
ECCMP_D093	Elgin Museum has, for many decades, hosted educational resource for all ages, in the museum, community and schools. Multiple and extensive work experience/apprenticeships/volunteering opportunities are provided by the Museum.	Elgin Museum will be included as a project within the Masterplan and officers are working with the Museum to support their aspirations.
ECCMP_D099	The proposed boardwalks on the flood plain will have no chance against the river when in full flood.	Flood Risk Management (Moray Council) have been consulted on the draft Masterplan and have raised no objection to the proposal for boardwalks. Further consultation will be undertaken as the project develops.

### CP3 Play & Recreation

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_017	<p>While it's admirable to encourage a greener approach to Elgin with increased access for walking and cycling paths throughout the town, we also have an aging population and facilities need to reflect that. There needs to be enough car parking spaces as folk over 60 are not going to be walking or cycling to the park. Projected modifications to the park, such as the reopening of Grant Park, a new sports pavilion and open air concert area will require an increase in the number of car parking spaces – whether driving an electric car or not. It is difficult enough to find car parking spaces in the afternoon during the summer months and the expected increase in visitors to new attractions makes using the existing facilities even harder for older people.</p> <p>Only a small number of members of Cooper Park Bowling Club live within walking distance of the club and most drive to Cooper Park to use the facilities. Will the Bowling Club</p>	<p>The majority of parking within the City Centre will remain unaffected by the proposals. Consideration of the parking demand for the Cultural Quarter and Cooper Park will form part of the Transport Assessment for the developments in these areas, with provision made where any shortfall is identified.</p> <p>There are no proposals for dedicated spaces for particular users within public parking areas.</p>

	have designated parking facilities or will it still be a free-for-all?	
ECCMP_D018	Please do not spoil the beauty of Cooper Park – it is full of rubbish as it is and definitely does not need any sculptures. The debris that gathers at the river end should be cleared daily and could be incorporated with the cleaning of the skate park.	<p>The vision for Cooper Park is “a green, vibrant, inclusive place for everyone. A destination where you can be healthy, relax, learn, play and socialise.” The projects set out in the Masterplan have been identified to achieve this vision and provide a varied offer that attracts people to Cooper Park.</p> <p>The dredging of the River Lossie is carried out in accordance with the relevant maintenance programmes.</p>
ECCMP_D021b	Own children barely go to Cooper Park because there is nothing to do and it can be quite a boring place to be nowadays. The vision for the park is fantastic and would like to see more outdoor local bands performing.	<p>The vision for Cooper Park is “a green, vibrant, inclusive place for everyone. A destination where you can be healthy, relax, learn, play and socialise.” The projects set out in the Masterplan have been identified to achieve this vision and provide a varied offer that attracts people to Cooper Park. Support for the vision is noted.</p> <p>The proposed amphitheatre seeks to provide an attractive outdoor performance space as part of the Cultural Quarter project.</p>
ECCMP_D034	Cooper Park already has an amazing facility with the existing play park, with many people from surrounding area going there to play. Instead of looking to upgrade an already great facility, spend the money in surrounding towns and villages that are desperately needing new play park facilities but are having to raise their own money to replace equipment that was removed and never replaced.	<p>The life expectancy of existing play equipment is due to expire within the Masterplan period and currently does not cater for all abilities. The project therefore aims to transform play and recreation in Cooper Park into an all-inclusive and welcoming area that promotes health and wellbeing for all ages and abilities.</p> <p>The Masterplan is specific to Elgin City Centre and the upgrading of play parks in other towns is carried out in accordance with relevant maintenance/investment programmes. This does not prevent community groups fundraising for replacement play parks in consultation with the Council, as has been seen in towns like Dufftown and Rothes.</p>
ECCMP_D035	Cooper Park needs extra-large litter bins that can't be knocked over, similar to the new ones installed onto High Street.	Appropriate bins will be located throughout the park in accordance with the Public Realm Action Plan.

ECCMP_D042	A Park Warden is need to police issues such as dog fouling, littering and anti-social behaviour. More security cameras are required in park areas.	It is the responsibility of everyone to manage and dispose of their litter, including dog waste, and behave correctly. Anti-social behaviour, including dog fouling and litter, can be reported online at <a href="https://online.moray.gov.uk/form/auto/asb_ext">https://online.moray.gov.uk/form/auto/asb_ext</a> or by calling 01343 563074. Complaints of a more serious nature should be referred to Police Scotland by calling 101.
ECCMP_D038	<p>There needs to be a recognition that a design competition cannot give people carte blanche to do almost anything. Suggest that HES are included on any judging panel.</p> <p>Projects such as wild meadows and additional play equipment will involve increased maintenance every year – can the Council afford this?</p>	<p>Whilst there is an acceptance that some ideas may be unrealistic to implement, the Cooper Park design competition was an important youth engagement mechanism to help inform future design work at the park by indicating the things they like and don't like about Cooper Park.</p> <p>The judging panel for the competition is made up of a representative from Elgin Community Council and 2 Moray Councillors. Historic Environment Scotland (HES) will be a consultee in relevant projects as they develop in more detail.</p> <p>Wildflower meadows are considered to reduce maintenance and the Council will consider any increased maintenance costs as part of the consideration of designs for additional play equipment.</p>
ECCMP_D044	The play park has not long been done up and people still chose to avoid it unless really sunny.	The life expectancy of existing play equipment is due to expire within the Masterplan period and currently does not cater for all abilities. The project therefore aims to transform play and recreation in Cooper Park into an all-inclusive and welcoming area that promotes health and wellbeing for all ages and abilities.
ECCMP_D046	Support proposals for boulders but considering must be given to colours for visually impaired users. There is a good example of a children's play park at Ambler Primary School in Islington. Could consideration be given to a science and engineering zone in the park, based on Moray industries?	<p>Support for the boulders is noted. Consideration will be given to the impact of colours to ensure the facility remains inclusive as far as possible.</p> <p>The good example at Islington and suggestion of a science and engineering zone will be passed to the design team for consideration.</p>
ECCMP_D054	Elgin and Moray could take advantage of the growth in mountain biking and expand opportunities in these areas.	The popularity of cycling in Cooper Park is acknowledged in the Masterplan and its vision seeks to make improvements

	<p>Suggest that a mountain/cycle bike pump track could be included in the area where the expansion of the skate park is proposed. This would encourage bikes of all categories to head to the park, use the facilities and attract others to the area.</p>	<p>to the park to create a cycle-friendly destination. Along with upgrades to the path network and a basic skills circuit, a pump track is being considered as part of future phases of the implementation of the Masterplan.</p>
ECCMP_D056	<p>Litter destroys and relying on people to ensure its safe disposal is not working, especially with poor quality bins which get emptied by birds and wind.</p> <p>Look at the park in Dundee as example of a vandalised mess which has been transformed and being enjoyed by many generations and abilities. Keep things simple, relevant, acceptable and not too tempting to vandals.</p>	<p>Appropriate bins will be located throughout the park in accordance with the Public Realm Action Plan.</p> <p>It is the responsibility of everyone to manage and dispose of their litter, including dog waste, and behave correctly. Anti-social behaviour, including dog fouling and litter, can be reported online at <a href="https://online.moray.gov.uk/form/auto/asb_ext">https://online.moray.gov.uk/form/auto/asb_ext</a> or by calling 01343 563074. Complaints of a more serious nature should be referred to Police Scotland by calling 101.</p>
ECCMP_D064	<p>The extension of the skate park will again close in the park and take away recreational space. The litter is bad enough there and this will make it twice as bad.</p> <p>Better paths are needed around the park, along with some flowers. The river banks need maintained and all the dead trees removed.</p>	<p>There is an identified need for an extension to the skate park due to its extreme popularity. An expansion will allow for separate spaces to be created in order to cater for difference ages/abilities. It is the responsibility of everyone to manage and dispose of their litter, including dog waste, and behave correctly. Anti-social behaviour, including dog fouling and litter, can be reported online at <a href="https://online.moray.gov.uk/form/auto/asb_ext">https://online.moray.gov.uk/form/auto/asb_ext</a> or by calling 01343 563074. Complaints of a more serious nature should be referred to Police Scotland by calling 101.</p> <p>The Masterplan seeks to upgrade the path network throughout the park to encourage use, making the park more inclusive and accessible for all. The maintenance of the river banks and trees are carried out in accordance with the relevant maintenance programmes.</p>
ECCMP_D070	<p>It would be good to bring back something like all the birds.</p>	<p>The bird aviary has not been used for that purpose for a number of years and has fallen into a poor state and is therefore not fit for purpose. Alternative proposals for aviary have been incorporated into the Masterplan in order to make full use of the area.</p>

ECCMP_D071	<p>Paths must be suitable for all abilities and the state of these just now are an absolute disgrace. Persistent flooding and uneven surfaces results in restricted access for less able bodied citizens, making it difficult for all to use the paths safely and cleanly. Elgin needs to promote exercise for physical and mental health benefits but this is currently limited in Cooper Park for some members of the community.</p> <p>Benches are currently focused around children's areas and more benches in the quieter areas of the park could aide rest for those less mobile and provide spots for quiet reflection for all.</p> <p>Cooper Park is a fantastic resource, so close to the High Street, and the proposed improvements are very welcomed.</p>	<p>The Masterplan seeks to upgrade the path network throughout the park to encourage use, making the park more inclusive and accessible for all. The vision for the park recognises that valuable resource that it is and seeks to promote health and wellbeing opportunities across the park.</p> <p>The provision of benches will be carefully considered in accordance with the Public Realm Action Plan to provide a variety of uses and locations.</p> <p>Support for the vision is noted.</p>
ECCMP_D073	<p>Pedal boats in the pond, the trampolines and the pitch and putt should be brought back. Suggest that weekly or fortnightly events should be held in the park during the summer involving dancing, gymnastics, beer tents, BBQs, raffle stalls etc. Cooper Park should be a social hub that everyone attends during the summer. Christmas and summer gala/parades always brings communities together.</p> <p>Proposed a water fountain for the kids to run through and play in during the summer.</p>	<p>The Masterplan proposes a small scale water sports facility in the Pond, with activities such as boating and stand-up paddle boarding. The area that previously housed the Pitch and Putt Course and trampolines has not been used for that purpose for a number of years and alternative proposals have been incorporated into the Masterplan in order to make full use of the area. However, the 'Play &amp; Recreation' project will incorporate a replacement Crazy Golf zone.</p> <p>The inclusion of a 'Splash Pad' feature is being investigated as part of the design process and the Masterplan will be updated to reflect this.</p>
ECCMP_D075	<p>Reintroduce the Pitch and Putt and trampolines.</p>	<p>The area that previously housed the Pitch and Putt Course and trampolines has not been used for that purpose for a number of years and alternative proposals have been incorporated into the Masterplan in order to make full use of the area. However, the 'Play &amp; Recreation' project will incorporate a replacement Crazy Golf zone.</p>
ECCMP_D079	<p>Do not consider coming to Cooper Park as there are more superior parks in the region such as Whitehills, Duff House, Aden Country Park and Whin Park. As the biggest park in the authority, there is not enough content to keep children</p>	<p>The vision for Cooper Park is "a green, vibrant, inclusive place for everyone. A destination where you can be healthy, relax, learn, play and socialise." The projects set out in the</p>

	amused. Something along the lines of Aden Country Park, which is a 'destination park', should be pursued to make it appealing for a day out. Good examples at the Playful Garden (Brodie Castle) and the Splash Pad (Nairn).	<p>Masterplan have been identified to achieve this vision and provide a varied offer that attracts people to Cooper Park.</p> <p>During the design process, various good examples – such as the Playful Garden and the Splash Pad – will be used to inspire the final outcome for a unique and vibrant destination park.</p>
ECCMP_D080	During busy periods, particularly over summer evenings, the skate park is full to capacity or over. Due to the nature of the sports taking place in the facility, the busy periods effectively render the place useless for any serious use due to the increased danger. Time has come for an extension to be built.	The Masterplan recognises the popularity of the skate park and proposes an extension. This will allow for separate areas to be created in order to cater for different ages/abilities.
ECCMP_D082	Would love to see a Pitch and Putt Course reinstated as it is a great activity for all the family and would encourage more people to come and use the area.	<p>The vision for Cooper Park is “a green, vibrant, inclusive place for everyone. A destination where you can be healthy, relax, learn, play and socialise.” The projects set out in the Masterplan have been identified to achieve this vision and provide a varied offer that attracts people to Cooper Park.</p> <p>The area that previously housed the Pitch and Putt Course has not been used for that purpose for a number of years and alternative proposals have been incorporated into the Masterplan in order to make full use of the area. However, the 'Play &amp; Recreation' project will incorporate a replacement Crazy Golf zone.</p>
ECCMP_D085	Difficult to exercise with a young baby so would love to see outdoor fitness equipment in Cooper Park. Covered seating areas would also help to allow for outdoor meet-ups.	<p>Outdoor gym equipment is proposed as part of distance marked trails which aims to promote health and wellbeing opportunities across the park and wider area.</p> <p>The provision of seating areas will be carefully considered in accordance with the Public Realm Action Plan to provide a variety of uses and locations.</p>
ECCMP_D087	All sounds brilliant.	Support is noted.
ECCMP_D092	Queries whether the introduction of BBQ areas accords with a Climate Change Strategy and carbon conscious approach when disposable barbeques are not recyclable and are a well-known source of litter.	<p>Noted, reference to BBQ areas will be removed.</p> <p>Maintenance costs will be considered as part of the design options.</p>

	<p>Questions how ongoing maintenance of additional infrastructure, along with litter collection and toilet cleaning, will be funded and whether wardens or rangers will be budgeted for. Improved management of the existing park should be prioritised over extras</p>	
ECCMP_D099	<p>Whilst a range of climbing boulders will introduce new people to the sport whilst providing opportunities for experienced climbers, the inclusion of features to allow for para-climbing sounds problematic as the Council does not have the skills and resources necessary to maintain/inspect/supervise/run such a facility. It is not considered appropriate to have such specialist equipment unsupervised so only worth pursuing if a private company were to separately operate and manage the facility.</p> <p>Inclusivity is a very welcome idea but care must be taken that what is provided has an equal mix of inclusive and traditional equipment. Some inclusive equipment is designed specifically for use by those utilising mobility aids and by its very nature excludes conventional users.</p> <p>Any gym equipment should be kept separate from the play equipment.</p>	<p>The climbing boulders do not require any management or supervision of the facility, as is the case at Cuningar Loop and Treverlen Park, as there is no equipment involved. Maintenance and inspections would be carried out in accordance with relevant maintenance programmes.</p> <p>The redesign of Cooper Park seeks to address the current imbalance of inclusivity. The play park currently excludes all users with any sort of mobility issues as play equipment is contained within raised areas. There are no play equipment available to those with accessibility issues. The play park equipment will be replaced to create an inclusive and accessible play park that caters for all abilities at the same time. The equipment will be vibrant and sustainable, making it an attractive and engaging area for children to play.</p> <p>Outdoor gym equipment is proposed as part of distance marked trails which aims to promote health and wellbeing opportunities across the park and wider area.</p>
ECCMP_D101a	<p>A welcoming and functional attractive park with inclusive activities will be a joy to see. Public toilets will be required for the park to become popular and usable.</p>	<p>Support is noted.</p>
ECCMP_D101b	<p>Consider the inclusion of a Splash Pool, similar to Nairn.</p>	<p>The inclusion of a 'Splash Pad' feature is being investigated as part of the design process and the Masterplan will be updated to reflect this.</p>
ECCMP_D107	<p>Look at Aden Country Park as an example of a brilliant park in one centre suitable for all ages, lots of seating and picnic tables and places for blankets for picnics. Walks and sensory garden along with big green spaces with nature walks too. Cooper park could have similar set out encouraging families to visit for the day rather than just a small limited time.</p>	<p>The vision for Cooper Park is "a green, vibrant, inclusive place for everyone. A destination where you can be healthy, relax, learn, play and socialise." The projects set out in the Masterplan have been identified to achieve this vision and provide a varied offer that attracts people to Cooper Park.</p>

		During the design process, various good examples such as Aden Country Park will be used to inspire the final outcome for a unique and vibrant destination park.
ECCMP_D109	Would be great to have something like Nairn's Splash Park, where all children have fun in a safe environment. A beach sand play park with running water that could be used most of the year (like in Bury St Edmunds) would be a hit for parents and children.	The inclusion of a 'Splash Pad' feature is being investigated as part of the design process and the Masterplan will be updated to reflect this. The good example at Bury St Edmund will be passed to the design team for consideration during the design process.
ECCMP_D112	Believe Elgin would benefit from a splash pad like Nairn. Parks all around Elgin should be upgraded.	<p>The inclusion of a 'Splash Pad' feature is being investigated as part of the design process and the Masterplan will be updated to reflect this.</p> <p>The Masterplan is specific to Elgin City Centre and the upgrading of parks in Elgin is carried out in accordance with relevant maintenance/investment programmes.</p>
ECCMP_D113	It would be helpful to not only have a more specific vision and objectives laid out, but also the strategy and implementation process - will this be made available? There is not enough information for each project provided.	The timescales for regeneration will be driven by the availability of finance and the Council will endeavour to bring projects forward as early as possible. The final draft of the Masterplan will be accompanied by a Delivery Plan which sets out more detail on partnerships, potential funding and timescales. This will be supported by the creation of a Steering Group to help co-ordinate and communicate progress with the Masterplan. Specific detail regarding individual project will be publicised as it progresses through the design process and will be subject to further consultation at the appropriate stage(s).

#### CP4 Sports Hub

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D074	Do we really need this – certainly not all the madness of toilets, showers and changing for every contagion imaginable? Will it not just be a target for vandalism? If it needs to go ahead then keep these facilities simple, there is hardly going to have a major bust up between cricket clubs.	The existing pavilion is no longer fit for purpose and does not meet the needs of all users of sports facilities, not just cricket, across Cooper Park. The project aims to transform the sports pavilion into a modern, multi-use sports hub with changing rooms, showers, storage, bike parking and hire and flexible space to increase the attractiveness of the area as a sports venue.

ECCMP_D088	Any replacement of the current pavilion welcomed as it's not fit for purpose in these modern times. We have female players who have no specific changing or toilet facilities.	Support is noted.
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### CP5 Pond

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D023	The removal of one of the "islands" in the pond to replace it with a completely irrelevant fountain will prove to be more of a hindrance than a help to the park, especially when we have a fountain in the centre of town which could be rejuvenated or even replaced. Hopefully the choice of an angel is a place holder as it seems very irrelevant. Keeping the island and adapting it to be more appealing to wildlife would be a much better use of it, encouraging people to go down to the pond to see what they can spot and can be used as an educational tool for younger children. It was shown in previous years that otters frequent the area so why not engage that rather than driving away the wildlife.	<p>The project does not propose to remove any of the islands in the pond. The bushes and trees on the islands will be pruned and maintained to enhance the biodiversity value and appearance of the area whilst preserving them as important habitats.</p> <p>The angel fountain is being reconsidered through the draft Public Art Strategy, which will be subject to public consultation.</p>
ECCMP_D042	Leave the pond as it is and please do not have boats in the shape of swans.	<p>The pond is an important attraction in Cooper Park and requires to be transformed to enhance the biodiversity value and appearance of the area, whilst preserving it as an important habitat.</p> <p>All CGI images in the Masterplan are illustrative only and do not represent detailed technical specifications.</p>
ECCMP_D040	Strongly advise to avoid water features unless there is capacity to maintain them very regularly. Almost always end up not working, such as the feature at the Town Hall. The pond is full of leaves, weed and feathers which are all the enemy of water features. Would be very sad to see the trees cut down or the birds kept away in order to keep the water clean.	The angel fountain is being reconsidered through the draft Public Art Strategy, which will be subject to public consultation.
ECCMP_D056	The swan boats look like they belong in the beautiful Moffat Park. Elgin had rowing and paddle boats why not modern quality rowing boats.	All CGI images in the Masterplan are illustrative only and do not represent detailed technical specifications.

ECCMP_D070	Who will maintain the pond? This will need to be cleaned on a regular basis so it doesn't become mouldy and dirty.	The cleaning of the pond will be carried out in accordance with the relevant maintenance programmes.
ECCMP_D074	Love it.	Support is noted.
ECCMP_D087	It sounds like a lot of different uses & boats/boards in quite a confined space (plus the fountain). Glad it's being done, glad it'll be accessible to all, but doesn't sound entirely practically possible.	The various aspects of the project will complement each other and will not compromise the overarching aim to transform the pond to provide an attractive setting for Cooper Park.
ECCMP_D092	Good idea to return boating, but keep it simple. It is a pond and additions must be to scale. A fountain would consume energy and drench the boaters. What is the reason for pedalos rather than rowing boats? The swan pedalos do not look practical for safe pilotage nor for easy maintenance. Has consideration been given to Rules of the Road will different water users on a relatively small pond?	<p>The various aspects of the project will complement each other and will not compromise the overarching aim to transform the pond to provide an attractive setting for Cooper Park. No decision has been made as to what form the boating will take. All CGI images in the Masterplan are illustrative only and do not represent detailed technical specifications.</p> <p>The angel fountain is being reconsidered through the draft Public Art Strategy, which will be subject to public consultation.</p>
ECCMP_D099	<p>Major investment is required for the water inlet supply and outlet to the pond; the current outlet pipe on average blocks several times a year and sometimes the river is lower than the pond inlet. Sorting this is crucial if the rest of the planned improvements at the pond are to be a success. Specific investment would be needed to improve the manageability of the water flow/levels in the pond before any fountain is erected. Regular water testing for legionella and monitoring for water quality will be required, especially if people are to be encouraged into the water.</p> <p>Suggest that an angel type statue would encourage anti-social behaviour elements, such as traffic cones on head.</p>	<p>Flood Risk Management (Moray Council) have been consulted on the draft Masterplan and have raised no objection to the proposal. Further consultation will be undertaken as the project develops. As part of the design process, appropriate investigations to determine the capabilities of the pond have been undertaken.</p> <p>The angel fountain is being reconsidered through the draft Public Art Strategy, which will be subject to public consultation.</p> <p>It is the responsibility of everyone to behave correctly. Anti-social behaviour, including dog fouling and litter, can be reported online at <a href="https://online.moray.gov.uk/form/auto/asb_ext">https://online.moray.gov.uk/form/auto/asb_ext</a> or by calling 01343 563074. Complaints of a more serious nature should be referred to Police Scotland by calling 101.</p>

ECCMP_D101	Experiences with the existing pond are known. Any such feature would have to come with a proper maintenance budget to ensure it remains functional and safe.	Noted regarding maintenance. Flood Risk Management (Moray Council) have been consulted on the draft Masterplan and have raised no objection to the proposal. Further consultation will be undertaken as the project develops. As part of the design process, appropriate investigations to determine the capabilities of the pond have been undertaken.
ECCMP_D111	There has always been in previous years boats in the pond and reinstating this is an excellent idea. Do not agree with paddle boarding. Has any consideration been given to the wildlife in the pond - the ducks and swans that breed here every year? Not sure how conducive paddle boarding would be to their environment. The plan will make the pond very busy and not the quite the peaceful place it currently is.	Support is noted. The various aspects of the project will complement each other and will not compromise the overarching aim to transform the pond to enhance the biodiversity value and appearance of the areas, whilst preserving it as an important habitat.
ECCMP_D114	The islands need an overhaul and replanted. Maintenance around and in the pond has been very poor in recent years and it shows. No fountain required. Encourage biodiversity and use the islands for that purpose. Control gulls so other wildlife (and those using the library cafe to eat) can thrive and enjoy the park.	<p>The bushes and trees on the islands will be pruned and maintained to enhance the biodiversity value and appearance of the area whilst preserving them as important habitats.</p> <p>The angel fountain is being reconsidered through the draft Public Art Strategy, which will be subject to public consultation.</p> <p>The problem of gulls is a recognised problem in Moray and is currently being actioned through other Council initiatives.</p>

### CP6 Outdoor Performance Area

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D038	Cathedral and its Precincts are designated as Ancient Monuments and therefore the setting of the Cathedral would be a paramount consideration. Suggest that delignating the precincts with the re-siting of the Wolf of Badenoch sculpture at the entrance would be a great addition, preferably with the development of further parking for the Cathedral. HES and possibly the Elgin Fund might be interested in assisting this as part of the Cultural Quarter.	<p>Proposals for Cooper Park will respect the setting of designated features such as Grant Lodge and the Cathedral. Historic Environment Scotland (HES) will be a consultee in relevant projects as they develop in more detail.</p> <p>The relocation of existing public art is being considered through the draft Public Art Strategy, which will be the subject of public consultation.</p>

	Cooper Park is designated as a Planned Landscape and provides the setting for Grant Lodge. HES should be consulted over any changes that might affect the setting.	
ECCMP_D044	A performing area in Elgin is pointless – there is one in Lossiemouth that is barely used. Moray Council sold off the Town Hall which under them was barely used and when it was, certain members of Council complained.	<p>An outdoor performance facility of this nature, as part of the Cultural Quarter project, would enhance Elgin's arts and culture offer by hosting a variety of different events, creating a community asset and a destination for families and visitors.</p> <p>The Town Hall has not been sold and is currently leased to Elgin Town Hall for the Community, the chair of which sits on the Cultural Quarter Project Board.</p>
ECCMP_D064	The proposed 100 seat outdoor performance area will close in the park and take away recreational space.	The proposed area for the amphitheatre is an underutilised space, separate from the main recreational area of the park.
ECCMP_D070	This will need to be managed by someone so people can make bookings and make it work well and not a free for all and just become ruined by graffiti and run down. Would a band stand or covered area not be more suitable for more use?	<p>An outdoor performance facility of this nature, as part of the Cultural Quarter project, would enhance Elgin's arts and culture offer by hosting a variety of different events, creating a community asset and a destination for families and visitors.</p> <p>Whilst the form in which the amphitheatre takes is yet to be determined, a bandstand is likely to restrict the potential uses of the space. A removable canopy is also proposed to ensure a flexible venue that is not inhibited by poor weather.</p>
ECCMP_D072a	After discussion with over 80 residents of Moray during a short consultation, almost everyone was against the amphitheatre idea. From a personal perspective, it is a ridiculous idea considering there is an unused amphitheatre in the grounds of Elgin Academy.	<p>The Council are not aware of the short consultation referred to.</p> <p>The facility at Elgin Academy is a secluded and protected terraced inner courtyard used to support delivery of the curriculum.</p>
ECCMP_D072b	The Amphitheatre idea is not viable for the area and there is already a perfectly good one situated at Elgin Academy, which is used due to health and safety regulations. Another within such a short geographical space is ludicrous. Was a bandstand idea considered? A sheltered powered area will be far more sustainable.	<p>The facility at Elgin Academy is a secluded and protected terraced inner courtyard used to support delivery of the curriculum.</p> <p>Whilst the form in which the amphitheatre takes is yet to be determined, a bandstand is likely to restrict the potential uses of the space. The facility will have access to electricity</p>

		and a removable canopy is also proposed to ensure a flexible venue that is not inhibited by poor weather.
ECCMP_D074	Love this idea.	Support is noted
ECCMP_D087	Another venue as a partner to the rest of the city centre venues is good, when it is so different. Hope it will have plenty accessible space, not all up steps. An easily installed cover shading from sun or rain will be essential.	Support is noted. The facility will be inclusive and accessible for all abilities. A removable canopy is proposed to ensure a flexible venue regardless of the weather.
ECCMP_D092	How visually intrusive and easy to maintain would the removable canopy be? Has consideration been given to a traditional bandstand?	The removable canopy, which will be a temporary feature during performances if required, will be easily maintained and respect the setting of Cooper Park.  Whilst the form in which the amphitheatre takes is yet to be determined, a bandstand is likely to restrict the potential uses of the space.
ECCMP_D104	How will this be managed and will there be a reservation system implemented to manage the events.	Options are being explored for the management of new facilities being proposed within the Park and their possible relationship to Grant Lodge and Elgin Town Hall.  A reservation system will be essential to plan and manage events.

### CP7 Elgin Library Café Extension

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D023	Expanding the café in the park will not improve attendance in the town and will in fact drive business away from the eateries in the centre of town. I appreciate the small café aids in the funding to the library however by opening businesses away from the town centre (where they are desperately needed), the Council are crippling an already damaged industry.	Expanded café provision at Elgin Library would enhance an existing community hub by increasing capacity and providing an attractive setting with a fully glazed extension providing views towards the Cathedral and across the pond.  The café currently provides a function alongside other cafes in the City Centre, not in place of them. The Masterplan proposes projects within other areas of the City Centre which will support the existing café businesses in those area.
ECCMP_D050	Will the Elgin Library Extension not end up competing with Grant Lodge?	There is no competing conflicts as Grant Lodge is proposed to be refurbished into a high quality food and drink heritage visitor experience.

ECCMP_D070	Would be good to have it glass frontage, maybe an area that you can sit outside too. How about the toilets/changing rooms being converted into an ice cream kiosk run by an independent. Toilets need to be more visible and maintained.	Support is noted.  The toilet block referred to is proposed to be repurposed as a ticket office, food and beverage outlet and storage for the Outdoor Performance Area project. Whilst there are toilets within the Library, further provision will be considered as part of the wider developments of the Cooper Park transformation.
ECCMP_D071	The extension to the library café is a good idea.	Support is noted.
ECCMP_D074	Isn't there enough cafes around town? Don't risk pulling away business from these people trying so hard to earn a crust.	The Masterplan proposes projects within other areas of the City Centre which will support the existing café businesses in those area.
ECCMP_D087	The current cafe is so well used, this is a very good idea, and will also encourage the use of the library, which is a crucial resource. Hope it will not provide too much competition to existing businesses around the High St.	Support is noted.  The Masterplan proposes projects within other areas of the City Centre which will support the existing café businesses in those area.
ECCMP_D092	It is notable that no mention is made of the existence of the Library and its Heritage Centre as being relevant to the development of a Cultural Quarter. A library and a museum have traditionally been the foundations of the culture of a town, along with a theatre and cinema. The addition of innovations such as those proposed in the Masterplan should not be at the expense of support for and recognition of the existing cultural provision such as Elgin Museum and Elgin Library with its Heritage Centre. Bringing back the archive into the Cultural Quarter would be a tremendous gain for local research and heritage tourism. If effectively managed this could help conserve archive that is currently held in less than archival conditions and bring its storage nearer the point of usage.  If the library café is to be extended, toilet facilities in the Library will need to be upgraded.	Noted, however this may not be an issue to be addressed through a land use masterplanning exercise, but will be discussed further internally within Moray Council.  Toilet provision will be reflective of the scale of redevelopment. More widely, further provision will be considered as part of the wider developments of the Cooper Park transformation.
ECCMP_D093	It is notable that no mention is made of the existence of the Library and its Heritage Centre as being relevant to the development of a Cultural Quarter. A library and a museum	Noted, however this may not be an issue to be addressed through a land use masterplanning exercise, but will be discussed further internally within Moray Council.

	<p>have traditionally been the foundations of the culture of a town, along with a theatre and cinema. The addition of innovations such as those proposed in the Masterplan should not be at the expense of support for and recognition of the existing cultural provision such as Elgin Museum and Elgin Library with its Heritage Centre. Bringing back the archive into the Cultural Quarter would be a tremendous gain for local research and heritage tourism. If effectively managed this could help conserve archive that is currently held in less than archival conditions and bring its storage nearer the point of usage.</p> <p>If the library café is to be extended, toilet facilities in the Library will need to be upgraded.</p>	<p>Toilet provision will be reflective of the scale of redevelopment. More widely, further provision will be considered as part of the wider developments of the Cooper Park transformation.</p>
ECCMP_D111	<p>The extended café looks fantastic. Query about plans to relocate the disabled parking of 6/7 bays which are currently available for use of the park and in particular library patrons. Removing the disabled parking from this location will have a big impact on the library users who will clearly have to walk considerably further. There is clearly an assumption that people are all fit and able and to walk distances to the park.</p>	<p>Support is noted.</p> <p>Disabled parking spaces to support the Library users may be relocated but there is still a requirement to ensure that this building remains accessible. The need for and location of additional disabled parking spaces within the park area will be considered as part of the Transport Assessment for the Cultural Quarter and Cooper Park.</p> <p>It is unclear where the Masterplan indicates an assumption that all people are fit and able to walk distances to the park. A key vision and objective is to make the City Centre as inclusive and accessible as possible for all ages and abilities.</p>

### OP1 Roundabouts, Gateways & Entrances

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D021b	<p><i>The gateways into Elgin would be a lovely thought. The roundabouts are like Milton Keynes, dull and not welcoming. They need jazzed up, flowers, artwork just something to invite people to into the City.</i></p>	<p>Support noted.</p>
ECCMP_D023	<p><i>By making "attractive" roundabouts, it is diminishing the visibility of drivers and thus reducing the efficient flow of</i></p>	<p>The inclusion of planting and signage which obstructs the 'through' sightlines at a roundabout seeks to reduce the</p>

	<i>traffic. Several roundabouts in Elgin already suffer from this, many times the foliage or sign markers blocking views of the adjacent lanes meaning traffic cannot see what is potentially coming around. Low level roundabouts with simple basic design, non-cluttered by advertisements or unkempt plants would mean it would be appealing, require little upkeep and allow traffic to flow efficiently.</i>	speed of vehicles as they approach the roundabout – thus improving safety.
ECCMP_D066	<i>MC seems to have an obsession about tarting up roundabouts. I haven't!</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D099	<i>The roundabouts are currently fairly unattractive looking and need major upgrade. This needs to be designed for low maintenance as access provisions required to carry out routine work are problematic i.e. lane closures, traffic control etc.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D100	<i>We welcome proposals to enhance the entrances and gateways to the city centre, and to use these spaces to further opportunity to highlight the heritage of the city.</i>	Noted.

#### **OP2 Former Sawmill and Auction Mart Sites, Linkwood Road**

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D051	<i>This is located next to the railway line. The railway line is never going to move but the location of the bus station is being looked at. Why not relocate the bus station here. With the A96 bypass proposal going to the south of Elgin and one of three junctions from this bypass leading directly to this site via the A941/ Main Street New Elgin, you would have two major travel hubs closer together and have something similar to Inverness. Could Gleaner oils and other businesses be relocated to a new business park/industry area where explosives risks are not preventing future development of the inner city. Homes and infrastructure could then be developed with a blank canvas and the relocated businesses get new premises. It's a win win'</i>	The majority of users of buses in Elgin are accessing city centre facilities. Relocating the bus station to a position near the rail station will have an adverse impact on those users and may discourage use of public transport (buses).
ECCMP_D053	<i>The Mart is a problematic site due to flooding issues - although the Tyock burn now drains well into the Lossie, the underground water flow , less than 2 metres below the</i>	Noted.

	<p><i>surface would be easily blocked by further development which would result in substantial flooding to the adjacent residential area - again. N.B. flooding in my property was not initially due to surface water, but to water rising up from the underground water table. The current drainage system for this area of New Elgin is barely adequate - during flood events water also rises up from the drains. New properties would put even higher demands on the current system. Could I suggest a good use for the Mart would be either allotments, a market garden or a tourist caravan/motorhome site run by an accredited organisation such as the Caravan Club. This would need very little extra infrastructure and would encourage visitors to the nearby city centre, whilst green screening could shield the site from adjoining houses and provide some natural environmental advantages for the wildlife in this area.</i></p>	
ECCMP_D066	<p><i>Not city centre. Active travel component seems doable without it. Remove.</i></p>	<p>These sites are considered to be adjacent to the Centre and as large vacant/ derelict brownfield sites, their development can positively support the Centre.</p>
ECCMP_D074	<p><i>The auction mart etc do have the space to improve transport connections and link to the railway station but it's still so far from the town and all you wish to improve. It may still be a better option than using existing bus station. Can you have a shuttle bus going between these'</i></p>	<p>The majority of users of buses in Elgin are accessing city centre facilities. Relocating the bus station to a position near the rail station will have an adverse impact on those users and may discourage use of public transport (buses).</p> <p>Any provision of a shuttle bus between the bus and rail station would need to be commercially viable. There are however existing bus services which connect these two locations.</p>
ECCMP_D087	<p><i>This is fairly vague, but hints at options of rewilding these spaces to support water management, biodiversity and more natural habitats - which may be a better future investment than further infrastructure to be protected from floods and taking up resources. Wild spaces could be created that could be very attractive gateways from rail and road.</i></p>	<p>There is an opportunity through redevelopment of these sites to improve drainage and provide a wetland habitat to enhance biodiversity.</p>

## Other Comments

Consultee Ref.	Summary of Comment	Response
ECCMP_D002	<p><i>Add recycling bins please. Especially high street and at lossie ice cream shops. Sort out public toilets. Free parking for first half hour as paying for parking is pointless just now when you can go everywhere within 15 minutes. Seagulls need sorted out.</i></p>	<p>Noted. Projects have been included which will explore recycling, improve the public toilets in Cooper Park and actions on gulls.</p>
ECCMP_D004	<p><i>Elgin Museum is not specifically mentioned in the context of the cultural quarter. I do not have any role in the Museum (though I have in the past been one of the volunteers who provide most of the staffing for the Museum) and so do not speak for the Museum -- these are my own personal thoughts. The museum is a major cultural asset for the town but one that I fear is insufficiently recognised, and it would be good if the "cultural quarter" concept made allowances for it and for its potential further use. One issue for the Museum is its location on the tail of the High Street hard up against Alexandra Road. Until Alexandra Road was built it had direct connectivity into Cooper Park and thus to Grant Lodge (and indeed to the Cathedral). Alexandra Road is a considerable barrier now. The proposal to replace the current bridge at North Port with a flat crossing does not necessarily help integrate the Museum -- a crossing from the car park beside the Museum would potentially make the Museum more visible.</i></p> <p><i>The red K6 phone box beside the Museum. BT want to decommission this, and therefore would offer it for a peppercorn sum under their "adopt a phone box" scheme" to any appropriate organisation that would look after it. K6 phone boxes were introduced in the mid 1930s and large numbers were produced into the 1950s. It is one of the most distinctive features of British street architecture/furniture. I think the one by the Museum is the only K6 box left in Elgin. If no-one takes it on, the risk is that it may be a target for repeat vandalism and will be an eye-sore. Even though it is listed, if it is too badly damaged it may in due course be lost. Ideally the Council would take it on as an important aspect of</i></p>	<p>The Museum has been included in the Masterplan and the Council has been in discussion with representatives of the Museum regarding plans for refurbishment of the building.</p> <p>Proposals also include consideration of a new surface level crossing to Grant Lodge to re-instate the historic access and this is one of a number of options which will be assessed.</p> <p>Comments noted regarding the red phone box and this will be explored further.</p>

	<i>the Elgin street scene. HES and the Council have both in the past indicated that it could be relocated to a position across the road, in the wider section of pavement near the staff bike racks at the Council office building. In that location it would be visible from down the High Street and would attract people to come to look at it, and being so much more visible it would be more protected from vandalism. It would provide a useful place for providing some information about that part of Elgin for visitors.</i>	
ECCMP_D006	<i>This sounds exactly what Elgin needs especially for children and teenagers.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D009	<i>By building new homes and businesses how do you aim to provide the amenities needed for these people/ families. There's no mention of expanding schools or doctors surgeries. Also without a consultant led maternity unit in Moray surveys have shown couples are choosing to not have children or to postpone having children until those services are up and running should hospital services not be addressed also'</i>	Details of new schools and extensions to existing schools, new health facilities and road improvements are all set out in the Moray Local Development Plan 2020.
ECCMP_D014	<i>This plan is utterly ridiculous when the council can't even get the basics right like, emptying of street bins, filthy pot holes riddled streets. Cooper park is a disgrace- again get the basics right! Good quality foot paths, proper bins installed etc. closes of the high street are disgusting and so is the underpass due to them not being cleaned/ weeded. Elgin town Centre is an utter mess, a total embarrassment. I can't believe the people who are in charge don't see it themselves!', how much would it cost to employ/ hire someone with a van and power washer to work the high street- weeding and power washing the closes'</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D017	<i>To encourage people back into the town centre, you're going to need to tackle the seagull problem in the town - the unspeakable mess and stench these birds make to the pavements on High Street and South Street has to be addressed. What's the point of spending money on the town only for the existing parts to still be no-go areas during the breeding season '</i>	Noted. Actions are being progressed to tackle the gull issue.

ECCMP_D021a	<p><i>I would like to see a community initiative whereby I'm sure a load of volunteers would plant trees strategically around Elgin. I live in a social housing street and I have thought about asking for permission to organise a community vegetable garden for nearby streets run by volunteers. With the restrictions and lack of quality food and finances, this could be a great way for local social housing complexes to provide community grown food, teaching children where food comes from, creating opportunities for people to learn how to garden and it's been proven to help with people's wellbeing. With my own MH diagnosis, it has improved my wellbeing with my own garden over the past year and saved a bit of money by growing my own food. I'm sure somebody could create both of these initiatives and I hand on heart would say you can gain volunteers for these ideas. While it's great seeing herbs and strawberry's on the high street, it would be even better too have local complexes create their own vegetable garden for their small community.</i></p>	<p>Noted. A planning officer has discussed this proposal further with the respondent and is considering how to support the proposal.</p>
ECCMP_D021b	<p><i>I put a previous comment in which wasn't entirely fair so I thought I'd comment in detail of what I do think. I love the masterplan, whether these proposals come into fruition, who knows because we've been promised things in Elgin for as long as I can remember. This needs to happen though. For sustainability and attracting folk into the city, it really needs to be put into action. However, when I look around Elgin on a daily basis whether walking or driving, the lack of trees and hedging is atrocious. The snow drifting onto roads can be eased with hedging. The high winds, especially where we live in Elgin is ridiculous due partly from lack of shelter and obstacles trees provide. On top of that, greenery is proven to increase people's wellbeing. I would like too see a community initiative whereby I'm sure a load of volunteers would plant trees strategically around Elgin. I live in a social housing street and I have thought about asking for permission to organise a community vegetable garden for nearby streets run by volunteers. With the restrictions and lack of quality food and finances, this could be a great way</i></p>	<p>Noted.</p>

	<p><i>for local social housing complexes to provide community grown food, teaching children where food comes from, creating opportunities for people to learn how to garden and it's been proven to help with people's wellbeing. With my own MH diagnosis, it has improved my wellbeing with my own garden over the past year and saved a bit of money by growing my own food. I'm sure somebody could create both of these initiatives and I hand on heart would say you can gain volunteers for these ideas. While it's great seeing herbs and strawberry's on the high street, it would be even better too have local complexes create their own vegetable garden for their small community. I hand on heart believe Elgin can be just as beautiful and happy with more greenery, shelter and a way for communities to sustain their own food. The use of the UHI could surely could greatly reduce your financial expenditure' You have a multitude of courses being studied by students who are looking for valuable work experience. Planting trees, landscaping and flowers - Horticulture Sports Activities - Sports coaching Running cafes and hotels - Hospitality Providing arts and performance - stage and arts students Making steel frames for art, signs and building the amphitheatre - engineering and builders at linkwood Advertising for tourism - marketing and business students The list is endless, cost productive and provides students valuable work experience.</i></p>	
<p>ECCMP_D022</p>	<p><i>I feel that the council along with Bid &amp; other agencies have missed a chance to take back a hidden gem in Elgin. Through compulsory buying back of the eyesore that is now oldmills the town could have had a working museum. Along with a small nature walk along to the small island further up stream, where a small picnic area could have been built. This is what i remember from a school trip many years ago. It could link on to current pathways with ease and become another of Moray award winning attractions. By returning the mill back into a working mill i think that between lottery funding council at regional and national level funding plus local fund raising would help cover the costs. It would create</i></p>	<p>Noted, however this is outwith the scope of the City Centre Masterplan.</p>

	<i>more jobs in the refurbishment and the running of the mill. It could be used for private functions after hours to secure an income all year round. I feel that there is so much more Elgin &amp; Moray can offer to not just the rest of Scotland &amp; the UK but the World.</i>	
ECCMP_D023	<i>I appreciate the notion behind this revamp however it appears that many of the sectors that would be affected by this have not been liaised with. I am surprised to see support by Elgin BIDs for many parts of the project as they are meant to be generating footfall in the town, not dragging it away into the park. I believe a committee of local businesses, people of influence and other people from all sectors of Elgin should be compiled to discuss and amend these plans for the betterment of Elgin overall. It appears that the whole project is designed at making Elgin appealing to tourists rather than making it appealing to her residents. Poor understanding of the local environment is very clear, as installation of the outdoor performance area in the park will just be taken over by underage drinkers etc on evenings and seeing the destruction of previously tried refurbishments in the past it seems that nothing has been learned and a perpetual cycle of this will continue. I appreciate what is trying to be achieved by this however it seems to be all "perfect world" and not set in a realistic basis at all.</i>	A Steering Group will be set up in early 2022 to co-ordinate delivery of the projects.
ECCMP_D036	<i>As good as a lot of this looks infrastructure really needs to be a priority. The council are allowing houses to go up left right and center while the infrastructure buckles and fails Elgin residents. Elgin needs a serious face lift and this maybe just be the key but educating the youth to respect and not graffiti the new areas will help Elgin continue to look great after the renovations. Giving the youth more options when it comes to socialising instead of getting into mischief is key also. The council need to ensure that once all work is complete then they can afford the upkeep. All I have seen over the years that spaces have improved only for the council to continually cut funds to these areas allowing them to look unkept and messy. Elgin and Moray residents can not be pushed to</i>	Noted.

	<i>higher taxes either, this is not an affluent area and by squeezing more money through taxes equals less money in the local economy.</i>	
ECCMP_D035	<i>Landlords of upper levels of High St property must be told to maintain their buildings, stonework, windows etc. There is a massive problem with gulls in the centre which prevents a lot of people coming into Elgin to shop or use outdoor cafes etc between March-October, this should have been sorted years ago. Rents are too high for central shops, rates should be free for the first 2 years of a business trading then offered at a reduced rate for the next 3 years. Elgin Bid should not charge any business in their first 5 years of trading. More police officers or community officers to patrol on foot to fine litter louts and people who urinate down Closes. Shut down places like Dicey's, Elgin is in desperate need for better quality bars and restaurants.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D036	<i>Think in short term you need to encourage shops etc to fill shops otherwise the whole thing is waste of money</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D037a	<i>Can you advise if there are any plans for inclusion of an emergency helicopter landing pad at Cooper park?</i>  <i>Over the years the park has been crucial to many life saving transfers by helicopter. The current facilities fall woefully short of most other landing areas throughout Scotland and the UK as a whole.</i>  <i>The simple inclusion of a surfaced and landing light lit helipad would be a massive boost. We as volunteers within the police, coast guard and as 1st responders give up our own time to help the community. Maybe Moray Council could step up to the plate and at the very least promote a fund raising effort or include it from the get go in the plans for cooper park?</i>	Proposals for an emergency helicopter landing pad do not currently feature within the Masterplan. A follow up discussion has been held to better understand requirements and further investigation is needed to fully consider the implications and feasibility of creating a helipad within Cooper Park.
ECCMP_D037b	<i>Elgin needs also to be a safe area. The serious lack of cctv in and around public places is shocking. People need to feel they are safe. You need a modern cctv system covering as much public space as possible. Especially Cooper park and</i>	Noted. This will be discussed further with Police Scotland.

	<i>other areas where people congregate. This will also help the youth issues we are experiencing. Again CCTV to make it a safe space. My daughters say they don't feel safe when out in the town. Our ageing, broken system is laughable in this day and age.</i>	
ECCMP_D038	<i>Supportive of a café culture and more seating areas outside to reclaim the street for pedestrians. However, would need strong enforcement to avoid cars still being able use those streets which could undermine it.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D040	<i>Appreciate that the immense amount of work involved in such a vast project and welcome the potential for improvements to Elgin generally but perhaps some of your team need to be actually on the ground as it were rather than just at a desk. I too appreciate the advertising potential from an image of our shop on page 34 of the Elgin City Draft Masterplan however this image is from around 2006. Hardly representative of todays times, it's not just a few years out of date! I'm sure nobody else will notice but it give an air of laziness not to actually take note of the businesses rather than just 'copy and paste'. Take the time to get out of the office, far better for everyone to be in the fresh air as much as possible especially during these times and away from behind the desk. Actually look at the buildings you so want to improve and of that you are representing.</i>	Noted, images have been updated.
ECCMP_D042	<i>More health care provision, we have many, many houses being built but no enhanced healthcare/hospital provision to compensate.</i>	Proposals for new and extended healthcare facilities are set out in the Moray Local Development Plan 2025.
ECCMP_D043	<i>Looking forward to seeing the developments will be great to life back on the high Street again</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D044	<i>Elgin council cant keep up with maintenance of Elgin high street, so even if they revamp it entirely shops wont want to come here due to council tax and eventually the high street will go back to like it is now. Empty.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D046	<i>A good example of a masterplan and that it should be packaged as a resource to sell to other local authorities to generate income for the Council.</i>	Noted.

	<p><i>Need to consider impact of crowds on people with autism and anxiety – proposed ‘safe stops’ at regular intervals for people who need a break and ‘quiet time’ from crowds on the High Street. These could be shown on an app along with a bar chart for busiest time periods similar to supermarket on-line shopping charts. Volunteers could be used to patrol the High Street and check in on people using the safe stops.</i></p> <p><i>Café culture – support for café culture and permanent seating which needs to be accessible with plenty of space – people with special needs sometimes don’t want to sit in close proximity to others.</i></p>	
ECCMP_D047	<p><i>A general comment about outside social and entertainment areas We have to remember that global warming is not a 24/7 feature of our North East weather and therefore every attempt should be made to make these areas all weather where possible There is nothing more soul destroying than planning an outdoor event that is then torpedoed by the weather My comments also apply to outdoor fitness areas/cafes etc Re holding events in High Street would a permanent inbuilt sound system be a possibility-it would greatly enhance the enjoyment of events As somebody involved in the original Dandy Lion I love the way that(despite original criticism) THIS THEME HAS TAKEN OFF AND IS UNIQUE to Elgin</i></p>	Noted. The potential for a sound system on the plainstones will be investigated further.
ECCMP_D054	<p><i>Something I feel that would be of great benefit to Moray and Elgin would be considering the opportunity for growth in our outdoor adventure sector. Mountain biking across Scotland is a target for growth. Development of current local trails such as the ones in Fochabers to bring them up to a higher standard will attract further outdoor enthusiast's to the area. Not only the cycling trails bit including walking trails in this area would be a massive benefit to the tourism sector.</i></p>	Noted, however this is outwith the scope of the City Centre Masterplan.
ECCMP_D055	<p><i>There is a start-up company (the Unorthodox Project) that is willing to create a smoke restaurant and a Music Venue on Wards Road. The project is a great idea but the location is questionable as they are hoping to have their venue at the</i></p>	Noted.

	<i>Old City Plumbing that is attached to the Hawco Garage (and in a residential area). Should that project be part of the Masterplan as they are willing to support the community and have SVQs, but also be nearer the Town Center/ in the Cultural Quarter' They are hoping to have live music every weekend with DJs / live bands with a 350 capacity...</i>	
ECCMP_D056	<i>Elgin does need to be up graded as it is falling behind other towns despite the efforts of those who have worked to improve it. Get on top of pound land, sort them out their renovation works are far beyond a joke.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D065	<i>Moray council is notorious for deciding first, often with the 'usual suspects', and only then going out to 'consultation', the Great Places scheme being an example. I shall leave it at that.</i>	The Council held a number of workshops which informed the draft masterplan. An extensive and challenging consultation has then taken place which has generated significant interest and feedback. A number of key changes are proposed as a result of the consultation feedback.
ECCMP_D066	<i>Although not in the town centre, Deanshaugh Park must really be brought into use for amateur Summer/ Welfare Leagues, kiddies fives and informal practice football pitches as originally intended. As it is, an excellent asset is going to waste and being contaminated with the perennial problem of dog excrement I definitely would not advocate involving Junior League Clubs as this would require fencing off of a substantial area as has been done at Pinefield.. not a good idea.</i>  <i>Where I have not commented I am broadly encouraged.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D068	<i>I would like to see childcare and elderly project opportunities involved. With expanding ELC this would be a fantastic chance to develop ELC within the plan.</i>	Noted. Opportunities for ELC and elderly project opportunities will be fed into projects as they progress.
ECCMP_D069	<i>Elgin still has the issue of absent landlords. The opportunity to view projects and comment directly to the team in person We have a great opportunity to modernise and grow here.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D070	<i>Is there funding to sustain these projects in the future once they are completed and years down the line begin to look untidy'. Is there any consideration as to how the St Giles Shopping Centre fits in to the Masterplan and how it could be improved or developed ' it is a main area within the High</i>	Noted. St Giles has been included in the final version of the Masterplan.  Projects will be designed to minimise future maintenance and will be a key consideration for the Council.

	<i>Street but is in desperate need of investment or change of use.</i>	
ECCMP_D074	<i>Existing developments limit the practical nature to realise some of these proposal ambitions.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D076	<i>I think there should be something to involve the younger people, perhaps something on the high street which encourages young people to take part in the community a bit more.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D084	<i>Overall an excellent plan. As a young person in the town it's sad to have seen it neglected and mismanaged for so long but this will put it back on track. Only watch out is to be mindful of the furniture or statues etc used. They must be timeless and not date. What is relevant now will not be in 20 years. Cycling and electric car use should be front of mind along with making the area easy to keep clean and tidy, don't add more areas to be vandalized or rot that cannot be sorted at pace.</i>	Noted.
ECCMP_D086	<i>Having been the former Chair of Elgin BID and an active board member I am surprised at the lack of consultation with our organisation and also myself as a business owner in the town. I hope going forward there are more opportunities to work collectively as civil servants will not have the same vision and objectives as those investing directly into the town as business owners. This was evident at the lack of thought and consideration during covid restrictions and I would hate for that lack of communication and action to happen with this opportunity.</i>	Elgin BID have been involved from the outset of the Masterplan process, participating and presenting at workshops which helped shape and inform the draft Masterplan.
ECCMP_D089	<i>The plan needs to concentrate on encouraging visitors to Elgin. This includes residents who may have to travel by car. Car parking must be free and not subject to charge if at all possible. OK, this will cost revenue but it will generate business far in excess of lost revenue by promoting Elgin - rather than charging to visit our town! The whole subject of parking needs revisiting. There are too many pay and display car parks which are unique to Elgin and nowhere else in the</i>	Noted.

	<p><i>County. No surprise that the High Street suffers while others thrive. Some ingenuity needs to be employed here; the use of initial free parking periods and restricted parking periods are among the ideas on offer in very busy areas. However, nowhere in Elgin will be very busy if the current parking stranglehold continues to kill the town. Businesses need encouragement and footfall, otherwise they will stay away from Elgin.</i></p>	
ECCMP_D090	<p><i>Take a lesson from Batchen Street - the only street in Elgin worth visiting to be honest and have little shops which are quirky and not be charging them huge rents to be here. Make Batchen street a no traffic area to allow people to walk freely without being squashed by cars coming up the street.</i></p> <p><i>It is the lack of shops and entertainment in Elgin that is the issue. I know of tourists who have come here who won't be coming back as Elgin is full of charity shops, empty shops and a shopping centre that is dire beyond belief.</i></p>	Noted.
ECCMP_D091	<p><i>The overall intentions of the Draft Masterplan are welcomed by St Giles Shopping Centre Holdings Ltd. However, having reviewed the Draft Masterplan it is clear that there are very few references to the St Giles Shopping Centre which is somewhat surprising considering it represents a major asset, and the only facility of this nature, in the city centre. The St Giles Shopping Centre is currently occupied by national and local retailers, contains food &amp; drink offerings and provides access to the Bus Station and St Giles Car Park. This shopping centre is a key contributor to the vitality and viability of the wider Elgin City Centre and draws people to the city centre. The protection and enhancement of the Shopping Centre is crucial, not only for employment/economic reasoning, but as a significant element of the city centre townscape. To ensure the long-term sustainability of the Shopping Centre, planning policy flexibility and diversity of uses will be key in going forward. Currently, the adopted LDP makes clear that the town centre as a whole is suitable for a diverse mix of uses including</i></p>	<p>The Moray Local Development Plan 2020 policies set out a clear town centre first approach with the aim of supporting the vitality and viability of town centres.</p> <p>Council officers have met with representatives of the St Giles Centre and have included the Centre within the Masterplan. The Council recognises the challenges facing the Centre and are keen to explore options around diversity of uses and potential to sub divide empty units to meet demand for smaller premises.</p>

retail, leisure and cultural/community uses. It goes on to note that the Core Retail Area of Elgin Town Centre will be suitable for Class 1, 2 or 3 will be supported at ground floor level. In this regard, the Draft Masterplan notes in the Developing the Masterplan section that some feedback from a business breakfast highlighted that: St Giles Centre is not performing as a shopping centre, needs redeveloped. It is requested that Moray Council to creates another objective within the Core Retail Area section of the Draft Masterplan specifically relating to the St Giles Shopping Centre. This would be in keeping with other specific proposals including CR8, CR10, CR11, CR14 and CR15. This would provide an additional policy tool, alongside existing planning policies, which could positively be used to support the future of the Shopping Centre. Such a designation could provide flexibility to support a mix of uses within the Shopping Centre beyond Classes 1, 2 and 3. This could include support for business space, community space and leisure uses. Shopping centres across the country are increasingly becoming more than just shopping facilities with an acknowledgement that visitors want to have an experience and a meeting place alongside traditional retailing. The aforementioned discussions about the Council taking space and encouraging local start-ups being able to use the space highlights the ingenuity which could be enhanced moving forward and encouraged by the Draft Masterplan. It is important to highlight that the adopted LDP allocates sites on the opposite side of the A96 to the north for mixed-uses (References: Opp7, 8 & 9). The allocation of the St Giles Centre within the Draft Masterplan would also provide the opportunity to see if there is scope to link these areas together. The Draft Masterplans objective CQ1 seeks to transform the Elgin Town Hall into a creative arts and entertainment venue. In light of what has been discussed, it would seem sensible to understand if there is scope for the St Giles Shopping Centre to be part of, or support, this. Such an objective or allocation would give due weight to what is a very important part of the Core Retail

	<p><i>Area and wider city centre; and help regenerate this shopping centre which continues to operate in difficult trading conditions. There would be scope for the Council to discuss ideas with the owners of the Shopping Centre itself in order to create a realistic future including a mixture of uses not just focused on retail or food/drink. This would also allow other discussions to take place regarding how the rear of the Shopping Centre could be redesigned in line with objectives CR1, CR2, CR6 and CR13, for example. A clear objective within the Masterplan document for the St Giles Shopping Centre will provide a focussed approach in line with the LDP for future development proposals and planning applications. Finally, the masterplan needs to ensure that it works in conjunction with other regulatory tools to encourage businesses and development into the City Centre which will in turn attract visitors and shoppers. This may include such matters as the business rates regime and understanding if there is scope for this to work alongside the planning system/adopted planning policy. It is believed that a joined-up approach to policy making will achieve the most favourable conditions for City Centre to improve and flourish. This Draft Masterplan aims to create a new environment which will improve its attractiveness, but it needs to be supported through other means including existing planning policy and development management to ensure any new development in out-of-centre locations will not impact on the viability or vitality of the City Centre.</i></p>	
ECCMP_D092	<p><i>Looking forward to further opportunities for consultation and receiving regular updates on progress.</i></p>	Noted.
ECCMP_D093	<p><i>The Moray Society suggest that TMS/ELGNM are keen to be involved as a stakeholder. We expressed this at a most useful meeting we held with Rhona Gunn and Gary Templeton as part of these consultations. There are multiple instances where we have much to offer occur in this Plan including inter alia, education, tourism, community, social and recreational opportunities. Town trails are referenced in the proposals and their potential role in creating a Cultural</i></p>	Noted. The Museum has been included as a project and Council officers have been in continued discussion with the Museum representatives regarding their future plans.

	<p><i>Quarter. We are disappointed to note that ELGNM is not mentioned except to identify a road crossing.</i></p> <p><i>We suggest that progress, wherever possible, should NOT be achieved through demolition, starting another cycle of review and knock down which in a few years is again deemed detrimental to the town centre.</i></p> <p><i>The Moray Society welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the debate over this Elgin Masterplan. We welcome our initial dialogue with Moray Council officials. And we really do wish to offer our knowledge and experience from a large membership to help drive these proposals forward.</i></p>	
ECCMP_D094	<p><i>Overall, a very impressive vision to revitalise Elgin, reduce vehicle dominance, and encourage more people to walk and cycle both for everyday local journeys and for visiting the town.</i></p>	Noted.
ECCMP_D097	<p><i>If town centres are to be successful it is essential that the non-domestic rates system be reviewed as this is the greatest burden that businesses are facing and it makes the large premises which are now vacant unviable. It is ridiculous that vacant properties in town centres are obliged to pay 90% of the non-domestic rates even although they are not generating any income, which goes against normal tax consideration which should be based on ability to pay. It is no wonder that many vacant properties are allowed to deteriorate as the proprietors are not able to afford the maintenance costs and this makes town centres very unattractive. The recent Barclay report into the non-domestic rating system did nothing to improve the situation and a further investigation and reform is urgently required. My last point is concerning the menace posed by urban seagulls, and it's time that the local authorities in the country banded together to pressurise government into changing the legislation that currently affords these birds protection. They can carry disease which can be spread by their feces and many members of the public have experienced getting soiled</i></p>	Noted.

	<p><i>by these birds and attacked especially during the breeding season. Their nesting materials block guttering and encourages vegetation to grow on roofs of buildings creating an unsightly mess. Any improvement that you make to the town centre will be undermined by the presence of these birds which deter shoppers and tourists alike from taking advantage of the facilities in town. Protecting Herring and Black-backed gulls in the marine environment may be justified but when they take over town centres they should be categorised as vermin and treated accordingly.</i></p>	
<p>ECCMP_D098</p>	<p><i>Increasing and more intense rainfall should be a significant consideration for the redevelopment of Elgin and a sustainable drainage strategy should be linked the mapsterplan moving forward. A key outcome should be to steadily increase resilience by ensuring that more sustainable drainage techniques, such as greenroofs and rainwater harvesting systems, are commonly and widely used.</i></p> <p><i>Benefits: Reduced risk of fluvial and surface water flooding; Improvement of water quality entering the River Lossie; and Ecological enhancements.</i></p> <p><i>Whilst Elgin is currently well protected against flooding from the River Lossie, there are a number of areas where surface water flood risk remains a challenge.</i></p> <p><i>The strategy that should be followed for the development of Elgin should be: Manage flooding at source by reducing runoff; Manage flooding by storing or conveying flood water on the surface; Manage flooding by storing or conveying flood water below ground; and Undertake further study to gain a better understanding of flood risk.</i></p> <p><i>When referring the Local Surface Water Management Plan a number of locations are listed as priority locations, where</i></p>	<p>Noted.</p>

	<p><i>these align with masterplan objectives they should be addressed together.</i></p> <p><i>Drainage options presented for Core Retail Area and Cooper Park.</i></p>	
ECCMP_D099	<p><i>Street Trees - These need to be planted in root director chambers to protect the surrounding surface and have irrigation pipes in place to enable adequate watering in crucial formative years after planting.</i></p>	Noted.
ECCMP_D104	<p><i>It would be helpful to understand how the projects will be coordinated, we understand that a steering group may be put together, and it would be beneficial to confirm further details on this group and who may be part of it. It would be beneficial to understand further how the Shopping Centre will benefit from the proposed Masterplan and is there any way that it could be incorporated to improve or develop it.</i></p> <p><i>Dependencies- What are these plans dependant on i.e A96, if this is not completed in time or does not go ahead how does this affect the plans. Cost of property in the city centre means investors tend to invest in the outskirts instead, how this will be addressed.</i></p>	<p>A Steering Group will be formed early in 2022 to co-ordinate delivery of the Masterplan.</p> <p>The St Giles shopping centre has been included as a project within the Masterplan.</p>
ECCMP_D106	<p><i>The cost of infrastructure investment, new enterprises and footfall to our City Centre will be significant. The efforts are at risk of being wasted if the following are not addressed:</i></p> <p><i>Seagulls. I know that there are some ongoing low budget trials regarding egg removal etc. However, with limited Council funding and reliance on Common Good funds, this initiative is unlikely to achieve a rapid reduction in the city centre's gull population. I am not alone in limiting my visits to the Centre, having had experience of being soiled from above. The mess and menace of gulls is a frequent talking point. Gulls are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. It is time that this legislation was amended to enable elimination of vermin birds in urban settings. (Gulls are a growing problem throughout Elgin residential areas, where quality of life is suffering, as well as in the town centre. As for the Cooper Park pond,I have personally</i></p>	<p>Noted. The Masterplan includes requirements for gull proofing measures to be incorporated into new buildings and to explore how to retrofit measures to add to the current actions being progressed to control gulls.</p>

	<p><i>estimated over 200 gulls floating and whirling like pterodactyls; scaring visitors and polluting the surroundings.) Moray Council officers and Elected Members should be using all their powers to lobby for changes to legislation and meantime be bolder in allocating more funds to control of the gull population.</i></p>	
ECCMP_D111	<p><i>Surprised that so much money will be spent on the Elgin Town Hall given it was given a massive refurbishment only a few years ago. Since this money is Moray Growth Deal funding can you tell me where else in Moray this money is being spent' It certainly looks like all of the spending is taking place in Elgin with no plans for elsewhere in Moray</i></p>	<p>Details of Moray Growth Deal projects can be viewed at <a href="http://mymoray.co.uk">mymoray.co.uk</a> The 8 projects will bring benefits to the whole of Moray. Projects such as the Bus Revolution, Housing Mix Delivery, Early Years STEM, MAATIC and Digital Heath will bring investment, infrastructure, employment and education opportunities throughout Moray.</p>