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BERWICKSHIRE AREA FORUM THURSDAY, 2ND JUNE, 2016

A MEETING of the BERWICKSHIRE AREA FORUM will be held in the COUNCIL OFFICES,
NEWTOWN STREET, DUNS on THURSDAY, 2 JUNE 2016 at 6.30 pm

J. J. WILKINSON,
Clerk to the Council,

28 May 2016

BUSINESS		
1.	Welcome and Introductions.	
2.	Apologies for Absence.	
3.	Order of Business.	
4.	Declarations of Interest.	
5.	Minute. (Pages 1 - 8) Minute of the meeting of Berwickshire Area Forum of 3 March 2016. (Copy attached.)	5 mins
6.	Penmanshiel Compensatory Replanting Scheme Presentation by Andy Tharme, SBC and Steven Adlard, Scottish Agricultural College.	20 mins
7.	Police Scotland. (Pages 9 - 14) Quarterly update report by Police Scotland. (Copy attached.)	10 mins
8.	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. (Pages 15 - 20) Quarterly update report By the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. (Copy attached.)	10 mins
9.	Open Questions. Opportunity for members of the public to raise any issues not included on the agenda.	10 mins
10.	Community Spotlight. Consider matters of interest to Community Councils.	10 mins
11.	Future Agenda Items -	10 mins

	Open discussion to consider future agenda items.	
12.	Any Other Items Previously Circulated.	
13.	Any Other Items which the Chairman Decides are Urgent.	
14.	Date of Next Meeting (Berwickshire Area Forum).	

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.**

Membership of Committee:- Councillors M. J. Cook (Chairman), D. Moffat (Vice-Chairman), J. Campbell, J. A. Fullarton, J. Greenwell and F. Renton.

Community Councils:-

Abbey St Bathans, Bonkyl and Preston
 Ayton
 Burnmouth
 Chirside
 Cocksburnpath
 Coldingham
 Coldstream and District
 Duns
 Edrom, Allanton and Whitsome
 Eyemouth
 Foulden, Mordington and Lamberton
 Gavinton, Fogo and Polwarth
 Gordon and Westruther
 Grantshouse
 Greenlaw and Hume
 Hutton and Paxton
 Lammernuir
 Leitholm, Eccles and Birgham
 Reston and Auchencrow
 St Abbs
 Swinton and Ladykirk

Please direct any enquiries to Pauline Bolson. Tel: 01835 826503
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**SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL
BERWICKSHIRE AREA FORUM**

MINUTES of Meeting of the
BERWICKSHIRE AREA FORUM held in
Council Offices, Newtown Street, Duns on
Thursday, 3 March 2016, at 6.30 pm

Present:- Councillors M. J. Cook (Chairman), J. Campbell, D. Moffat, J. A. Fullarton and F. Renton.

Community Councils:- Chirnside; Cockburnspath – Pauline Hood;
Coldstream and District – Martin Brims; Edrom, Allanton & Whitsome – Trixie Collin; Eyemouth – James Anderson; Foulden, Mordington and Lamberton – Howard Doherty; Gavinton, Fogo and Polwarth - Jean Coleman; Gordon & Westruther – Elaine Morris; Grantshouse – Kym Bannerman; Greenlaw & Hume – Gerry McCann; Lammermuir – Mark Rowley; Reston and Auchencrow – Barrie Forrest; Swinton and Ladykirk – Bill Purvis.

Apologies:- Councillor J. Greenwell.
Community Councils:- Abbey St Bathans, Bonkyl & Preston.

In Attendance:- Inspector J Scott, Police Scotland; Station Manager M Acton, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service; D Silcock, SB Local Area Manager; Democratic Services Officer (P Bolton).

Members of the Public:- 8

1. **WELCOME**

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting.

2. **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The Chairman varied the order of business as shown on the Agenda and the Minute reflects the order in which the items were considered at the meeting.

**DECISION
NOTED.**

3. **MINUTE**

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of 3 December 2015.

DECISION

APPROVED the Minute for signature by the Chairman.

4. **SPEED LIMIT REVIEW 2015** The Chairman introduced Mr Sean Peffers from the Council's Road Safety and Traffic Management section. Mr Peffers explained that a region-wide Speed Limit Review had recently been completed and the recommendations from that Review included the introduction of a 40mph speed limit on the A6105 at Huntlywood; and the introduction of a 30mph speed limit on the D121/6 at Grantshouse. These speed limits were a reduction of the National Speed Limit which was currently in place on the two lengths of road network. Mr Peffers advised Members that the required two stage consultation process had been concluded and feedback had been received from Perryman's Buses and Gordon and Westruther Community Council, both in support of the proposals. The financial implications associated with the proposals totalled £4,350 and included the cost for additional signage along with advertising and making the Traffic Regulation Order. These costs would be borne by the Aids to Movement budget. A short discussion followed and Mr Peffers clarified points raised by Members.

DECISION

APPROVED the amendment to The Scottish Borders Council (Various Roads)

(40mph Speed Limit) Order 2004 and The Scottish Borders Council (The Borders Regional Council) (Restricted Roads) Order 1985 to allow:

- (a) the introduction of a 40mph speed limit on the A6105 in Huntlywood; and
- (b) the introduction of a 30mph speed limit on the D121/6 in Grantshouse.

These affected lengths of road were detailed in the plans in Appendix A and the extracts from the relevant Draft Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) in Appendix B.

5. **KNOWING YOUR COMMUNITY** 5.1 There had been circulated copies of the Berwickshire Learning Community Plan for 2015-18. The Chairman welcomed EIs Nicol and Sandra Millar from the Council's Community Learning and Development section to the meeting. They explained that a "Learning Community Plan (CLP) sought to address the learning needs of its locality through partnership. It used the strengths of institutions, public, private and voluntary services and community groups to enable young people and adults to achieve their full potential. Learning communities used learning as a way to build community capacity and to promote social cohesion, social inclusion, regeneration and economic development." Ms Nicol went on to explain the benefits of this type of partnership, emphasising the importance of local knowledge both by individuals and organisations, and how such arrangements could best work for the community as a whole. Education Scotland inspections across the country had demonstrated that effective planning and evaluation by CLPs stimulated community benefit and current Community Learning Development regulations required that a 3 Year Strategic Plan was in place for the Scottish Borders.
- 5.2 There were 9 LCPs in the Scottish Borders, each based around the High School areas and co-ordinated by Community Learning Development Workers (CLDWs). Each CLP looked at 5 strains of inequality within its local community, namely: Economic; Health & Wellbeing; Achievement & Attainment; Keeping People Safe; and Housing. The required 3 year Plans were operational, with the first year almost at an end and local actions had been prioritised, with all partners being committed to the delivery of the Plan.
- 5.3 Within the Berwickshire area, there were two LCP Local Action Plans in existence, the first of these being Berwickshire. Following identification of local community concerns, actions currently being taken forward were: under Employment and Income where lack of transport and associated problems were seen to increase inequalities, action was to set up a Transport Consultation Group with young people to address these issues so that, eg young people were in a much stronger position to sustain employment; under Health & Wellbeing and Keeping People Safe a lack of mental health services in the locality had been identified, and the agreed action was to build emotional resilience with 10-14 year olds; a lack of support during the transition from Primary to High School had been identified as a concern under Skills and Attainment and a number of projects had subsequently been established to assist in making progress such as the Living with Parents programme for Primary School pupils, the Transition Research Project at Berwickshire High School and new work experience/volunteering opportunities for Adults with Special Needs. Ms Millar went on to explain that three priorities had been identified by the Eyemouth Learning Community Partnership, namely under Health & Wellbeing; Employment & Income; and Transport. The Partnership would strive to strengthen and develop emotional health and wellbeing support for pre-16 year olds; develop and improve provision of positive destinations for young people; and initiate consultation on transport issues in Berwickshire, including participation in a pilot project along with the Strategic Transport Board.
- 5.4 In going forward, Ms Nicol explained that the first self-evaluation of the Plans with all relevant partners would take place during May and June 2016, followed by publication of the updated Plans in July/August 2016. Partnership working would continue to address local inequalities and improve the services for everyone in the area. Ms Nicol and Ms Millar provided clarification on a number of points raised. Financial and other

targets/efficiencies were being met and sharing of resources within the Partnership had improved since the establishment of the CLP. Ms Nicol emphasised that the Partnership was for the benefit of the whole community and included opportunities for people where English was not the first language. Within the Eyemouth CLP catchment, thirteen different languages were spoken and there were a number of self-supporting groups in this area. A discussion followed in relation to the title of each of the Plans. It was explained that the titles reflected the High School areas and the coverage of each Plan included the whole community. Following further discussion, the Forum agreed to look into the options for re-aligning the Learning Community Plans to reflect Berwickshire High School, Mid-Berwickshire and Duns. The Forum would receive an update in due course. The Chairman thanked Ms Nicol and Ms Millar for their attendance and presentation.

DECISION

NOTED the presentation.

6. **HOUSEHOLD SURVEY REPORT**6.1 The Chairman introduced Ms Clare Malster, SBC's Strategic Community Engagement Officer to the meeting. Ms Malster explained that a Household Survey was carried out every two years and the results of the survey undertaken in 2015 had now been published. The Survey had been undertaken in partnership with the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Border Sport and Leisure Trust, Transport Scotland and Registered Social Landlords. Responses had totalled 41% - 2,445 in paper format and a further 261 completed online. Berwickshire had returned 44% of the questionnaires for the area. The full Survey details were available online.
- 6.2 In response to being asked how they rated Scottish Borders Council as a whole, Ms Malster advised that in Berwickshire, the Council was rated as "excellent" (5.9%); "good" (65%); "poor" (10.8%); "very poor" (3%); and just over 15% didn't know. Opportunities to participate in the decision-making process saw 6.5% of East Berwickshire and 4% of Mid-Berwickshire "very satisfied"; figures for "fairly satisfied" ranged from 36.3% in East Berwickshire to 41.6% in Mid-Berwickshire; "very dissatisfied" residents varied from 7.3% in the east to 10% in Mid Berwickshire. Generally, satisfaction with local bus services had been generally consistent at around 81% since 2010, and dissatisfaction had remained around 19% for the same period. Kerbside waste and recycling collection services had shown a drop of 9% in the level of satisfaction and an increase of 3% in dissatisfaction levels since 2013. Further reduction in levels of satisfaction was detailed across the range of services at Community Recycling Centres.
- 6.3 The top five neighbourhood problems identified for Safer Communities included: rubbish and litter (40%); anti-social driving and speeding (37%); Parking (35%); unwanted callers at the door (19%); and people using or dealing drugs (14%). A consistent 97% of people felt safe on their own at home at night with 2% feeling unsafe. With regard to walking alone in the local area, 97% felt safe during the day as opposed to 70% feeling safe after dark. Just over 72% of people in Berwickshire accessed the Internet using a mobile device as opposed to 46.5% in 2013, with the number using a home device (television or computer) remaining at around 43% over the same period. There had been slight increases in the number of residents using Council and other public facilities and an increase of 4.5% of respondees using Internet or email. Generally, there was a small increase in satisfaction relating to the time it took to repair roads (up to 23%) however 72% of people were still dissatisfied. Across the area, 93% of participants rated their neighbourhood as a good place to live and residents in the Berwickshire Wards were some of the most satisfied across the Scottish Borders.
- 6.4 Discussion followed and it was acknowledged that there was a need to consider alternative ways of providing services in order to manage budget efficiencies now and in the future. A net saving of around £450,000 had been achieved as a result of the removal of the green waste recycling service. Further statistics relating to Internet access showed that 100% of those aged between 16 and 34 used the web whereas only 49% of over 75 year olds did. With reference to Broadband service, there was recognition that some areas of the Scottish Borders did not currently receive a satisfactory Broadband signal and it was hoped that the roll out of superfast Broadband would see a marked

improvement for all residents. The Chairman thanked Ms Malster for attending the Forum and for the presentation.

DECISION

NOTED the presentation.

7. STRATEGIC TRANSPORT UPDATE

- 7.1** The Chairman introduced Mr Tim Stephenson, Passenger Transport Manager at SBC who was present to provide an update on the progress made by the Strategic Transport Board (STB). Mr Stephenson advised the Forum that there had been two seminars held in 2015 to identify the issues and needs of the local communities. The first of these events was in Duns in August, followed by another in Eyemouth in October and both events had been very successful. With regard to what had already been implemented in Berwickshire, Mr Stephenson explained that the Community Transport Hub operated from Coldstream using a central booking system and funding from the Integrated Care Fund and SESTRAN had been received in order to facilitate the initial setting up of the facility. Generally, there was a high level of young people in the area who felt isolated due to transport issues and this was especially noticeable during school holidays when school buses were reduced. It was important to look at safe ways of sharing transport especially during the hours of darkness and options such as Berwickshire Wheels and Car Clubs Schemes would be considered as part of the overall Strategy.
- 7.2** In order to facilitate effective exchanges of information and ideas and to ensure regular communication between communities, the STB and SBC in relation to Strategic Transport, each Community Council was being encouraged to put forward a Transport Champion who would take on this role. A number of options were discussed in relation to setting up of Transport Hubs, including Community Centres, local hostelries and the use of spare capacity from SBC's fleet. It was agreed that this was an ongoing topic in progress and the Chairman, in thanking Mr Stephenson for his attendance, said that further updates would be presented to the Forum in due course. Mr Stephenson could be contacted directly at Scottish Borders Council in Newtown St Boswells for further advice and information.

DECISION

NOTED the presentation.

- 8. HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE** The Chairman welcomed Ms Susan Manion, Chief Officer Health and Social Care to the meeting. Ms Manion explained that under the Integrated Health and Social Care agenda, Joint Boards had been established, would be operational as from 1 April 2016 and would have overall responsibility for the delivery of Community Health Services. National outcomes were in place and each Board would be responsible for ensuring that these outcomes were achieved. The new joined up method for delivering health and social care and supporting people in their own homes brought its own challenges and there was further development work in progress to ensure cohesive working. Ms Manion advised that the Integrated Joint Board was aware of the particular issues in Berwickshire relating to cross border provision. These issues would be considered as part of a wider strategy involving NHS Borders, NHS24, SBC, the Strategic Transport Board and agencies south of the Border. With regard to financial provision, Ms Manion confirmed that £120m and set aside budgets were available for the delivery of services under Health and Social Care Integration however there were still a number of funding issues to be addressed by both SBC and NHS Borders. The Chairman thanked Ms Manion and advised that further updates on progress would be brought to the Forum in due course.

DECISION

NOTED the presentation.

9. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

There had been circulated copies of a report by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) informing the Forum of SFRS activity since December 2015. The report

explained that there had been 9 occurrences of fires in houses/buildings which had resulted in 4 casualties; 1 open fire incident with 1 casualty; 9 Special Service incidents giving rise to 1 casualty; and 20 non-deliberate unwanted fire alarm signals. Station Manager Matt Acton went on to inform Members of the national Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest Trial which went live on 29 October 2015, explaining that three of the seven stations in Scotland participating in the trial were Hawick, Lauder and Coldstream. Enhanced training had been delivered to firefighters in these stations and when appropriate, the crew would be dispatched at the same time as the local crew to provide life-saving intervention until an ambulance was at the scene. A programme of prevention and protection work was ongoing within Berwickshire and this included - Home Fire Safety Visits; Firesharp; Fire Safety Audits; Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals; further work in relation to the Safeguarding Policy and Procedure for Protection of Children and Adults at Risk of Harm; work in collaboration with Borders College to provide fire safety advice for students whose first language is not English; CPR training for local communities using local fire stations as the base; and the thematic Action Plan. An update on the recruitment situation was provided and it was noted that a new trainee had recently taken up post at Coldstream. A short discussion followed and the Chairman thanked Station Manager Acton for his attendance.

DECISION

NOTED the report.

10. **POLICE SCOTLAND**

Inspector John Scott attended the meeting to present the Police Scotland report for Berwickshire for the period up to 29 February 2016. The report detailed the Ward Plan Priorities for East Berwickshire, namely Road Safety; Misuse of Drugs; Rural Thefts; and Antisocial Behaviour. For Mid Berwickshire the priorities were Road Safety; Inconsiderate Driver Behaviour; and Antisocial Behaviour. Road safety and inconsiderate driver behaviour was being addressed by the use of dedicated parking patrols to both enforce legislation and discourage inconsiderate parking and it was noted that 33 parking tickets had been issued in Berwickshire during the previous three months. Arrangements were now in place for a young drivers' course to be hosted in Duns and further details were available at:-

http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/info/1529/road_safety/1076/free_sponsorship_to_become_an_advanced_driver

There had been 11 drugs-related offences detected in Berwickshire during the reporting period and a small number of minor rural crimes committed. With regard to rural thefts, Select DNA information packs were being issued to farms along with additional security advice. Sheep worrying was of concern in rural areas and a national campaign would be launched by Police Scotland and partners to deter and prevent this activity. Inspector Scott reported that there had been a reduction in the number of incidents involving drunken disorder and violence over the festive period. A new Recorded Police Warning Scheme had been introduced in January 2016 to replace the previous Formal Adult Warning system. The new Scheme provided frontline officers with disposal options of a verbal warning, a Recorded Police Warning, a Fixed Penalty Notice and ultimately a formal Standard Prosecution Report to the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service, depending on the circumstances and nature of each incident or crime. The Scheme was expected to provide a consistent, swifter, more effective and proportionate way of dealing with low-level offences. Members' questions were answered in relation to the young drivers' course and crime statistics in Berwickshire. The Chairman thanked Inspector Scott for attending the meeting.

DECISION

NOTED the report.

11. **SCOTTISH AMBULANCE SERVICE**

No representative from the Scottish Ambulance Service was available to attend the meeting.

DECISION

NOTED.

12. **UPDATE ON BERWICKSHIRE ACCESS PANEL**

Kym Bannerman, Chair of the Berwickshire Access Panel (BAC) provided background to the Panel and explained that its main purpose was to improve access in its widest sense for disabled people throughout Berwickshire. An open meeting was being hosted in the Volunteer Hall, Duns on Wednesday 30 March 2016 and it was hoped that new volunteers would come forward to advance the work of the Panel by working locally to liaise with people affected by disability and identify the type of assistance/support was required. Further information could be found on the Panel's website at - <http://berwickshireaccess.org.uk/> The Chairman thanked Ms Bannerman and on behalf of the Forum, encouraged members of the public to support the work of the BAC.

**DECISION
NOTED.**

13. **AWARDS FOR ALL**

Forum members were updated on the Lottery Small Scheme entitled "Awards for All" which could assist with funding to enable Community Councils to carry out their work. Further information and advice was available from Jean Robertson, Scottish Borders Council's Funding and Project Officer and Linda Cornwall, SBC Grants Co-ordinator. Community Councils did have to meet Scheme criteria in order to access these grants. Discussion followed and it was noted that some work might not be covered by the Awards for All Scheme and organisations might therefore need to investigate other funding routes in these circumstances.

**DECISION
NOTED.**

14. **OPEN QUESTIONS**

14.1 Neighbourhood Watch Cameras

In response to a query from Grantshouse Community Council, it was confirmed that Neighbourhood Watch cameras were linked directly to Police Scotland.

**DECISION
NOTED.**

14.2 Regeneration Officer for Berwickshire

In respect of a previous discussion at the Forum regarding the possibility of the establishment of a Regeneration Officer post for Berwickshire, the Chairman advised that a Business Plan would be required presenting the case for the establishment of the post prior to being presented to Scottish Borders Council for consideration. The Chairman went on to explain how Eyemouth Vision had been set up, the progress made to date and how the lessons learned could benefit future projects and in terms of funding a Regeneration Officer post, consideration might be given to utilising wind farm monies available.

**DECISION
NOTED.**

15. **COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT**

15.1 Broadband Provision in Berwickshire

Broadband provision was raised as an ongoing issue and it was acknowledged that in Berwickshire, there were concerns about how current developments for supply would benefit all members of the community, particularly those in very rural areas. With regard to the fibre to cabinet option, it was noted that the signal diminished once the distance from the cabinet reached 1kilometre, and in Berwickshire this was a very real concern. Mr Rowley from Lammermuir Community Council advised that within Berwickshire, collaboration was ongoing with BT, Community Broadband Scotland and Digital Scotland to look at options for the area. The Chairman advised that a report would be presented at the meeting of Scottish Borders Council on 10 March 2016 and that this would consider

the way forward for Information Communications Technology (ICT) within the Council under its Transformation agenda. Discussion followed and it was agreed that in order to have a full and informed conversation, an item to address the wide range of issues relating to Broadband provision in the area be included on a future Berwickshire Area Forum Agenda. The Chairman would take this forward with officers at SBC and with BT, Community Broadband Scotland and Digital Scotland and would update the Forum at the next meeting in June 2016.

DECISION

AGREED that an item on Broadband provision in Berwickshire be added to a future Agenda to facilitate a full and informed conversation about the wide range of issues relating to Broadband provision in the area.

15.2 Community Councils in East Berwickshire

Discussion took place in relation to the attendance of Elected Members at Community Council meetings in East Berwickshire. The Chairman explained that there were 12 Community Councils in the East Berwickshire Ward and that time constraints and current workload meant that not all Members could always attend all Community Council meetings. He was therefore looking to get the views of Community Councils on how this might be addressed. In response, Community Councils were in agreement that Elected Members' attendance along with their advice and input locally were very much appreciated. It was also acknowledged that Community Councils were becoming more knowledgeable in terms of sourcing information directly and from the Internet and on that basis, it was perhaps not necessary for all three Members to attend the same meetings. Further consideration would be given to this matter and an update presented at the June meeting of the Forum.

**DECISION
NOTED.**

16. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Items for future Agendas were proposed as follows:-

- (a) Presentation on Broadband provision in Berwickshire; and
- (b) Roads Review – it was noted that this would be included as part of the routine reporting to the Berwickshire Area Forum.

**DECISION
AGREED.**

17. **DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next meeting of the Berwickshire Area Forum was scheduled for Thursday 2 June, 2016.

**DECISION
NOTED.**

The meeting concluded at 9.10pm.

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“Keeping People Safe”

Berwickshire Area Forum – 2nd June 2016

Police Report

Inspector John Scott
Sergeant Jacqi McGuigan

East CPA (East and Mid Berwickshire Multi Member Ward’s)

Purpose of the Report

To update the Berwickshire Area Forum on performance, activities and issues across the Ward for the period up to 25th May 2016.

Policing Plans

The Multi Member Ward plan priorities, which were obtained following the public consultation surveys in 2014 are published on the Police Scotland website. The plans focus the work of our officers on the issues that you have told us are important to the community.

Ward Plan Priorities:

East Berwickshire

1. Road Safety
2. Misuse Of Drugs
3. Rural Thefts

4. Antisocial Behaviour

Mid Berwickshire

1. Road Safety
2. Inconsiderate Driver Behaviour
3. Antisocial Behaviour

Road Safety and Inconsiderate Driver Behaviour

Drink Driving Offences

We have recently seen an increase in the number of detections for drink driving in the Scottish Borders, with people being caught in rural locations, having been drinking at a village pub and then choosing to drive home. Our message is very simple, if you are intending driving, do not drink. We would encourage the public to report all drink drivers either directly to the police on 101 or if you wish to report anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 55 111.

Younger Drivers Event at Charterhall, Duns

Over the weekend of the 21st and 22nd May, a young drivers event was held at Charterhall, where we saw about 90 young people experience driving, many of them for the first time. It was a great experience for the young people and allowed them to develop driving skills under the watchful eye of the Police, Fire and Ambulance services who were giving training throughout the day. The aim is to encourage young people to engage with the long-term sustainable driver education and casualty reduction programme in the Borders.

During May and June the Skills For Life programme, which provides free driver training to 17-25 year olds, is running in Duns. We have 7 drivers taking the course all of whom aim to pass. There are further courses being run during 2016 and these can be accessed through the Skill For Life page on Scottish Borders Council website.

Misuse Of Drugs

Officers are continuing to target drugs offences, we need intelligence to support us in detecting offenders. There were 11 drugs related offences detected in Berwickshire during the reporting period. On Wednesday 4th May, a drugs operation was undertaken in Duns when 3 houses in Duns, and premises near to Duns were searched by officers from across J division. This was a significant operation, which sent out a clear message that we will react to all intelligence with regards to selling drugs.

We could not have undertaken this work without a great deal of community intelligence, we are always interested in obtaining information and intelligence in relation to drugs offences and this can either be passed to local officers or through Crimestoppers on 0800555111.

Antisocial Behaviour

Anti social behaviour covers a wide variety of incidents, including everything from noisy neighbours to nuisance youths. Whilst incidents like this may appear minor, they can impact massively on someone's well being and quality of life.

Anyone who is the victim of antisocial behaviour, should report this at the time of the incident to the police or if it is an ongoing issue, this can be reported to the Antisocial Behaviour Unit helpline on **0800 028 5711**.

Rural Thefts

Police Scotland has recently launched a series of information documents to keep our rural communities safe. The rural communities of Scotland are safe places in which to live and work. However, the nature of the environment and way of life means there are some crime prevention tips particularly relevant to rural life that are worth bearing in mind.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Much of the crime prevention advice outlined in other areas of 'Keep Safe' is equally relevant to urban or rural area, but there are issues unique to rural communities such as:

- Protecting Livestock.
- Securing Farm Machinery.
- Theft from fuel tanks.
- Securing tools and horse tack.

This information can be accessed at the following link and is an excellent guide to farmers and wider community who live in rural areas.

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/home-and-personal-property/rural-crime>

Other Information

Your View Counts – Public Consultation

Police Scotland consults with the public every year on what their priorities are for policing in their community.

In the past this has always been by hard copy consultation questionnaires which were distributed by police officers within the community they work.

This year Police Scotland's consultation process is widening and becoming more flexible. The consultation process is moving online to a digital format and consultation will be open all year.

The public consultation is for you to tell us what is important to you in your community. Your opinion is valued – we need your opinion to inform our policing. Having your say in the decision making process of Police Scotland is a vital tool for residents of Scotland to be able to shape the way their public services should operate.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Everyone's views across Scotland will be taken on board at a national and local level. We want you to help us focus on the priorities that will help communities most. There is no 'one size fits all' approach to local policing and all the needs and wants of individual communities will be considered.

This is the first time Police Scotland's public consultation is being hosted on a digital platform. This allows us to reach a much wider audience than ever before ensuring that everyone can have their say.

The online consultation is open all year which allows you to take part when it suits you but also gives the flexibility of being able to re-submit the consultation if your priorities change.

It's a very simple process that should only take a few moments of your time but will shape the way that policing is coordinated across Scotland and in your local community.

We will keep you updated on our quarterly results. The consultation will be a completely transparent process as it's all about your priorities.

The link for the survey is
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/8LMB9WX>

[Air Weapon Legislation](#)

With effect from 1 July 2016, new legislation comes into effect for air weapons. Any person who possesses, purchases, uses or acquires an air weapon will be required to have a certificate to legally hold them. Because this is a new process, the public have been given time to achieve the certification and no one will commit an offence of possessing an air weapon without the relevant authority or certification up until 1 January 2017. You must have your documentation in order by that date.

Police Scotland recognises that a number of these types of weapons will be lying about homes and are no longer used or required. As a result an 'amnesty' will be held where you can surrender air weapons at a police station. Provisional dates for the surrender campaign are Monday 23rd May to Sunday 12th June 2016. If you have any weapons for surrender, they should be taken to Galashiels police station on these dates between 8am

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

and 10pm. Further information on the legislation can be found on the Police Scotland website www.scotland.police.uk

John Scott
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ECPA
Scottish Borders

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/PoliceScotland
Twitter: twitter@BordersPolice.com

Police Scotland Non Emergency number 101



"Keeping People Safe"



Berwickshire Area Forum 2nd June 2016 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Report.

(Station Manager Matt Acton)

Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is to inform the Berwickshire Area Forum on Scottish Fire and Rescue Service activity since the last forum meeting on 3rd March 2016.

Within the Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2014-2017 for the Scottish Borders, five priorities, and actions outcomes are identified;

1. Reduction of Dwelling Fires
2. Reduction of Fire Casualties and Fatalities
3. Reduction of Deliberate Fire Setting (Not including Dwellings)
4. Reduction of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals
5. Reduction in Road Traffic Collisions.

Response & Resilience activity in the Berwickshire Area

Incident type	Occurrences	Detail	Casualties
Fire- House/Building	4	Cooking related/minor Caravan alight	2
Fire- Open	8	Car alight x3 Chimney fire x3 Refuse x2	
Special Service	10	Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest x 3 RTC x 3 Fuel leak x2 Person trapped in machinery	1 1
Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals	18	Non Deliberate	

Partnership Working

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Community Action Team (CAT) within the Scottish Borders core work centres on the on-going delivery of the SFRS Home Fire Safety Visit (HFSV) policy. The team continues to expand its partnership working with key agencies including Police Scotland, Health, Social care and Housing in order to focus on members of local communities at High Risk from fire and achieve outcomes in helping to reduce overall numbers of accidental dwelling fires.

Command Officers within the Scottish Borders continue to attend the Safety Advisory Group meetings to ensure SFRS assist in the production of appropriate operational plans for special events taking place in the Scottish Borders.

Prevention and Protection

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 now within the Berwickshire Ward area;

- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service staff in all our local stations provide Home Fire Safety Visits all year round. These free 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.
- **Living Safely in the Home.**

As part of the Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership Reducing Inequalities Strategy, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) and the Scottish Borders Safer Communities Team will jointly lead on the “Keeping People Safe” theme. Within this theme, it has been identified that older people are more likely to suffer an accident in the home resulting in an A&E admission to Hospital.

To put this into context recent figures indicate that in the Scottish Borders 64% of emergency admissions for adults were because of falls in the home. Further analysis shows that over 75% of these falls involved persons over 75 years of age. With an ageing population, this trend will only continue without increased prevention activities.

The SFRS have a proven record of prevention and reducing the risk of fire within the communities of Scotland. Through the SFRS Service Transformation project it has been identified that there exists an opportunity to broaden the traditional preventative role of a firefighter and develop a holistic approach to safety in the home. By adopting a collaborative approach with Community Partners, SFRS staff can fulfil a generic role capable of assessing all aspects of risk within the home including fire, slips, trips and falls. Development of the holistic approach, which will

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initially be trialled in the Cheviot area, has the potential to include other risks such as fuel poverty.

- 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.
- SFRS Safeguarding Policy and Procedure for Protection of Children and Adults at Risk of Harm was implemented to link into adult and child protection. The introduction of this policy has created closer ties with Social Services within Scottish Borders and ensures those people and families that fire crews identify as at risk are brought to the attention of Social Services. This has resulted in joint visits to homes to reduce risk to those occupiers.
- We are developing a strong partnership with the local Domestic Abuse Advocacy Service and involvement in MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference). The Local Authority Liaison Officer (LALO) and Scottish Borders Station Manager for Prevention and Protection are fully involved in all local MARAC processes, attending the monthly conferences and all steering group meetings.
- Road Safety Scottish Borders Community Action Team (CAT) have been delivering road safety awareness to secondary schools throughout the Scottish Borders with the support of the local Whole time personnel from Galashiels and Hawick.
- Crews from Duns and Coldstream recently took part in a multi-agency Young Drivers Initiative which took place at Charterhall, Greenlaw. This event gave the opportunity for 14-17 year olds from across the Scottish Borders to experience the controls of a car in 'try-drive' sessions and to experience vehicle handling through braking exercises in order to educate the next generation of road users.
- 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 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.
- In a pioneering partnership between the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) and British Heart Foundation (BHF), all 356 of SFRS's fire stations are equipped with BHF donated 'Call Push Rescue' training kit and each station will now act as a base for local people to learn vital cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) skills and potentially save someone's life if they go into cardiac arrest.

It takes just 30 minutes to learn CPR using the Call Push Rescue kit and community groups are able to contact their local fire station to arrange a time to go to a station, watch the training DVD, and practice with the kit.

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- **Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest trial.**

A national trial and a first for Scotland involving Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) and Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS) to increase survival rate of patients who suffer out of hospital cardiac arrest went live on 29th October 2015.

The trial will run at seven fire stations across Scotland, with three of these being in the Scottish Borders: Hawick, Lauder and Coldstream.

Firefighters at these stations have received enhanced training in life-support, through a joint partnership approach with the Scottish Ambulance Service as part of a range of measures that it has in place across the country to target the condition and create a nation of life savers.

If a fire service resource with a crew who are trained to provide high quality CPR and have a defibrillator is nearer to a potential cardiac arrest than a local Community First Responder team, then Ambulance Control will dispatch them at the same time as the ambulance crew, so that they can provide these life saving interventions while the ambulance is on it's way.

The trials are part of SFRS's commitment to supporting the Scottish Government's Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest Strategy, which aims to dramatically increase patients' survival chances and save as many as 1,000 lives by 2020.

Thematic Action Plan

Crews are actively involved in the Spring Thematic Action Plan which is currently underway and focusses on the following areas of fire safety;

- Wildfire
- Deliberate fires

The Summer Thematic Action Plan will be introduced at the end of June and will focus on the following areas;

- Wildfire
- Rubbish and refuse fires
- Outdoor safety

We work closely with all our partners in the Scottish Borders Council Safer Communities Team, as well as local partnerships, to promote preventative work.

The LALO is in post within Scottish Borders Council HQ in order to improve partnership working, with a particular focus on the elderly and more vulnerable members of society. The primary aims of this partnership activity are to help ensure the safety and welfare of vulnerable persons throughout the community, and to seek to reduce the overall numbers of accidental dwelling fires, fire casualties and fire fatalities in homes.

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Retained Duty system

A national recruitment campaign is currently under way for RDS Firefighters within the Scottish Borders. There are currently vacancies at Duns, Eyemouth and Coldstream.

Local Fire and Rescue Plan

The Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Scottish Borders 2014-2017 have been approved following its consultation period. The local plan sets out the priorities for the Fire and Rescue Service, and we will continue to work with our community planning partners and local communities to make the most efficient use of resources and contribute towards the shared priorities and actions within the community planning partnership and community safety arrangements. The subsequent Ward plan for Berwickshire is now complete and available to elected members and is available within the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Web page.

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