
**Please find attached the reports in respect of Items 10
and 13 on the agenda for the above meeting**

10.	Convention of the South of Scotland and South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership (Pages 3 - 28) Consider report by Chief Executive. (Copy attached.)	15 mins
13.	Response to Consultation by British Telecom on Proposed Removal of Payphones in the Scottish Borders (Pages 29 - 50) Consider report by Chief Executive. (Copy attached.)	10 mins

This page is intentionally left blank

Convention of the South of Scotland and South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership

Report by the Chief Executive

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

31 October 2019

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval of the Council for the establishment of a Convention of the South of Scotland, the setting up of a South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership (REP); and to show how the REP would link into the Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership.**
- 1.2 In March 2019, the Leaders of Scottish Borders Council, Dumfries and Galloway Council and the South of Scotland Economic Partnership met with Fergus Ewing MSP, the Cabinet Secretary for the Rural Economy. At that meeting, it was agreed that a Convention of the South of Scotland be formed to act as the national interface between key public sector partners in the South of Scotland and Scottish Government Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers. This follows the established practice in the Highlands and Islands. The setting up of the Convention was highlighted by the Scottish Government in announcing its Programme for Government (2019/20) published on 3 September 2019.
- 1.3 The South of Scotland Alliance (comprising Scottish Borders Council, Dumfries and Galloway Council, Scottish Enterprise and representation from the private sector) has led the development of the proposals for both a Convention and a REP. As part of this task, the Alliance has worked with Scottish Government to understand the role that the Convention of the Highlands and Islands plays in ensuring alignment across all the key public sector partners. The South of Scotland Alliance discussed and supported detailed proposals for the establishment of a Convention of the South of Scotland and a Regional Economic Partnership at its meeting on 20 September 2019.
- 1.4 It is intended the REP will build on the work of the South of Scotland Alliance and be co-chaired by Dumfries and Galloway and Scottish Borders Councils. It is proposed the REP would comprise local public sector partners, and representatives from business, and the third sector. The REP is where strategic interactions between the local partners and the Agency would take place. The REP's most important role will be to develop, agree and oversee delivery of the South of Scotland Regional Economic Strategy.

- 1.5 It is considered that the establishment of the REP will necessitate changes to the structure of the Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership. This is because joint partnership working on economic development will now be taken through the REP and its wide ranging membership taken from both the Scottish Borders and Dumfries and Galloway. It is proposed that the REP would replace the current Scottish Borders Economy and Low Carbon Delivery Team and its associated sub groups and link directly into the Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Council:

- (a) Agrees the South of Scotland Alliance's proposals for the establishment of the Convention of the South of Scotland as set out in paragraphs 4.1 – 4.7 below;**
- (b) Agrees the South of Scotland Alliance's proposals for the setting up of the South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership as set out in paragraphs 5.1 – 5.6 below.**
- (c) Agrees the appointment of four elected members to the South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership;**
- (d) Agrees that the South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership should replace the current Scottish Borders Economy and Low Carbon Delivery Team, and its associated sub-groups, and link directly into the Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership; and**
- (e) Agrees that these proposed changes to the Community Planning Partnership are presented to the Partnership's Strategic Board for approval.**

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The South of Scotland Enterprise Bill was passed by the Scottish Parliament on 5 June 2019, and received Royal Assent on 12 July 2019. This legislation gave effect to the creation of a new enterprise agency covering the South of Scotland. One of the key issues highlighted by the Scottish Parliament's scrutiny of the legislation was ensuring appropriate local influence over the agency and its priorities.
- 3.2 The ultimate purpose of the South of Scotland Enterprise's establishment is to ensure that the South of Scotland maximises its contribution to a thriving and sustainable Scottish economy. To achieve this, the new Agency must be well integrated with the other public agencies which support Economic Development in the area, to ensure alignment and shared benefits. There is an expectation that the Agency will be particularly responsive to local enterprises, skills and training providers, local communities and the two South of Scotland local authorities.
- 3.3 The relationship between the Agency and two local authorities in the South of Scotland Scottish Borders and Dumfries and Galloway Councils will be one of the most critical of all to the effective operation of the Agency. As democratic institutions that reflect local opinion and aspirations, the Councils have a unique relevance in community and regional leadership and an indispensable role in shaping the strategic 'direction of travel' of both the Agency and wider regional economic development plans.
- 3.4 The South of Scotland Alliance (SoSA) has led the development of the proposals for both a Convention and a REP. As part of this work, the Alliance has worked with Scottish Government to understand the role that the Convention of the Highlands and Islands plays in ensuring alignment across all the key public sector partners. The South of Scotland Alliance discussed and supported detailed proposals for the establishment of a Convention of the South of Scotland and a REP at its meeting on 20 September 2019 (See Appendix 1). The key points in these proposals are set out in the forthcoming paragraphs.
- 3.5 Drawing on the work set out in Appendix 1, (particularly Figure 1 and paras 2.1-2.3), the Alliance considered the best structure to facilitate engagement between public organisations is to meet with national and regional leaders through a Convention of the South of Scotland. This would be similar to the model used in the Highlands & Islands, but adapted to the specific circumstances of the South of Scotland. In March 2019, the Leaders of the two Councils, the South of Scotland Economic Partnership, and Fergus Ewing MSP, the Cabinet Secretary for the Rural Economy, agreed that this was the right model to pursue. The formation of the Convention featured in the Programme for Government (2019/20) published on 3 September 2019.
- 3.6 SoSA also believes that a South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership (REP) should be established. This would be led by the local authorities, and would complement the Convention by bringing a wider group of stakeholders together, including those from outside the public sector, to drive forward the regional economic agenda.

- 3.7 It is considered the setting up of the REP has implications for the reporting arrangements for economic development matters to the Scottish Borders Community Planning Strategic Board. This is because the majority of the same partners currently represented on the Scottish Borders Economy and Low Carbon Delivery Team would be members of the REP. There is an opportunity to streamline this work, the reporting of it and reduce bureaucracy.

4. CONVENTION OF THE SOUTH OF SCOTLAND

- 4.1 The Convention of the South of Scotland is to be the national interface between key public sector partners, and Scottish Government Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers. The following paragraphs outline what the South of Scotland Alliance proposes as the form of the Convention of the South of Scotland. However, the Convention would be led by the Scottish Government.
- 4.2 The South of Scotland Alliance proposes that the Convention will be a vehicle to ensure effective partnership working, chaired by the Scottish Government, and driven by all of the Convention members. This body will oversee regional economic performance in the South of Scotland, ensuring that all partners are playing their part in delivering Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth in the South of Scotland. The Convention provides a structure to consider strategic issues for the South of Scotland, and align partners around new action to address these matters.

- 4.3 SoSA proposes the role of the Convention of the South of Scotland will be to
- Strengthen alignment between all public agencies delivering in the South of Scotland.
 - Ensure effective partnership working and delivery across the public sector.
 - Consider the current and future challenges which face the economy in the South of Scotland.
 - Address key policy issues, and consider actions to support inclusive and sustainable economic growth in the South of Scotland.

The agenda and discussion at the Convention will be focused on delivering inclusive and sustainable economic growth in the South of Scotland. The Convention's breadth of membership will facilitate this goal.

- 4.4 The Alliance considers that the Chair of the Convention should be the Deputy First Minister (DFM). This provides continuity with the South of Scotland Alliance's annual meetings with the DFM and follows the established practice from the Convention of the Highlands & Islands. The DFM also has significant power to direct Government agencies, working with other Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers, and placing the Government in the role of Chair allows them to fully exert that influence.

4.5 Mirroring the arrangements in the Highlands & Islands, SoSA proposes that the Convention of the South of Scotland would be made up of public agencies and institutions with a responsibility for, or interests in, the economic and social development of the South of Scotland. The Alliance has suggested that the membership of the Convention could comprise the following:

- Scottish Government – comprising the Deputy First Minister who will chair the meetings, and attendance by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers relevant to the agenda items.
- Dumfries & Galloway Council and Scottish Borders Council – comprising Council Leaders and a second senior member, supported by the Chief Executives.
- Chairs and Chief Executives of agencies such as:
 - South of Scotland Enterprise
 - Scottish Enterprise
 - Skills Development Scotland
 - VisitScotland
 - Scottish Funding Council
 - Scottish Natural Heritage
 - Forestry and Land Scotland
 - Transport Scotland
 - Marine Scotland
 - Crown Estates Scotland
- A Higher Education representative from each of the local authority areas. Most logically this would be Heriot Watt University in the Scottish Borders.
- A representative from each of the two regional Colleges in the South of Scotland.
- Local NHS Boards.

4.6 Given the breadth of the agenda in relation to sustainable and inclusive economic growth, other organisations could be considered for membership or invited to attend relevant agenda items. The membership will be reviewed by the Convention on an ongoing basis in relation to the subjects being discussed. Where it is necessary to discuss reserved matters, appropriate representation from the UK Government could be invited to attend a particular meeting. It is considered the optimal way of getting input from private sector, the third sector and communities is through the Regional Economic Partnership which is discussed below. It should be noted that this interface is clearly a major strategic priority for the new Enterprise Agency.

4.7 The Alliance also proposes that:

- The Convention would meet twice a year.
- The meetings would be hosted either by one of the Local Authorities or another relevant body in the South of Scotland.
- All Convention meetings would be held in the South of Scotland.

- Meetings would alternate between Dumfries & Galloway, and the Scottish Borders (it is also important that the Convention meets in different parts of the two areas, ensuring that there is adequate coverage.)
- Agendas and Reports would be produced by a Senior Officers Group drawn from the Convention's core members.
- Meetings would be open for members of the public to observe.
- A full transcript of meetings will be published.
- Decisions at the Convention would be made on a consensus based approach.

5 SOUTH OF SCOTLAND REGIONAL ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

- 5.1 The South of Scotland Alliance considers the South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership will be the vehicle for developing, agreeing and overseeing delivery of the South of Scotland Regional Economic Strategy which aligns with the Scottish Economic Strategy, and is informed by the relevant local strategies (Economic, Land Use, Transport etc.). It would set the strategic direction in relation to the regional economy. The REP will set priorities within the Economic Strategy and ensure that partner organisations are focused on delivering the agreed strategy. This strategic work is essential in directing the priorities of the Enterprise Agency and will be fundamental in development of the Action Plan they are required to provide to Scottish Ministers.
- 5.2 The South of Scotland REP's primary purpose will be to secure and enable inclusive and sustainable economic growth across the South of Scotland. The suggested remit of the REP is as follows:
- Setting the strategic direction for the regional economy in the South of Scotland.
 - Addressing the strategic economic issues pertaining to the South of Scotland through effective partnership work.
 - Ensuring that collectively, partner capacities and resources are harnessed to maximum effect.
 - Bringing together stakeholders from across the area under a common purpose to drive inclusive and sustainable economic growth in the South of Scotland
 - Identifying barriers to inclusive and sustainable economic growth, particularly those that are specific to the South of Scotland.
- 5.3 The Alliance proposes that the membership of the South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership should take the following form:-
- Dumfries & Galloway Council (Four senior elected members)
 - Scottish Borders Council (Four senior elected members)
 - South of Scotland Enterprise (Chair of the Agency and three SOSE board members)
 - Private Sector Representatives –Two each from the Scottish Borders and Dumfries & Galloway

- Appropriate/Regional Leads for the following organisations
 - Scottish Enterprise
 - Skills Development Scotland
 - Scottish Funding Council
 - VisitScotland
- Borders College (Chair of the College)
- Dumfries & Galloway College (Chair of the College)
- An invite to be issued to all relevant Scottish Universities i.e. University of Edinburgh, University of Glasgow, Heriot Watt University Napier University, Open University, Rural University and the University of the West of Scotland.
- A Social Enterprise business representative from each local authority (drawn from the Social Enterprise Chambers/Associations in both Dumfries and Galloway and Scottish Borders).
- A Third Sector representative from each local authority area (drawn from the Third Sector Interface in both Dumfries and Galloway and Scottish Borders)
- A representative from community development trusts (Enterprising Community) from Dumfries and Galloway and Scottish Borders that is decided with Development Trusts Association Scotland (DTAS)
- A representative from the Registered Social Landlords from each local authority.

Senior officials from partner organisations, including Chief Executives and Principals, will also be in attendance as required at each meeting. Scottish Government officials would be invited to attend meetings as observers, in the same manner as is currently done by the South of Scotland Alliance.

- 5.4 The Alliance proposes meetings of the REP will take place quarterly and will integrate with the scheduled meetings of the Convention of the South of Scotland. There will be a rotation of locations for meetings across the whole of the South of Scotland, though they will alternate between Dumfries & Galloway and the Scottish Borders. It is vital that the REP is seen to represent all parts of the South of Scotland, and not continually meeting in the same locations. It is important to ensure that it visits all parts of the region.
- 5.5 A Senior Councillor would chair the meetings, with the chair rotating annually on the same basis as the current South of Scotland Alliance. A vice chair will be appointed by the Chair from their own organisation. The Chair of the REP will also provide an update to each Convention meeting on the work of the REP, including any issues which need to be raised. Decisions at the REP will be taken on a consensus basis. A process will be put in place to resolve any disputes between partners that cannot be resolved at meetings.
- 5.6 If the Council agrees to the establishment of the REP, then it will need to decide its membership for the forthcoming meetings. It is intended that at the next meeting of the South of Scotland Alliance on 22 November 2019 that a 'shadow' meeting of the REP would be held. It is considered that Scottish Borders Council's Alliance members should attend this meeting. The nominated members from the Council to the REP would then attend the meetings of the REP once it is formally established. This is planned for May 2020 after the establishment of South of Scotland Enterprise Agency.

It is therefore recommended that Council nominates four Members for the Regional Economic Partnership.

6. THE LOCAL LEVEL AND LINKS WITH THE SCOTTISH BORDERS COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP

- 6.1 The South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership will need to have close links with the local Community Planning Partnerships in both Dumfries and Galloway and the Scottish Borders. This relationship will recognise their mutual interest in promoting the development of the economy of the South of Scotland and the local economies that comprise the region.
- 6.2 As outlined in paragraph 5.3 above the REP will have a wide ranging membership which will be taken from both the Scottish Borders and Dumfries and Galloway. At present the partnership input on economic development to the Scottish Borders Community Planning Board comes from an inter-agency group called the Economy and Low Carbon Delivery Team. This Team comprises representatives from private and third sector groupings and public sector agencies, many of whom would also be represented on the REP. The Team has a series of sub-groups focusing on particular matters of detail e.g. Working in the Countryside, Learning & Skills Partnership.
- 6.3 It would seem sensible that the REP replaces the Economy and Low Carbon Delivery Team and its associated sub-groups in providing input on economic development into the Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership and its Strategic Board. This input could be provided through the Senior Elected Members of Scottish Borders Council who will be co-chairing the REP. It is considered that this approach would prevent repetition and enable partnership working on economic development matters to be much more effective.
- 6.4 It will be essential to ensure operational focus is maintained on delivery of the agreed Economic Strategy. To that end, officers will convene appropriate meetings with partners and report to the Scottish Borders Community Planning Strategic Board to ensure that there continues to be a strong link between strategy and delivery in the Scottish Borders. It is likely that similar arrangements will be put in place in Dumfries and Galloway.

7 IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Financial

- (a) There will be financial implications for the Council arising from the proposals to establish a Convention of the South of Scotland and the Regional Economic Partnership. It is expected there may be costs to the Council, primarily relating to the hosting of meetings.
- (b) With regards to the REP the Councils will be the lead body and the work to support these meetings will need to be supported in the same way as the South of Scotland Alliance with officer support and the costs associated with holding meetings in both the Scottish Borders and Dumfries and Galloway. Currently the overall cost of this support are around £45,000 with the costs divided equally between Dumfries and Galloway Council and Scottish Borders Council. It is considered that the costs of the REP could be funded by the two Councils and the new Enterprise Agency, with each providing a third of the required funds. At this point officers are content that the costs of the new arrangements can be met from existing budgets.

7.2 Risk and Mitigations

There are significant risks in the Council not being involved influencing the strategic and operational direction of economic development in the South of Scotland. It is crucial that the key delivery partners in the South of Scotland are fully aligned in order to ensure that the South of Scotland is gaining maximum benefit from the establishment of South of Scotland Enterprise. It is considered that the Convention of the South of Scotland and the REP provides most effective way of making a positive influence, ensuring alignment, and maximising outcomes.

7.3 Equalities

Inclusive Growth will be a key feature of economic development in the South of Scotland which will have positive influence on all the groups with equality characteristics.

7.4 Acting Sustainably

Both the Convention of the South of Scotland and the South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership will have sustainable development at the centre of its focus, and should bring a positive impact on the sustainable development of the Scottish Borders and the South of Scotland.

7.5 Carbon Management

The work of the Convention of the South of Scotland and Regional Economic Partnership could have positive effects on reducing carbon emissions.

7.6 Rural Proofing

Both the Convention of the Scotland and Regional Economic Partnership will be in a strong position to support the development of rural areas in the Scottish Borders and across the South of Scotland.

7.7 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation

There are no changes required to either the Scheme of Administration or the Scheme of Delegation.

8 CONSULTATION

- 8.1 The Chief Financial Officer, the Monitoring Officer, the Chief Legal Officer, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Service Director HR, the Clerk to the Council and Corporate Communications are being consulted and any comments will be reported back at the meeting.

Approved by

Rob Dickson
Executive Director

Signature

Author(s)

Name	Designation and Contact Number
Douglas Scott	Senior Policy Adviser Tel 01835 825155
Bryan McGrath	Chief Officer – Economic Development Tel 01835 826525

Background Papers: N/A

Previous Minute Reference: N/A

Note – You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats by contacting the address below. Douglas Scott can also give information on other language translations as well as providing additional copies.

Contact us at: Douglas Scott dscott@scotborders.gov.uk tel: 01835 825155

PARTNERSHIP BODIES FOR THE SOUTH OF SCOTLAND – SOUTH OF SCOTLAND CONVENTION AND SOUTH OF SCOTLAND REGIONAL ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The South of Scotland Enterprise Bill was passed by the Scottish Parliament on 5 June 2019, and received Royal Assent on 12 July 2019. This legislation gave effect to the creation of a new enterprise agency covering the South of Scotland. One of the key issues highlighted by the Scottish Parliament's scrutiny of the legislation was ensuring appropriate local influence over the agency and its priorities. The governance arrangements for the new South of Scotland Enterprise Agency as a public body are set out in the legislation for its establishment. However, the future relations between the Agency and local partners in the South of Scotland still need to be developed.
- 1.2. The ultimate purpose of the Agency's establishment is to ensure that the South of Scotland maximises its contribution to a thriving and sustainable Scottish economy. To achieve this, the new Agency must be well integrated with the other public agencies which support Economic Development in the area, to ensure alignment and shared benefits. There is an expectation that the Agency will be particularly responsive to local enterprises, skills and training providers, local communities and the two South of Scotland local authorities.
- 1.3. Following an initial piece of work developed by the two Chief Executives of the Councils, consensus has emerged that the best structure to facilitate engagement between public organisations is to meet with national and regional leaders through a Convention of the South of Scotland, similar to the model used in the Highlands & Islands, but adapted to the specific circumstances of the South of Scotland. A Regional Economic Partnership for the South of Scotland, led by the local authorities, would complement the Convention and bring together a wider group of stakeholders, including those from outside the public sector, to drive forward the regional economic agenda.
- 1.4. These partnerships are intended to bring partners in the regional economy together, to strengthen and energise the connections between them and to drive inclusive and sustainable economic growth by ensuring that partner capacities and resources are harnessed to maximum effect.
- 1.5. In March 2019, the Leaders of the two Councils, the South of Scotland Economic Partnership, and Fergus Ewing MSP, the Cabinet Secretary for the Rural Economy, agreed that this was the right model to pursue, and that officers should develop detailed proposals.

- 1.6. The establishment of the South of Scotland Enterprise provides the opportunity for the South of Scotland to look at how it engages with national and regional leaders. This paper details formal structures for consideration on how to make the most of the opportunity presented by the establishment of the South of Scotland Enterprise Agency to ensure the South of Scotland engages effectively with national and regional leaders.
- 1.7. The Agency will require two lines of accountability. First, it is nationally accountable through the Cabinet Secretary to the Scottish Parliament acting on behalf of the people of Scotland. Second, it needs to demonstrate responsiveness to the people of the South of Scotland reflecting the ambition for the Agency set out in the Scottish Government's March 2018 'Consultation on a new Enterprise Agency for the South of Scotland'. Indeed, in his foreword to the Consultation on the proposal, the then Cabinet Secretary put the notion of local accountability particularly strikingly: *"We want the South of Scotland to drive forward its own future, a future created of the South, by the South and for the South. And we want to ensure we're doing all we can to see that this future is one of fair work and inclusive growth."*
- 1.8. The relationship between the Agency and Scottish Borders and Dumfries and Galloway Councils is likely to be one of the most critical of all to the effective operation of the Agency. As democratic institutions that reflect local opinion and aspirations, the Councils have a unique relevance in community and regional leadership and an indispensable role in shaping the strategic 'direction of travel' of both the Agency and wider regional economic development plans.
- 1.9. In addition, the Councils provide a range of services from Education to Transport to Licencing, and through the substantial property and land assets they hold, that are essential to delivering on strategic ambitions and shared priorities. Both Councils must be fully committed to supporting the new Agency, and will lead the Regional Economic Partnership which will develop and deliver of the Regional Economic Strategy for the South of Scotland.

2. THE MODEL – A CONVENTION OF THE SOUTH OF SCOTLAND AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

2.1. Agreement has already been reached between Scottish Government and the local authorities to pursue the development of a Convention of the South of Scotland, supplemented by a Regional Economic Partnership for the South of Scotland.

Figure 1 – Key Political Interfaces

<u>Local Interfaces</u>	<u>Regional Interfaces</u>	<u>National Interfaces</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councils • CPPs • Locality Partnerships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SoSA –builds on existing structures forms the basis of: • Regional Economic Partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convention of the South of Scotland
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Identification and agreement of local issues b. Direction of local delivery c. Scrutinising local delivery d. Prioritisation of local resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Agreeing Strategic Direction including the Development of South of Scotland Economic Strategy b. Ensuring delivery of the Strategy - Accountability c. Prioritisation of actions and resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Oversight of regional economic performance b. Ensuring effective partnership working and delivery c. Removing barriers to delivery of the Economic Strategy d. Discussion of emerging policy issues e. Tackling key challenges

2.2. Figure 1 sets out the various levels of engagement at the local, regional and national levels. The model provides for relationship building and interaction at every level.

2.3. The Convention and the REP are complementary structures with clear and distinct functions. The Convention brings together national and regional public sector leaders to ensure alignment and address any potential blockages in relationships. The REP articulates and drives the regional economic strategy.

Convention of the South of Scotland

2.4. The Convention of the South of Scotland is to be the national interface between key public sector partners, and Scottish Government Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers. The Convention will be a vehicle to ensure

effective partnership working, chaired by the Scottish Government, and driven by all of the Convention members. This body will oversee regional economic performance in the South of Scotland, ensuring that all partners are playing their part in delivery of Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth in the South of Scotland. The Convention provides a structure to consider strategic issues for the South of Scotland, and align partners around new action to address these matters.

Regional Economic Partnership

- 2.5. The Regional Economic Partnership (REP) will have a wider membership than the Convention and it will be co-chaired by Dumfries and Galloway and Scottish Borders Councils. It will comprise largely local public sector partners, and representatives from business, and the third sector. This is where strategic interactions between the local partners and the Agency will take place. The REPs most important role will be to develop and agree the South of Scotland Regional Economic Strategy. This Strategy will be produced by the partners working within the framework of the REP and will be monitored by the REP to ensure its effective delivery. Significant strategic issues which cannot be resolved among the REP partners, can be considered at the Convention. It is anticipated that this will only occur very exceptionally as these should be resolved by the REP. The REP will also discuss and address key issues pertaining to the Economic Development of the South of Scotland with partners, and identify barriers which need to be considered by the Convention.

The Local Level

- 2.6. Figure 1 also sets out the local interfaces. Though this is not the primary focus of this paper, it is important to note the interactions at this level. To be effective, the Agency requires the most comprehensive view of local relationships and activity. Interaction with businesses and communities will be fundamental to this, but, among other steps, the Agency will require to be an active participant in the respective Community Planning Partnerships and Local Partnerships of the two local authority areas which comprise the South of Scotland. This engagement will enable the identification of local development issues and opportunities together with matters that are important strategically.
- 2.7. The next sections of this report provide more detail on the Convention, Regional Economic Partnership and proposed transition to these new arrangements.

3. CONVENTION OF THE SOUTH OF SCOTLAND (COSS)

- 3.1. The South of Scotland Alliance has matured into a strong partnership and has provided a strong voice and there is a need to ensure that its strengths are built upon once South of Scotland Enterprise becomes operational.
- 3.2. Observation of the working and merits of the Highlands & Islands approach suggests particular benefits accrue from the public sector dialogue led by Scottish Government, with the Councils and Highlands & Islands Enterprise within the Convention of the Highlands & Islands. This allows political space to discuss strategic economic matters pertaining to the region and to resolve any issues that arise in relation to resourcing, partnership working etc.
- 3.3. The creation of a Convention of the South of Scotland, based on the model in the Highlands & Islands, is an important element of the proposed approach to future dialogue between key partners in the South of Scotland. However, it does not follow that the South of Scotland's arrangements should simply mirror those in the Highlands and Islands. A premium attaches to the South of Scotland shaping its own future. Equally, there is much to be gained in political direction and influence through the formal involvement of Scottish Government in support of the Convention and in its processes and decision-making.

Remit

- 3.4. The role of the Convention of the South of Scotland will be to :
 - Strengthen alignment between all public agencies delivering in the South of Scotland.
 - Ensure effective partnership working and delivery across the public sector.
 - Consider the current and future challenges which face the economy in the South of Scotland.
 - Address key policy issues, and consider actions to support inclusive and sustainable economic growth in the South of Scotland.
- 3.5. The agenda and discussion at the Convention will be focused on delivering inclusive and sustainable economic growth in the South of Scotland. The Conventions breadth of membership will facilitate this goal.

Chair

- 3.6. The South of Scotland Alliance agreed at its meeting on 20 September 2019, that the Deputy First Minister (DFM) should chair the Convention of the South of Scotland. Over the past decade the South of Scotland has developed an effective relationship with the DFM, which has facilitated broader engagement with Scottish Government. The DFM chairing ensures that he is supported at meetings by relevant Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers depending on the items being discussed.

3.7. This follows the established practice from the Convention of the Highlands & Islands. It will give a significant profile to the Convention. The DFM will be able to direct Scottish Government services and influence other partners to respond to issues and opportunities discussed at the Convention. Also the DFM acting as chair will ensure that there is continued engagement in the South of Scotland agenda from the Scottish Government at the very highest levels, building on the South of Scotland Alliance's already strong relationship with the DFM.

Membership

3.8 Mirroring the arrangements in the Highlands & Islands, SoSA proposes that the Convention of the South of Scotland would be made up of public agencies and institutions with a responsibility for, or interests in, the economic and social development of the South of Scotland. The Alliance has considered that the membership of the Convention could comprise the following:

- Scottish Government – comprising the Deputy First Minister who will chair the meetings, and attendance by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers relevant to the agenda items.
- Dumfries & Galloway Council and Scottish Borders Council – Comprising Council Leaders and an appropriate second Elected Member, supported by the Chief Executives.
- Chairs and Chief Executives of agencies such as:
 - South of Scotland Enterprise
 - Scottish Enterprise
 - Skills Development Scotland
 - VisitScotland
 - Scottish Funding Council
 - Scottish Natural Heritage
 - Scottish Forestry
 - Transport Scotland
 - Marine Scotland
 - Crown Estates Scotland
- A Higher Education representative from each of the local authority areas.
- A representative from each of the two regional Colleges in the South of Scotland.
- Local NHS Boards.

3.9. Given the breadth of the agenda in relation to sustainable and inclusive economic growth, other organisations would be considered for membership or invited to attend relevant agenda items. The membership will be reviewed by the Convention on an ongoing basis in relation to the subjects being discussed.

- 3.10. Where it is necessary to discuss reserved matters, appropriate representation from the UK Government could be invited to attend a particular meeting.
- 3.11. Whilst there might be benefit in inviting the private sector, the third sector and communities to be represented on the Convention, it is considered the optimal way of getting their input is through the Regional Economic Partnership. This is where the formulation and implementation of the Regional Economic Strategy will take place, and businesses, communities, and the third sector have an indispensable role in ensuring the broadest representation and commitment to decision-making and delivery in this context.
- 3.12. It is proposed that a standing item for each meeting of the Convention will be an update from the Chair of the Regional Economic Partnership outlining the work of the REP, the progress being made on the delivery of the South of Scotland Economic Strategy and highlighting any issues needing to be discussed with the Convention. This then allows the Convention to operate as a forum for full and frank discussions between public sector partners.

Meetings

- 3.13. Following the example set by the Convention of the Highlands & Islands it is proposed that:
- The Convention would meet twice a year.
 - The meetings would be hosted either by one of the Local Authorities or another relevant body in the South of Scotland.
 - All Convention meetings would be held in the South of Scotland.
 - Meetings would alternate between Dumfries & Galloway, and the Scottish Borders (it is also important that the Convention meets in different parts of the two areas, ensuring that there is adequate coverage.)
 - Agendas and Reports would be produced by a Senior Officers Group (see Annex A).
 - Meetings would be open for members of the public to observe.
 - A full transcript of meetings will be published.
- 3.14. Decisions at the Convention would be made on a consensus based approach. It is proposed that a list of actions would be agreed at the end of each meeting.
- 3.15. There is a benefit for all parties if a framework for dialogue is built around the Agency's annual planning cycle. There is a desire from Scottish Government to see SOSE working on the same planning cycle as HIE and SE. This would result in the following:
- Early Autumn – Cabinet Secretary sits down with Chair and CEO of SOSE

- Follow up with Strategic Guidance letter from Cabinet Secretary in October in terms of what is expected from SOSE
- Planning process led by Senior Leadership Team and CEO and Draft Operating Plan taken to SOSE Board
- Send initial draft plan to the Scottish Government before Christmas
- Get draft plan with comments back from Scottish Government after Christmas
- The signing off of operating plan is a ministerial responsibility via Ministerial letter.
- Publish Operating Plan in February
- Operating Plan goes live in April

3.16. With this in mind, it is considered that with a similar planning cycle then scheduling a Convention of the South of Scotland in early Spring and a follow up in the early Autumn would be most appropriate.

4. REGIONAL ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

- 4.1. The Regional Economic Partnership (REP) will be the vehicle for discussing and agreeing a new South of Scotland Economic Strategy (developed by the Councils and the new agency) which aligns with the Scottish Economic Strategy, and is informed by the relevant local strategies (Economic, Land Use, Transport etc.). It would set the strategic direction in relation to the regional economy. The REP will set priorities within the Economic Strategy and ensure that partner organisations are focused on delivering the agreed strategy.
- 4.2. The REP will also bring partners in the regional economy together, to strengthen and energise the connections between them. Importantly, the REP will have a wider membership which includes business and third sector groups.
- 4.3. The REP will be led by a senior member of the two Councils. As with the South of Scotland Alliance, the two Councils would alternate the Chairing role of the REP, for 12 months at a time.

Remit

- 4.4. The South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership's primary purpose will be to secure and enable sustainable, inclusive and sustainable economic growth across the South of Scotland.

4.5. It will do this by.

- Setting the strategic direction for the regional economy in the South of Scotland.
- Addressing the strategic economic issues pertaining to the South of Scotland through effective partnership work.
- Ensuring that collectively, partner capacities and resources are harnessed to maximum effect.
- Bringing together stakeholders from across the area under a common purpose to drive inclusive and sustainable economic growth in the South of Scotland.
- Identifying barriers to inclusive and sustainable economic growth, particularly those that are specific to the South of Scotland.

Membership

4.6. The Scottish Government has been deliberately non-prescriptive in how it defines Regional Economic Partnerships. Instead they have chosen to allow different regions to develop an effective partnership structure which works best for their regions. The Enterprise and Skills Review Phase 2 Report on REPs sets out the building blocks of a Regional Economic Partnerships. They should be led by Local Authorities, and should have an element of involvement from the Private Sector. These points are embodied in the proposed REP for the South of Scotland.

4.7. It is important that those partners who have the resources and expertise to contribute to delivery of the Strategy are members of the REP. Also it is important that the REP has a membership which reflects the aims of the new Agency, and to the subjects arising from the South of Scotland Enterprise Act (2019) which were identified as important to the wider development of the region. These were :

- Economy – including inclusive business models and fair work principles
- Environment – including climate change
- Demography
- Connectivity – both Digital and Transport
- Communities

4.8. It is proposed that the membership of the **South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership** would take the following form:-

- Dumfries & Galloway Council (Four senior elected members)
- Scottish Borders Council (Four senior elected members)
- South of Scotland Enterprise (Chair of the Agency and three SOSE board members).

- Private Sector Representatives – Two each from the Scottish Borders and Dumfries & Galloway
 - Appropriate/Regional Leads for the following organisations
 - Scottish Enterprise
 - Skills Development Scotland
 - Scottish Funding Council
 - VisitScotland
 - Borders College (Chair of the College)
 - Dumfries & Galloway College (Chair of the College)
 - An invite would be given to all relevant Scottish Universities to nominate one member from their organisation i.e. University of Edinburgh, University of Glasgow, Heriot Watt University Napier University, Open University, Rural University and the University of the West of Scotland.
 - A Social Enterprise representative from each local authority (drawn from the Social Enterprise Chambers/Associations in both Dumfries and Galloway and Scottish Borders).
 - A Third Sector representative from each local authority area (drawn from the Third Sector Interface in both Dumfries and Galloway and Scottish Borders)
 - A representative from community development trusts (Enterprising Community) from Dumfries and Galloway and Scottish Borders that is decided with Development Trusts Association Scotland (DTAS)
 - A representative from the Registered Social Landlords from each local authority.
- 4.9. Senior officials from partner organisations, including Chief Executives and Principals, will also be in attendance as required at each meeting. Scottish Government officials would be invited to attend meetings as observers, in the same manner as is currently done by the South of Scotland Alliance.

Meetings

- 4.10. Meetings of the REP will take place quarterly and will integrate with the scheduled meetings of the Convention of the South of Scotland. There will be a rotation of locations for meetings across the whole of the South of Scotland, though they will alternate between Dumfries & Galloway and the Scottish Borders. It is vital that the REP is seen to represent all parts of the South of Scotland, and not continually meeting in the same locations. It is important to ensure that it visits all corners of the region.
- 4.11. Senior Council Members will chair the meetings, with the chair rotating annually on the same basis as the current South of Scotland Alliance. A vice chair will be appointed by the Chair from their own organisation. The Chair of the REP will also provide an update to each Convention meeting on the work of the REP, including any issues which need to be raised.

4.12. Decisions at the REP will be taken on a consensus basis. If consensus cannot be reached, and no agreement is possible, then the matter will return to the Secretariat and the Officers Group for further discussion with a view to revision and resolution. Where necessary a separate workshop will be held with partners to discuss the issue and come to a conclusion.

5. TRANSITION TO A CONVENTION AND REP

5.1. On 12 February 2019, the last meeting of the regular engagement between the Alliance with the Deputy First Minister took place. It should be recognised that we are now in a transition period with the Agency due to become formally operational from 1 April 2020. To facilitate dialogue during the transition period, it is proposed that, an inaugural Convention should be held prior to April 2020 when the Agency becomes operational. The purpose of the Convention during this period is to support the establishment of the Agency and to promote the conditions which facilitate the activities of the Interim Partnership and the Agency once operational. Equally, a Convention-type meeting will continue to be required as the primary mechanism for engagement with Scottish Government, South of Scotland Enterprise and other agencies.

5.2. Until the Regional Economic Partnership is established, there will be merit in continuing to use the Alliance as a mechanism for the Councils to develop common positions and test their ideas.

5.3. If these proposals are accepted then the possible transition could be taken forward in the following manner:

- i. 22 November 2019 – South of Scotland Alliance meeting and meeting of the ‘shadow’ Regional Economic Partnership.**
- ii. Early 2020 – A first meeting of the Convention of the South of Scotland.**
- iii. Early 2020 – A further meeting of the ‘shadow’ Regional Economic Partnership.**
- iv. 1 April 2020 – South of Scotland Enterprise begins operation.**
- v. May 2020 – First meeting of the Regional Economic Partnership**
- vi. August/September 2020 – Second meeting of the Regional Economic Partnership**

- vii. **Autumn 2020 – Second Meeting of the Convention of the South of Scotland**
- viii. **November 2020 – Third meeting of the Regional Economic Partnership**

Meetings would then proceed on a similar basis each year. This is shown in the table below.

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First meeting of the Regional Economic Partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First meeting of the Convention of the South of Scotland • Second meeting of the Regional Economic Partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third meeting of the Regional Economic Partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second meeting of the Convention of the South of Scotland • Fourth meeting of the Regional Economic Partnership

6. OTHER KEY RELATIONSHIPS

Between Councils and SOSE

- 6.1. At a less formal level, it is essential that an environment is fostered in which Elected Members view themselves as fully informed about and engaged in the activities of the Agency. This will necessitate Agency attendances at full Council meetings of each of the Councils during the course of each year, and a particular effort to engage with those Members who may be less proximate to the Agency’s activities. It is clear that failure to follow through regularly and committedly on such engagement could risk a political reaction inimical to the interests of the Agency, the Regional Economic Partnership and the Councils, and be damaging to their efforts to deliver on collective ambitions for the region.
- 6.2. Similarly, there is a need for an effective relationship between the Agency and the Community Planning Partnership’s in Dumfries & Galloway and the Scottish Borders. In creating the Agency, Scottish Government is establishing a new set of mechanisms, and increased expectations around what the South of Scotland can and should be expected to do for itself, especially in relation to inclusive and sustainable economic growth. If optimal outcomes are to be realised, it is essential that key partners are fully committed (with the Agency) to delivering on our shared ambitions for the South of Scotland. Thus, beyond the Agency’s engagement with the

Convention of the South of Scotland, it is necessary to think about interaction with Community Planning Partners in Dumfries & Galloway and the Scottish Borders. This might be built on the back of a dialogue with partners in each local authority area in developing the strategic plan for the Agency and in reporting annually on progress against that plan.

- 6.3. Furthermore, there has been a desire expressed through the evidence sessions on the Draft Bill, to ensure that there is strong communication and links made to local levels. The two Councils strongly support that principle, and whilst we believe it is for the new Agency to decide how best to do this, the mechanisms of local area committees in both councils provide a forum where, when necessary, the Agency can engage on a more local level, looking at specific localities within the South of Scotland. We also believe that delivering its service via a hub and spoke model will allow informal networks to be developed between Agency staff and local people, engendering goodwill and building strong working relationships.

With City and Growth Deals

- 6.4. It should also be noted that as SOSE is delivering economic development support schemes, it may also become involved in elements of the delivery of growth deals in the South of Scotland. The Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal is a time limited programme of projects to be delivered over the next 10 years in the South of Scotland, as well as across the border in England. Scottish Borders is also involved in the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal. Both of the 'deals' have/will have developed their own governance structures, which will provide the requisite oversight. So, whilst there will be project involvement for the new agency, it is not foreseen that either the Convention or the Regional Economic Partnership will be a formal forum for discussion around the delivery of these programmes.

7. CONCLUSION

- 7.1. It is agreed that the best structures to ensure that there is effective delivery of inclusive and sustainable economic growth in the South of Scotland are through the development of a Convention of the South of Scotland. We believe a Convention and associated interaction is the best means of establishing the understanding, trust and shared perspectives needed to build the kind of collaborative relationship which can deliver for the South of Scotland.
- 7.2. However, that relationship must be supported by strong engagement also with both Councils directly, especially the Elected Memberships of the respective Councils, and with the Community Planning Partnerships in Dumfries & Galloway and the Scottish Borders. The example of the Highlands & Islands Convention suggests that there is substantial benefit to be gained from the involvement of Scottish Government in the thinking, decision-

making and processes of the Convention. Therefore, the Convention should seek to combine the Scottish Government's involvement with the place-based knowledge and experience of local representatives.

- 7.3. The Councils will establish a South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership that will play a key role in setting the strategic direction for the regional economy in the South of Scotland. This will also build on the strong, mature partnership that has been nurtured through the South of Scotland Alliance, but will bring a wider range of stakeholders to the table, including much stronger representation from the business, education and Third Sectors.
- 7.4. Although there is some complexity involved in these relationships, the interfaces set out in this report have been designed to deliver effective partnership and strong, local, democratic input to drive forward the future economic prosperity of the South of Scotland.

Annex A – Convention of the South of Scotland – Secretariat and Officer Support

The Secretariat will be provided by the Scottish Government. In acting as the Convention's secretariat, Scottish Government provides access to a resource capacity and knowledge base which substantially exceeds that available to councils.

A Senior Officer Working Group will be established to support the Convention and develop the agenda and draft meeting papers, it will be organised as follows:

- It will be made up of Civil Servants and senior officials from the various public sector partners, including the two local authorities
- Its purpose will be to commission papers for Convention meetings and monitor the actions arising from Convention meetings
- Production of meeting papers will be delegated to the most appropriate members of the working group to draft and they will present these papers at Convention meetings
- Papers will be produced with an appropriate lead in time to be defined by the working group
- All papers must be circulated in draft to each of the Convention's member organisations for comment and input, before final sign off.

Papers produced for meetings will be made publicly available and will be published on the Scottish Government's website following each Convention meeting. An appropriate overview document of the outcomes from each of the Convention meetings will be produced as well as a full transcript of the meeting.

Revisions to Operation Protocol

It will be necessary to develop this structure over time, guided by the experience of what works well and what works less well. After the first year of its operation there should be a review of the operating protocols to ensure that arrangements are working effectively. Where there is a desired need to innovate the way of working, then this should be addressed. After the first review, the protocol should be reviewed every 5 years.

Annex B – South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership – Secretariat and Officer Support

A secretariat will be supplied to support the REP, jointly funded by the local authorities and SOSE. The secretariat will arrange meetings of the REP, and take minutes of the meetings.

An officer working group will be convened, made up of officers from SOSE and the local authorities. This group will support the meetings of the REP, and prepare reports for meetings etc. Similar to the Convention, reports will be authored by the member of the officer working group who is most appropriate to carry out the particular piece of work.

The secretariat will prepare agendas for REP meetings, in consultation with the officer working group. A call for agenda items will be put out to the wider membership no later than one month prior to each meeting of the REP. A final agenda will be submitted to the chair of the REP for agreement two weeks prior to each REP meeting.

Papers and minutes of each REP meeting will be published online on either the SOSE website, or the website of either of the local authorities.

Revisions to Operation Protocol

It will be necessary to develop this structure over time, guided by the experience of what works well and what works less well. After the first year of its operation there should be a review of the operating protocols to ensure that arrangements are working effectively. Where members of the REP agree that change or innovation is needed, then this should be addressed. Following the initial review, a review of the operating protocols for the REP should be undertaken every 5 years.

Report on the Response to the Consultation by British Telecom on the Proposed Removal of Payphones in the Scottish Borders

Report by the Chief Executive

Scottish Borders Council

31 October 2019

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 **The purpose of this report is to agree the response to the consultation by British Telecom on public payphone removals in the Scottish Borders.**
- 1.2 Scottish Borders Council received details from British Telecom (BT) in July 2019 of a consultation on the proposed removal of 95 payphones in the Scottish Borders (see Appendix 1). This is part of a wider consultation taking place across Scotland by BT on public payphone removals. According to BT, a key driver behind the consultation is the decline in the overall use of payphones due to increasing mobile phone coverage and the need to reduce costs. Ofcom, the telecommunications regulator, has delegated the responsibility for responding to public payphone removal consultations to Local Authorities. This involves gathering views from local communities and providing a reasoned response either objecting or agreeing to the removal of payphones.
- 1.3 In developing the Council response on the future of the payphones identified by BT for removal, a set of risk criteria has been developed with Scottish Borders Council's Emergency Planning service. This is because payphones need to be seen as a key part of the resilience, emergency and community safety infrastructure of local communities. The criteria for supporting the retention of payphones based on this assessment comprises:
 - The quality of mobile network coverage in terms of access to the main mobile phone networks (based on an assessment of the information on the Ofcom web site).
 - Proximity to main arterial routes i.e. A68/A7/A1/A702/A697/A72
 - Closeness to important nationally recognised walking routes i.e. the Southern Uplands Way, St Cuthbert's Way, John Buchan Way, Borders Abbey Way and the Berwickshire Coastal Path.
 - Usage for police and emergency service calls i.e. 101/999/111 calls based on information provided by Police Scotland and BT.
 - Closeness to the coast or a fresh water location which is considered high risk.
 - Usage by local communities (8 and more calls over the past year).
 - Whether the payphone is the final one in a village community.

Each payphone has been assessed against this criteria. Also the Council has carried out a consultation with local community councils and their responses have been considered. The resultant recommendations on whether to retain, remove or for the community to adopt a payphone are shown in Appendix 2.

- 1.4 Based on this assessment 11 payphones have been identified for removal, 2 for adoption and the 82 for retention. Some community councils particularly in villages where the only payphone has been proposed for removal by BT have expressed an interest to adopt a payphone but this would mean the telephony would need to be removed. Also other community councils expressed concerns about the poor maintenance and the need for payphones to be cleaned in a more effective way. There is a need to discuss with BT whether solutions can be found to these problems particularly through closer working with local communities.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Council:

a) Agrees the response as set out in Appendix 2 to British Telecom's consultation on the removal of public payphones

b) Discusses with BT the possibilities of:

- **Providing emergency only phones instead of payphones in communities where there is a very low usage.**
- **Communities being able to adopt payphones and keep emergency only telephony.**
- **Working with communities on ways to clean and maintain payphones in a more effective manner.**

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 British Telecom (BT) has been undertaking a 90 day Scotland wide consultation on a programme of public payphone removals. According to BT, a key driver behind the consultation is the decline in the overall use of payphones due to increasing mobile phone coverage and the need to reduce costs. In the Scottish Borders there are a 149 payphones. A total of 95 public payphones have been proposed by BT for removal. A previous consultation by BT was carried out in the autumn of 2016, which was only three years ago.
- 3.2 Ofcom, the telecommunications regulator, has delegated the responsibility for responding to public payphone removal consultations to Local Authorities. This involves gathering views from local communities and providing a reasoned response either objecting or agreeing to the removal of payphones. It has been agreed with BT that the Council's response can be submitted at the end of October 2019 to allow this report to be considered by Scottish Borders Council.
- 3.3 In identifying payphones for removal BT have excluded those payphones located:
- In a suicide hotspot.
 - In an accident blackspot.
 - In an area without any mobile coverage.
 - Within 400 metres of the coast.

In addition BT has proposed not to remove a payphone where there is a reasonable need. They have stated where all the following three criteria are met the payphone should be retained:

- The only payphone within 800 metres.
- Had at least 12 calls of any type within a 12 month period.
- The local population is not fewer than 500 households within 1 km of the phone box.

4. RESPONDING TO THE CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The development of response to this consultation requires that local authorities take a reasoned approach taking account of Ofcom's Guidance consult https://www.ofcom.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0022/28507/removals.pdf. This means that each public call box should be considered separately. Any local authority objection to the removal of a public call box should be supported by clear, objective and proportionate reasons, related to the provision of the communications service at the box in question. Also as part of the development of the response local authorities are expected to consult with local community bodies, principally community councils.
- 4.2 In developing the Council's response it is recognised that public payphones should be seen as a key part of the resilience, emergency and community safety infrastructure of local communities for the Scottish Borders. Payphones provide a key point of contact for Emergency Services in providing access to a public telephone for police and emergency service calls i.e. 101/999/111 calls in their local communities. Also they provide a backup telephone line available to all in the case of electrical power blackouts when mobile phones can quickly run out of charge and phone masts become disabled.

- 4.3 On this basis a set risk criteria has been developed by Scottish Borders Council's Emergency Planning service for the assessment of the payphones. These criteria are as follows:
- The quality of mobile phone coverage in terms of access to all main mobile phone networks in an area (using the Ofcom mobile coverage web site).
 - Proximity to main arterial routes i.e. A68/A7/A1/A702/A697/A72.
 - Closeness to important walking routes i.e. the Southern Uplands Way, St Cuthbert's Way, John Buchan Way, Borders Abbey Way and the Berwickshire Coastal Path.
 - Usage in terms of more than one police and other emergency services calls i.e.101/999/111 calls based on information provided by Police Scotland and BT.
 - Closeness to the coast or a fresh water location is considered high risk.
 - Usage by local communities (8 and over calls over the past year).
 - Whether the payphone is the final one in a village community.
- 4.4 Each payphone has been assessed against these criteria. Also the Council has carried out a consultation with local community councils and their responses have also been considered. The resultant recommendations on whether to retain, remove or for the community to adopt a payphone are shown in Appendix 2.
- 4.5 The results of the assessment are that 11 payphones have been identified for removal, 2 for adoption and the 82 for retention. This recognises that public payphones are a key part of resilience and emergency infrastructure of local communities. These results are in line with the similar exercise carried out by the Council three years ago based on similar criteria when only a limited number of payphones were supported for removal.
- 4.6 Some community councils particularly in villages where the only payphone has been proposed for removal by BT have expressed an interest in adopting the payphone. However, this would mean the telephony being removed and not being available for emergency purposes. A number of community councils also expressed concern about the poor maintenance of payphones and the need for them to be cleaned in more effective ways. It is considered that there is a need for the Scottish Borders Council to discuss with BT whether solutions can be found to these problems through working more closely with local communities. This might involve: the provision of emergency only phones by BT instead of payphones in communities where there is very low usage; communities being able to adopt payphones and keep emergency only telephony; and working with communities on the cleaning of payphones.

5 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial

There are no financial implications for the Council arising from this report.

5.2 Risk and Mitigations

It is considered that there are increased safety risks to the resilience of communities in the Scottish Borders resulting from the removal of payphones.

5.3 Equalities

There are potential equality impacts arising from the removal of payphones because lower income groups, migrant workers and families, vulnerable people in emergency situations may be more likely to make use of this facility.

5.4 Acting Sustainably

The loss of a payphone may have social or environmental implications for local communities.

5.5 Carbon Management

There are no effects on carbon emissions.

5.6 Rural Proofing

Many of the payphones are located in rural areas where there maybe issues surrounding access for emergency purposes.

5.7 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation

There are no changes required to either the Scheme of Administration or the Scheme of Delegation.

6 CONSULTATION

6.1 The Council’s Corporate Management Team, Chief Financial Officer, the Monitoring Officer, the Chief Legal Officer, the Service Director Strategy and Policy, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Chief Officer HR, Communications and the Clerk to the Council have been consulted on the report.

Approved by

**Name
Title**

Signature

Author(s)

Name	Designation and Contact Number
Douglas Scott Jim Fraser/Andy McLean	Senior Policy Adviser Tel 01835 825155 (direct line) Emergency Planning Officers

Background Papers:

Previous Minute Reference: N/A

Note – You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats by contacting the address below. Douglas Scott can also give information on other language translations as well as providing additional copies.

Contact us at: Douglas Scott dscott@scotborders.gov.uk tel: 01835 825155

This page is intentionally left blank



Chief Planning Officer
Scottish Borders Council Headquarters
Newtown
St Boswells
Melrose
TD6 0SA

RECEIVED

10 JUL 2019

16 July 2019

TIME SENSITIVE - 90 Day Consultation period end date: 14 October 2019

Dear Chief Planning Officer,

Further to our previous letter, we are writing to you as part of a formal consultation process regarding our current programme of intended public payphone removals. This letter formally starts our consultation with you and the local community.

There are currently 95 public payphones in your area which have been identified and proposed for removal by BT under the 90-day consultation process and details of these payphones are shown below.

To ensure that the local community are fully informed, we have placed consultation notices on the relevant payphones, and a sample notice is enclosed. We have also included the date we posted these notices on the payphones. The consultation period will close on 14 October 2019. **Unless you contact us to agree otherwise, responses received after this date will not be accepted.**

This consultation process gives your local communities the opportunity to adopt a traditional red 'heritage' phone box and make them an asset that local people can enjoy. It's really simple to do and it costs just £1 - <http://bt.com/adopt>

Overall use of payphones has declined by over 90 per cent in the last decade and the need to provide payphones for use in emergency situations is diminishing all the time, with at least 98 per cent of the UK having either 3G or 4G coverage. This is important because as long as there is network coverage, it's now possible to call the emergency services, even when there is no credit or no coverage from your own mobile provider.

You may also want to consider the recent Ofcom affordability report which found that most people do not view payphones as essential for most consumers in most circumstances - http://stakeholders.ofcom.org.uk/binaries/research/affordability/affordability_report.pdf

On the 14th March 2006 the Office of Communications (Ofcom) published a statement following their 2005 review of universal service in the Telecommunications market, which includes a requirement for payphone provision to meet reasonable needs. Part of that statement amended our obligations with regard to the

British Telecommunications plc
Registered office:
81 Newgate Street
London EC1A 7AJ
Registered in England No 1800000
www.bt.com

removal of payphone service

https://www.ofcom.org.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0021/34266/statement.pdf

As stated in Ofcom's 2005 review, it is the responsibility of the local authority to initiate its own consultation process to canvas the views of the local community. They would normally expect these consultations to involve other public organisations such as the Parish or Community councils and work within the terms of the Communications Act 2003. This means that you must be able to objectively justify your decisions.

Full guidance on the removal process can be viewed at:

<http://stakeholders.ofcom.org.uk/binaries/consultations/uso/statement/removals.pdf>

and a summary is available at:

http://stakeholders.ofcom.org.uk/binaries/consultations/uso/statement/removing_callboxes.pdf

The guidance also details the appeals process we must follow in case of unreasonable objections.

What you need to do next

Please complete and return the attached annex with your decision on each payphone.

If the decision is that the local community wish to 'adopt', please provide their contact details and we'll do the rest.

If you wish to 'object', you'll need to complete the last column with your reasons, having reviewed all of the factors set out in Annex 1 of Ofcom's guidance (see link above), and the information sent to you in our previous letter.

If the information is incomplete for any payphone in the list, then we'll assume you have no objection to its removal and also that you do not wish to adopt it.

The best way to respond to us is by email at btp.authorisation.team@bt.com. Please retain proof that the email was sent or apply a read receipt. If you would prefer to respond by post please use the following address and allow at least two days for postal delivery:

BT Payphones
pp 4th Floor Monument TE
11 – 13 Great Tower Street
London
EC3R 5AQ

You will need to obtain proof of postage from your local post office and be aware that we are unable to receive mail that requires a signature.

If you've got any questions then please get in touch with us by emailing btp.authorisation.team@bt.com.

Yours sincerely

Rick Thompson
Payphone Planning Officer

British Telecommunications plc
Registered office:
81 Newgate Street
London EC1A 7AJ
Registered in England No 1800000
www.bt.com

Please use this annex and return in this format to ensure that the telephone number of the kiosk is clearly shown.

A separate sheet can be used for further comments if required.

If you would like an electronic copy of this letter, please e mail btp.authorisation.team@bt.com

APPENDIX 2 Scottish Borders

	Telephone Number	Address	Post Code	Number of calls in last 12 months	Posting Completed Date	Agree! Adopt! Object	Comments/Reasons
1	01289382391	0/S POST OFFICE PC01 LADYKIRK BERWICK-UPON-TWEED	TD15 1XL	16	01/07/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria the payphone has some usage and it is the only payphone in this village community. The payphone should be retained.
2	01289386231	0/S THE CROSS INN PCO PAXTON BERWICK-UPON-TWEED	TD15 1TE	0	01/07/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria the payphone is the only one in this village community. The payphone should be retained.
3	01289386377	PCO HUTTON BERWICK-UPON-TWEED	TD15 IIK	0	01/07/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria the payphone is the only one in this village community. The payphone should be retained.
4	01289386392	A6105 FOULDEN PC01 BERWICK-UPON-TWEED	TD15 IUH	0	01/07/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria the payphone is the only one in the village community. The payphone should be retained. Foulden Mordington and Lamberton Community Council has also indicated that Foulden is largely made up of retired people, the kind of people who rely on telephones and the comfort of knowing that should home/personal telephones fail that there is a local phone box. Also the mobile coverage is considered by the community as poor.
5	01361850226	PCO GRANTSHOUSE DUNS	TD11 3RW	1	28/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria the payphone is close to A1 arterial route and should be retained.
6	01361882205	MAIN ST PCO GAVINTON DUNS	TD11 3QT	0	28/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria the payphone is the only one in this village community. The payphone should be retained
7	01361882290	PCO PCOI WINTERFIELD GARDENS DUNS	TD11 3EZ	0	28/06/2019	Agree	

8	01361882821	OPPOSITE VILLAGE HALL PCO PRESTON DUNS	TD113TQ	0	28/06/2019	Object	<p>Using the risk criteria the payphone is the only one in this village community. The payphone should be retained.</p> <p>Abbey St Bathans, Bonkyl and Preston Community Council consider that the pay phone in Preston should be retained for emergency and occasional use.</p>
9	01361890220	LONGFORMACUS VILLAGE PCO LONGFORMACUS DUNS	TD11 3PE	6	28/06/2019	Object	<p>Using the risk criteria the payphone should be retained because there are mobile phone network coverage issues in this area, and this is the only payphone in this village community.</p>
10	01361890255	VILLAGE HALL CRANSHAWS PCO DUNS	TD11 3SJ	5	28/06/2019	Object	<p>Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because there are mobile phone network coverage issues in this area.</p>
11	01368830216	PCO PCO COCKBURNSPATH	TD13 SYF	12	28/06/2019	Object	<p>Using the risk criteria the payphone should be retained because the village is close to the Southern Upland Way walking route and Berwickshire Coastal Path. There is also community use. It is also the only payphone in the village.</p> <p>Cockburnspath and Cove Community Council objects to its removal and apart from the reasons outlined above also mention that it is in a coastal position (with no payphone at Cove) and mobile phone coverage is at best variable, with some companies not providing any coverage at any time and the village is close to the A1 and potential traffic incidents; a nuclear power station; railway line (main east coast) so there is a greater potential to need to use it.</p>

12	01368830264	HOGGS LAW OLD CAMBUS PCO COCKBURNSPATH	TD13 5YR	27	28/06/2019	Object	<p>Using the risk criteria the payphone should be retained because call usage is relatively high and the payphone is close to the coast and the Berwickshire Coastal Path.</p> <p>Cockburnspath and Cove Community Council indicated objections to removal for these reasons and say that this pay phone is in an elevated position, several hundred feet above the sea with an unobstructed view of the sea /Firth of Forth for many miles around. This means it is in a very good position for spotting maritime incidents and alerting the Coastguard.</p>
13	01387375243	PCO1 DOUGLAS SQUARE NEWCASTLETON	TD9 OQD	0	29/06/2019	Object	<p>Using the risk criteria the payphone is the only one in this village community. The payphone should be retained.</p> <p>Newcastleton and District Community Council is also very concerned about the proposal to remove the payphone at Douglas Square, Newcastleton. It indicates that Newcastleton is a village right in the heart of a large area of poor mobile network coverage and this payphone is important in relation to community resilience and for emergencies. The payphone is the only one in this village and it has been in a poor state of repair which may explain why it has not been used.</p>
14	01387376271	STEELE RD A.T.E. PCO1 NEWCASTLETON	TD9 OSQ	5	29/06/2019	Object	<p>Using the risk criteria the payphone should be retained because there are mobile phone network coverage issues in this area.</p> <p>Upper Liddesdale & Hermitage Community Council objects strongly to the removal from service of the Steele Road payphone. The “over-riding” factor (as set out in BT’s criteria) against removal and to retain the Steele Road payphone is that there is no mobile coverage at all from any provider at the Steele Road location and in the extensive surrounding area. Further, the immediate resident community comprises primarily retirees, some of whom are using NHS care services.</p>

15	01450370741	PCO PCO1 BOURTREE PLACE HAWICK	TD9 9HL	297	29/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because of its very high community use, and it is used for police and/or emergency service calls.
16	01450370823	PCO PCO1 ROSEBANK ROAD HAWICK	TD9 ODG	14	29/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because of its community use and it is used for police and/or emergency service calls.
17	01450370850	NR OLIVER PARK PCOI WEENSLAND ROAD HAWICK	TD9 9NW	0	29/06/2019	Agree	Greener Hawick have expressed an interest in investigating the possibility of adopting this payphone on behalf of the community.
18	01450370889	PCO PCO1 HAWICK	TD9 8PW	2	29/06/2019	Object	This payphone is located at Appletreehall. Using the risk criteria it is the only payphone in this village community. Also Denholm and District Community Council have indicated that local residents want to see the payphone retained
19	01450370969	PCO PCO1 COGSMILL HAWICK	TD9 9SF	0	29/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because there are mobile phone network coverage issues in this area.
20	01450850209	GRID NT44/4510 CARTERS COTT PCO NEWMILL ON TEVIOT HAWICK	TD9 0JU	0	29/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is close to the A7 arterial route.
21	01450850220	PCO TELEPHONE EXCHANGE HAWICK	TD9 OLE	8	29/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because of its community use and it is close to A7 arterial route.
22	01450860379	PCO PCO CHESTERS/SOUTHDEAN CHESTERS HAWICK	TD9 8TH	0	29/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because there are mobile phone network coverage issues in this area
23	01450860380	NR JCN HAWICK-NEWCASTLE RD PCO BONCHESTER BRIDGE HAWICK	TD9 8JN	0	29/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained as it is the only payphone in this village community.
24	01450860381	NEAR CLEUCHHEAD SOUTH THE FORKINS HAWICK	TD9 9TE	2	29/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because there is mobile phone network coverage issues in this area.

25	01450870211	PCO BEDRULE FARM HAWICK	TD9 8TE	0	29/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is used for police and/or emergency service calls, and it is close to the Borders Abbey Way. Denholm & District Community Council has indicated that this area has mobile phone reception issues. They have also said that the residents of Bedrule have expressed a desire to adopt the payphone at Bedrule. However it is considered that the above risk factors override this view.
26	01450880232	PCO PCO1 CRAIK HAWICK	TD9 7PS	0	29/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because there are mobile phone network coverage issues in this area.
27	01573224194	PCO PCO1 POYNDER PLACE KELSO	TD5 7EH	0	30/06/2019	Agree	
28	01573224308	PCO PCO1 INCHMEAD CRESCENT KELSO	TD5 7LL	1	01/07/2019	Agree	
29	01573224375	PCO PCO1 SPROUSTON KELSO	TD5 8HP	0	30/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because this is the only payphone in this village community. There were no objections from Sprouston Community Council for its removal. However it is considered that the above risk factor override this view.
30	01573224414	PCO PCO1 THE LINN KELSO	TD5 8EX	0	30/06/2019	Agree	
31	01573224476	0/S THE SMITHY PCO1 EDNAM KELSO	TD5 7QL	1	01/07/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is the only one in this village community.
32	01573224946	PCO PCO1 NENTHORN KELSO	TD5 7RY	0	30/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is the only one in this village community. Floors, Makerstoun, Nenthorn & Smailholm Community Council has indicated that it has no objections to this payphone being removed. However it is considered that the above risk factor overrides this view.

33	01573410234	PCO PCO1 EARLSTON	TD4 6BD	0	30/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is the only one in the town. Earlston Community Council has indicated it has no objections to its removal, However it is considered that the above risk factor overrides this view.
34	01573410237	PCO PCO1 MAIN STREET GORDON	TD3 6.1N	2	27/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is the only one in this village community. Gordon and Westruther Community Council has indicated that they wish to see the payphone retained for public use but would be prepared to adopt it
35	01573410252	PCO PCO MELLERSTAIN GORDON	TD3 6LG	22	30/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because there are mobile network coverage issue in the area and it is relatively well used by the community. Earlston Community Council considers the payphone is rural and has been used, and would like to see it retained. Gordon and Westruther Community Council has also indicated they want to see this payphone retained.
36	01573430220	PCO PCO LEMPITLAW KELSO	TD5 8BN	0	30/06/2019	Adopt	Sprouston Community Council considers that mobile phone coverage is reasonable in the area. The box is one of the traditional red 'heritage' types the local community is interested in adopting it.
37	01573440216	PCO PCO CESSFORD KELSO	TD5 8EG	0	01/07/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is close to St Cuthbert's Way walking route. Kalewater Community Council wants to see the Cessford BT phone box service retained due to the number of walkers on St Cuthbert's Way passing it and the defibrillator located adjacent to the box.

38	01573440221	PCO PCO MOREBATTLE KELSO	TD5 8QU	8	01/07/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is on the St Cuthbert's Way walking route; is used by the community; and is the only one in the village. Kalewater Community Council have expressed an interest to adopt the box. However it is considered the above risk factors override this view.
39	01573450236	PCO PCO HEITON KELSO	' TD5 8LA	0	01/07/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is the only payphone in this village community, it is close to the Borders Abbey Way and there are mobile network coverage issues.
40	01573460241	PCO MAKERSTOUN KELSO	TD5 7PA	0	30/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is close to the Border Abbeys Way and it the only payphone in this village community The Makerstoun, Village Hall Committee have indicated that they would like to buy the phone box which would mean it would be taken out of service. However it is considered the above risk
41	01578722319	LAY-BY 0/S NO 6 PC01 EDINBURGH ROAD LAUDER	TD2 6TW	14	27/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is close to the A68 arterial route and has community use. Lauderdale Community Council wants to retain the payphone for these reasons.
42	01578730657	ADJ TO BUS SHELTER PCOI GALASHIELS ROAD STOW GALASHIELS	TD1 2RE	0	27/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because this payphone is close to the A7 arterial route and is the only payphone in this village community.
43	01578740220	PCO TELEPHONE EXCHANGE EDEN ROAD GORDON	TD3 6JT	1	27/06/2019	Agree	
44	01578760220	0/S TELEPHONE EXCHANGE PCO OLD STAGE ROAD FOUNTAINHALL GALASHIELS	TD1 2SY	0	27/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is the only payphone in this village community. It should be noted that the Parish of Stow Community Council have expressed an interest to adopt this payphone. However it is considered the above risk factors overrides this view.

45	01721730200	PCO PCO EDDLESTON PEEBLES	EH45 8QP	10	25/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is the only payphone in this village community and there is community use. Eddleston Community Council has expressed an interest to adopt the pay phone. However it is considered the above risk factors override this view.
46	01721740223	PCO POST OFFICE KIRKTON MANOR PEEBLES	EH45 9JH	0	25/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is the only payphone in this village community. Manor Stobo & Lyne Community Council has indicated that mobile phone coverage in Manor Valley is very poor in general and this applies to the area where the payphone is located. It is often difficult or impossible for people travelling through the valley to get a connection on their network. Also the roads into/out of Manor Valley are prone to flooding from the Tweed and Manor Water. It is not unusual for both routes into the valley to be impassable for regular vehicles due to floods.
47	01721752248	PCO PCO BLYTH FARM ROAD BLYTH BRIDGE WEST LINTON	EH46 7DG	0	26/06/2019	Agree	
48	01721760210	NEAR STOBO SCHOOLHOUSE PCO PEEBLES	EH45 8NA	0	25/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because this payphone is close to the John Buchan Way walking route.
49	0175020200	JNCT GREEN TERRACE PC01 HEATHERLIE TERRACE SELKIRK	TD7 5AH	44	26/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because there is relatively high community use and it is used for police and/or emergency service calls.
50	0175020243	NR PHILIPHAUGH COMM SCHOOL PC01 LINGLIE ROAD SELKIRK	TD7 5BA	74	26/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because there is relatively high community use, and it is used for police and/or emergency service calls.
51	0175020771	JCN A7 PCO GALASHIELS	TD I 3PB	1	27/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is close to the main A7 arterial route.

52	0175021260	JNC RA EBURN MEADOW PC01 BLEACH FIELD ROAD SELKIRK	TD7 4HH	53	27/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it has relatively high community use of this payphone and it is used for police and/or emergency service calls.
53	0175021345	PCO PC01 SCOTTS PLACE SELKIRK	TD7 4LN	96	27/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it has relatively high community use.
54	0175032220	LAY BY ON A7 PCO CRANSFIELD DRIVE ASHKIRK SELKIRK	TD7 4NN	1	29/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is close to the main A7 arterial route
55	0175042200	0/S CAFE AND BISTRO PCO 42200 SELKIRK	TD7 5LH	2	26/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria the payphone should be retained because it is located close to the Southern Upland Way walking route Ettrick and Yarrow Community Council has indicated that this payphone is situated in a very remote location at the side of a long stretch of road with very limited population, so alternative means of summoning emergency help are limited. The phone box is located on the Southern Upland Way and may be needed for emergency use by walkers.
56	0175052200	0/5 TELEPHONE EXCHANGE PCO ETTRICKBRIDGE SELKIRK	TD7 5JL	1	26/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is the only payphone in this village community. Ettrick and Yarrow Community Council has indicated that it would like to adopt the phone. However it is considered the above risk factor overrides this view.
57	0175076200	PCO PC01 SELKIRK	TD7 5NA	1	26/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because there are mobile network coverage issues in this area. Ettrick and Yarrow Community considers that this payphone should not be removed because the area is rural and isolated and in times of long power outage, mobile phone signals in these areas disappear quickly. A land line is the most reliable in terms of community resilience and providing an emergency contact facility.

58	01835822390	OUTSIDE POST OFFICE PCO BOWDEN MELROSE	TD6 OSS	0	30/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because the payphone is located close to St Cuthbert's Way walking route and is the only payphone in the village community. Bowden Village Committee has indicated that it would like to adopt the phone. However it is considered the above risk factors overrides this view.
59	01835822399	PCO PC01 NR PO MAXTON MAXTON MELROSE	TD6 ORL	0	30/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because the payphone is located close to the St Cuthbert's Way walking route and is the only payphone in the village community.
60	01835830220	PCO PCO ANCRUM JEDBURGH	TD8 6XH	14	30/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is the only payphone in the village community and it is relatively well used by the community. Ancrum Community Council considers that this telephone should not be removed as it is essential for a rural village where one cannot rely on a good mobile signal.
61	01835830362	PCO PC01 ANCRUM JEDBURGH	TD8 6UP	0	30/06/2019	Adopt	Ancrum Community Council has indicated that the Sandystones community has expressed an interest to adopt this payphone.
62	01835840200	0/S CAMPTOWN EXCHANGE PC01 JEDBURGH	TD8 6PN	0	29/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is close to the A68 arterial route, and there are mobile network coverage issues in this area. Jed Valley Community Council has indicated that it has no objections to the removal of this payphone. However it is considered the above risk factor overrides this view.

63	01835840242	PCO PCO MOSSBURNFORD JEDBURGH	TD8 6QS	0	30/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is close to the A68 arterial route Jed Valley Community Council indicates that it serves not only the community of Mossburnford and the nearby caravan & mobile home park but also users of the right of way. It would be useful in times of emergency. The preferred option is for the pay phone to continue in public use.
64	01835863479	PCO PCO1 BONGATE JEDBURGH	TD8 6DT	9	30/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because there is community use.
65	01835863666	PCO PCO1 HOWDEN ROAD JEDBURGH	TD8 6JR	8	30/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because there is community use.
66	01890750262	PCO THE AVENUE BROAD STREET EYEMOUTH	TD14 5DT	2	28/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone be retained because this payphone is used for police and/or emergency service calls.
67	01890750782	PCO PCOI BENNISON SQUARE EYEMOUTH	TD14 5SB	2	28/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is used for police and/or emergency service calls.
68	01890781228	PCO PCOI UPPER BURNMOUTH BURNMOUTH EYEMOUTH	TD14 5SL	0	28/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is close to the coast and the Berwickshire Coastal Path. Burnmouth Community Council is very concerned above its proposed removal as it is very important to have it for safety reasons. They believe to remove the facility could endanger lives.
69	01890781390	NEAR AYTON PC01 LAMBERTON BERWICK-UPON-TWEED	TD15 1XB	0	28/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is located close to the A1 arterial route. Foulden Mordington and Lambertton Community Council is opposed to the payphone being removed for emergency and community safety reasons.

70	01890781399	PCO PCO1 THE CROFTS AYTON EYEMOUTH	TD14 5QT	0	28/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is the only payphone in this village community. Ayton Community Council has indicated that it has an interest in adopting the payphone. However it is considered the above risk factor overrides this view.
71	01890818263	PCO PCO1 EDROM VILLAGE TANNAGE BRAE DUNS	TD11 3EA	0	28/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is the only payphone in this village community.
72	01890818311	PCO PCO1 MAIN STREET EAST END CHIRNSIDE DUNS	TD11 3XX	12	01/07/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is the only payphone in this village community and there is community use. Chirnside Community Council has indicated that there are strategic, emergency resilience and social inclusion reasons to maintain the public call box located at Main Street (East End) Chirnside.
73	01890818327	PCO PCO1 LAMMERVIEW CHIRNSIDE DUNS	TDI 1 3UN	0	01/07/2019	Agree	Chirnside Community Council has no observations on retaining this payphone. 'They note it has not been used in the last 12 months. They also state it has no wish to adopt the call box for other community use.'
74	01890840200	PCO PCOI MAIN STREET LEITHOLM COLDSTREAM	TD12 4JN	3	01/07/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is the only payphone in this village community.
75	01890840232	PCO PCO1 MAIN STREET ECCLES KELSO	TD5 7QP	1	01/07/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is the only payphone in this village community.
76	01890840328	FOGO VILLAGE PCO DUNS	TDI 1 3PP	0	28/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is the only payphone in this village community.
77	01896752134	PCO PCOI TWEEDBANK DRIVE TWEEDBANK GALASHIELS	TD1 3RP	29	27/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because there is a relatively high community use.

78	01896752191	PCO PCO1 MAGDALA TERRACE GALASHIELS	TD1 2HS	4	27/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it close to the A7 arterial route.
79	01896752195	CORNER OF TWEED RD PCO1 ABBOTSFORD ROAD GALASHIELS	TDI 3DP	0	27/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it close to the A7 arterial route.
80	01896752259	PCO PCO1 BALMORAL ROAD GALASHIELS	TDI 11L	0	27/06/2019	Agree	
81	01896752973	PCO PCO1 LARCHBANK STREET GALASHIELS	TD1 3EN	1	27/06/2019	Agree	
82	01896822073	PCO PCO1 SMITHS ROAD DARNICK MELROSE	TD6 9AL	0	27/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is the only payphone in this village community.
83	01896822268	PCO PCO GATTONSIDE MELROSE	TD6 9LY	2	27/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is the only payphone in this village community.
84	01896822625	PCO PCO1 MAIN STREET NEWSTEAD MELROSE	TD6 9RR	0	30/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is close to the Borders Abbey Way and it the only payphone in this village community.
85	01896830329	PCO PCO1 BALLANTYNE STREET INNERLEITHEN	EH44 6LN	0	26/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it used for police and/or emergency calls.
86	01896830501	PCO PCO1 HALL STREET INNERLEITHEN	EH44 6QT	23	25/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is relatively well used, and is used for police and/or emergency calls.
87	01896850211	PCO PCO1 GALASHIELS	TD1 3PW	0	26/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because there are mobile network coverage issues in this area
88	01896850234	BUS LAY-BY NC A72 PCO1 MEIGLE ROW CLOVENFORDS GALASHIELS	TD1 3LX	1	26/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is close to the A72 arterial route and it is the only payphone in this village community.
89	01896870215	PCO PCO1 GALASHIELS ROAD WALKERBURN	'EH43 6AG	31	26/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is the only payphone in this village community.
90	01896870232	PCO TELEPHONE EXCHANGE TWEEDHOLM AVENUE EAST WALKERBURN	EH43 6AP	17	26/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is there is community use.

91	01899830214	PCO PCO BROUGHTON BIGGAR	ML12 ND	1	25/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is close to the John Buchan Way walking route.
92	01899830257	PCO PCO1 DREVA ROAD BROUGHTON BIGGAR	ML12 6HG	0	25/06/2019	Agree	
93	01899830270	BROUGHTON CENTRAL PCO1 BROUGHTON BIGGAR	ML12 6HQ	7	25/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is close to the John Buchan Way walking route.
94	01899860220	PCO PCO1 SKIRLING BIGGAR	ML12 6HD	0	25/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is the only payphone in this village community.
95	01968660279	PCO BRAESIDE ROMANNO BRIDGE WEST LINTON	EH46 7BZ	0	25/06/2019	Object	Using the risk criteria this payphone should be retained because it is the only payphone in this village community. Lamancha, Newlands and Kirkurd Community Council has expressed an interest to adopt the payphone. However it is considered the above risk factor overrides this view.

Signature:

Area:

Scottish Borders