

LANARK

Lanark High Street is the heart of the town, a hub which is gradually being transformed for the local community, businesses and visitors through a variety of local partnership working.

The High Street offers a variety of retail, catering and service outlets for all ages. Occupancy rates are generally high compared to UK averages, and any small vacant units tend to be let quickly. The implementation of the Discover Lanark Business Improvement District, voted YES in February 2019, will be sure to improve business, tourism and trade in the town once it commences in autumn 2019.

Lanark has created a new brand identity, recently applied to Welcome Signs. Vacant windows are filled with historic town information and the train station welcoming visitors has been transformed. The High Street is also adorned with beautiful hanging baskets and planters, generously provided to the community free of charge by volunteers with Lanark in Bloom. The centre piece of the High Street is the historic St Nicholas Church, which is aligned with large colourful banners which line the entire street's centre island.

Lanark is also full of innovative ideas that promote the towns heritage, encourage people to use the High Street and overall make Lanark a better place to live and visit. One example is the Lanark Closes project by the Development Trust. Lanark High Street has 14 closes (narrow covered alleys) which are all in need of improvement and repair. A pilot project has transformed one such close into the new 'Wallace Close', complete with spray paint murals of William Wallace, a project worked on by local school pupils. Discover Lanark BID has plans to develop the further 13 closes, each with their own historic theme and visuals – improving their aesthetic for regular users and a tourism draw.

