

### Meeting

**Date:** Thursday, 2 September 2021  
**Time:** 6.30pm  
**Location:** Via Microsoft Teams

### AGENDA

1.	<b>Welcome and Meeting Protocols</b>
2.	<b>Feedback from meeting of 1 July</b> (Pages 5 - 22) Consider minute of the meeting held on 1 July. (Copy attached).
<b>Section 1: Service and Partner Updates and Consultation</b>	
3.	<b>Place making update</b>
4.	<b>Participatory Budgeting update</b>
5.	<b>Scottish Fire and Rescue Service</b> Update from Donald McNeil, Station Commander
6.	<b>Area Partnership Consultation update</b>
<b>Section 2: Local Priorities</b>	
7.	<b>Community Assistance Hub update</b>
<b>Section 3: Community Empowerment and Community Funding</b>	
8.	<b>Berwickshire Community Fund 2020/21 evaluation from Cockburnspath Community Shop</b>
9.	<b>Funding table overview</b> (Pages 23 - 24)
10.	<b>Berwickshire Community Fund Code of Conduct for Assessment Panel Members</b> (Pages 25 - 28) Consider document for agreement. (Copy attached.)

11.	<p><b>Community fund process and applications</b> (Pages 29 - 30)</p> <p>(a) Allanton Village Hall  (b) Parent Space  (c) Cockburnspath Allotment Association  (d) Berwickshire Association for Voluntary Service (BAVS)</p> <p>Document attached.</p>
12.	<p><b>Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund applications</b> (Pages 31 - 48)</p> <p>Consider three applications for funding (assessments attached):</p> <p>(a) Roxburgh &amp; Berwickshire CAB  (b) Eyemouth Enhancement Group  (c) A Heart for Duns</p>  <p>The logo features the text 'BUILD BACK A BETTER BORDERS RECOVERY FUND' and 'OPEN 01 JUNE 2021 - 31 MAY 2022' next to a QR code.</p>
13.	<p><b>Community Ownership Funding</b></p> <p>Information provided within additional document.</p>
<b>Section 4: Other</b>	
14.	<p><b>Additional information for noting</b> (Pages 49 - 52)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For information on current consultations, community information and useful links, see the Additional Information document (attached)</li> <li>For information on the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 see the Area Partnerships' information pack: <a href="#">Community engagement, planning and ownership   Area Partnership information pack   Scottish Borders Council (scotborders.gov.uk)</a></li> <li>Meeting evaluation: To evaluate this meeting of the Berwickshire Area Partnership please go to: <a href="https://forms.office.com/r/5chiRdUpbc">https://forms.office.com/r/5chiRdUpbc</a></li> </ul> <p>The form will be available from 6:30pm on Thursday 2 September until 11:45pm on 7 September</p>
15.	<p><b>Next Area Partnership meeting</b></p> <p>Next meeting scheduled for 2 December 2021 (agenda to be issued 18 November 2021).</p> <p>Are there any items you would like to propose for the agenda?  Please contact your local councillor or the Communities &amp; Partnership Team</p>
16.	<p><b>Any other formal business</b></p>
17.	<p><b>Future meeting dates</b></p> <p>3 February 2022</p>

	3 March 2022 9 June 2022
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## SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL BERWICKSHIRE AREA PARTNERSHIP

MINUTES of Meeting of the  
BERWICKSHIRE AREA PARTNERSHIP  
held Via MS Teams on Thursday, 1 July  
2021 at 6.30 pm

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- Present:- SBC Councillors: J. A. Fullarton (Chairman), C. Hamilton, D. Moffat and M. Rowley.  
Other organisations' attendees: Ms J. Amaral (BAVS), Mr J. Brown (Swinton & Ladykirk CC), Mr L. Brown (A Heart for Duns), Mr K. Dickinson (Gavinton, Fogo & Polworth CC), Mr B. Forrest (Reston & Auchencrow CC), Mr R. Hamilton, Ms A. McNeill (A Heart for Duns), Mr D. McNeill (Scottish Fire & Rescue Service), Mr A. Mitchell (Duns CC), Ms P. Rigby (SBC Youth Engagement Worker), Ms J. Sutton (Cockburnspath Community).
- Apologies:- Councillors J. Greenwell and H. Laing.
- In Attendance:- Mr D. Lawlor (Scottish Futures Trust), Locality Development Co-ordinator (G. Jardine), Clerk to the Council.
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### 1. **WELCOME AND MEETING PROTOCOLS**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Berwickshire Area Partnership. The meeting was held via Microsoft Teams and the Chairman outlined how the meeting would be conducted and how those both in the meeting and watching via the Live Stream could take part.

### 2. **FEEDBACK FROM MEETINGS**

The Minutes of the meetings of the Berwickshire Area Partnership held on 20 May and 10 June 2021 had been circulated. With reference to the last sentence in paragraph 2.2 of the Minute of 10 June 2021, regarding consensus, it was agreed that the reference to "1 or 2 people" in dissent would be amended to the "mood of the room" to better reflect the discussion at the meeting.

### **DECISION**

**AGREED the Minutes of meetings held on 20 May and 10 June 2021, subject to an amendment to the last sentence in paragraph 2.2 of the Minute of 10 June 2021, so that it would now read "In response to a question about consensus, Ms Wilkinson further confirmed that this not mean 100% agreement. It was agreed that this would reflect the general mood of the room instead."**

### 3. **PLACE MAKING - CO-PRODUCING THE FUTURE OF OUR PLACES**

3.1 With reference to paragraph 11 of the Minute of 4 March 2021, the Chairman introduced Mr Diarmaid Lawlor, of Scottish Futures Trust, to facilitate a brief workshop around Place Making. Mr Lawlor explained that the context for the discussion would cover the What, Why and How of learning from Covid & lockdowns:

- What – working better together around local needs
- Why – build on Covid experiences and support community ambitions
- How – shared principles/way of working on local priorities, alignment and simplification.

The format for the workshop was based on three questions around: ambition and key issues in the community; success criteria; and principles – how we could better work together. Mr Lawlor led the discussion and made real-time notes to summarise the

comments and points made. A number of points were raised: resilient communities working well together; rural farming community; natural networks to be fostered; voluntary sector undervalued; recognising micro-priority areas; use of a bottom up approach; the importance of connectivity in terms of broadband and also road, rail and bus; the opportunities around re-opening Reston Station; success would mean more young people staying in the Borders, families moving to work here, decentralisation; size of population an issue; affordable housing; making best use of digital opportunities at home, at work, and in an entrepreneurial way.

- 3.2 The Chairman explained that a summary of the workshop discussions across all the Area Partnerships would inform a report to Council at the end of August to set out the detail of the place making approach. Subject to Council approval, the first place-making events would begin in Autumn 2021. The Chairman thanked Mr Lawlor for attending and facilitating the workshop and for all those who had taken part in the discussion. A summary of the context and key points of the workshop are appended as Appendices 1 and 2 to this Minute.

#### 4. **CONSULTATIONS**

Ms Gillian Jardine, Locality Development Co-ordinator, advised that the consultation on the future and potential changes to the five Area Partnerships was open until 1 August, so there was still an opportunity to have a say in how the model should evolve and how meetings should be run.

#### 5. **BERWICKSHIRE COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE HUB**

An update on the operation of the Berwickshire Community Assistance Hub had been given on the agenda for the meeting. Since that had been published, Ms Jardine, Locality Development Co-ordinator, advised that there had been an increase in the numbers of positive Covid cases or households having to self-isolate. This had meant an increase in welfare calls and referrals for assistance e.g. financial, access to food, picking up prescriptions, etc. This was the case across the Borders and not limited to Berwickshire.

#### 6. **EYEMOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Mr Steve Renwick, Project Manager, and Mr John Butcher, Education lead for the project, joined the meeting and gave an update on the proposals for Eyemouth Primary School. Mr Renwick explained that, following a Citizen Space consultation, strong community support had been shown for 2 of the 3 options with a distinct favourite in adopting a campus-style solution. A report had been considered by Council which had agreed to go ahead with the formal education consultation which would start at the beginning of the new academic year in August and run for 30 days. This consultation would focus on the educational benefits. Mr Butcher explained that this was a statutory consultation, with a formal document produced and distributed. It would outline the proposed rebuild of the Primary School in a new campus arrangement which would be located within the boundaries of the High School within the town. This would focus early years, primary and secondary provision, and also develop the young workforce, all in the one location. The formal consultation would require public meetings to be held to outline the education case and then people could formally respond. A report would be produced for Council to make a decision and then this would be sent to Scottish Government for their consideration. The decision of Council would either be agreed or it could be called in for further examination, after which it could be agreed, amendments requested or refused, although the latter was unlikely. Mr Butcher had been heartened by the discussion on place making earlier in the meeting to capitalise on the Borders. In education terms, the aim was for young people to have an excellent education and play a full part in their community. The Inspire Learning programme gave young people opportunities to learn through a digital platform, which was unique in Scotland. It was all about collaboration and working together, building on community. Eyemouth was a distinct community with its surrounding towns and villages, and by building a new Primary School wing and early years facility, this would offer young people the opportunity through the years to build relationships with staff and each other; to get specialist support when needed; and access

high quality, first class learning. Staff could work together and share best practice to develop children's skills from the age of two. Parents would know that their children were in a safe environment. Both the Head teachers in the Primary School and High School were supportive and collaborating on the project. The Area Partnership welcomed the update, which was a really progressive opportunity for the Eyemouth community.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned for 10 minutes to allow for a comfort break.

### **7. BERWICKSHIRE COMMUNITY UPDATE**

7.1 Ms Juliana Amaral advised of BAVS sessions on the Community Recovery Fund with the next meeting due on 5 July at 3pm, the aim being to create partnerships and this space was useful to share ideas. BAVS was also recruiting for a Board member (Trustee) and was particularly interested in hearing from younger people and those from different backgrounds.

7.2 Ms Jennie Sutton gave an update on the Cockburnspath Community Shop which had received £10k of funding and had opened one month previously. The shop was run by 2 managers, 16 volunteers and a young person was currently being recruited through the Kickstart programme. The shop had received huge compliments from the local community; predominantly sold local food and artisan products; was used by both locals and walkers; and overall was a great success. A second online poll had now been launched the previous weekend for Cockburnspath and Cove, on transport, services and facilities, and already 500 responses had been received.

### **8. BERWICKSHIRE COMMUNITY FUND ASSESSMENT PANEL**

With reference to paragraph 2 of the Minute of 10 June 2021, the Locality Development Co-ordinator, Ms Jardine advised that there had been six applications to join the Assessment Panel. All were strong candidates who went beyond the criteria and Ms Jardine was pleased to say that all six had been appointed. The Area Partnership noted that James Anderson, Keith Dickinson, Andrew Mitchell, Anne McNeill, David Scott, and Rachael Wood had been appointed by the Service Director Customer & Communities. As the Panel had space for eight people, applications could still be received from anyone wishing to be considered for appointment. The Clerk to the Council confirmed that should the number of voting members of the Assessment Panel remain at six, then the quorum for meetings could be reduced to four until a full complement of members was achieved. SBC Elected Members were not counted as part of the quorum as they were non-voting members of the Panel.

### **9. BERWICKSHIRE COMMUNITY FUND**

The Locality Development Co-ordinator, Ms Jardine, advised that no applications had yet been received for the Berwickshire Community Fund and reminded everyone that applications needed to be received by the end of July for consideration at the Area Partnership meeting on 2 September 2021. In response to a question, Ms Jardine confirmed that the Fund was being promoted on social media and there had been some local press coverage on the recruitment of members to the Community Fund Assessment Panel. A further push would be made and the link to the application was issued at the meeting ([Community Fund 2021-22 | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/community-fund-2021-22)). In previous years in Berwickshire, it tended to be mid to the end of the year before applications came in to the Fund.

### **10. BUILD BACK A BETTER BORDERS RECOVERY FUND**

The Locality Development Co-ordinator, Ms Jardine, gave details of the Build Back a Better Borders Fund, which was new funding available for projects for recovery from Covid linked to culture, sport, the environment, recognising volunteers, etc. A link to the Fund was provided at the meeting ([Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/build-back-a-better-borders-recovery-fund)). The Chairman confirmed that this was a one-off Fund

to help communities recover from Covid, which was open now and he encouraged applications from community groups.

11. **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR NOTING**

The Area Partnership noted the current community information and useful links which had been circulated with the agenda and also the information contained in the Area Partnerships' information pack.

12. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Berwickshire Area Partnership was scheduled for 2 September 2021 at 6:30pm and would be held via MS Teams. Everyone was encouraged to submit items for the agenda.

13. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS/OPEN FORUM**

Mr Donald McNeill advised that the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service had a live public consultation underway until 18 July 2021, which was on the draft long-term vision for the Fire & Rescue Service and what the service would look like in the coming years. The document itself set out the high level strategic intent and priorities for the service over the following 10 years, recognising the changing risks/demands. Dwelling fires continued to decrease year on year, but there had been an increase in wild fires and flooding, along with changes to demography. Information would be emailed out to the Area Partnership. In response to questions, Mr McNeill advised that unfortunately there were still road traffic accidents, including fatalities, not just on A class/trunk roads but also on minor country roads.

14. **FUTURE BERWICKSHIRE AREA PARTNERSHIP MEETING DATES**

The dates for the future meetings of the Area Partnership, as detailed on the agenda up until June 2022, were noted. The Chairman referred to comments on the agenda for meetings to be over long and over-wordy so asked for any thoughts or ideas on how this could be improved in future. The Chairman thanked everyone for their contributions to the meeting that evening.

***The meeting concluded at 8.25 pm***

**What**

Working better together around local needs

**Why**

Build on Covid experiences and support community ambitions

**How**

- Shared principles; way of working
- Alignment
- Simplification

## Vulnerabilities

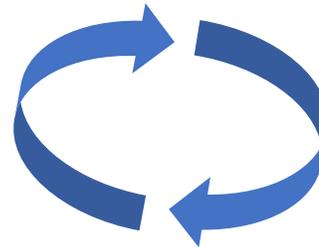
- *social inequalities*
- *hidden harm*
- *shielding*
- *stop people getting ill*

## Common Purpose

- *the order of doing*
- *what matters - a common purpose*
- *quick decisions - oversight by trust*
- *affects every aspect of life*
- *leadership at all levels*

## Localism

- *social partnerships - impact*
- *gaps before statutory responses*
- *distributed services*
- *real world learning*



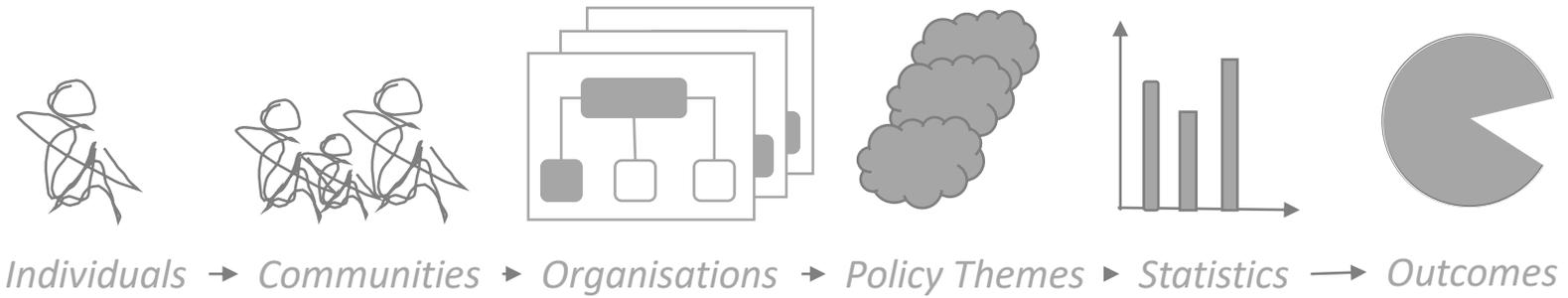
## Capabilities

- *trusted people*
- *rediscovered interests*
- *national tensions*
- *new ways of working*

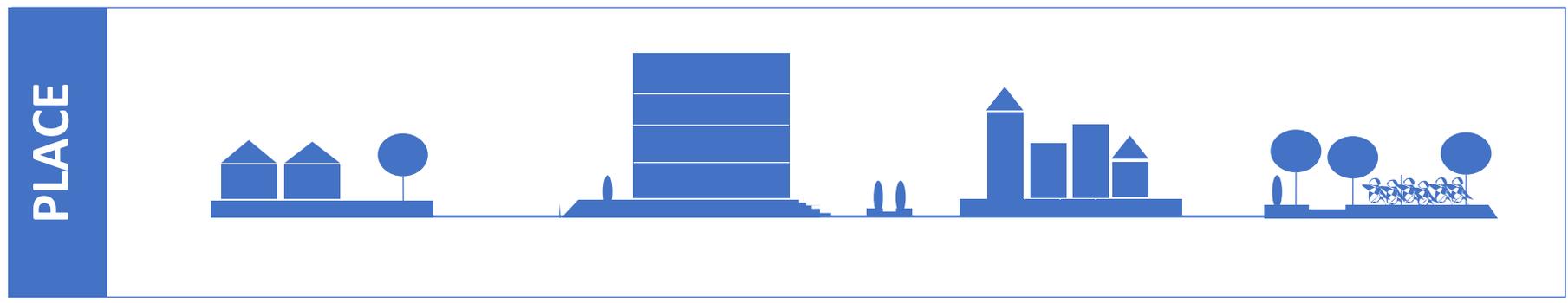
## Infrastructures

- *ownership of space*
- *resourcing*
- *digital equity*
- *new settings*

# Place as a Mechanism for Change



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# Agenda

## What

Working better together around local needs

## Why

Build on Covid experiences and support community ambitions

## How

- Shared principles; way of working
- Alignment
- Simplification

Page 2

- Key issues
- Success =
- Working together priorities

- Covid
- Resilient communities for flooding and winter maintenance
- Resilient communities worked very well
- Linked in with the idea of how you define what a place is in geographic terms and community terms
- Have been looking at ways to plan
- **Planning for areas beyond where we live**
- There will be communities who feel like a community, a place
- The whole of Edinburgh will be completely different
- Resilient community, 300 properties, knocked on doors, got buy in
- A small area
- **When we are thinking about priorities, priorities will be different for the sub sets of Berwickshire**
- Big towns, villages, rural farming community
- **Neighbourliness**
- Ambition, and what success looks like
- What resilient communities can be if support is provided at the right time
- **Red tape removed**
- Communities responded, and responded well
- Communities well equipped
- **Needs met before social work**
- Community assistance hub
- At times phone lines were not being used because support locally
- **Natural networks to be fostered**
- **Risk that the voluntary sector is forgotten, undervalued, only used in when as required**
- Informal networks

- Recognising that there are micro priorities
- Areas that have their own priorities
- Overarching proprieties
- Feel sometimes that the top level priorities are set at top level
- Can the top level priorities be set from bottom up rather than national policy
- Age
- The younger generation
- Think about everybody
- Especially those without vehicles
- Finished school, family in farming
- Connectivity, digitally and transport important for young people
- They have a better grasp of digital things
- Ensuring everybody has good broadband
- Sometimes clunky
- Access to transport
- The challenges of learning to drive
- Being able to drive
- Station at Reston, £20m
- Four trains in each direction each day
- Need more
- LNER
- Earning Edinburgh wages and bring back to the Borders
- Working here
- Mobile digital connectivity
- Unique opportunity post Covid, rewriting contracts so staff only to attend office 40% of time....more opportunity to work locally
- 2 day commute
- Makes the Borders much more attractive

## Key Issues

- In the next couple of days, a draft economic strategy to be launched
- Cross sector, third and voluntary, RSL's, all kinds of people involved
- Talks about a better connected place, a greener place, a thriving place
- Somewhere where innovation and development happens
- This is the land of David Hume
- Inventing the modern plough
- Not a backwater
- Fantastic connections to England and beyond
- HS2 To Carlisle
- Great opportunities here
- Covid has thrown up phenomenal examples of collaboration
- Neighbours talking
- Folk seeing eye to eye
- Incredible feeling of collaboration across the Borders and South of Scotland
- Its why we are here

Success

**Collaboration**

*Priorities*

Scales of place

Informal networks

*work*

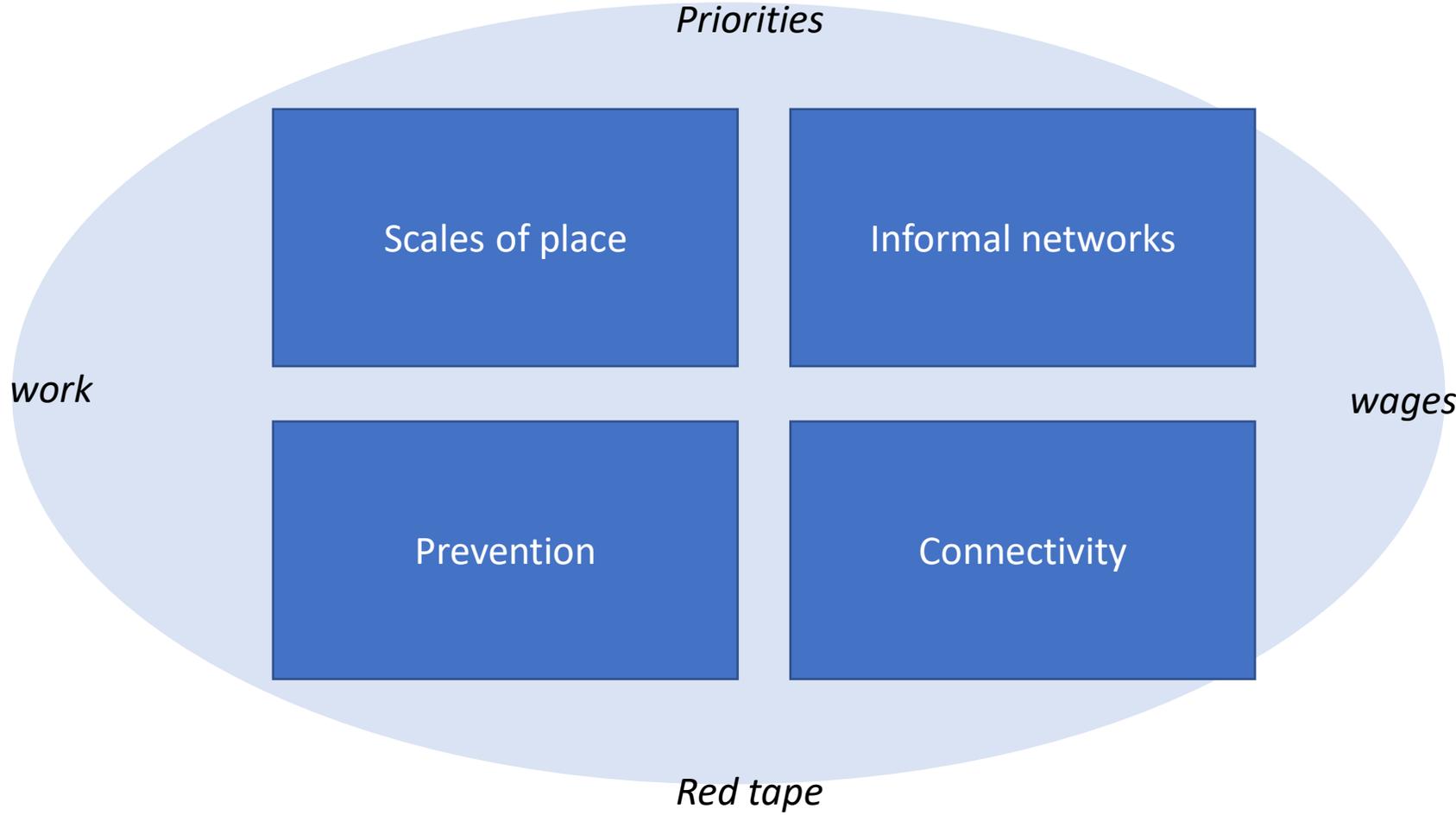
*wages*

Prevention

Connectivity

*Red tape*

**Innovation**



## Success

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- Digital and the new digital age
- Impact on localism
- If consumers wish to buy in their house
- Using amazon as a mechanism
- Blended experiences
- More young eople staying in the Borders for work or study
- Study beyond school is limited
- Looking at options for this,
- Amazon.....not a success buying
- If we did these things right, people would know they can set up a business here, cheaper than Edinburgh with fantastic landscapes, and footfall
- Fantastic opportunities
- Need further education opportunities
- Young people feeling represented, having a say over local policy and things that matter to them
- Education policy experience in school
- More pupils have greater say of what comes into their school
- More voice on more of x or y for young people in their schools
- Lots of lads who worked on the farm had to travel a few miles to get to work, then after a while afford motorbike or car
- Bikes
- Relying on hitchhiking or bike
- Young people new and in the past have many of the same problems
- Amazon
- Customers got into online shopping
- Mail order bit
- Older customers were not comfortable going out
- Double whammy.....online shopping and people staying at home
- Shopping was a social thing
- Combinartion of things happening

- Bikes
- E-bikes are the future
- Reston link, ebike commute
- Big issue is population
- Every single organisation struggles for members, consultancies, voluntary group
- People are volunteers on many groups
- Need more homes
- Tiny villages and sizeable villages need a proportion of more homes to support local services
- Different reasons for more homes in different places
- Digital as an opportunity
- If we choose to use Amazon [moral and economic choice]
- Digital works in 2 ways: Eyemouth pies across the UK
- Duns brownies open in Princes St and across UK
- Get digital infrastructure right
- Position as a great place to live
- A lot of good companies based here with blended working can work here
- Decentralisation
- More local places working better with local services
- Bringing population into the area
- Need critical mass of individuals and families with sufficient income to support new emerging businesses
- Growing and diverse population
- The area is fairly mono cultural and ageing
- Supporting digital
- Mental wellbeing
- Fair work

**Collaboration**

*Priorities*

Scales of place

Informal networks

*work*

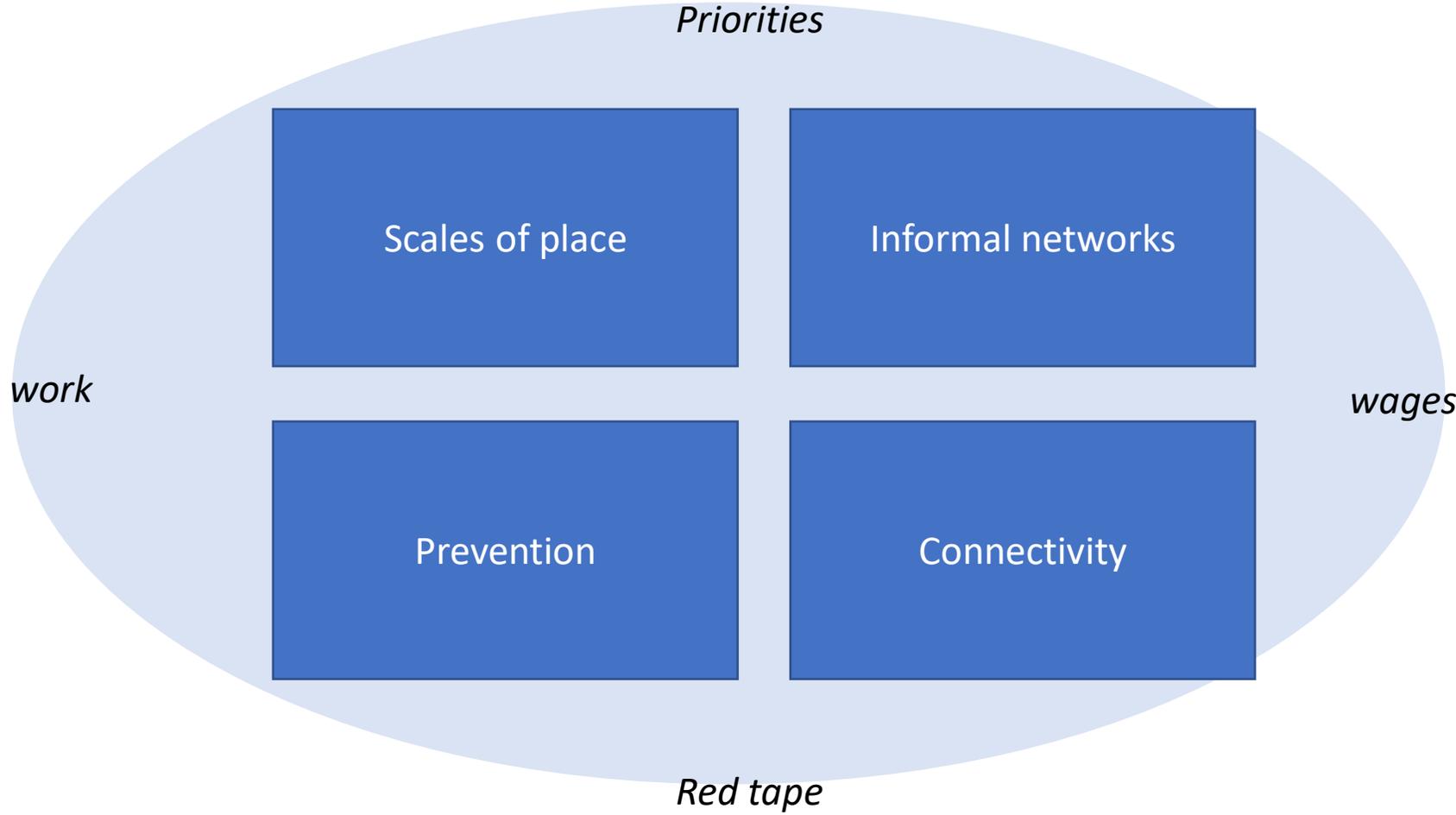
*wages*

Prevention

Connectivity

*Red tape*

**Innovation**



**Grow and diversify population**

*Great place*

Wider learning

Voice & participation

**Fair work and wellbeing**

Blended

Entrepreneur

*decentralisation*

*Enable economic choices*

*More homes, more choices*

**Critical mass**

## Place workshop | Berwickshire Area Partnership

### Issues

*“set overarching priorities from the bottom up rather than national policy”*

How you define what a place is in geographic terms and community terms matters. It affects how we plan where we live, and plan for areas beyond where we live. There will be some communities who feel like a community, like a place. But that experience will be completely different in different places.

Priorities will be different for sub sets of Berwickshire, big towns, villages, rural farming community. And there are overarching priorities across all areas. But, these priorities seem to be set only at the top level of decision making.

*“natural networks need to be fostered”*

The Resilient communities model for flooding and winter maintenance has worked well for the Covid response. Neighbourliness and informal networks matter. Covid has shown what resilient communities can be if support is provided at the right time. Red tape was removed. Communities responded and responded well. People had needs met before formal social work referrals were needed. At times, the phone lines in community assistance hubs were not being used because people were being supported locally.

But natural networks need to be fostered. The risk now is that the voluntary sector gets forgotten, and is only used ‘as and when required’.

*“the risk now is that the voluntary sector gets forgotten”*

We need to think about everybody in our communities, including the younger generation, especially those without vehicles who can’t get around. Connectivity is important for young people. And, they often have a better grasp of digital things, with confidence. So, it is important to ensure that everybody has good broadband. Sometimes, now, it is clunky.

Access to transport is also important. New rail investment and new stations are welcome in the Borders. But we need more stops, more frequency. And more connections to the stations for more people.

*“opening up the Borders offers people new choices”*

There is a unique opportunity post covid for people to re-write contracts so staff only need to attend offices some of the time, providing more opportunities to work locally. We can use this to bring Edinburgh wages and more work back to the Borders. Support more people working here. So, capitalise on the beauty of the landscape, the quality of the place. Attract and retain more people.

Strengthen the Borders as somewhere that innovation and development happens, This is the land of David Hume, not a backwater. It has fantastic connections to England and beyond, with great opportunities around the HS2 and future connections to Carlisle.

Covid has thrown up phenomenal examples of collaboration. More neighbours are talking, more folk seeing eye to eye. Build on the collaboration across the South of Scotland. It is why we are living here.

*“build on the collaboration across the South of Scotland”*

## Place workshop | Berwickshire Area Partnership

### Success

*“blended experiences, linking digital and localism, offer new opportunities”*

We are concerned about the rise of Amazon, the impact of digital on high streets. And in Covid, some older customers are no longer comfortable going out.

But we need to see digital as an opportunity. Build on the experience of local businesses making local and serving UK Markets with excellent food, and produce and pies. Connect markets. Get the digital infrastructure right. Position the Borders as a great place to live. A lot of good companies offering blended working can locate and work here. There are fantastic opportunities.

Buying more from Amazon is not a success. This kind of purchasing is a moral and economic decision. So, build on the value of what we have locally. Show that this is a place where people can set up a business cheaper than Edinburgh, with footfall and markets, in a fantastic landscape, with digital connections.

*“more young people staying in the Borders for work of study”*

At the moment, study beyond school is limited. We need more options around this. Use digital to extend experiences for higher and further education, so more people can access more of these experiences more locally.

Success is more young people feeling represented, having a say over local policy and things that matter to them. Build more opportunities across communities. for school pupils and young people to have a voice, to have a say on decisions. Build skills. Support mental health. And fair work.

*“connectivity choices”*

Young people now and in the past have had the same problems with connectivity. Many people still rely on hitchhiking or taking a bike to travel miles. E-bikes are an exciting future. They enable more connections to new rail stations and travel points, facilitating choices for commuting and working locally.

A big issue is population. Every single organisation struggles for members, consultancies, voluntary group. Often, people are volunteers on many groups. And the area is fairly mono cultural and ageing. So, bring population into the area. We need critical mass of individuals and families with sufficient income to support new emerging businesses.

So, we need more homes. Tiny villages and sizeable villages need a proportion of more homes to support local services. There will be different reasons for more homes in different places. And we need more decentralisation, with more local places working better with more local services.

*“grow a more diverse population”*

## Berwickshire Funding 2021/2022

02 September 2021

Community Fund 2021/2022	
	£
Opening balance as of 01/04/2021 (£276k split per head of population)	£ 50,230.00
Plus 50% of available Local Festival Grant budget	£ 7,030.00
<b>Total available</b>	<b>£ 57,260.00</b>
<b>Less:</b>	
Community Fund applications awarded since 01/04/2021	£ -
Community Fund applications that are assessed and await decision	£ 17,249.61
Sub-total	£ 17,249.61
<b>Funds remaining if assessed applications are successful</b>	<b>£ 40,010.39</b>

Build Back a Better Borders	
	£
Opening balance as of 01/06/2021 (£500k split 80%/20% per head of population and S.I.M.D.)	£ 87,783.00
<b>Total available</b>	<b>£ 87,783.00</b>
<b>Less:</b>	
Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund applications awarded since 01/06/2021	£ 1,065.00
Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund applications that are assessed and await decision	£ 16,405.60
Sub-total	£ 17,470.60
<b>Funds remaining if assessed applications are successful</b>	<b>£ 70,312.40</b>

Community Fund still to be assessed	£ -
<b>Potential Overall Position</b>	<b>£ 40,010.39</b>

Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund applications still to be assessed	£ -
<b>Potential Overall Position</b>	<b>£ 70,312.40</b>

Summary of all applications						
No.	Date	Fund	Organisation Name	Amount	Project	Status
1	06/07/21	Community Fund	Allanton Village Hall	£ 3,150.00	Repair damaged wall	Assessed
2	22/07/21	Community Fund	Parent Space	£ 4,977.61	Parenting courses, training & staff costs	Assessed
3	25/07/21	Community Fund	Cockburnspath Allotment Association	£ 5,000.00	Garden & allotment developer	Assessed
4	26/07/21	Community Fund	Berwickshire Association for Voluntary Services	£ 4,122.00	Community e-bikes	Assessed
5	28/07/21	Community Fund	Greenlaw Festaival Trust	£3,000.00	Greenlaw Christmas Lights	Paused
6	15/06/21	BBBB Fund	Roxburgh & Berwickshire CAB	£ 4,395.60	Staff costs	Assessed
7	24/06/21	BBBB Fund	One Step Borders	£ 585.00	Staff costs - Volunteer Co-ordinator	Awarded
8	05/07/21	BBBB Fund	Eyemouth Enhancement Group	£ 12,010.00	Ride on mower	Assessed
9	15/07/21	BBBB Fund	Reston Concert Band	£ 480.00	Hall hire & equipment	Awarded

Other sources of grant funding - Berwickshire			
Grant Type	Available	Awarded	Remaining
Local Festival Grants	£ 7,030.00	£ -	£ 7,030.00
Annual Support Grants (Community Councils)	£ 13,680.00	£ 1,800.00	£ 11,880.00
SBC Small Schemes	£ 48,200.00	£ -	£ 48,200.00
Common Good - Coldstream & Duns	£ -	£ -	£ -
SBC Enhancement Grant	£ 1,940.34	£ -	£ 1,940.34
SBC Welfare Grant	£ 9,466.14	£ 2,500.00	£ 6,966.14

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## **BERWICKSHIRE COMMUNITY FUND**

### **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COMMUNITY FUND ASSESSMENT PANEL MEMBERS**

#### **1 GENERAL**

- 1.1 Assessment Panel Members are expected to show the highest standards of personal conduct in the performance of their duties at all times.
- 1.2 Their duty is to be honest, fair and transparent when assessing applications and making funding recommendations to the Area Partnership.
- 1.3 Assessment Panel Members should promote and support these principles by leadership and example, always acting in such a way as to protect public confidence in them and the recommendations they make.
- 1.4 Assessment Panel Members should be mindful that the Community Fund will be operated in line with the principles of best practice and Scottish Borders Council's Code of Practice for Following the Public Pound.

#### **2 DUTY TO UPHOLD THE LAW**

- 2.1 Assessment Panel Members must uphold the law and act on all occasions in line with the public trust placed in them.
- 2.2 Assessment Panel Members must be aware of what constitutes fraudulent behaviour and should report any suspicions to Council Officers immediately.

#### **3 INTEGRITY AND PROPRIETY**

- 3.1 Assessment Panel Members should not put themselves in a position where their integrity is called into question. As well as avoiding actual impropriety they should avoid any appearance of it.

#### **4 HOSPITALITY**

- 4.1 Assessment Panel Members should not accept any gifts or hospitality that might reasonably be thought to influence, or be intended to influence, their judgement; or where to do so could bring discredit upon the Assessment Panel or Area Partnership

#### **5 DECISIONS**

- 5.1 Whilst Assessment Panel Members may be influenced by the views of others, including particular interest groups, it is their responsibility to decide what view to take and how to vote.

## **6 ACCOUNTABILITY AND STEWARDSHIP**

- 6.1 Assessment Panel Members are accountable to the Area Partnership for their actions and their part in reaching decisions and must submit themselves to whatever scrutiny is appropriate.

## **7 OPENNESS**

- 7.1 Assessment Panel Members should be as open as possible about all their actions and their part in reaching decisions. They should seek to ensure that reasons are given for decisions of the Assessment Panel.

## **8 CONFIDENTIALITY**

- 8.1 Assessment Panel Members should ensure that confidential material is handled appropriately with regard to the public interests and is not used for private purposes.

## **9 PARTICIPATION**

- 9.1 Assessment Panel Members may take part in the consideration of applications that come before the Panel unless they have an interest, which would cause their participation to raise questions as to their impartiality.

## **10 DECLARATIONS**

- 10.1 Assessment Panel Members **must** declare any interests relating to their Assessment Panel duties. They should make relevant declarations of interest at meetings of the Assessment Panel to which they are appointed.
- 10.2 If Assessment Panel Members have an interest in an application before the Assessment Panel, they should consider whether it is appropriate for them to declare this interest and withdraw from discussion and decision making on that matter. In considering this they should have regard to the following criteria:-
- 10.2.1 That members of the public might reasonably think the interest could influence them; and
- 10.2.2 That members of the public might reasonably think the interest creates a real danger of bias on the part of the Assessment Panel Member because it affects them or someone connected with them, more than any other person or more than the generality of other persons affected by the matter.
- 10.3 In the case of an interest, Assessment Panel Members should declare their interest and withdraw from the discussion and decision making on the matter.
- 10.4 The fundamental principle to bear in mind is that Assessment Panel Members should not do anything that they cannot justify to the public in terms of this code.

## **11 RESPECT**

- 11.1 Assessment Panel Members must respect their fellow Assessment Panel Members treating them with courtesy, respect and in a non-discriminatory manner at all times.

## **12 RELATIONS WITH SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL COUNCILLORS**

- 12.1 Assessment Panel Members should respect the role of Scottish Borders Council Elected Members and treat them in a way that engenders mutual respect at all times.

## **13 RELATIONS WITH SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL EMPLOYEES**

- 13.1 Assessment Panel Members should respect the role of officers of Scottish Borders Council who are directly responsible to Scottish Borders Council and treat them in a way that engenders mutual respect at all times.

## **14 PERSONAL CONDUCT**

- 14.1 Assessment Panel Members' personal conduct should be such as not to bring the Panel or Area Partnership into disrepute. They should act courteously to fellow Assessment Panel Members, Scottish Borders Council Elected Members and Officers, members of the public and other bodies.

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## Report of Community Fund Assessment Panel for Berwickshire Area Partnership Meeting at 6.30pm on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September

### Summary of Process

#### Introduction to new process

Between December 2020 and March 2021, a Review Sub-group of the Berwickshire Area Partnership (BAP) worked on the design of a new process for considering applications for the Berwickshire Community Fund. The recommendations of the group were agreed at the BAP meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021. One specific recommendation was for:

- the creation of a Sub-Committee of the Area Partnership – the Berwickshire Community Fund Assessment Group - with full delegated powers to undertake the assessment of applications and subsequently make awards.

At its meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> March the Council agreed to changes to the Community Fund and proposed that new systems, across the Borders, should come into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021. The details of the changes to the Berwickshire process; including constitution, procedures, and the membership and recruitment of the Assessment Panel (AP), have all been the subject of further debate and agreement at BAP meetings in April, May, June and July.

The BAP has agreed that the Chair (or other Member) of the AP shall present the Panel's recommendations, with appropriate supporting paperwork, to the BAP meeting for decision.

Further, since it is recognised that this is a new process and will require bedding in, an annual report shall be provided by the AP with details of the its work throughout the first year in order that the BAP can suggest where appropriate modifications may be introduced.

The Chair of the AP and members of the AP will be happy to answer questions related to our recommendations

#### Description of process

- We met via Teams between 3:30-5.30pm on Thursday 12 August 2021.
- This was our second meeting, our first being a dry run of the process.
- The Assessment Panel members involved were: Keith Dickinson (Chair), Anne McNeil, Andrew Mitchell, Davey Scott, James Anderson (voting members) and Cllrs John Greenwell, Helen Laing, Mark Rowley (non-voting members)
- Our aim throughout has been to assess all applications in a fair, robust and consistent way.
- We fully recognise the need for transparency and all panel members made declarations of interest where appropriate.
- We blind marked all the applications and our individual marks were sent to SBC officers.
- Collected marks were then tabulated and circulated a day before our meeting.
- To be clear, the three SBC councillors, whilst adding to the discussion, neither scored the projects nor took part in the final decision making.
- At the meeting we considered 4 applications. In the case of two of the applications there was a good deal of agreement between the blind marking of panel members. In the other two there was initially a significant difference of opinion.
- This process allowed us to focus our discussions on where the differences lay and helped us explore differences of opinions and move to a greater shared understanding of these differences.
- We considered each application, taking into account:
  - The aims of project 20%
  - The evidence of Need 20%

- The clarity and justification of financial request 10%
- The stated Impact/Outcomes of application 30%
- Our confidence that the project will be delivered 20%
- Following detailed discussion of each application we were able to move relatively smoothly to a consensus on all applications and agreement on all recommendations.
- We did not require to take a vote on any application.
- I should emphasise that we evaluated each application as seen, rather than the applicants as individuals.
- We considered the applications as a collection of applications and made our judgements, and recommendations, in relation to the available funding pot.

## **Brief Description of Applications Considered**

### **Allanton Village Hall - £3,150**

Following the removal of a shed at the neighbouring cottage the retaining wall between the Village Hall and cottage was found to be structurally unsound. Without repair the condition of the wall will continue to deteriorate and compromise the structural integrity of the end wall of the Hall itself. The Hall is the heart of the village and serves in excess of 350 users per year providing opportunities for social interaction, education and participating in local democracy. A grant from Berwickshire Community Fund would contribute to the costs of repairing the wall.

### **Parent Space - £4,977.61**

Parent Space works with parents and carers to enable them to support the emotional development of their child and communication within a family through courses aimed at the different stage of childhood, as well as providing one to one support. A grant from Berwickshire Community Fund would cover the costs of four courses at two schools, training for mental health facilitators and 1:1 initial assessments.

### **Cockburnspath Allotment Association - £5,000**

Cockburnspath Allotment Association have purchased derelict land adjacent to the A1 from Transport Scotland with the view to developing allotments and a community garden. A grant from Berwickshire Community Fund would cover the costs of the purchase and construction of a Polytunnel and the employment of a Garden and Allotment Developer and to support the community development.

### **Berwickshire Association for Voluntary Service (BAVS) - £4,122**

Following a piece of work undertaken last year, which engaged with local communities to identify possible solutions to transport issues in Berwickshire, BAVS proposes to run a six-month pilot e-bike scheme to assess the need and demand for e-bikes and how they can fit into the wider transport network. Project would be run in partnership with a Heart for Duns. If successful the project would be expanded. A grant from Berwickshire Community Fund would cover the costs of 2 e-bikes.

## **Final comments**

- We will be seeking to appoint further members to the panel – there are places for up to 3 additional places.
- We will be adding to the guidelines for applicants: e.g., advisory word limits; need for axioms to be defined; need to focus on the information we require in order make a decision.

**Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund - Assessment Form**

For the purpose of assessment, projects have been ranked high, medium or low to reflect how strongly the application meets the criteria of the Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund.

High – a strong demonstration of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

Medium – provides acceptable examples of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

Low – lacks detail of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

**1. Applicant Details:**

Organisation name	Roxburgh & Berwickshire Citizens Advice Bureau					
Organisation structure	Constituted Group					
Application reference	BBBB2122 - BER-1					
Theme of application	Sport	Arts & Culture	Environment	Community Capacity	Community resilience	Intergenerational activity
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Project start date	As soon as awarded		Project end date		6 months from award	

**2. Organisation’s finances:**

End of year balance	£174,295.84
Current bank balance	£181,000
Total cash/Unrestricted reserves available & purpose	£28,000
Total restricted /committed funds & purpose	£153,000
<p>Restricted funds -</p> <p>The restricted funds are covering half of CAB salary costs (£17,666 x 3 = £52,998). Funding is ring-fenced to ensure the continuous employment of a member of staff to provide session support for the duration of the SBC contract which runs until 2024.</p> <p>CAB currently has reserves of three months running costs (£48,000) as is dictated by the conditions of their SBC contract although they strive to have 6 months as this is considered best practice. Their redundancy funds currently sit at £50,000 to cover entitlement should the worst happen.</p> <p>Funding has also been set aside for future PPE and cleaning based on the last six months and committed funds to ensure the continued safety of staff, volunteers and clients.</p> <p>£2000 is held to cover costs incurred if the Bureau continues to limit face to face support.</p>	

Although not restricted, it's acknowledged by the Board that there will be expected costs associated with renovation of the offices to adhere to social distancing and continued Covid restrictions as the bureau open for face to face advice in the next month or so. Renovations at the Kelso office will be part funded by CAB reserves.

**Project:**

Outline of what the group plan to do to help people recover from the pandemic. Projects will be ranked higher if the application strongly demonstrates that they are meeting an identified need in the community. (e.g. area of deprivation, protected characteristics, tackling wellbeing and isolation, tackling climate change)

High

Medium

Low

**Comment:**

CAB wish to build in to their service multiple routes for community members to access advice and support. These routes include email and telephone support, web chats and virtual drop-ins using the 'Near Me' system. These would be additional to the traditional method of face to face engagement. This service development has grown from the flexibility CAB has been able to provide during this past year and the ability to provide the Berwickshire area with 5 days of support rather than 1.5 days pre Covid.

In order to create this new offer, CAB needs to increase their number of volunteer advisors. Existing volunteers who were IT literate, provided constant support during this past year. Many volunteers are ready to have a break and coupled with the requirement to provide IT training to existing volunteers who are not IT literate, there is a need for a volunteer recruitment drive. CAB would like to employ a CAB Champion to be responsible for promoting the opportunity to volunteer with CAB and increase the number of CAB volunteers. The Champion would be responsible for highlighting this opportunity through promotional materials, attending events and engagements, assisting new recruits to complete the application process and completing the initial stages of an induction and Adviser Training Programme.

CAB would like the Champion to cover the full geographical reach of CAB therefore they are requesting a share of the costs from the Berwickshire, Cheviot and Teviot & Liddesdale BBBB funds. Berwickshire accounts for two fifths of the client base which is reflected in the request for two fifths of the total project costs.

Evidence of individuals, groups or communities likely to benefit from the new initiative and how they have been affected by the pandemic:

High

Medium

Low

Comment:

Both volunteers and members of the public would benefit from the creation of a Champion and an increase in the number of volunteers.

Across communities, people have seen the benefits of volunteering following experiences during Covid and how it can help strengthen a local community and make communities more independent and resilient. Volunteering is open to all people. It has the possibility of building people's confidence, social skills and can lead to further learning opportunities.

The local community would benefit from having a range of advice methods offered by CAB. In 2020/21 the Berwickshire offices had 1658 client contacts, helping with 4919 issues and putting £605,660.02 of confirmed client financial gains back in to the Berwickshire economy.

Expected impact of the new initiative and how will it help those most in need recover from the pandemic

High

Medium

Low

Comment:

The CAB Champion would work across Berwickshire for 10 hours per week on a 6 month fixed contract.

The CAB Champion would -

- Attend a minimum of 10 local events to promote the service and attract volunteers
- Make contact with at least 24 organisations to raise awareness of the volunteer opportunities
- Recruit a minimum of 4 volunteers to the Bureau
- Create a suite of publicity materials and distribute to at least 24 places/organisations
- Carry out a minimum of 2 local press activities
- Carry out a social media campaign throughout the 6 month period

Outcomes/benefits:

- Local communities will be more aware of the CAB service and its volunteer roles
- Organisations working across the area will feel confident and able to refer those interested in volunteering to CAB
- The bureau will be more able to cope with the expected demand following the end of the furlough scheme and likely financial fallout from CV19
- The Bureau will have a suite of publicity materials it can use when recruitment of volunteers is needed in the future.
- Volunteers will have increased confidence, self-worth and better mental wellbeing

**Project Expenditure:**

Total Project Cost	£12,210
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10% organisation contribution	£488.40
Request to BBBB	£4,395.60

Item of expenditure	Cost
Staffing	£3120
Travel	£400
Premises hire	£320
Publicity materials	£600
Management fee	£444

Match/other funding sought:

Funder	Funding Requested	Status
BBBB Teviot &Liddesdale	£4395.60	Pending
BBBB Cheviot	£2197.80	Pending
	£	

Grants received from Scottish Borders Council or any other funder within the last three years

Date	Project Title	Amount
2018-2021	SBC Core Grant	£331,591
2018-2021	Citizens Advice Scotland	£104,317
2018-2021	Robertson Trust	£49,000

<b>SBC OFFICER ASSESSMENT</b>	i.e. the application meets the criteria of the BBBB fund
<b>Comments</b>	<p>The application has been assessed as high, it meets a number of criteria –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recruitment of a CAB champion and more volunteers to support service users from the wider community</li> <li>• Delivering support and benefitting all groups including (protected characteristics)</li> <li>• The project will also be delivered within areas where there is high level deprivation</li> </ul>
<b>Additional terms and conditions required</b>	<p>The applicant must follow Scottish Government Covid-19 guidance</p> <p>The rate of pay given to the Volunteer Co-ordinator must meet the National Living Wage.</p>
<b>Recommendations to evaluate impact:</b>	<p>If successful, we recommend the applicant include in their funding evaluation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence of promotional activity undertaken</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Number of organisations contacted</li><li>• Number of volunteers recruited to the Bureau</li><li>• Evidence of publicity materials used</li><li>• Feedback from volunteers and partners</li></ul>
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## Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund - Assessment Form

For the purpose of assessment, projects have been ranked high, medium or low to reflect how strongly the application meets the criteria of the Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund.

High – a strong demonstration of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

Medium – provides acceptable examples of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

Low – lacks detail of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

### 1. Applicant Details:

Organisation name	Eyemouth Enhancement Group					
Organisation structure	Constituted Community Group					
Application reference	BBBB-BER-03					
Theme of application	Sport	Arts & Culture	Environment	Community Capacity	Community resilience	Intergenerational activity
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Project start date	October 2021			Project end date	Ongoing	

### 2. Organisation's finances:

End of year balance	£1441.48
Current bank balance	£913.69
Total cash/Unrestricted reserves available & purpose	£413.69
Total restricted /committed funds & purpose	£950.00

### Project:

Outline of what the group plan to do to help people recover from the pandemic. Projects will be ranked higher if the application strongly demonstrates that they are meeting an identified need in the community. (e.g. area of deprivation, protected characteristics, tackling wellbeing and isolation, tackling climate change)		
High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Medium <input type="checkbox"/>	Low <input type="checkbox"/>
Comment:		

Eyemouth Enhancement Group is proposing to purchase a new lawn tractor that will enable them to reduce the time it takes to cut areas and increase the amount of pathways it is currently responsible for maintaining, this will in turn:

- Increase the number of pathways in and around the town for local residents and visitors alike to make use of in order to increase their physical activity and by association mental health and general wellbeing.
- Increase the capacity of the group through taking on additional responsibility for their local area.
- Provide opportunities for individuals to come and participate in maintaining pathways and greenspace.
- Maintain the BMX track on behalf of Eyemouth Community Council

The existing mower will continue to be available for use by groups in the local area.

The Enhancement Group has engaged with other groups in the town, including the local walking group and Beavers as well as individuals. All are supportive of improving the network of pathways to facilitate increased walking activity. This reflects the Vision for Eyemouth's theme of Living in a Healthy Town. It will also contribute to the Eyemouth Whole Systems Approach, which aims to increase healthy weight across the local population, and the identified priority of utilising outdoor spaces for activities for children and families.

The Group works closely with Eyemouth High School (EHS), a Memorandum of Understanding is in place, and provide opportunities for older students to work with them. The group is working with Eyemouth High School's Horticultural Department and aims to create three opportunities per term for older students to be trained to use horticulture equipment. Four students were involved during 2019/20.

During Covid the group successfully applied for a grant from Fallago Environment Fund to widen local paths to take account of the needs for social distancing and creating improved outdoor spaces for people. The positive feedback has led the group to explore expanding maintenance to other pathways and link with coastal paths (which are currently being rebuilt to make them accessible for mobility scooters) and cycle paths.

The group has taken on the process resulting from a Participation Request, made under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 by Eyemouth Community Council, in place to cut some of the green spaces in Eyemouth. This releases some SBC staff resource (Parks & Environment) to undertake additional maintenance in other areas in the town. They are also engaged with SBC's Access Rangers.

Evidence of individuals, groups or communities likely to benefit from the new initiative and how they have been affected by the pandemic:

High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Medium <input type="checkbox"/>	Low <input type="checkbox"/>
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Comment:  
Eyemouth Enhancement Group aims to improve the appearance and usability of paths and greenspaces in and around the town for everyone to enjoy.

During the pandemic everyone was limited to the amount of time they could exercise in public spaces while some were required to shield. The need for safe, accessible outdoor space is more important now than ever before as the country has moved from responding to the pandemic to recovering from it.

A wider network of accessible pathways will enable friends/families to socialise while walking together. Picnic areas will also be maintained providing larger outdoor spaces for people to socialise safely.

Access to pathways will benefit fitness groups as well as the general public at a time when increased numbers of people are holidaying in the UK. It is hoped that accessible walking routes will encourage visitors to remain in the town longer providing additional income to local businesses.

Expected impact of the new initiative and how will it help those most in need recover from the pandemic

High

Medium

Low

Comment:

Increased access to pathways will improve the local environment, support physical activity and contribute to the general wellbeing of residents and visitors alike.

Engaging with the High School to provide training opportunities will increase the skill set and employability of older students as well as opportunities to engage with adults outside of their own network of family and friends.

Eyemouth Enhancement Group was previously a sub group of Eyemouth Community Council and have continued to build on the maintenance and enhancement work when it constituted as an organisation in its own right. In doing so it has built the capacity of those involved who are now running the group outwith the structure of the Community Council.

It is expected that the overall benefit of the project will reduce social isolation for everyone involved whether they be volunteers, students or local residents enjoying the pathways.

The equipment will be available for local groups in the East Berwickshire area to use ensuring best use would be made of what would be a valuable community asset.

**Project Expenditure:**

Total Project Cost	£12,444
10% organisation contribution	£1,244
Request to BBBB	£11,200
Item of expenditure	Cost
ZD1211 Kubota zero turn mower (ex-demo with 1 years manufacture's and 2 year supplier's warranty)	£11,994
Insurance pro rata for six months	£225
Fuel for six months	£225

Match/other funding sought:

Funder	Funding Requested	Status
	£	
	£	
	£	

Grants received from Scottish Borders Council or any other funder within the last three years

Date	Project Title	Amount
2019/20	Happier Eyemouth – electric street sweepers (Berwickshire Community Fund)	£1,170

<b>SBC OFFICER ASSESSMENT</b>	The application does not meet the criteria of the BBBB fund as a quote is outstanding. However, it is expected that this will be in place prior to the meeting of the Area Partnership on 2 September.
<b>Comments</b>	The application scores high because it addresses several themes of the Fund.
<b>Additional terms and conditions required</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The applicant must follow Scottish Government Covid-19 guidance.</li> <li>• The equipment should be made available for use by other community based organisations.</li> <li>• Appropriate insurance cover must be in place to cover all users.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Permissions and risk assessments must be in place.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Recommendations to evaluate impact:</b></p>	<p>If successful, we recommend the applicant include in their funding evaluation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of volunteers</li> <li>• Number of young people engaged with</li> <li>• Additional pathways and greenspaces maintained</li> <li>• Number of groups engaged with</li> <li>• Number of groups able to utilise the equipment</li> </ul>

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## Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund - Assessment Form

For the purpose of assessment, projects have been ranked high, medium or low to reflect how strongly the application meets the criteria of the Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund.

High – a strong demonstration of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

Medium – provides acceptable examples of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

Low – lacks detail of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

### 1. Applicant Details:

Organisation name	A Heart for Duns					
Organisation structure	Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation					
Application reference	BBBB/BER/05					
Theme of application	Sport	Arts & Culture	Environment	Community Capacity	Community resilience	Intergenerational activity
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Project start date	September 2021			Project end date	March 2022	

### 2. Organisation's finances:

End of year balance	£78,820
Current bank balance	£103,052
Total cash/Unrestricted reserves available & purpose	£56,926
Total restricted /committed funds & purpose	£21,894

### Project:

Outline of what the group plan to do to help people recover from the pandemic. Projects will be ranked higher if the application strongly demonstrates that they are meeting an identified need in the community. (e.g. area of deprivation, protected characteristics, tackling wellbeing and isolation, tackling climate change)		
High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Medium <input type="checkbox"/>	Low <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Comment:</b> Before the pandemic a Heart for Duns (AHFD) hosted a wide range of community events throughout the year attracting over 5,000 visitors to the hall. These included community		

lunches, cinema (families), film club (adults), U3A meetings, dance & fitness classes and operatic recitals. All these events not only provided an income for AHFD but opportunities for cultural social interaction for both residents of Duns and the wider community.

Members of AHFD (c. 350) with have indicated that they want to see live events restarting as a step to returning to a semblance of normality. AHFD has engaged with local groups/organisations, including care homes and support organisations, to ensure that this view is shared with the wider public – it is. However, hall users are wary of gathering for social events again so it is vital that any barriers are removed to events in order to create a safe and welcoming environment for everyone in the community. Social distancing is very much part of providing that safe environment.

Over the last 17 months people have become used to limited social interaction to such an extent that social isolation has increased dramatically, impacting on people throughout our society. As the pandemic eases an incentive is needed to encourage the community to start to take part in society again. In order to encourage this AHFD is proposing a series of events that will be free of charge although donations will be encouraged. Removing charges and relying on donations from those who are willing/able to contribute presents a financial risk for the organisation that has received no operating income since March 2020. Investment from BBBB Recovery Fund will take away the financial risk for the events and allow them to happen

Partnering with U3A, Duns Players and others AHFD will provide cultural, training and education activities as well as providing direct volunteering opportunities through gardening projects such as Blooming Marvellous.

AHFD plans to provide:

- Film Club screenings (incl. catering), est. total per event 40
- 5 Community cinema events (10 screenings), est. total per screening 80
- 6 Community lunches, est. total per event 50
- Christmas lunch x 2 sittings, est. total per event 40
- Community celebration – end of lockdown est. total of attendees 300
- 112 U3A learning/social sessions over six mth period, est. total per event 50
- 8 U3A talks, est. total per event 38
- 4 reading events – Duns Players, est. total per event 12

Through these events there will be the opportunity for up to 3,080 to engage in social activity. As people become more confident in taking part in events it is hoped that they will continue to attend those provided and hosted by AHFD providing the organisation with a vital income to ensure ongoing sustainability.

Evidence of individuals, groups or communities likely to benefit from the new initiative and how they have been affected by the pandemic:

High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Medium <input type="checkbox"/>	Low <input type="checkbox"/>
------------------------------------------	---------------------------------	------------------------------

Comment:
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Audiences that AHFD have engaged with have said that they would like to see a mix of some live events and more volunteering opportunities reintroduced. AHFD has used this feedback and their knowledge and experience, as a key provider of events in Berwickshire, to develop a programme of activities that will be of interest to the whole community and encourage them to get involved again.

During the pandemic they provided online for existing and new audiences, these included a chocolate workshop, quizzes and U3A activities. In person activities have been limited to external plant sales, external volunteering, blood donor sessions plus Covid testing and Covid inoculation sessions.

By removing the door fee it is anticipated that people may try new things and widen their cultural appreciation opening up a range of new experiences for them to participate in now and in the future.

AHFD plans to rebuild previous audiences and attract new ones. Although almost everyone is affected by the continuing uncertainties feedback received is to provide opportunities to help the community recover, and to provide options and choices based on arts and cultural activities which encourage safe and distanced social contact.

Expected impact of the new initiative and how will it help those most in need recover from the pandemic

High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Medium <input type="checkbox"/>	Low <input type="checkbox"/>
------------------------------------------	---------------------------------	------------------------------

Comment:

A grant from the Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund will enable AHFD to provide opportunities for social contact through cultural events in order to deliver social opportunities for the local community. It is expected that doing so will help to combat isolation and loneliness in a safe environment.

AHFD plans to provide what it knows works and will encourage the community to re-engage with them. Prior to the pandemic numbers participating in events included:

- Community lunch (principally those that would have been shielding during lockdown) - up to 400 per year
- Community cinema – 200 per screening. Up to 2,000 per year
- Film Club - 25 per screening. Up to 175 per year
- Christmas lunches - 200

Allowing for social distancing will mean that numbers will have to be restricted but this necessary in order to ensure that people feel safe and able to participate in the activities they enjoyed pre-March 2020.

## Project Expenditure:

Total Project Cost	£24,199
Organisation contribution	£11,521
Request to BBBB	£12,678

Item of expenditure	Cost
Film Club (catered)	£1,650
Community film	£11,175
Community lunches	£1,620
Christmas lunches	£1,600
Community celebration	£3,250
U3A learning & social sessions	£3,344
U3A talks	£480
Play & poetry readings	£1,080

Match/other funding sought:

Funder	Funding Requested	Status
AHFD reserves	£11,5121	Agreed
	£	
	£	

Grants received from Scottish Borders Council or any other funder within the last three years

Date	Project Title	Amount
tbc	Investing in Communities - Making AHFD	£103,458
tbc	Third Sector Resilience Fund grant - Covid grant support	£13,261
tbc	The National Lottery - Community larder	£5,705
tbc	DTAS resilience - Covid grant support	£4,800
tbc	Business support fund - Covid grant support	£25,000

<b>SBC OFFICER ASSESSMENT</b>	The application does not meet the criteria of the BBBB fund as some quotes are outstanding. However, it is expected that these will be in place prior to the meeting of the Area Partnership on 2 September.
<b>Comments</b>	<p>The application has scored high in each section it meets a number of criteria of the Fund as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it targets the social isolated</li> <li>• some events are specifically for older people (U3A)</li> <li>• it is enabling organisational recovery</li> <li>• all events are free to all with the facility for optional donations</li> </ul>

<p><b>Additional terms and conditions required</b></p>	<p>The applicant must follow Scottish Government Covid-19 guidance.</p>
<p><b>Recommendations to evaluate impact:</b></p>	<p>If successful, we recommend the applicant include in their funding evaluation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of people attending each event</li> <li>• Feedback from those attending events</li> <li>• Learning from AHFD following delivery of the project</li> </ul>

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## **Agenda Item 14: Additional information**

### **Current consultations**

- No current consultations

### **Community Empowerment:**

<https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/communityempowerment>

Information Pack on Community Empowerment for Area Partnerships:

[https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/info/20015/your\\_council/472/area\\_partnerships/7](https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/info/20015/your_council/472/area_partnerships/7)

Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 – Currently, there are no formal Participation Requests or formal Asset Transfer requests being considered within the Berwickshire area. Information about the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 is available on the Council’s website: [Parts of the Act | Community Empowerment \(Scotland\) Act 2015 | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

### **Area Partnerships’ information pack:**

[Berwickshire Area Partnership | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

[Community engagement, planning and ownership | Area Partnership information pack | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

### **Community Ownership Fund**

The UK Government is providing £150 million over 4 years to support community groups in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to take ownership of assets and amenities at risk of being lost.

Voluntary and community groups can bid for match funding to acquire important assets and run them for the benefit of the local community.

The Fund will run until 2024/25 and there will be at least 8 bidding rounds in total. This prospectus contains details for round 1.

Applicants will need to submit a full business, detail match funding that has already been secured (Community Ownership Fund will provide up to a maximum of 50% of the capital costs to purchase, repair and renovate the asset), outline what skills and resources will be required to manage the asset, what community benefits will be delivered through community ownership and what the community need is.

Full details are available here: [Community Ownership Fund: prospectus - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

SBC’S Communities & Partnership team can provide support to any group considering applying to the Community Ownership Fund.

**Community Councils:**

Scottish Community Councils Latest News, including information about funding opportunities and national consultations:

[Community Council News](#)

**Scottish Borders Council Meetings**

[Browse meetings - Scottish Borders Council - Scottish Borders Council \(modern.gov.co.uk\)](#)

**Covid-19:**

[www.scotborders.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/coronavirus)

**Community Testing:**

[www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/community-testing/](http://www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/community-testing/)

**NHS Borders website for current updates:**

<http://www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/coronavirus/>

**Business support**

<https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/covid19business>

<https://findbusinesssupport.gov.scot/>

**Debt Advice:**

[Citizens Advice Bureau](#)

NHS Money Worries App – download from Google Play or the App Store

**General Funding:**

<https://fundingscotland.com/>

<https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/>

[SBC Community Fund](#)

[SBC Enhancement & Welfare Trust](#)

**Heating & energy:**

[www.scotborders.gov.uk/affordablewarmth](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/affordablewarmth)

**NHS Borders Wellbeing Service:**

<http://www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/our-services/general-services/wellbeing-service/>

**NHS Borders Wellbeing Point:**

[www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/wellbeingpoint](http://www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/wellbeingpoint)

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