

Bid to recognise Queensferry High Street as town centre to protect retail space

Edinburgh Council is being urged to officially recognise Queensferry as a 'town centre' amid concerns over the "death of the high street" through retail space being stripped out.

Other than the city centre the capital has nine town centres – but the historic Royal Burgh is not currently on the list, meaning it's not afforded the same protections in planning policies and resource allocations set by the local authority. Now a councillor wants to see the area join the likes of Corstorphine, Leith Walk and Portobello by gaining official status as a shopping centre to help the high street bounce back from the cost of living crisis and avoid commercial units being lost.

Councillor Euan Hyslop said the sight of a number of vacant shop fronts on the high street was "upsetting" and "pretty worrying".

The SNP group's Fair Work and Economy spokesperson, who is also a small business owner, said: "Our high streets and town centres are feeling the bite of the cost of living crisis.



Councillor Euan Hyslop. Photo © 2023 Martin P. McAdam
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