

**PRESS RELEASE – FAO LOCAL REPORTERS  
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**POLITICIANS AND RETAILER SEEK TO WORK TOGETHER ON EXPANSION PROPOSALS**

The future of one of Kirkcaldy's biggest retailers was under discussion at a meeting last week between representatives from Lidl and the SNP's local parliamentarians.

Roger Mullin MP and David Torrance MSP met with David Durie, Senior Acquisitions Manager at Lidl, to discuss proposals for expanding the Kirkcaldy store through a move to the former Stagecoach bus depot site towards the west end of the Esplanade.

Commenting after the meeting, Roger Mullin MP said:

"I welcomed the opportunity to meet with David Durie to discuss the expansion plans proposed by Lidl, and was impressed by some of the ideas discussed. I was particularly delighted to hear that Lidl are considering utilising local supply chains, which would be of significant benefit to the local economy.

"After engaging with David and other representatives from Lidl, I am confident that the new store will bring further employment opportunities to the local area; however, it is of vital importance that the existing unit occupied by Lidl is taken over quickly by another retailer, to avoid further degeneration of the town centre."

David Torrance MSP said:

"Lidl is a very prominent store within the town and we are greatly encouraged by their enthusiasm for expanding their operations within Kirkcaldy. We are keen to work with Lidl to explore opportunities for boosting local employment in the west of the town, while ensuring any relocation has no negative impact on the town centre. In particular, we would be keen to connect Lidl to local suppliers in Fife, ensuring they could directly benefit by bringing their produce to a wider market."

"This meeting has been a great opportunity to discuss the plans in detail."

Senior Acquisitions Manager at Lidl, David Durie, was pleased by the parliamentarians' willingness to discuss the proposals directly:

"It was great to meet with Roger and David and brief them on our exciting plans for Kirkcaldy. By relocating our existing store to our new site on the former Stagecoach Bus depot at the west end of the Esplanade, we are able to deliver our brand new concept store, called Lidl of the Future. The relocation will increase our sales area from 1002m<sup>2</sup> to 1424m<sup>2</sup>, ensuring that we provide the best possible shopping experience for our customers.

"The new store will also create up to 15 new jobs, in addition to those already provided by the existing store. We are proud to be the first retailer in the UK to introduce and exceed the living wage, with all employees receiving a minimum of £8.25 per hour. We will continue

to engage with Fife Council and other interested parties in Kirkcaldy. For more information on our proposal to relocate, we would encourage residents to visit our project website at [www.kirkcaldy.lidl.co.uk](http://www.kirkcaldy.lidl.co.uk)."

David and Roger stressed their hopes to fully engage with Lidl going forward, and their shared enthusiasm for strengthening Kirkcaldy's economy.

Talks have also taken place between Lidl and local business champions Kirkcaldy 4All.

Lidl have proposed relocating from their current store on the Esplanade to an expanded outlet on the site of the former Stagecoach Bus Depot near the west end. A planning application has been submitted with Fife Council, and the company is hoping for a decision regarding its proposals before the end of the year.

**ENDS**

## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

Attached pictured from left: David Torrance MSP, David Durie (LIDL), and Roger Mullin MP.

For Lidl media enquiries please contact Suzanne Martin on 0141 212 7222 or at [Suzanne.martin@invictapa.co.uk](mailto:Suzanne.martin@invictapa.co.uk)

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