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EILDON AREA FORUM THURSDAY, 18 FEBRUARY, 2016

A MEETING of the EILDON AREA FORUM will be held in the TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE,

GALASHIELS on THURSDAY, 18 FEBRUARY, 2016 at 6.30 PM

J. J. WILKINSON, Clerk to the Council,

11 February 2016

BUSINESS				
1.	Apologies for Absence			
2.	Order of Business			
3.	Declarations of Interest			
4.	Minute (Pages 1 - 4)	2 mins		
	Minute of the meeting of 5 November 2015 to be approved (Copy attached)			
5.	2015 Household Survey	15 mins		
	Presentation by Clare Malster, Strategic Community Engagement Officer. 2015 Household Survey Research report available on the following link:			
	www.scotborders.gov.uk/householdsurvey			
6.	Speed Limit Review 2015 (Pages 5 - 10)	10 mins		
	Consider report by Service Director Commercial Services (copy attached).			
7.	School Estates Review	10 mins		
	Councillor Sandy Aitchison, Executive Member for Education.			
8.	Budget Summary	10 mins		
	Councillor David Parker, Leader.			
9.	Neighbourhood Small Schemes and Quality of Life Fund	10 mins		
	Consider update.			
10.	Partner Updates	10 mins		
	(a) Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (Pages 11 - 16)			
	Copy of report attached			

	(b) Police Scotland				
	(c) NHS Borders				
11.	Community Council Spotlight	15 mins			
	(a) Stow Road Safety Campaign				
	Parish of Stow Community Council.				
	(b) Any other items of interest from Community Councils				
12.	Open Questions				
	Opportunity for members of the public to raise any issues not included on the agenda				
13.	Future Agenda Items				
	Consider future agenda items				
14.	Any Other Items Previously Circulated				
15.	Any Other Items which the Chairman Decides are Urgent				
16.	Date of Next Meeting				
	Thursday 12 May 2016. Venue to be confirmed.				

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 B White (Chairman), S. Aitchison, M. Ballantyne, V. M. Davidson, G. Edgar, I. Gillespie, B Herd, J. G. Mitchell, D. Parker, J. Torrance; Community Councillors A Beavon, T Cotter, M Crausaz, P Docherty, G Easton, R French, J MacKenzie, J Paton-Day, A Smith, J Williams, W Windram.

Please direct any enquiries to Fiona Walling 01835 826504 Email:- fwalling@scotborders.gov.uk

Agenda Item 4

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL EILDON AREA FORUM

MINUTE of Meeting of the EILDON AREA FORUM held in Selkirk Parish Church Hall, Selkirk on Thursday, 5 November, 2015 at 6.30 pm

Present:- Councillors B. White (Chairman), S. Aitchison, M. Ballantyne, V. Davidson, G. Edgar (from para 2), I. Gillespie, B. Herd, J. Mitchell, J. Torrance. Community Council representatives:- R. French (Newtown and Eildon), J. MacKenzie (Stow), J. Paton-Day (Earlston), I. Purvis, R. Kenney (Galashiels). W. Shaw, Head of Delivery Support, Estates and Facilities (NHS Borders).

Apologies:- Councillors D. Parker

In Attendance:- Chief Financial Officer, SBC Neighbourhood Area Manager (Eildon), Democratic Services Officer (F. Walling).

1. 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.

2. MINUTE

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of 20 August 2015.

DECISION

APPROVED for signature by the Chairman.

MEMBER

Councillor Edgar arrived during the following presentation.

3. HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP

With reference to paragraph 3 of the Minute of 14 May 2015, Mr Warwick Shaw, Head of Delivery Support, Estates and Facilities (NHS Borders), was in attendance to give a presentation on the second draft of the Health and Social Care Integration Strategic Plan which was currently out for consultation. Copies of the Draft Strategic Plan and a shorter summary of the Plan were available for distribution at the meeting. Mr Shaw explained that the Draft Strategic Plan set out why there was a need to integrate health and social care services; how this would be done; and what was expected to be seen as a result. The way health and social care services were delivered needed to change due to the increasing demand for services; increasing pressure on limited resources; and the desire to improve services and outcomes. Mr Shaw commented that the integration of services was potentially the biggest change in health and social care since the formation of the NHS in 1948. It was explained that by shifting just 1% of the total spend of approximately £250m from Unplanned Inpatient Care and Institutional-Based Social Care towards Community-based NHS and Social Care and Planned Inpatient Care, resources would be used more effectively. This would help investment in new integrated ways of working particularly in terms of early intervention, reducing avoidable hospital admissions, reducing health inequalities, supporting unpaid carers and independent living. The presentation went on to list the Plan's local objectives. One of these objectives 'to improve support for unpaid carers to keep them healthy and able to continue in their Page 1

caring role' was added as a result of responses to the last round of public engagement earlier in the year. Following the local objectives a list of key priorities was developed for 2016/17 based on what had been learned from listening to local people, service users, carers, staff and partner organisations. These priorities included the development of integrated accessible transport; the integration of services at a local level; coordination to provide a single point of access to local services; and work with communities to develop local solutions. The presentation highlighted six questions as part of the current consultation and which were set out in the consultation document. Responses to these questions could be submitted through the Scottish Borders Council website or by post. In outlining the timescales Mr Shaw advised that the public engagement period would end on 11 December with a final draft of the Strategic Plan being finalised in February 2016. Health and Social Care Integration would go live in April 2016. In response to questions Mr Shaw gave assurance that the proposed integrated transport service should be able to maintain flexibility in that there would be a daytime permanently staffed 0300 number as a single point of contact. Members welcomed the support for unpaid carers indicated in the Strategic Plan. The value of the involvement of the third sector in the provision of services was discussed and Mr Shaw agreed to follow up a point made about engagement with the more mature charities. In a conclusion to the discussion the importance was emphasised of taking the opportunity to respond to the current consultation. The Chairman thanked Mr Shaw for his attendance and presentation.

DECISION NOTED the presentation

4. FINANCIAL PLANNING CONSULTATION

Chief Financial Officer, David Robertson, was in attendance to give a presentation about a consultation currently taking place on Financial Planning for the Council over the period 2016/17 to 2020/21. Copies of a leaflet about the consultation were handed out at the meeting. Mr Robertson highlighted the many financial challenges facing the Council. He explained that the forthcoming financial year 2016/17 represented the 4th year of the original 5 year Financial Plan established in 2013/14. Around £1.3 billion in revenue budgets would be spent between 2016/17 and 2020/21. The Council also had a capital budget of £352m for the next ten years to invest in infrastructure. The longer term approach to financial planning had allowed significant pressures to be managed and delivered solutions to bridge these gaps in ways which were least damaging to services. Across the first 3 years of the 5 year Financial Plan the Council was on track to deliver £15.6m in savings. Over the period the Council could demonstrate significant performance improvements in some areas. However due to ongoing pressures on public funding the financial challenge would be there for several years to come. If the Council were to continue delivering services in the same way there would be a funding gap of approximately £27.8m over the next 5 year period. To help meet the funding gap, a Corporate Transformation programme was underway with the aim of transforming the way the Council worked to become more efficient and effective. There were 17 areas of work that had been identified as part of the programme, each being led by a member of the Council's Corporate Management Team. Essentially the budget was about priorities, meeting the challenges faced and spending taxpayers' money in the most efficient and effective way possible. To assist the process the views of the Borders public were being requested about where resources should be prioritised or whether the Council could do things differently to save money. Mr Robertson explained that a new way of engaging with local people had been launched. This was a community engagement tool, known as 'Scottish Borders Dialogue', which could be accessed through the Council's website. This was a quick and easy way to submit views and ideas. However responses to the consultation could also be submitted by post, email, Twitter and by telephone. All the feedback received would be put forward to the Council's Administration Budget Working Group for consideration as part of the financial planning process.

DECISION

NOTED the presentation

5. NEIGHBOURHOOD SMALL SCHEMES AND QUALITY OF LIFE FUND

The Neighbourhood Area Manager, Craig Blackie, updated members of the Area Forum on the programme for approved Small Schemes and Quality of Life Schemes for the Eildon area. There were circulated at the meeting copies of appendices listing the approved schemes and indicating the stage of their implementation. Mr Blackie highlighted that there remained £27,754 in the Small Schemes budget for 2015/16. With regard to the Quality of Life budget there was a balance of just in excess of £14,000 still to be allocated. However it was noted that there were a number of additional schemes which had been put forward for consideration. In response to a question Mr Blackie confirmed that the identification and management of large open areas of grassland for the creation of diverse habitats was part of the Neighbourhood Services review, and as such costs relating to the preparation of specific areas identified by Members within the Area Forum could be met from the Quality of Life budget.

DECISION NOTED the update

6. **PARTNER UPDATES**

There were no updates to consider.

DECISION NOTED

7. **OPEN QUESTIONS**

There were no open questions.

DECISION NOTED

8. COMMUNITY COUNCIL SPOTLIGHT

Galashiels Community Councillor Ian Purvis was pleased to inform members of the Forum that the early indications were that the opening of the Borders railway would be highly successful for Galashiels, with increased footfall in the town and reports of increased takings by shops and businesses.

DECISION NOTED

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The following items were suggested for future meetings:-

- Report from Abellio Scotrail on first 5 months of operation of the railway;
- Presentation on the Education Estate; and
- Report from the Timber Transport Forum.

In view of the low attendance at the meeting there followed a discussion about how to ensure representation from all Community Councils and how to attract members of the public to Area Forum meetings. Community Council representatives in attendance gave confirmation that they had received notification of the meeting and been able to access the agenda through the recently updated Committee software system Modern. Gov. Although the dates and content of meetings were advertised via press releases issued by Corporate Communications this was obviously not proving to be effective. It was recognised that unless there was a specific issue that directly affected a large number of people in a specific area there would be a lack of interest and a degree of apathy. Also pointed out was the fact that issues specific to a locality would commonly be raised and discussed at Community Council meetings, which were also attended by local Councillors, rather than at meetings of the Area Forum. It was agreed that other ways be explored of attracting a higher attendance at meetings of Eildon Area Forum.

DECISION

(a) NOTED the suggestions for future agenda items.

(b) AGREED that other ways be explored of attracting a higher attendance at meetings of Eildon Area Forum.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on Thursday 18 February 2016 at 6.30 pm in Galashiels, the exact venue to be confirmed.

The meeting concluded at 7.55 pm



SPEED LIMIT REVIEW 2015

Report by Service Director Commercial Services

EILDON AREA FORUM

18 February 2016

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report proposes to amend the existing speed limits in Oxton and Melrose to take account of a recent region-wide Speed Limit Review.
- 1.2 In 2015 a Speed Limit Review was carried out throughout the Scottish Borders region by officers from the Council and the Police. The review was carried out in accordance with Government guidance and the resulting recommendations reduce speeds on parts of the network which are currently covered by the National Speed Limit.
- 1.3 A total of 11 lengths of road were agreed to be recommended to be subject to adjusted statutory speed limit. Two of these sites are in the Eildon area, at Oxton and Chiefswood Road, Melrose. Both the sections of road in question are currently subject to the National Speed Limit.

2 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 I recommend that the Eildon Area Forum approves the amendment to The Scottish Borders Council (The Borders Regional Council) (Restricted Roads) Order 1985 to allow:
 - (a) The extension of the existing 30mph speed limit on the D5/5 in Oxton; and
 - (b) The rationalisation and extension of the existing 30mph speed limit on the C75 Chiefswood Road in Melrose.

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

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In accordance with Government guidance, speed limits should seek to reinforce people's assessment of what is a safe speed to travel. Scottish Borders Council has a statutory duty to set local speed limits in situations where local needs and considerations deem it necessary for drivers to adopt a speed which is different from the national speed limit.
- 3.2 A Scottish Borders wide Speed Limit Review was carried out in 2015, to consider the representations which have been made (generally seeking lower speeds) or on sites which officers had identified as warranting investigation. Following careful consideration, two sites within the Eildon Area were identified as requiring an amendment. These were Oxton and Melrose. Details of the recommendations are outlined in the following paragraph.
- 3.3 The Speed Limit Review concluded in the following recommendations:-
 - (a) Oxton The extension of the existing 30mph speed limit on the D5/5 from its current extent at Anvil Cottage west to Duneel; and
 - (b) Melrose The rationalisation and extension of a 30mph speed limit on the C75 Chiefswood Road from its junction with the B6394 Abbotsford Road south to the access to Harleyburn House.

Both as per the drawings in Appendix A

- 3.4 As with all TROs, the Council has to undertake a two stage consultation process. Firstly there is a statutory consultation with bodies that have a direct interest such as emergency services, freight and public transport representatives and community councils. Following that process, the proposal requires to be advertised locally (local press and on-street notices) to allow others the opportunity to comment or object.
- 3.5 Statutory Consultation on the proposals was carried out from 24/11/2015 to 21/12/2015. The only body to provide feedback was Perryman's Buses expressing their support of the Melrose proposal.
- 3.6 The proposal was advertised to the public from 14/1/2016 to 5/2/2016. No comments/objections were received.

4 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial

The financial implications associated with the recommendations relates to the provision of new, or relocation of existing signage. Approximate costs are as follows:-

- a) Oxton £200 4 signs relocated; and
- b) Melrose £200 4 signs relocated.

There are also costs associated with advertising and making of the Traffic Regulation Order:

Advertising region-wide TRO £1,650

The cost would be borne by the Aids to Movement budget.

4.2 **Risk and Mitigations**

The risk of not proceeding with the recommendations is that drivers progress along the section of road at speeds inappropriate to the conditions increasing risk of injury should an accident occur.

4.3 Equalities

An Equalities Impact Assessment has been has been carried out on this proposal and it is anticipated that there are no adverse equality implications.

4.4 Acting Sustainably

There are no significant impacts on the economy, community or environment arising from the proposals contained in this report.

4.5 Carbon Management

There are no significant effects on carbon emissions arising from the proposals contained in this report.

4.6 Rural Proofing

It is anticipated there will be no adverse impact on the rural area from the proposals contained in this report.

4.7 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation

There are no changes to be made to either the Scheme of Administration or the Scheme of Delegation as a result of the proposals contained in this report.

5 CONSULTATION

5.1 The Chief Financial Officer, the Monitoring Officer, the Chief Legal Officer, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Chief Officer HR and the Clerk to the Council have previously been consulted and their comments have been incorporated into this report.

Approved by

Andrew Drummond-Hunt Signature Service Director Commercial Services

Author(s)

Name	Designation and Contact Number	
Sean Peffers	Technician (Road Safety & Traffic Management) 01835 825250	

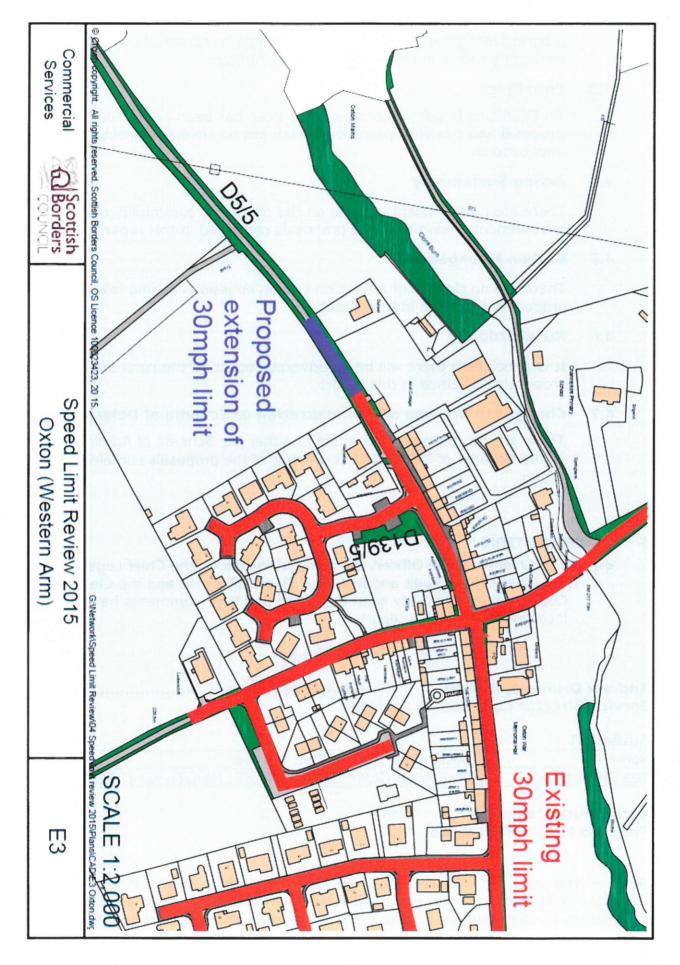
Background Papers:	None
Previous Minute Reference:	N/A

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

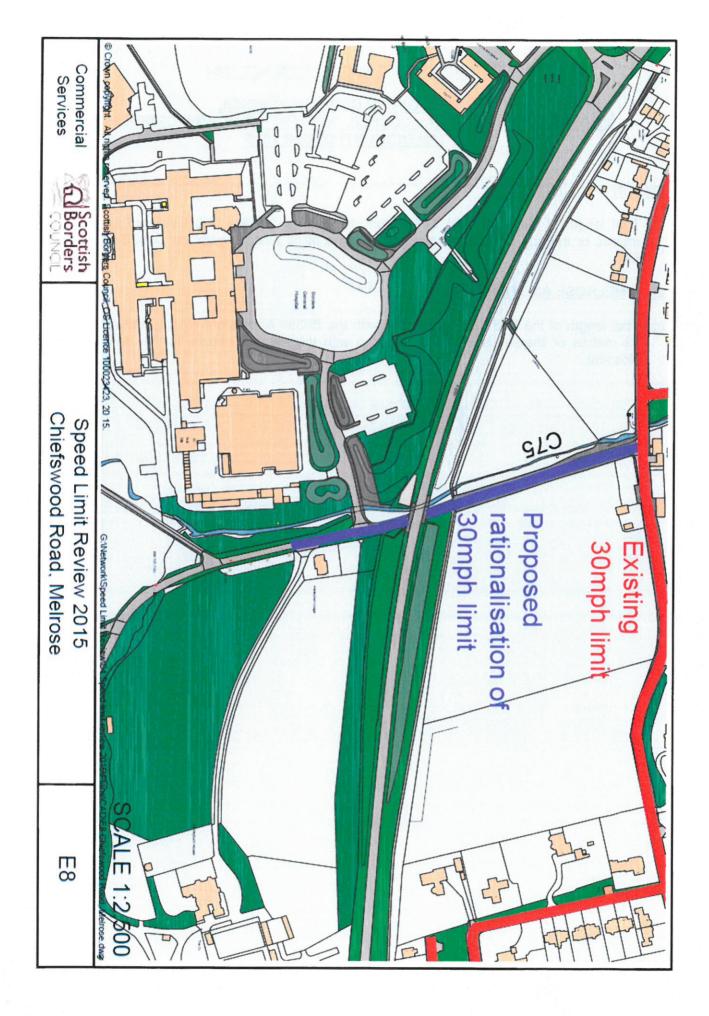
Contact us at Jacqueline Whitelaw, Place, Scottish Borders Council, Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells, Melrose, TD6 0SA, Tel 01835 825431, Fax 01835 825071, email eitranslationrequest@scotborders.gov.uk.

Eildon Area Forum - 18 February 2016

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ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

THE SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL (THE BORDERS REGIONAL COUNCIL (RESTRICTED ROADS) ORDER 1985) (AMENDMENT) ORDER 2016

OXTON

(c) That length of the D5/5 Main Street from its junction with the C83 westward to a point 126 metres or thereby west of the western kerbline of its junction with the D139/5 St Cuthbert's View.

28. MELROSE AND DARNICK

(g) That length of the C75 from its junction with the B6394 Abbotsford Road southward to a point 53 metres or thereby south of its junction with the eastern access to the Borders General Hospital.



Eildon Area Forum 18th February 2016 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Report.

Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is to inform the Eildon Area Forum on Scottish Fire and Rescue Service activity since the last forum meeting on 5th November 2015.

Within the Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2014-2017 for the Scottish Borders five priorities 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 Eildon Area

Incident type	Occurrences	Detail	Casualties
Fire- House	4(-2)	All fires occurred in single occupancy premises.	0
Fire- Open	0		0
Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals	60(-4)	1 property, BGH, has triggered intervention figure.	0
Special Service	23(+6)	Defibrillator - 2 RTC -12 Effecting entry - 2 Flooding - 3 Animal rescue - 2 (flood related)	2 5 (slight injuries) 0 0 0

Storm Desmond, Storm Frank & flooding related incidents

Since December SFRS has worked closely with partner agencies within the Scottish Borders to ensure that the correct weight of response has been available to deal with the flooding suffered by the residents of the area.

Storm Desmond

- Six SFRS stations involved to "warn & inform" in towns to assist Police Scotland.
- Over 300 people evacuated prior to flooding in Hawick
- Swift Water Rescue Teams (SRT) from Galashiels, Bathgate and Marionville and Dalkeith Flood Response Team redeployed to Hawick.
- SRT from Lochgelly and Falkirk redeployed to Galashiels as well as Sighthill fire appliance.
- Local retained stations utilised to assist SRT appliances.
- Incident Support Room (ISR) at Edinburgh Operations Control in operation and SFRS Officer positioned in "The Bunker" at St Boswells to assist co-ordinate multi agency response.
- In total twelve extra SFRS pumps and specialist teams were deployed in to the Scottish Borders.
- Resources remained in position over the weekend until all partners were confident river levels were dropping and the risk was reduced.
- Six rescues occurred such as people trapped in vehicles, persons trapped in their homes etc.

Storm Frank

- SRT from Galashiels, Bathgate and Marionville SRT and Dalkeith Flood Response Team redeployed to Peebles.
- Retained stations utilised for "warn and inform" then as part of rescue strategy.
- Local retained stations utilised to assist SRT appliances.
- SRT from Stirling and Falkirk redeployed to Galashiels as well as Sighthill fire appliance, these resources moved to Peebles early evening.
- ISR at Edinburgh Operations Control in operation and SFRS Officer deployed in "the Bunker" at St Boswells to assist co-ordinate multi agency response.
- In total twelve extra SFRS pumps and specialist teams were deployed in to Scottish Borders.
- Resources remained in position over night until all partners were confident river levels were dropping and the risk was reduced.
- Seventeen rescues occurred on this date and one Care Home evacuated by SFRS due to rising waters.

Similar cover moves were made during flash conditions, such as the heavy rain forecast on the 27th January. Similar cover moves as above were ordered to address the flood risk with in the Scottish Borders on the 27th January and several others over the last two months.

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 the 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 positive outcomes in helping to reduce overall numbers of accidental dwelling fires.

Scottish Borders Command Officers continue to attend the Safety Advisory Group meetings to ensure SFRS assist in the production of appropriate Operational Plans for events within the Scottish Borders.

Prevention and Protection

Fire prevention and protection activity is 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 that is ongoing now within the Eildon area;

- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service staffs in all our local stations provide home fire safety visits all year round. These 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.
- All stations are participating in the British Heart Foundation initiative- Call Push Rescue. This was launched on October 16th, European Heart Start day, and over 150 people in the Scottish Borders received training on that day. Stations are providing free CPR training to the public on a monthly basis to build resilience in the community and to drive down the numbers of people who die from cardiac arrest.
- All stations will soon be involved in the SFRS Out Of Hospital Cardiac Arrest (OHCA) project. This will see SFRS resources being deployed along with Ambulance crews to deal with cardiac arrests. The project is aimed at reducing the number of people who die from OHCA in Scotland by 1000 by 2020. The figure is currently at 3400 per year. Four pilots are being carried in in Scottish Borders at this time. Lauder Community Fire Station is part of the pilot programme being run in the Scottish Borders along with Hawick, Coldstream and Jedburgh stations.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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 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 Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). 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.

As we move into the summer the seasonal community safety calendar and thematic action plan will focus our activities on the following areas;

- Rubbish & Refuse fires
- Grass & Wildland Fires (Muirburn Code)
- Cooking safety
- Derelict property

We will work closely with our partners in the Scottish Borders Council Safer Communities Team as well as local partnerships to promote preventative work as well as inter agency solutions.

The LALO is in post within Council HQ in order to continue improving partnership working, with 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.

Retained Duty system

A national recruitment campaign is on-going for RDS firefighters at identified stations within the Scottish Borders.

A local initiative was run in partnership with Radio Borders that included acknowledgement to local employers for release of employees to serve their local community. There has been positive feedback from this initiative which raised a lot of awareness in respect of recruitment, as well as our attendance at the Radio Borders recruitment fair at Galashiels.

Local Fire and Rescue Plan

The Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Scottish Borders 2014- 2017 has been approved following its consultation period. The local plan sets out the priorities for the Scottish 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 Multi Ward Operating Plan for Eildon 2014/15 is complete and available within the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Web page.

Station Manager Keith Langley Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Galashiels Community Fire Station Tel 01896 752251 Email: keith.langley@firescotland.gov.uk

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