

# Public Document Pack



## CHEVIOT AREA FORUM WEDNESDAY, 1ST JUNE, 2016

A MEETING of the CHEVIOT AREA FORUM will be held in the LIBRARY, KELSO HIGH SCHOOL, BOWMONT STREET, KELSO on WEDNESDAY, 1 JUNE 2016 at 6.30 pm

J. J. WILKINSON,  
Clerk to the Council,

25 May 2016

<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 - 8)  Minute of Meeting of Cheviot Area Forum held on 3 February 2016 to be noted. (Copy attached.)	2 mins
6.	<b>Update on Dog Fouling</b>  Update on current position with the new Enforcement Officers & the 'Green Dog Walker' Initiative.	10 mins
7.	<b>Police Force of Scotland - 'J' Division Spotlight.</b>  Update report by Police Inspector detailing ongoing work and initiatives in the Cheviot area.	15 mins
8.	<b>Scottish Fire &amp; Rescue Service.</b> (Pages 9 - 14)  (a) Update report detailing ongoing work and initiatives in the Cheviot Area.  (b) Launch of ' Living Safely in the Home project'	15 mins
9.	<b>Engagement by NHS Borders Representative</b>	15 mins
10.	<b>Revenue, Capital and SB Local Works.</b> (Pages 15 - 18)	15 mins

	Consider update on the progress of the planned programme of revenue and capital works, the work undertaken by the SB Local Squad and the proposed SB Local Small Schemes for the current financial year in the Cheviot area. (Copy attached)	
11.	<b>Open Questions.</b>  Opportunity for members of the public to raise any issues not included on the agenda.	10 mins
12.	<b>Community Council Spotlight.</b>  Consider update on Skiprunningburn Flood Protection and matters of interest to Community Councils.	15 mins
13.	<b>Future Agenda Items</b>  Consider Items for Future Agendas.	10 mins
14.	<b>Any Other Items Previously Circulated.</b>	
15.	<b>Any Other Items which the Chairman Decides are Urgent.</b>	
16.	<b>Date of Next Meeting - Cheviot Area Forum.</b>  The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 14 September 2016 in Jedburgh (Venue to be confirmed.)	2 mins
17.	<b>Items Likely To Be Taken in Private</b>  Before proceeding with the private business, the following motion should be approved:-  “That under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the aforementioned Act.”	
18.	<b>Dangerous Chimney and Masonry and Defective Roof covering, Rainwater Goods and Dry Rot at 2 High Street and 12 Market Place, Jedburgh</b>  Update by Lead Officer Enforcement	20 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 Forum:-**

Scottish Borders Council Members:- Councillors T. Weatherston (Chairman), J. Brown, A. J. Nicol, S. Mountford, S. Scott, R. Stewart.

Community Council Members – one representative from each of the following Community Councils:-

Kelso – Mr. J. Bassett

Jedburgh – Mr. J. H. K. Wight (Substitute – Mr. J. Taylor)

Floors, Makerstoun, Nenthorn & Smailholm – Mr D. Stark ( Substitute – Mr A Carter)

Ednam, Stichill & Berry Moss – Vacancy

Heiton & Roxburgh – Mr Ian Burton (Substitute - Mr Rory Bell)

Kalewater - Mr E McNulty

Sprouston – Mr Norman Jarvis

Yetholm – Mrs Susan Stewart

Ancrum – Mr David Ogilvie

Crailing, Eckford & Nisbet – Mrs Caroline Cook

Jed Valley – Mr P Bridgewood

Lanton – Mr Norman Govan

Maxton & Mertoun – Mr Andrew Leitch

Oxnam – Ms Linda Johnston

St. Boswells – Mr A Drummond

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**SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL**  
**CHEVIOT AREA FORUM**

MINUTE of the MEETING of the CHEVIOT AREA FORUM held in the Assembly Room, Jedburgh Grammar School, Jedburgh on Wednesday, 3 February 2016 at 6.30 p.m.

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Present:- Councillor T Weatherston (Chairman), J. Brown, S. Mountford, A. Nicol, S. Scott, R. Stewart.  
Community Councillors D. Herriot, D. Ogilvie, E. McNulty, J. Taylor, D. Stark, Mr Matt Acton, Station Manager (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service), Inspectors John Scott and Carol Wood, (Police Scotland – J Division)

Apologies:- Community Councillors J. Bassett, A. Drummond, S. Stewart, T. Jackson, L. Johnston, P. Bridgewood, N. Jarvis, a. Leitch, G. Fry, A. Burton, Locality Team Leader (Ms K. Horsley), ,

In Attendance:- Communities and Partnership Manager (Ms. S. Smith), Area Neighbourhood Manager (Mr A. Finnie), Democratic Services Officer (Mrs F Henderson).

Members of the Public:- 1

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1. **WELCOME**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. **MINUTE**

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the Meeting of the Cheviot Area Forum of 9 December 2015.

**DECISION**

**AGREED to approve the Minute for signature by the Chairman.**

3. **HOUSEHOLD SURVEY REPORT 2015**

Ms Clare Malster, Strategic Community Engagement Officer, Scottish Borders Council, was in attendance to give a presentation on Scottish Borders Household Survey 2015. Ms Malster began by advising that the survey had been undertaken in partnership with: Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Borders Sports & Leisure Trust (BSLT), the four regional social landlords (RSLs) and Transport Scotland. The financial cost of the survey to the Council had been £11k. Ms Malster advised that 2,445 paper surveys had been returned and 261 responses completed online. A 41% response rate which was the highest response rate since 2010. Ms Malster went on to highlight some of the responses from the survey, including, satisfaction with the Council overall which had reduced slightly from 2013 from 66.8% to 61.9%. However, there had been a slight increase in the percentage that considered the Council excellent from 2.8% to 4.1% and this highlighted the Council's transformation programme to deliver a high standard of service was being maintained. Ms Malster explained that the survey showed that satisfaction with the local bus services had remained fairly consistent. There was a piece of work going forward at the moment for the operation of an improved service. As expected, satisfaction with the kerbside waste and recycling collection service had reduced from 92% in 2013 to 81%, with 14% dissatisfied compared to 5% in 2014. These figures reflected the removal of the green waste collection. Satisfaction with the service offered at recycling bring sites had reduced from 78% to 69%, which was thought to be linked to issues with the contractors not emptying banks but this

had been resolved. Ms Malster went on to highlight the top five neighbourhood problems which were: parking problems (41%), rubbish and litter (31%) anti-social driving including speeding (31%) people using or dealing drugs (16%) and unwanted callers at the door (26%). The top three priorities were in line with the Borders as a whole. Ms Malster stated that the survey result showed 68% were dissatisfied at the speed of repairs to local roads; which was consistent throughout the Borders. In conclusion Ms Malster highlighted that 94% of respondents considered their neighbourhood was a good place to live which was encouraging. Inspector Wood intimated that the top five neighbourhood problems reflected those in Police Scotland's multi ward plan. The Chairman thanked Ms Malster for her very informative presentation.

#### **DECISION NOTED.**

#### **4. SPEED LIMIT REVIEW 2015**

There had been circulated copies of a report by the Service Director Commercial Services which proposed to amend the existing speed limit in Kelso and to introduce speed limits in Clintmains and Nisbet to take account of a recent region-wide Speed Limit Review. The report explained that during 2015 a Speed Limit Review had been carried out throughout the Scottish Borders region by SBC Officers and Police Scotland. The review was carried out in accordance with Government guidance and the resulting recommendations proposed to reduce speeds on parts of the network currently covered by the National Speed Limit. There were three sites within the Cheviot Area, at Clintmains, Nisbet and Kelso (Springwood) which were currently subject to the National Speed Limit. The report went onto explain that there had been a two stage consultation process, the statutory consultation being carried out between 24 November and 21 December 2015. Response had been received from Crailing, Eckford & Nisbet Community Council requesting that the extents of the 30mph limit be extended on all three approaches to the village and that all roads in West Nisbet Steading be included in the TRO. A response had also been received from Kelso Community Council expressing support of the Kelso proposal. In terms of the request from Crailing, Eckford and Nisbet Community Council, it was considered inappropriate to extend the speed limit and the unclassified roads in West Nisbet Steading were automatically subject to the 30mph speed limit by virtue of street lighting and therefore did not require to be included in the written TRO.

#### **DECISION**

**(a) 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 as detailed in Appendix I to the report to allow:-**

- (i) The introduction of a 30mph speed limit on the B635 & C87 in;**
- (ii) The introduction of a 30mph speed limit on the B6400 and C47 in Nisbet; and**
- (iii) The introduction of a 40mph speed limit on the A699 at Springwood, Kelso**

**(b) AGREED that, subject to no objections being received by the end of the public consultation period, that the Orders detailed in Appendix B be made.**

#### **5. POLICE FORCE OF SCOTLAND – UPDATE FOR ‘J’ DIVISION**

Inspectors Carol Wood and John Scott were present at the meeting to update the Cheviot Area Forum on performance, activities and issues across the Ward for the period up to 29 January 2016. The Ward Plan Priorities for Kelso and District had been reviewed and amended and were highlighted as Dishonesty, Road Safety, Antisocial Behaviour and

Drug Dealing and Misuse of Drugs. The Ward Plan Priorities for Jedburgh and District had also been amended and were highlighted as Drug Dealing and Misuse, Road Safety, Anti-Social Behaviour and Rural Crime. In relation to the planned priorities for Kelso and District it was reported that under Drugs Dealing and Misuse of Drugs Police Scotland continued to investigate drugs offences and where appropriate use stop and search powers. Two people had been reported for drugs offences in the past two months and it was highlighted that help from the public was crucial to detect offences and where people had suspicions. In terms of Antisocial Behaviour, the casing of the Community defibrillator situated in Woodmarket, Kelso had been damaged on 1 January 2016 and positive lines of enquiry had been ongoing in relation to this and the police would like to speak to anyone who had information with regards to the crime. In terms of Thefts/Crimes of Dishonesty, during December 2015 it was reported that 2 males were detected shoplifting in Kelso, one received a 4 month custodial sentence and the other was remanded in custody. A van was broken into in the Main Street, Heiton and a large quantity of tools stolen. A man from Edinburgh was detected for the crime and reported to the Procurator Fiscal. This crime was part of a much wider series where tools were being stolen from vans and tradesmen were recommended not to keep tools in their vans where possible. It was further reported that as part of Operation snowflake a number of traffic initiatives took place across the area. There had been no detections of drink driving offences and it would appear that the Do Not Drink and Drive message was widely adhered to. The focus in the coming months would be on young drivers and speeding in built up areas within the Kelso area. Nine parking tickets and eight warnings were given in Kelso in December and seven parking tickets were issued in January. In response to a question raised about plans for dealing with Biker and Scooter rallies held in Springwood Park, Kelso Inspector Scott advised that resources would be increased, but generally those attending the rallies were well behaved. A link to the Recorded Police Warning system was requested and concerns were raised in relation to residents within Orchard Park ignoring the yellow lines and the continuing parking problem within Kelso town centre.

- 5.1 In terms of Jedburgh and District, it was reported that officers on patrol had been suspicious of a vehicle parked near to the shell petrol station in Jedburgh and as a result of a search of the vehicle the Officers recovered a large quantity of controlled substances, which were estimated to have a value of approx. £54,000, although the street value would be higher. A 45 year old male and a 33 year old female were detained and subsequently charged with possession and supplying controlled substances offences. Following their appearance at court they were released on bail. A total of five road checks were recorded for the ward area during the reporting period which resulted in one driver being issued with a fixed penalty ticket for speeding. Following an incident in Ancrum, a 28 year old male was charged with taking and driving away a vehicle without the owner's permission and other road traffic offences, including driving whilst under the influence of drugs. An 86 year old male was charged with careless driving following an accident on the A68 south of Jedburgh and other drivers in the Jedburgh and St Boswells areas had been charged with a variety of document offences. Eight parking tickets and five warnings were given in Jedburgh during December and there was an emphasis on parking enforcement during December as part of operation snowflake. In terms of anti-social behaviour, there were no fixed penalty tickets issued over the reporting period and the police continued to engage with those responsible for any youth antisocial behaviour in the ward area. Although there had been a few minor rural crimes over the last few months there was nothing of major concern. Officers were out and about at farms with the Select DNA information packs and using the opportunity to provide security advice to those living in rural areas.
- 5.2 There were increased foot patrols and road checks during the festive period and overall there were the same levels of violence or drunken disorder associated with the time of year. On the whole revellers were sensible and enjoyed the festive celebrations. The weather continued to cause issues for the local community. Weather in Jedburgh had caused chaos, with some properties within the town being flooded. Local Officers had been heavily involved in assisting the community alongside other partners in dealing with flooding

problems and would continue to respond to weather warnings. It was reported that the Recorded Police Warning Scheme had been introduced in January 2016 which allowed officers to use their discretion when dealing with minor crimes and it replaced the formal Adult Warning system. The scheme which had been extended to include 16 and 17 year olds provided frontline officers with the ability to address low level crime with an on the spot disposal. Disposal options were highlighted as verbal warning, a recorded Police Warning, a Fixed Penalty Notice and ultimately officers may still submit a formal standard Prosecution Report to the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service, depending on the nature and circumstances of each incident or crime. Warnings would provide a consistent, swifter, more effective and proportionate way of dealing with low-level offences. Inspectors Scott and Wood answered questions in relation to the presence of the unmarked police patrol continuing within Jedburgh, the Select DNA marking of property and off street parking issues in Meadow Street, Jedburgh.

## **DECISION**

**(a) NOTED the report.**

**(b) AGREED that the link for the Recorded Police Warning system be circulated to all members of the Cheviot Area Forum.**

## **6. FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE UPDATE**

Mr Matt Acton, Station Manager explained that the purpose of the report circulated was to inform the Cheviot Area Forum on Scottish Fire and Rescue Service activity since the last meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2015. It was highlighted that the report did not accurately reflect that the Fire and Rescue Service had experienced a very busy period in terms of the flooding. The report detailed that during the period of the report there had been 2 House Fires (1 Kitchen Fire and one fire in cooker) Occurrences of Fire – Open 5, occurrence of Special Services 27 and 11 unwanted Fire Alarm Signals. In relation to partnership working, The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS), Community Action Team (CAT) within the Scottish Borders core work centred on the on-going delivery of the SFRS Home Fire Safety Visit (HFSV) policy. The team continued 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 outcomes in helping to reduce overall numbers of accidental dwelling fires. Fire raising awareness sessions presented by the team to partner agency practitioners had been and continued to be successful in promoting HFSVs and encouraging agencies to make referrals using the SFRS CSET online booking system.

- 6.1 Fire prevention and protection activity over recent years had 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 provided the catalyst for a number of initiatives and schemes throughout the calendar year.
- 6.2 Activity which was ongoing within the Cheviot Ward area included Scottish Fire and Rescue Service staffs in all local stations providing Home Fire Safety Visits all year round. The visits provided 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 were provided as part of this free service; Firesharp was an initiative for Primary 6 pupils, providing face-to-face education within local Primary schools on matters of fire risk and prevention; Fire Safety Audits provided a targeted examination of business premises and their relevant documents to ascertain how the premises were being managed regarding fire safety. The enforcement officer also engaged with members of staff to confirm their level of fire safety awareness; Unwanted Fire Signals were being addressed by phased intervention actions which identified premises which were producing 'false alarms', provided guidance on how to reduce a reoccurrence. The 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 the policy had created closer ties with Social Services within Scottish Borders and ensured those people and families that fire crews identify as at risk were brought to the attention of Social Services and had resulted in joint visits to homes to reduce risk to those occupiers. There had been eight adults referred during the reporting period.

- 6.3 Community Action Team (CAT) had delivered road safety awareness to secondary schools throughout the Scottish Borders with the support of the local Whole time personnel from Galashiels and Hawick. The strong partnership with the local Domestic Abuse Advocacy Service and involvement in MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) put the Fire and Rescue Service at the forefront of delivering the agenda of outcome six of the Local Fire Plan. The LALO and Scottish Borders Station Manager for Prevention and Protection were fully involved in all local MARAC processes, attending the monthly conferences and all steering group meetings. Involvement with the inaugural twelve-month CAADA (Co-ordinated Action against Domestic Abuse) assessment had provided the additional advantage of strengthening the partnership with external stakeholders, in particular Police Scotland, Adult and Child protection services and local housing providers. Mr Acton reported that a national trial and a first for Scotland involving Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) and Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS) to increase The Winter Thematic Action plan focused on portable heater safety; electric blanket safety; safe use of candles and festive safety/fairy lights and decorations. In response to a question raised by Councillor Stewart, Mr Acton agreed to provide usage figures for the High Volume Pump. Councillor Brown thanked the firefighters deployed at Richmond Court, Jedburgh during the flooding for a tremendous job well done.

#### **DECISION**

(a) **NOTED the report.**

(b) **AGREED that usage figures for the High Volume Pump vehicle be provided to Councillor Stewart.**

#### **7. ENGAGEMENT WITH NHS BORDERS**

An update on current activity was given by Susan Manion, Chief Officer – Health and Social Care Integration. Mrs Manion reported that reviews of Clinical Services and Critical Care were ongoing. In terms of Health and Social Care Integration the key issues were outlined and the next Integrated Joint Board would be held in March with implementation scheduled for 1 April 2016.

##### **7.1 A&E Waiting Times**

In relation to A&E waiting times, Mrs Manion reported that it was recognised that NHS services were stretched at this time of year and there was a winter plan to try and alleviate pressures. The A&E Services across Scotland had met their A&E targets and exceeded them with an average of 98% of people being seen and treated within the 4 hr target.

##### **7.2 In-patient care for Jedburgh**

With reference to paragraph 9.3 of the Minute of 9 December 2015, Mrs Manion reported that she had met with Councillors Bhatia and Brown in relation to access to the Hawick Community Hospital for Jedburgh Patients. Mrs Manion reported that the reality was that the National GP contract allowed GP's to decide only to treat their own patients and there had been extensive negotiations to try and resolve the issues for Jedburgh patients. There was no way round the situation and need to work with the GP's to collectively provide the appropriate care. The GP's who oversaw the patients in the other community hospitals, including Kelso, had agreed to treat patients from Jedburgh and had access to what they needed. Access to care services locally were crucial and Mrs Manion reported that she was very proud of the work at Jedburgh Health Centre and Cheviot as a whole for their innovative ideas. The Health Board were very clear about the need for the right services to be provided from Kelso Community Hospital and people accessing these services and this would continue to be monitored.

- 7.3 Elected Members expressed frustration with the situation, as Jedburgh had been guaranteed access to Hawick Community Hospital when the Jedburgh Cottage Hospital closed. In response to questions about the possibility to re-negotiate the contract, Mrs Manion reported that there was no possibility and local arrangements were about providing the right access to services for Jedburgh through the local health centre and community hospitals.

**DECISION**

**NOTED the report.**

8. **NEIGHBOURHOOD SMALL SCHEMES UPDATE**

With reference to paragraph 11 of the Minute of 9 December 2015, there were circulated at the meeting copies of Appendices A and B which detailed the current position in terms of the Neighbourhood Small Schemes and Quality of Life Scheme previously approved. The Area Neighbourhood Manager advised that the allocated budget (£34,702) for small schemes was available through Neighbourhood Services for the Cheviot Area in 2015/16. It had previously been agreed that this budget would be split equally between Kelso and District and Jedburgh and District Wards. There remained £7,391 for Kelso and District and £8,080 for Jedburgh and District for future schemes, although any budget remaining at the close of the financial year would be lost as there was no carry forward provision. Sprouston Community Council representative advised that a request had been made regarding the bus stance and War Memorial in Sprouston and the Neighbourhood Manager advised that the matter had been passed on for costing. In response to a question about whether the level of budget for neighbourhood schemes would remain the same for the 2016/2017 Financial year, the Neighbourhood Manager advised that he had not been advised of any reduction. The Jed Valley Community Council representative sought assistance in relation to the sign for the Glen Douglas Community Hall which had fallen down. The sign was situated on the A68 and therefore the responsibility of Amey, however despite numerous attempts there had been no progress and the Neighbourhood Manager agreed to look into this.

**DECISION**

**NOTED:-**

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

9. **OPEN QUESTIONS**

There were no issues raised.

**DECISION**

**NOTED.**

10. **COMMUNITY COUNCIL SPOTLIGHT**

- 10.1 **Oxnam Road Wall, Jedburgh** – With reference to paragraphs 14 of the Minute of 9 December 2015, the Area Neighbourhood Manager reported that the only works left to complete was the surfacing, which unfortunately had had to be postponed twice due to recent weather conditions. The intention had been to undertake the work on Sunday, 31 January, however, the weather forecast made it necessary to take the decision to postpone again. Under normal circumstances this postponement information would have been passed to Ward Members and the information signage at the locus altered to inform road users of the change. The Council acknowledged that communications on this occasion had been poor and an apology had been made. There was no an alternative date, however, when available the date would be communicated through the normal channels.

**DECISION**  
**NOTED the report.**

- 10.2 **Skiprunning Burn, Jedburgh (Flood Protection Scheme)** – With reference to paragraph of the Minute of 9 December 2015, the Area Neighbourhood Manager advised that SBc Contracts continued with the construction works which commenced on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2015. The main works were 95% complete and outstanding works would be complete in the next 2 weeks. Permanent water level sensors and CCTV were still to be installed (a temporary sensor was currently in place). Following last week's flooding incident an onsite meeting with the design consultant (CH2M) and the Contractor was held to help understand how the flood event unfolded and if any minor alterations to the scheme were required.

Similar to previous flooding events debris being washed down the burn was a major contributing factor, but CH2M would look into how the flow related to previous events. The meeting identified some amendments to the existing low level brick walls that would allow any flood water to enter the culvert via the horizontal screens more easily in the future. A small amendment to the proposed fence to help contain flood water was also being made. The flood event had again proved that debris management was key to managing the flood risk from the Skiprunning Burn. It was intended to work with Neighbourhood Services to agree a procedure for managing the debris at the new grilles and how to ensure that resources, including the necessary plant, were available when required. In the meantime the site staff continued to ensure that the grilles and channel were kept clear and were liaising with the council maintenance staff regarding accessing the site during out of hours. Councillor Brown expressed disappointment that large amounts of money had been spent on the Skiprunning Burn flood protection scheme and yet there had been a significant flooding incident in the area and requested a meeting between the Jedburgh elected members and appropriate Officers. There followed considerable discussion with regard to the sensors and why the alert had not been triggered and the design of the grilles installed which appeared to have caused a problem.

**DECISION**  
**NOTED the report.**

11. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The Chairman asked all present for future agendas items. There were no items intimated at the time and the Chairman advised that any suggestions could be passed to him at any time for consideration.

**DECISION**  
**NOTED.**

12. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Chairman confirmed that the next meeting of the Cheviot Area Forum was scheduled for Wednesday, 30 March 2016 in Kelso.

**DECISION**  
**NOTED the date of the next meeting of the Cheviot Area Forum and that the venue was to be confirmed.**

*The meeting concluded at 8.00 p.m.*

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“Keeping People Safe”



**Cheviot Area Forum 1<sup>st</sup> 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 Cheviot Area Forum on Scottish Fire and Rescue Service activity since the last report to the forum on 30<sup>th</sup> 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 Cheviot Area**

Incident type	Occurrences	Detail	Casualties
Fire- House	2	Cooking related	0
Fire- Open	7	Chimney fires- 2 Fire in open- 5	0 0
Special Service	10	RTC- 4 Defibrillator – 1 Animal rescue – 1 Effecting entry – 3 Fuel spill- 1	4 1 0 1 0
Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals	18	Non Deliberate	0

### **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 Cheviot 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

## **NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED**

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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

## NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

- **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;

- Grass and Wildland fires
- Deliberate fires

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

- Grass and Wildland fires
- Rubbish and refuse fires
- Outdoor fire 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.

**Retained Duty system**

A national recruitment campaign is currently under way for RDS Firefighters within the Scottish Borders. Kelso is currently at full establishment and a successful candidate has been appointed to fill 1 vacancy at Jedburgh.

**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 Cheviot is now complete and available to elected members and is available within the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Web page.

Station Manager Matt Acton  
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service  
Duns Fire Station  
Tel 01361 884504  
Email: [matt.acton@firescotland.gov.uk](mailto:matt.acton@firescotland.gov.uk)

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

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### **Report by Service Director Neighbourhood Services**

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## **CHEVIOT AREA FORUM**

**1 June 2016**

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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 Cheviot members: install dropped kerb at St. Andrews Church, Kelso; erect notice board at Nisbet Village; provision of carpet bedding display at Kelso War Memorial; install additional telegraph pole at Ancrum bottle bank; and resurface access to Crailing Church.

### **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 **I recommend that the Cheviot Area Forum:**
- (a) **approves the following new Neighbourhood Small Schemes for implementation:-**

(i)	<b>Install dropped kerb at St Andrews Church, Kelso.</b>	<b>£1,137</b>
(ii)	<b>Erect notice board at Nisbet Village.</b>	<b>£760</b>
(iii)	<b>Provision of carpet bedding display at War Memorial, Kelso</b>	<b>£2,710</b>
(iv)	<b>Installation of additional telegraph pole at Ancrum Bottle Bank</b>	<b>£1,814</b>
(v)	<b>Resurface access to Crailing Church</b>	<b>£2,970</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.**
  - (d) **agrees to delegate authority to the Service Director Neighbourhood Services to allocate the funds for the current financial year to Neighbourhood Small Schemes, subject to consultation with and approval by all six members of the Cheviot Area Forum through email.**

### **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 Cheviot Area:-

- (a) Install a dropped kerb to assist pedestrian/wheelchair access within the build out in front of St Andrews Church, Abbey Court, Kelso (£1,137). This request was made on behalf of the church.
  - (b) Supply & erect notice board at Nisbet Village (£760). This request was received from a local Ward Councillor.
  - (c) Supply, install and maintain carpet bedding display at the War Memorial, Kelso. This is to commemorate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Town Hall (£2,710). This request was received from Friends of Kelso Museum.
  - (d) To install an additional telegraph pole at the existing bottle bank within Ancrum Village. This allows the re-routing of the telephone cables to enable the contractor to empty the banks (£1,814). This request was received from a local Ward Member.
  - (e) To resurface the access to Crailing Church. The existing surface is of gravel and is proving to be difficult for wheelchair users and on the occasions of funerals (£2,970). This request was received from a local Ward Member.
- 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 Scheme as detailed in Appendix A to this report.
- 3.4 Updates on previously approved Quality of Life Scheme as detailed in Appendix B to this report.

### **4 IMPLICATIONS**

#### **4.1 Financial**

- (a) A budget of £47,099 is available through Neighbourhood Services for small schemes in the Cheviot Area in 2016/17. If the above schemes are approved, then there will be a remaining budget of £25,311 for future schemes.

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

- (b) In addition, a budget of £31,072 is available for Quality of Life schemes in the Cheviot Area in 2016/17. It has been agreed previously that this budget will be split equally between the Kelso & District and Jedburgh & District Wards. There is a remaining budget of £11,422 in Kelso & District Ward and £14,372 in Jedburgh & District Ward for future schemes.

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

#### 4.2 Risk and Mitigations

If the 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 2.1.

#### 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 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 into the final report.

#### Approved by

**Jenni Craig**  
**Service Director Neighbourhood Services**

**Signature .....**

#### Author(s)

Name	Designation and Contact Number
Alistair Finnie	Neighbourhood Area Manager (Cheviot) 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, Place, Scottish Borders Council, Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells, Melrose, TD6 0SA, Tel 01835 825431, Fax 01835 825071, email [eittranslationrequest@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:eittranslationrequest@scotborders.gov.uk).





CHEVIOT AREA  
QUALITY OF LIFE SCHEMES

APPENDIX B

Location/Project	Work Description	Status <sup>1</sup>	Price	Available Budget	Comments
Brought Forward 2015/16				£11,072	
2016/17				£20,000	
<b>Total Budget available for Quality of Life Schemes</b>				<b>£31,072</b>	
<b>Kelso &amp; District</b>				<b>£15,402</b>	
Rutherford Square, Kelso	Provision of planters completed with shrubs	Partial complete	£325	£15,077	
Back Lane, Town Yetholm	Upgrade parking area	Agreed	£935	£14,142	
Friends of Kelso Museum	Contribution to support activities for 200th Anniversary	Completed	£2,720	£11,422	
<b>Jedburgh &amp; District</b>				<b>£15,670</b>	
St.Boswells Community Council	Contribution towards design of foundation (War Memorial)	Completed	£775	£14,895	
St.Boswells Community Council	Contribution to install marker posts at The Green	Completed	£523	£14,372	
<b>Remaining Balance for Quality of Life Schemes</b>				<b>£25,794</b>	

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