

# Public Document Pack



## TEVIOT AND LIDDESDALE AREA FORUM TUESDAY, 15TH SEPTEMBER, 2015

A MEETING of the TEVIOT AND LIDDESDALE AREA FORUM will be held in the ROOM. 205,  
TOWER MILL, HAWICK on TUESDAY, 15 SEPTEMBER 2015 at 6.30 pm

J. J. WILKINSON,  
Clerk to the Council,

8 September 2015

<b>BUSINESS</b>		
1.	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	
2.	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>	
3.	<b>Order of Business</b>	
4.	<b>Declarations of Interest</b>	
5.	<b>Minute</b> (Pages 1 - 4)  Minute of the meeting of the Teviot and Liddesdale Area Forum of 18 August 2015 to be approved. (Copy attached).	2 mins
6.	<b>Neighbourhood Small Schemes and Quality of Life</b> (Pages 5 - 12)  Consider report by Service Director Neighbourhood Services. (Copy attached).	10 mins
7.	<b>NHS Borders</b>  Ms D Steele, Non Executive Director will be in attendance.	10 mins
8.	<b>Police Scotland</b>  Update report by Police Inspector detailing ongoing work and initiatives in the Teviot and Liddesdale area.	10 mins
9.	<b>Scottish Fire &amp; Rescue Service</b> (Pages 13 - 16)  Update report by Russell Bell, Station Commander, detailing ongoing work and initiatives in the Teviot and Liddesdale Area. (Copy attached).	10 mins
10.	<b>Open Questions</b>  Opportunity for members of the public to raise any issues not included on the agenda.	10 mins

11.	<b>Community Council Spotlight</b> Consider matters of interest to Community Councils.	10 mins
12.	<b>Any Other Items Previously Circulated</b>	
13.	<b>Any Other Items which the Chairman Decides are Urgent</b>	
14.	<b>Date of next Teviot and Liddesdale Area Forum Meeting</b> Tuesday, 17 November 2015 at 6.30 pm in the Lesser Hall, Town Hall, Hawick.	2 mins

#### NOTES

- 1. Timings given above are only indicative and not intended to inhibit Members' discussions.**
- 2. Members are reminded that, if they have a pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in any item of business coming before the meeting, that interest should be declared prior to commencement of discussion on that item. Such declaration will be recorded in the Minute of the meeting.**

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**Membership of Committee:-** Councillors G. Turnbull, A. Cranston, W. McAteer, S. Marshall, D. Paterson and R. Smith

Mr M Grieve, Burnfoot Community Council  
 Mr C Griffiths, Hobkirk Community Council  
 Mr M Harrison, Southdean Community Council  
 Mr W Roberts, Denholm and District Community Council  
 Mr R Scott, Upper Liddesdale & Hermitage Community Council  
 Mrs M Short, Hawick Community Council  
 Mr T Stevenson, Upper Teviotdale & Borthwick Water  
 Mr S Wilson, Newcastleton & District Community Council

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**SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL**  
**TEVIOT AND LIDDESDALE AREA FORUM**

MINUTES of Meeting of the TEVIOT AND  
LIDDESDALE AREA FORUM held in Town  
Hall, Hawick on Tuesday, 18th August, 2015  
at 6.30 pm

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Present:- Councillors G Turnbull (Chairman), A Cranston, W McAteer, S Marshall,  
D Paterson, R Smith.  
Community Councillors: Mr C Griffiths (Hobkirk), Mr W Roberts (Denholm),  
Mr T Stevenson (Upper Teviotdale & Borthwick Water).

Apologies:- Mr M Grieve (Burnfoot Community Council), and Inspector Carol Wood  
(Police Scotland)

In Attendance:- Mr R Bell (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service), Sergeant Cranston (Police  
Scotland), Neighbourhood Area Manager (Mr A Finnie), Democratic Services  
Officer (J Turnbull).

Members of the Public:- 8 in attendance

1. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting and advised that there would be a presentation on the Introduction of Food Waste Collections by Fiona Munro, Waste Strategy Assistant.

2. **MINUTE**

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the meeting held on 16 June 2015.

**DECISION**

**AGREED to approve the Minute.**

3. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Councillor Cranston declared an interest in the following item of business in terms of Section 5 of the Councillors Code of Conduct and left the hall during the discussion.

4. **THE INTRODUCTION OF FOOD WASTE COLLECTIONS.**

The Chairman welcomed Fiona Munro, Waste Strategy Assistant, from Neighbourhood Services, Scottish Borders Council (SBC). Ms Munro referred to the background which led to the decision to introduce this new service. The Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 required food waste collections to be introduced by 1 January 2016. Food waste was seen as a valuable resource and a way of diverting more waste from landfill and could be used as a valuable recycling resource. In accordance with the regulations and Scottish Government urban versus rural classification, the collection service in the Scottish Borders would involve approximately 24,500 households and businesses. Phase 1, weekly kerbside food waste collections in Galashiels, Tweedbank, Selkirk and Peebles had commenced in May 2015. Phase 2, involved Jedburgh and Hawick, and would start during the week commencing 7 September. Ms Munro advised how to participate in the scheme and had brought along an example of the caddies, together with biodegradable liners and guidance leaflets, which would be delivered to households during the week prior to the start of collections. Each household would have a 5 litre silver kitchen caddy and liners, in which to deposit daily food waste. The tied bags of waste should then be transferred from the kitchen caddy to outdoor brown caddies of 23 litre for a single household or 140 litre for communal household. It was emphasised that the food waste collection service also came under animal by-product legislation and as such would be

closely regulated. There would be no effluent or waste produced during handling. Purpose-built collection vehicles would transport the waste to central skips from where it would be taken to the nearest food waste management site at Levenseat Ltd., Midlothian. Following an animal by-product process at the site, material would be shredded and heated to kill bacteria, food waste would then be turned into compost like material. Ms Munro concluded by stating that Phase I participation had been encouraging and it was hoped that Phase II would be positive. Following the presentation Ms Munro answered questions, and explained that the food waste collection service was a legal requirement; the garden waste service had been a mandatory service. Scottish Government had set the classifications as to size of area based on economic viability. The Chairman thanked Ms Munro for the informative presentation.

#### **DECISION**

**NOTED the presentation.**

#### **5. NEIGHBOURHOOD SMALL SCHEMES AND QUALITY OF LIFE**

There had been circulated copies of a report by Service Director Neighbourhood Services updating the Forum on previously approved Neighbourhood Small Schemes and seeking approval for the refurbishment of railings at Lothian Street, Hawick and provision of a street name plate at East Stewart Place, Hawick. Mr Finnie reported that replumbing of the existing railing fence at Riverside Walk would be completed by the end of September and the upgrading of the footpath at Waverley Walk by the Winter. A trial for regrouting the footpaths would be carried out at the front of the Town Hall and this should be completed by end of September. The cost for this trial section would be monitored to enable consideration of further sections in the future. Mr Finnie clarified that it was the aim to have the Billy Goat machine operational in the town two half days per week, however this was dependent on weather conditions. The machine was now stored in the toilet block at the Common Haugh which allowed for easier access by the operator. It was noted that Hawick and Denholm councillors were engaging with local community councils regarding appropriate schemes for funding.

#### **DECISION**

**(a) AGREED the following new Neighbourhood Small Schemes for implementation:-**

- (i) Refurbishment of railings at Lothian Street, Hawick                      £1,539**
- (ii) Provision of street name plate at East Stewart Place, Hawick    £350**

**(b) NOTED**

- (i) the updates on previously approved Neighbourhood Small Schemes as detailed in Appendix A to the report; and**
- (ii) the updates on previously approved Quality of Life Schemes as detailed in Appendix B to the report.**

#### **6. POLICE SCOTLAND**

There had been circulated, copies of a report from Inspector Carol Wood, Police Scotland, updating the Forum on Police Scotland performance, activities and issues for the period up to 31 July 2015. Sergeant Cranston was in attendance and highlighted that recorded crime had increased slightly over the same period last year. The solvency rate had decreased and this was due to the difficulty in detecting vandalism of which there had been a reported increase. It was requested that a breakdown of when and where the vandalism occurred be included in future reports. Sergeant Cranston stated that there had been a change in the way reported crime was dealt with; when a crime was reported, it was now subject to a screening process, if there was no witness(es) or cctv, police did not attend immediately, in some instances it might be up to a week later when an officer attended the crime scene, by which time evidence might have been lost. The Forum requested that the number of stop /searches carried out be recorded in relation to the six number of individuals charged for possession of drugs, and this information be included in future reports. There was discussion on the five reported break-ins in the Newcastleton

area and it was requested that when the ward priorities were reviewed again, that rural crime be reinstated as a ward priority.

**DECISION  
NOTED.**

7. **SCOTTISH FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE**

There had been circulated, copies of a report from Russell Bell, Station Manager, Hawick Fire Station updating the Forum on Scottish Fire and Rescue activity for the month of June and July 2015. Service delivery activity showed four house fire occurrences, two open fires, eight special services, which included one casualty and 22 unwanted fire signals of which 10 were from sheltered housing. The summer thematic plan was still in operation.

**DECISION  
NOTED.**

8. **OPEN QUESTIONS**

(a) A member of the public asked for clarification in respect of funding for the erection of a disabled ramp at Silverbuthall. Permission for the ramp had been received from Scottish Borders Council (SBC). Funding for the ramp was still required, the estimated cost for the work being in the region of £36 - £40k. The member of the public understood that £5,000 had been committed to the project from Quality of Life funding and asked Councillor Cranston for clarification and also for details of other funding sources that would be appropriate. Councillor Cranston confirmed that he would advise of the action he had taken following the meeting.

(b) A member of the public asked if spraying of weeds in the town had been carried out. Mr Finnie clarified that the contractor had begun the first treatment on 15 May, the second treatment was due to be started this week. However, one of the problems was that residual weedkiller was no longer permitted to be used. Mr Finnie would raise with the contractor the complaint and also investigate the tree growing on the bridge.

**DECISION  
NOTED.**

9. **COMMUNITY COUNCIL SPOTLIGHT**

(a) Mr Stevenson advised that Mr John Hepburn had been appointed as the new Chairman. Tenders for refurbishment of the village hall were being requested. The issue of rural crime was also a concern.

(b) Mr Roberts advised that there had been a special meeting of the community council last week to consider the changes to the 120 bus route. The community were concerned at the 50% reduction in the service which was affecting a number of people; SBC would be contacted with a request for data on the historical use of the service. It was recognised that there had to be economies but the manner in which the changes had been implemented was a concern. It was hoped that the Passenger Transport Strategy would recommend the restoration of the full service.

(c) Mr Griffiths advised that there had been an increase in the number of visitors this summer. The issue of the lack of signage and the damage to the bridge was raised again. A small amount of money spent on signage now could avoid a significant amount when repairs to the bridge were required. Mr Finnie would investigate.

**DECISION  
NOTED the report.**

10. **DATE OF NEXT TEVIOT AND LIDDESDALE AREA FORUM MEETING**  
The next meeting of the Teviot and Liddesdale Area Forum would be held on Tuesday, 15 September 2015 at 6.30 pm in Room 205, Tower Mill, Hawick.

**DECISION  
NOTED.**

*The meeting concluded at 7.40 pm*

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## **NEIGHBOURHOOD SMALL SCHEMES and QUALITY OF LIFE**

**Report by Service Director Neighbourhood Services**

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### **TEVIOT & LIDDESDALE AREA FORUM**

**15 September 2015**

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#### **1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY**

- 1.1 **This report seeks approval for the proposed new Neighbourhood Small Schemes from the Area Forum and updates the Forum on previously approved Neighbourhood and Quality of Life Schemes.**
- 1.2 The following Neighbourhood Small Schemes have been requested for consideration by the Teviot & Liddesdale members: - provision of parking bays within McLaren Court, Hawick; provision of parking bays within Fairhurst Drive, Hawick; install handrail to steps at Silverbuthall Road, Hawick and supply & install football goals at Green Terrace, Hawick.

#### **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 **I recommend that the Teviot & Liddesdale Area Forum:**

**(a) approves the following new Neighbourhood Small Schemes for implementation:-**

- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| <b>(i) Line marking of parking bays within McLaren Court, Hawick.</b>     | <b>£550</b>   |
| <b>(ii) Line marking of parking bays within Fairhurst Drive, Hawick.</b>  | <b>£500</b>   |
| <b>(iii) Install handrail to steps at Silverbuthall Road, Hawick.</b>     | <b>£410</b>   |
| <b>(iv) Supply &amp; install football goals at Green Terrace, Hawick.</b> | <b>£1,090</b> |

**(b) notes the updates on previously approved Neighbourhood Small Schemes as detailed in Appendix A to this report.**

**(c) notes the updates on previously approved Quality of Life Schemes as detailed in Appendix B to this report.**

### **3 BACKGROUND**

3.1 Elected Members, Community Councils and the public can request potential Neighbourhood or Quality of Life schemes or work to be undertaken by the Neighbourhood squads by contacting the Neighbourhood Area Manager direct. Neighbourhood Operations is contactable via the new Scottish Borders Council telephone number 0300 100 1800, e-mail address – enquiries@scotborders.gov.uk or by writing to Neighbourhood Services, Council Headquarters, Newtown St. Boswells, Melrose TD6 0SA.

The following schemes have been requested for consideration via these routes to enhance the Teviot & Liddesdale Area:-

- (a) Line marking of 13 no. parking bays within McLaren Court, Hawick (£550). This request was received from a local Ward Councillor.
  - (b) Line marking of 10 no. parking bays within Fairhurst Drive, Hawick (£500). This request was received from a local Ward Councillor.
  - (c) Install handrail to steps at Silverbuthall Road, Hawick (£410). This request was received from a local Ward Councillor.
  - (d) Supply & install a set of junior football goal posts, c/w sockets & nets, at Green Terrace, Hawick (£1,090). This request was received from a local Ward Councillor.
- 3.2 Works will be scheduled to meet specific area needs, local timetable and to maximise the overall efficiency of the works programme.
- 3.3 Updates on previously approved Neighbourhood Small Schemes as detailed in Appendix A to this report.
- 3.4 Updates on previously approved Quality of Life Schemes as detailed in Appendix B to this report.

### **4 IMPLICATIONS**

#### **4.1 Financial**

- (a) A budget of £34,702 is available through Neighbourhood Services for small schemes in the Teviot and Liddesdale area in 2015/16. It has been agreed previously that this budget will be split equally between the Hawick & Hermitage and Hawick & Denholm Wards. If the above schemes are approved, then there will be a remaining budget of £11,632 in Hawick & Hermitage Ward and £15,541 in Hawick & Denholm Ward for future schemes.

Appendix A list up-dates on previously approved Neighbourhood Small Schemes.

- (b) In addition, a budget of £20,000 is available for Quality of Life schemes in the Teviot & Liddesdale Area in 2015/16. It has been agreed previously that this budget will be split equally between the Hawick & Hermitage and Hawick & Denholm Wards. There is a remaining budget of £9,407 in each of the Wards.

Appendix B list up-dates on previously approved Quality of Life Schemes.



#### 4.2 Risk and Mitigations

If these budgets are not spent, the local area will not benefit from improvement works being carried out.

#### 4.3 Equalities

The proposals within this report will not have an adverse impact on any of the equality groups - race, disability, age, sexual orientation or religion/belief.

#### 4.4 Acting Sustainably

It is anticipated that there will be a variety of economic, social or environmental benefits arising from the proposed schemes in para 3.1.

#### 4.5 Carbon Management

There are no significant effects anticipated on carbon emissions to the Council by doing or not doing what is proposed.

#### 4.6 Rural Proofing

This report does not relate to new or amended policy or strategy and as a result rural proofing is not an applicable consideration.

#### 4.7 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation

There is no change to either the Scheme of Administration or the Scheme of Delegation.

### 5 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The 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 and the Clerk to the Council have been consulted and any comments received have been incorporated in the final report.

#### Approved by

**Service Director Neighbourhood Services**

**Signature .....**

#### Author(s)

Name	Designation and Contact Number
Alistair Finnie	Neighbourhood Area Manager (Teviot & Liddesdale) 01835 824000 Ext 6535

**Background Papers:** None

**Previous Minute Reference:** None

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

Contact us at Jacqueline Whitelaw, Scottish Borders Council, Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells, Melrose, TD6 0SA, Tel 01835 825431, Fax 01835 825071, email [eitranslationrequest@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:eitranslationrequest@scotborders.gov.uk).

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## Teviot & Liddesdale Area Forum September 2015 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Report.

(Station Manager Russell Bell)

### Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is to inform the Teviot & Liddesdale Area Forum on Scottish Fire and Rescue Service activity for the month of August 2015.

### Service Delivery activity in the Teviot & Liddesdale Area.

Incident type	Occurrences	Detail	Casualties
Fire- House	4	1 x electric (fuse box), 1 x pan of food left unattended, 1 x electrical fault, 1 x kitchen.	0
Fire- Open/ other	8	1 x bin (deliberate), 1 x electrical sub station, 2 x refuse (deliberate), 1 x swing in play park (deliberate), 1 x car (deliberate), 1 x public toilet (deliberate), 1 x agricultural grain dryer.	0
Special Service	2	1 x assist Scottish Ambulance Service, 1 x animal rescue.	0
Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals	10	4 x sheltered housing, 2 x commercial, 3 x school, 1 x private	N/A

### Service Transformation

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service realise as a public Service that we need to diversify and innovate as the needs of our communities become sharper into focus. One of these focus areas is out of hospital cardiac arrest, where the survival rate is very low if no immediate assistance is available.

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Hawick has been chosen, following guidance from the Scottish Ambulance Service, as a suitable location to trial the Scottish Fire and Rescue Services out of hospital cardiac arrest response.

Crews (both Whole time and Retained Duty Sytem) will, in the coming months, receive enhanced training from Scottish Ambulance Service partners which will allow a response to local cardiac arrest emergencies.

It is a trial, which will be closely, and very positively monitored and supported by both the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and the Scottish Ambulance Service, with a view to enhancing the emergency response to our local communities.

### **Prevention and Protection activity.**

Fire prevention and protection activity over recent years has been key to reducing the number of fires, casualties and losses in Scotland thus minimising the economic and social impact of fire on communities. The seasonal community safety calendar provides the catalyst for a number of initiatives and schemes throughout the calendar year.

Activity, which is ongoing at the moment within the Teviot & Liddesdale area;

- Community Planning Partnership- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service have been active within the local Resilient Communities groups, and have submitted proposals supporting the Burnfoot Community Futures strategy for the Hub. We have also been actively supporting local elected members who have highlighted combustible materials on common stairwells.
- Young Drivers S6 Programme- is an initiative aimed at educating new/potential drivers. PowerPoint presentation in the classroom is followed by practical education with a crashed car in conjunction with local Scottish Fire and Rescue Service crews. This initiative has been running at Hawick High School and has received encouraging feedback from both students and staff.
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service staff in all our local stations provide Home Fire Safety Visits all year round. The visits provide the householder with a home visit, focussing on identifying and reducing the risks of fire in the home. Smoke detectors with a 10-year battery life are provided as part of this free service. Freephone number for this service is 0800 0731 999.
- Firesharp is an initiative for Primary 6 pupils, providing face-to-face education within our local Primary schools on matters of fire risk and prevention.
- Crucial Crew is the practical follow up to the P6 educational input. All P7 pupils in the area attend a multi-agency event at Tweedbank where they are placed in real life scenarios and guided on the appropriate safe actions.
- Fire Safety Audits provide a targeted examination of a business premises and their relevant documents to ascertain how the premises are being managed regarding fire safety. The enforcement officer also engages with members of staff to confirm their level of fire safety awareness.
- Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals are being addressed by our phased intervention actions which identifies premises which are producing 'false alarms', provides guidance on how to reduce a reoccurrence, and can also evoke legislation if occurrences fail to reduce in number- operationally, this can result in a reduction in the number of fire engines which will attend a 'repeat offender'.

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## NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

- Fire Case Study and Adult & Child Protection Policies ensure multi agency involvement is provided for the support and protection for our higher risk members of the community.

### Thematic Action Planning

The Prevention & Protection (P&P) departments of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service initiate thematic plans throughout the year aimed at making our communities safer.

The summer season thematic period is now active (29 June – 28 August) and focusses on the following;

- Fire Related Anti-Social Behaviour
- Holiday Safety
- Countryside and Outdoor Safety

For the summer thematic period, P&P management will be required to report our level of success against the following indicators;

(Reduce the number of deliberate primary\* and secondary\*\* fires)

1. Reduce the number of fires in derelict/unoccupied buildings
2. Reduce the number of fires involving refuse/rubbish
3. Reduce the number of outdoor fires involving grass/heather/heathland and/or forested areas.
4. Reduce fire related antisocial behaviour
5. Promote fire safety within seasonal sleeping risks (including, hotels, guest houses/boarding houses, caravan/camping sites and holiday centres)
6. Promote water safety and reduce the number of fires and accidents involving boats, leisure craft and ferries
7. Contribute to the delivery of summer road safety initiatives

*\*Primary fires include buildings (including mobile homes) which are fit for occupation and those under construction. Caravans & vehicles (not derelict). Outdoor storage, plant and machinery. Agricultural and forestry premises & property.*

*\*\*Secondary fires include single derelict buildings. Grassland including heath, hedges, railway embankments and single trees. Intentional straw or stubble burning. Outdoor structures including lampposts, traffic signs, playground furniture, hoardings etc. Refuse and refuse containers. Derelict vehicles*

### Multi Ward Operating Plan

The Multi Ward Operating Plan for Teviot & Liddesdale, covering the Hawick & Hermitage/ Hawick & Denholm Wards is available. The plan sets out the priorities and objectives for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) within the area. The SFRS will continue to work closely with our partners in Teviot & Liddesdale to ensure we are all 'Working Together For A Safer Scotland'. The plan can be accessed electronically via the following link;

[Http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/your-area/east/ward-operational-plans.aspx](http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/your-area/east/ward-operational-plans.aspx)

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