

SECTION XXVII

AREA FORUMS

Constitution

Tweeddale Area Forum -

- (a) The six elected Scottish Borders Councillors representing the Wards of Tweeddale East and Tweeddale West;
- (b) The Chairman or a representative from each of the Community Councils in the Tweeddale area;
- (c) A representative from NHS Borders;
- (d) A representative from the Police;
- (e) A representative from any other local body as agreed by the Scottish Borders Councillors.

Chairman/Vice Chairman

The Chairman and Vice Chairman of each Area Forum shall be Members of Scottish Borders Council and shall be elected by the Members of the Council who are members of the relevant Area Forum.

Quorum

Three of the Scottish Borders Council Members of each Area Forum, including at least one representative from each Ward, shall constitute a quorum, except for the Eildon Area Forum where five shall constitute a Quorum.

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Council shall stand referred to each Area Forum, in compliance with any statute and regulations governing those public, private and voluntary sector organisations involved:-

1. Scrutinise the local impact and performance of Council and other services in the area.
2. Scrutinise the local impact and performance of the Community Planning Partnership in the area.
- *3. Make recommendations on the objectives and priorities for the area, including economic development, engaging with local communities and businesses as appropriate.
4. Provide direction for decision-making on those issues that involve competing interests or are controversial or contentious, other than planning applications.
5. Gain a shared understanding of need in the area.
6. Seek to engage and involve the local business community and consider ways to attract commercial enterprise to the area.

7. Act as a consultation body requiring local input, where appropriate.
8. Determine local holiday dates.
- *9. Consider and make recommendations for Local Byelaws and Management Rules.
- *10. Consider and make recommendations if required to the relevant Committee on local community matters, including local economic development plans.
- *11. Identify impediments and barriers which inhibit integrated approaches in local service provision, and make recommendations on how these could be overcome.
12. Approve Small Schemes and Roads Funding Members Priorities, including the use of Pay Parking income (restricted to specific towns only).
13. Approve all matters relating to street naming and numbering, where not delegated to officers.
14. Approve local traffic management schemes.
15. Approve the making of temporary, permanent or experimental orders for the regulation of traffic, including stopping-up orders.

Functions Delegated

All functions above NOT marked *. Those functions marked * are referred to the Committee for consideration and recommendation only and must receive approval of the relevant other Council committee.

General

In addition to the functions referred and delegated to the Area Forums, the Council or other Organisations may from time to time seek the views of Area Forums on specific matters or applications outwith their normal remit.

Item No. 9

Tweeddale Area Forum

26 November 2012

Briefing on Scottish Court Service (SCS) Proposals for Court Reform

**Ian Wilkie
David Cressey**

Background to the Proposals:-

- Best use of Government money
- New and imaginative ways to deliver service
- Opportunities for sharing facilities
- Principles for provision of Access to Justice
- Consultation closes on 21 December 2012
- Selkirk Sheriff Court has been saved from closure

The Proposals

- High Court sitting changes
- Potential removal of Sheriff and Jury business from Border Courts
- 16 Sheriff Courts will routinely deal with such
- Creation of Summary Sheriffs
- Centres of Shrieval specialism
- Progressive introduction over ten years
- Closure of the Sheriff and Justice of the Peace courts in Peebles and Duns
- Business transferred to Edinburgh and Jedburgh
- Archived during 2013/14
- Haddington also set for closure
- Low volume of business at Peebles and Duns
- Duns:- There are no cells or interview facilities
- Peebles: - Custodies and witness provision is poor;
- *'Blueprint for Scotland'* – former Deputy First Minister

The Issues

- Greater travel distances for all concerned:
- Witnesses, Accused, Pursuers, Defenders, Solicitors, other agencies+
- Fair access to justice
- Access to justice more difficult
- Economic impact on affected towns
- SCS savings v. impact on the Borders
- Exploration of alternatives

Sheriff Court Boundary Issues

- East coast residents to Edinburgh instead of Jedburgh? SCS comment.
- Selkirk instead of Edinburgh – an alternative if Peebles cannot be saved.

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL - TWEEDDALE AREA
PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2013

	<u>PEEBLES AREA</u>	<u>INNERLEITHEN AND WALKERBURN</u>
NEW YEAR 2013	TUESDAY 1 JANUARY WEDNESDAY 2 JANUARY	TUESDAY 1 JANUARY WEDNESDAY 2 JANUARY
SPRING HOLIDAY	MONDAY 1 APRIL	MONDAY 1 APRIL
MAY DAY	MONDAY 6 MAY (EXCEPT FOR SHOPS WHICH WILL TAKE 13 MAY TO AVOID CONFLICT WITH THE EDINBURGH AND GLASGOW HOLIDAYS)	MONDAY 6 MAY (EXCEPT FOR SHOPS WHICH WILL TAKE 13 MAY TO AVOID CONFLICT WITH THE EDINBURGH AND GLASGOW HOLIDAYS)
VICTORIA DAY	MONDAY 3 JUNE	MONDAY 3 JUNE
BELTANE	SATURDAY 22 JUNE	
ST RONAN'S DAY		SATURDAY 20 JULY
TRADES' HOLIDAY	SATURDAY 27 JULY TO SATURDAY 10 AUGUST	SATURDAY 27 JULY TO SATURDAY 10 AUGUST
SHOP HOLIDAY	MONDAY 29 JULY	MONDAY 29 JULY
ST ANDREW'S DAY	MONDAY 2 DECEMBER	MONDAY 2 DECEMBER
CHRISTMAS	WEDNESDAY 25 AND THURSDAY 26 DECEMBER	WEDNESDAY 25 AND THURSDAY 26 DECEMBER
	<u>Glasgow</u>	<u>Edinburgh</u>
New Year	Tuesday 1 and Wednesday 2 January	Tuesday 1 and Wednesday 2 January
Easter	Monday 1 April	Friday 29 March and Monday 1 April
Spring Holiday		Monday 15 April
May Day	Monday 6 May	Monday 6 May
Victoria Day		Monday 20 May
Spring Holiday	Monday 27 May	
Trades' Holiday	Commence Saturday 13 July	Commence Saturday 29 June

Autumn Holiday	Monday 30 September	Monday 16 September
Christmas	Wednesday 25 and Thursday 26 December	Wednesday 25 and Thursday 26 December