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## SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL TEVIOT AND LIDDESDALE AREA PARTNERSHIP

MINUTES of Meeting of the TEVIOT AND LIDDESDALE AREA PARTNERSHIP held in Hawick High School, Hawick on Tuesday, 16 April 2019 at 6.30 pm

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Present:- Councillors N Richards (Chairman) W McAteer, D Paterson, C Ramage and G Turnbull.  
In Attendance:- 24 Partners, Community Councillors, officers and members of the public.

### 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairman, Councillor Richards, welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Teviot and Liddesdale Area Partnership and thanked Community Councillors, Partners and local organisations for their attendance.

### 2. CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL IN PUBLIC PLACES

2.1 The Chairman also extended a welcome to Brian Frater - Regulatory Service Director Regulatory Services, and Susan Elliot - Alcohol & Drugs Partnership Coordinator, who were in attendance to advise of Scottish Borders Council's consultation on the Consumption of Alcohol in Public Places. Mr Frater explained that in 2014, the Council had considered the introduction of byelaws to prohibit drinking in public places. Following a consultation process, in 2018, the Council decided not to introduce byelaws due to a range of factors including the changes in licensing laws and the low level of response to the original consultation. The Council did however agreed to a new consultation which had been launched in Tweeddale, with over 300 responses already received. The purpose of the consultation was to determine the views of the community, to inform the Council in considering if there were areas in the Scottish Borders where drinking alcohol in public places were causing problems. Mr Frater encouraged participation in the consultation, copies of the questionnaire were available on the tables and the Council's website. The closing date for responses was 9 June. Following an analysis of the responses, subject to the responses received, a further consultation exercise may be carried out in the autumn, with a report back to Council by the end of 2019.

2.2 Mr Frater responded to a number of questions raised explaining that the byelaws would cover any public places not covered by a licence e.g. public parks. There could be exemptions for events such as Common Ridings and Rugby Sevens. Occasional licences could also be granted for special events. If introduced, the Police would enforce the byelaws; Police Scotland and NHS Borders were key partners in the consultation process. Regarding devolving the decision to Area Partnerships, Mr Frater advised that Area Partnerships could make recommendations to Council, but ultimately the decision was made by Scottish Ministers.

2.3 Ms Elliot went on to highlight that one in four adults were drinking to excess and that children exposed to alcohol by parents were more likely to drink alcohol. NHS Borders' view was that the introduction of byelaws would be an effective tool to reduce consumption and could change the mind-set of the public around the availability of alcohol; restriction could also help in terms of people's overall health. In response to a question, Ms Elliot explained that the impact of minimum pricing had not yet been analysed. However, anecdotal information showed that consumption patterns had improved. The Chairman thanked Mr Frater and Ms Elliot for their attendance and encouraged everyone to participate in the consultation.

3. **FEEDBACK FROM MEETING ON 19 FEBRUARY 2019**

The Minute of the meeting of the Teviot and Liddesdale Area Partnership held on 19 February 2019 had been circulated. A summary of the discussion on the theme 'our quality of life was attached as an appendix to the Minute. Tonights' table discussion would discuss each theme and ensure that we had captured everything and had the right priorities.

4. **DRAFT TEVIOT AND LIDDESDALE LOCALITY PLAN**

The Communities & Partnership Manager, Shona Smith, explained that the Draft Locality Plan, which had been circulated with the agenda, took into account all the comments and feedback from discussions that had taken place at the previous four themed meetings of the Area Partnership. The priorities and key priorities about what was important and what would make a difference to the lives of people in the Teviot and Liddesdale area, within each theme, had been identified and listed in the draft plan. Those present were now asked to review the draft and assess whether the plan had missed any significant areas of discussion and to consider if they agreed with the priorities and key priorities that had been identified. It was explained that there would be a 20 minute discussion on each of the four themes within the draft plan with a facilitator responsible for that theme moving between each of the four tables to record the input. For each theme the questions were asked. Whether you agree with the priorities raised; has anything been missed; what would success look like; how can we work in partnership to achieve this; and how do I get involved'? Feedback from the discussions on the draft would be used to inform development of the Teviot and Liddesdale Locality Plan. It was noted that Local Community Action Plans and Learning Community Partnership Plans would also form part of the Locality Plan.

5. **LOCALITY BID FUND UPDATE**

Gillian Jardine, gave an update on the Localities Bid Fund (LBF). There had been a good response to the process, the deadline for which was the of February. Teviot and Liddesdale had £40k to allocate. Officers were now in the process of communicating with groups to go forward to a public vote. Ms Jardine went on to explain the registration process and that voting would be online or at the one day public event. Further details on the process and timescales would be confirmed soon.

6. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Neighbourhood Small Schemes

The Chairman referred to a note by the Service Director and Infrastructure, copies of which had been circulated to Members at the meeting. The note requested Members' approval to delegate authority to the Service Director Assets & Infrastructure to approve Small Scheme applications in 2019/20 subject to the criterial detailed in the note.

**DECISION**

**AGREED to delegate authority to the Service Director Assets & Infrastructure to approve Small Scheme applications in 2019/20, subject to the conditions detailed in the report.**

7. **OPEN FORUM**

In response to a question, the Chairman advised that the Council would not be introducing car parking charges or a tourist tax.

8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 11 JUNE 2019**

The next meeting of the Teviot and Liddesdale Area Partnership was scheduled for Tuesday 11 June 2019. The venue would be confirmed in due course. Ms Smith explained that the meeting would develop actions on quality of life to work towards achieving priorities. Following a discussion members of the Area Partnership asked that all four themes be discussed at the next meeting, that the Area Partnership be

restructured, Community Council Spotlight be reinstated and that Area Forums be reintroduced.

***The meeting concluded at 8.30 pm***

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<b>Draft Locality Plan – Economy, Skills &amp; Learning</b>		
<b>Priority</b>	<b>Success</b> What would success look like? (Measures)	<b>Partnership</b> How can we work in partnership together?
Learning and training which is accessible and affordable and which meets the needs of all individuals including local employers	<p>Borders College buses are timetabled to run at times which suit students and meet their needs</p> <p>Employers to offer shared Modern Apprenticeships to enable more businesses and services to offer Modern Apprenticeships</p>	
Fast, reliable broadband and mobile connectivity for all communities and businesses		
Promote and support local and big business developments including Hawick’s business incubator centre and offer support to businesses who need to diversify		
Promote alternative routes into employment, including the Centre of Excellence in Textiles Profile key areas for economic growth to inform business development and investigate opportunities for new industry		

# Teviot & Liddesdale Area Partnership

Improve transport and road connectivity and consider the potential economic growth from connecting with Carlisle airport and Border Railway	Local and new industry development is shaped by the opportunities local transport provides	
Continue the development of a strong tourist offer and build on the profile created by Visit Scotland and Midlothian and Borders Tourism Action Group		

# Teviot & Liddesdale Area Partnership


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**Draft Locality Plan – Environment & Place**

- Special/more consideration given to rurality/countryside
- Transport: infrastructure; have to have a car; need to create the connections
- Newcastleton Development Plan
- Take the Area Partnership meetings out of Hawick?

**Lack of rurality is the theme**

<p><b>Priority</b></p>	<p><b>Success</b> What would success look like? (Measures)</p>	<p><b>Partnership</b> How can we work in partnership together?</p>
<p>Regenerate the town centre <b>(Hawick) and villages</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should be the catalyst</li> <li>• Scottish Towns Fund £50M.</li> <li>• CARS Scheme = 7 buildings</li> <li>• Bringing back to life/Where is the buzz?</li> </ul>	<p>Attractive Difficult when business rates too high Low footfall so success would be higher footfall</p> <p>How to leverage investment (STF £50M &amp; CARS)</p> <p>Area will see a drop in population over the years A year’s pilot re. planning Hotel – accommodation. PEEL building? Reinvent the High Street Cultural Centre Mixed High Street Knitwear - only one shop</p> <p>Full Asset Appraisal needed (people/skills/opportunities) – whole town approach 2017 Rydens – vacant land register (1 hectare) – only part of the picture</p> <p>Rural regeneration grants for the high street</p>	<p>SBC Economic Development Relationship Manager? What could it be used for? Is the governance right for Area Partnership? – rural vs urban, and who’s involved</p> <p>Everyone working together – better “planning”– not just planning, e.g. economic development, local people etc. Better local reflection in service delivery</p> <p>Joined up thinking Planning</p>
<p>Use vacant land and empty buildings for housing and business opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Put a number to this</li> <li>- Links with affordable and specialist homes priority</li> </ul>	<p>e.g. PEEL Building, Howgate</p> <p>Who owns them? Don’t want to open them up / Absentee landlords (tax losses) Can local authorities use commercial loans to help the above? Using brownfield sites Empty properties above shop fronts / town centre properties Street level occupancy – got to be <u>lived in</u></p>	<p>Marketing the opportunities and access to it Who is doing what / what info is available. Communications Area Partnerships - what’s the Hawick pitch? Are we talking it up? Streamlining the process How best to welcome Use Land Reform Act</p>
<p>A long term plan for environmentally friendly, sustainable housing and industrial building development and an increase in renewable energy projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- what types of projects</li> </ul>	<p><u>Conservation status changed!</u> Main issues report</p>	

# Teviot & Liddesdale Area Partnership

<p>Increase affordable and specialist homes to meet <u>need in the locality</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Need in the locality = critical</li> <li>- 75% population in Hawick</li> </ul>	<p>Use existing housing stock          What do we mean by specialist?          Are we matching the demographic changes?          What do we mean? Older people? People with disabilities?          How do we change existing housing stock in the local community – don't take people out. Different approach? - extra care?          Whole range of accommodation          Adapted homes          Newcastleton – empty social housing (Eildon) - not presented appropriately (how to market)</p>	<p>Registered Social Landlords (Waverley, etc.)          – changing priorities, not imposing impractical policies</p> <p>RSL – need to review letting policy          - New application process – 1<sup>st</sup> May</p>
<p>Improve pathways around the locality to improve connectivity</p>	<p>Improvement through Flood Protection Scheme          Armstrong building – will help with this          Joined up rural pathways around the locality</p>	<p>Forestry</p>
<p><b>Regenerate the rural economy</b>          (better under Economy, Skills &amp; Learning?)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- sheep farming</li> <li>- forestry</li> <li>- National Park (could be a vehicle)</li> </ul>	<p>Tourism          Diversification – ice cream, specialist products, holiday lets          Support in diversification &amp; marketing          (what are the pathways)</p>	<p>Ride Borders – town of the horse</p>
<p><b>Extension of the railway</b></p>	<p>Where to put the stations and the locale          Making people want to come          History, culture, heritage</p>	
<p>Other comments:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What story could be told?</li> <li>• How do you stop tourists in the town?</li> <li>• What's the hook?</li> <li>• What will make people want to come to Hawick</li> <li>• History, culture, heritage</li> <li>• Hotels</li> <li>• Make more of Hawick assets (River – riverside walk/flood protection scheme)</li> <li>• Jewel in the crown is the landscape – protect the landscape (National Park)</li> <li>• Create community arts centre (more than Heart of Hawick)</li> <li>• Newcastleton – redaction of conservation status/planning changes? – it's burdening people with additional costs</li> <li>• Make best use of abandoned houses</li> <li>• Build in more local interest</li> <li>• Development Trust Association Scotland (DTAS) &amp; Planning Aid for Scotland (PAS)</li> <li>• People wanting to come here – investment, what's the draw?</li> <li>• Recycling facilities – better place to put these? And how is this developed? What is being done elsewhere?</li> <li>• Better connections across the public and third sectors - Better communication of the content / messaging</li> </ul>	<p>Waste Services</p>

<b>Draft Locality Plan – Health, Care &amp; Wellbeing</b>		
<b>Priority</b>	<b>Success</b> What would success look like? (Measures)	<b>Partnership</b> How can we work in partnership together?
To communicate more effectively what treatment and support health services offer and to improve access to services	Support individuals to upskill/ develop digital skills. Wider access to broadband/improved broadband access in people’s homes Access to areas with broadband (eg Newcastleton need access to Primary School)  Wider Awareness of help that is available Clear picture/ understanding of who is responsible for what	All- re supporting each other to upskill  GPs H+SC SBC NHS B
Improve the availability and accessibility of services for people living in rural areas and towns across Teviot	Access to service beyond traditional methods – increase use of skype- need better broadband and digital skills/upskilling. Greater flexibility in community transport Services that are accessible for people with dementia Greater flexibility in the way NHS operates- make agencies aware of what is available at local level. Eg village halls ( May be it is being delivered by 3 <sup>rd</sup> sector)  Continuation and expansion of outreach services eg What Matters Hubs What Matters Hubs in more areas Reduced Loneliness- postman can be the only person some people see	Health and social care partnership NHS B SBC H+SC Partnership
Increase the availability of locally based rehabilitation services		
Increase the range of care and supporting options across the locality to enable people to remain in their own homes and communities	Continuity of carer- especially important for people with dementia	

## Teviot & Liddesdale Area Partnership

<p>Increase the range of housing options available across the locality</p>	<p>Increase specialist housing e.g. for elderly/ single people</p>	<p>SBC Housing strategy Team RSLs</p>
<p>Develop robust preventative services and early intervention for long term conditions</p>	<p>People being more active (physically and mentally) Correctly identify the problem Increase number of school nurses (reduce mental health issues for children and young people) Increases confidence for children and young people Education around mental health and other illnesses</p>	<p>Community Partnership with Public services Scottish Youth parliament NHS  Teachers SBC</p>
<p>Improve support for unpaid carers- <i>including young carers</i></p>	<p>Increased respite/day care services</p>	<p>NHS , Community, 3<sup>rd</sup> sector, SB cares</p>
<p>Increase the availability and accessibility of local activities and information to improve health and well-being</p>		
<p>Increase choice of NHS dentists</p>		
<p>Publication of info about transport grants available</p>	<p>Improved awareness of grants/ support available</p>	<p>NHS B</p>

## Teviot & Liddesdale Area Partnership

<b>Increase transparency around who to contact for what</b>	Service directory	All community planning partners
<b>Increase transport to access health services</b>	Integrated transport solution Affordable community transport infrastructure Better redirection of services	SBC 3 <sup>RD</sup> sector Private sector delivery services used to provide transport Everyone (Including increase in number of volunteers)
<b>Community Councils should have increased responsibility to include monitoring eg. What Matters Hubs</b>	Change to CC responsibilities should be including a review of CC scheme of establishment	SBC NHS Community Councils H+SC Partnership

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<b>Draft Locality Plan – Quality of life</b>		
<b>Priority</b>	<b>Success</b> What would success look like? (Measures)	<b>Partnership</b> How can we work in partnership together?
Improve communication of activities and services available in the locality and make it easier for groups to share their news	More signboards- Where are they? How do we access them? Community Cafes- Community managers in supermarkets? Community Councils 'Copshaw Clatter' Community Hospital xx £1? What matters hubs	Pop up Shop? Community Café x3 in Hawick high street Super lunch at congregational church. 70 Volunteers £2.50 Use of community Transport- Teviot Wheels
Provide activities and learning opportunities which respond to the needs of children and young people with an emphasis on early intervention and education	0300 SBC Number is difficult to access. Who are they officers to contact? Coffee Mornings, Community Learning Centre Raise Confidence- Aspiration Newcastleton trails with forestry commission- No funding Burnfoot community hub fashion course	xxxxx Burnfoot community hub Broadband/wifi Community transport
Have a clearer understanding of what levels of anti-social behaviour exist and how services can efficiently promote community safety	Wilton lodge park- CAT No response to Newcastleton invite from CAT Burnfoot carnival invited CAT Team rest day	
Ensure leisure and culture services are accessible in rural and urban areas and are	Community What's on What's on- Live borders/heart of Hawick	

## Teviot & Liddesdale Area Partnership

responsive to the needs of local users		
Encourage people to look after their local area and take pride in where they live		