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SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL THURSDAY, 26 MAY, 2022

A MEETING of the SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL will be held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, NEWTOWN ST. BOSWELLS on THURSDAY, 26 MAY, 2022 at 10.00 AM

J. J. WILKINSON,
Clerk to the Council,
19 May 2022

BUSINESS		
1.	Apologies for Absence.	
2.	Order of Business.	
3.	Declarations of Interest.	
4.	Depute Leader Consider appointment of Depute Leader.	5 mins
5.	Scheme of Remuneration (Pages 3 - 8) Consider report by Director Finance and Corporate Governance on a revised Scheme of Remuneration. (Copy attached.)	15 mins
6.	Interim Scheme of Administration (Pages 9 - 78) Consider report by Director Finance and Corporate Governance on a revised Scheme of Administration. (Copy attached.)	15 mins
7.	Membership of Committees and Working Groups (Pages 79 - 92) Consider appointments to Committees and Working Groups in accordance with the Interim Scheme of Administration and previous decisions of Council. (Copy schedule attached.)	30 mins
8.	Representatives on Other Bodies (Pages 93 - 96) Consider appointment of Members to Other Bodies. (Copy schedule attached.)	30 mins
9.	Proposal for Blended and Online Committee Meetings (Pages 97 - 104) Consider report by Chief Executive. (Copy attached.)	15 mins
10.	Any Other Items Previously Circulated	

11.	Any Other Items Which the Convener Decides Are Urgent	
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NOTES

1. **Timings given above are only indicative and not intended to inhibit Members' discussions.**
2. **Members are reminded that, if they have a pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in any item of business coming before the meeting, that interest should be declared prior to commencement of discussion on that item. Such declaration will be recorded in the Minute of the meeting.**

Please direct any enquiries to Louise McGeoch Tel 01835 825005
email lmcgeoch@scotborders.gov.uk



SCHEME OF REMUNERATION

Report by Director Finance & Corporate Governance

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

26 May 2022

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 **This report seeks approval for amendments to the existing Scheme of Remuneration that will apply to the New Political Administration of Scottish Borders Council formed after the Local Government election of 5 May 2022.**
- 1.2 Payments to Councillors are governed by The Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Regulations 2007. The Regulations specify that, in the case of Scottish Borders Council, a maximum of 14 "Senior Councillors" may be appointed to positions of responsibility, in addition to the Convener and the Leader of the Council. The payment level to these latter two roles is included in the Regulations. The total allowed budget for Senior Councillors (excluding the Convener and Leader) is limited by Regulation to £342,524.
- 1.3 Following consideration of the responsibilities to be borne by Senior Councillors, a Scheme of Remuneration has been drawn up that seeks to recognise the differing significance of what is involved in each role. Details of the Scheme are contained in the Appendix to this report, along with the proposed payment rates for each role.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 **It is recommended that Scottish Borders Council agrees that the Scheme of Remuneration is amended so that the 13 posts (excluding the Leader and Convener) detailed in the Appendix to this report be designated as Senior Councillors with their remuneration set at the levels shown.**

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The number and designation of Senior Councillors was agreed in the Scheme of Remuneration at the meeting of Scottish Borders Council held on 25 May 2017, and then amended at the meeting of Council 27 August 2020 to take account of subsequent changes to portfolio titles and responsibilities.
- 3.2 Payments to Councillors are governed by The Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Regulations 2007. In these Regulations, Local Authorities in Scotland are banded together for the purposes of calculating certain payments, and Scottish Borders Council is included in Band B. The Regulations specify that, in the case of Scottish Borders Council, a maximum of 14 "Senior Councillors" may be appointed to positions of responsibility, in addition to the Convener and the Leader of the Council.
- 3.3 Those designated as Senior Councillors will be paid at rates above that paid to other Councillors and it is for Council to decide how much each Senior Councillor will be paid; the total allowed budget for this is limited by the Regulation to £342,524.
- 3.4 It is open to any Councillor to refuse all or part of the amounts otherwise paid under the Regulations.

4 REMUNERATION

- 4.1 With effect from 1 April 2022, each Councillor receives £19,571 per annum unless they are entitled to one of the higher amounts payable to the Leader of the Council, the Convener, and the "Senior Councillors". The Leader of the Council receives £39,148 per annum and the Convener £29,361 per annum, with these amounts specified in the Regulations. The amounts within this report are for full-year payment, but as the election was held on 5 May 2022 with Councillors elected at the Count on 6 May 2022, payments will be pro-rata for the financial year ended 31 March 2022.
- 4.2 Under the Regulations, no Senior Councillor may receive more than 75% of the amount payable to the Leader, so the effective top pay for such a Councillor could be the same as the Convener i.e. £29,361. None of the remuneration figures include employer National Insurance and pension contributions, which are payable by the Council.
- 4.3 Following consideration of the responsibilities to be borne by the Senior Councillors, a Scheme of Remuneration has been drawn up that seeks to recognise the differing significance of what is involved in each role. The Scheme proposes the payment rates for each role for approval by Council. Details of the Scheme are contained in the Appendix to this report.

5 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial

The Council's budget includes Councillors' salaries for 2022/23, before and after the election on 5 May 2022. The final cost of pension contributions payable by the Council for Elected Members will not be available until it is known whether any Members choose to opt out of joining the Local

Government Pension. Scheme. The cost of Senior Councillors is £342,524, which is the amount allowed in the Regulations.

5.2 **Risk and Mitigations**

No detailed guidance is provided by the Regulations about the duties of the Senior Councillors who are remunerated under the Scheme, or to the structure within which they operate. However, remuneration of Members is recognition of the significance of the duties they have to fulfil, and is also designed to remove the financial obstacles that might otherwise deter people from seeking election. The Administration has assessed the roles of Senior Councillors on the basis of:

- Size/breadth of responsibility
- Complexity
- Impact

5.3 **Integrated Impact Assessment**

No Integrated Impact Assessment has been carried out on this proposal but it is anticipated that there are no adverse equality implications.

5.4 **Sustainable Development Goals**

It is anticipated that by having a wide breadth of portfolios which take in many aspects contained within the UN Sustainable Development Goals that the Council will ensure that the work of the Portfolio holders will have a positive impact on these Goals.

5.5 **Climate Change**

It is anticipated that all the Portfolio holders, within their sphere of influence, will consider and take action to mitigate, where possible, climate change.

5.6 **Rural Proofing**

There is no impact on rural areas of the Borders from the details contained in this report.

5.7 **Data Protection Impact Statement**

There are no personal data implications arising from the proposals contained in this report.

5.8 **Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation**

Changes will be required to the Scheme of Administration should the proposals in this report be approved. These changes are detailed in a separate report on the agenda for this meeting.

6 **CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 *The Monitoring Officer/Chief Legal Officer, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Director (People Performance & Change), and Corporate Communications are being consulted and any material comments received will be reported at the meeting.*

Approved by

Name **David Robertson**
Title **Director Finance & Corporate Governance**

Author(s)

Name	Designation and Contact Number
Jenny Wilkinson	Clerk to the Council Tel: 01835 825004

Background Papers: Nil

Previous Minute Reference: Scottish Borders Council, 27 August 2020

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Scheme of Payment for Senior Councillors

1. Application of The Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Regulations 2007

The Regulations allow the Council to appoint a Leader, a Convener and up to 14 other Senior remunerated posts i.e. up to 16 in total.

The Leader’s remuneration is fixed by regulation, currently £39,148. The Leader is responsible for leading the Council, strategic oversight, Council communications, Sport and International Relations.

The Convener’s remuneration can be up to 75% of the Leader’s remuneration. It is £29,361. The Convener is the Civic Head of the Council.

The remuneration for Senior Councillors is inclusive of the basic Councillor remuneration.

The descriptions below are not intended to be an exhaustive list of duties.

2. Senior Councillors

	ROLE	DESCRIPTION	SALARY
1.	Portfolio holder for Community and Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture and Heritage • Emergency Services Oversight • Crime Prevention and Safer Communities • Emergency Planning 	£25,531
2.	Portfolio holder for Estate Management and Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning • SBC Estates 	£25,531
3.	Portfolio holder for Social Work and Community Enhancement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Social Work • Youth Justice • Adult Protection • Adult Day Services 	£25,531
4.	Portfolio holder for Health and Wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IJB • Homecare • Independent Living • National Care Service • Social Care 	£28,000
5.	Portfolio holder for Community and Business Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism and Events • Regeneration • Broadband and connectivity • International Relations • Economic Development 	£28,000
6.	Portfolio holder for Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance and Budget Oversight • HR 	£28,000

	Delivery and Transformation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Service Improvement and Performance • IT • Transformation Programme 	
7.	Portfolio holder for Roads Development and Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roads improvement and maintenance • Winter Maintenance • Fleet Management • Public Space maintenance and development • SB Contracts 	£25,531
8.	Portfolio holder for Developing Our Children and Young People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Work and Child Protection • Creating Opportunities • Wellbeing of Young People • The Promise 	£25,531
9.	Portfolio holder for Education and Lifelong Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Policy • Building Capacity in Schools • New School Builds • Inquiry Improvements 	£28,000
10.	Portfolio holder for Environment and Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling/Waste • Public Transport • Chair of Sustainability Committee • Climate Change Leader 	£25,531
11.	Portfolio holder for Communities and Equalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equalities • Poverty and Homelessness • Manage Key Community Assets • Homes • Customer Service • Volunteer and Third Sector • Gypsy and Traveller Lead 	£28,000
12.	Portfolio holder for Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area Partnerships • Community Capacity • Community Planning Partnership • Customer Engagement • Place Shaping 	£28,000
13.	Chair of Scrutiny	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair of Scrutiny 	£21,338

3. Pay Structure

In order to appropriately reward Senior Councillors, different pay levels were created to reflect the varying size, complexity and impact of roles.



INTERIM SCHEME OF ADMINISTRATION

Report by Director Finance & Corporate Governance

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

26 May 2022

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report proposes amendments to the current Scheme of Administration to take account of the new Portfolio holders and the consequential impact on committee memberships and advises that a further report will be brought forward in due course with additional changes to the Scheme.**
- 1.2 The new Administration of Scottish Borders Council has put forward changes to its Portfolio holders and as a consequence, an amended Scheme of Administration requires to be approved. As Councillors will wish to review the committee structure, other changes to the Scheme will also be brought forward following further discussion.
- 1.3 An Interim Scheme of Administration is attached as an Appendix to this report, which highlights in red the changes to the existing Scheme. Details of the specific changes are contained in Section 4 of this report.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 I recommend that Scottish Borders Council agrees to approve the Interim Scheme of Administration, attached in the Appendix to this report, which has changes highlighted in red and that further changes to the Scheme will be brought forward in due course.**

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The new Administration of Scottish Borders Council has put forward changes to its Portfolio holders and as a consequence, an amended Scheme of Administration requires to be approved. As Councillors will wish to review the committee structure, other changes to the Scheme will also be brought forward following further discussion.

4 INTERIM SCHEME OF ADMINISTRATION

- 4.1 An Interim Scheme of Administration is attached as an Appendix to this report, which highlights in red the changes to the existing Scheme. These changes are detailed in the following paragraphs:

(a) Major Contracts Governance Group

The Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation replaces the Executive Member for Finance & Budget Oversight as member and Chair of the Group.

(b) Executive Committee

The membership of the Executive Committee is increased from 12 to 13 to include the Leader and amended to take account of the following new Portfolio holders:

- Community and Culture
- Estate Management and Planning
- Social Work and Community Enhancement
- Health and Wellbeing
- Community and Business Development
- Service Delivery and Transformation
- Roads Development and Maintenance
- Developing our Children and Young People
- Education and Lifelong Learning
- Environment and Transport
- Communities and Equalities
- Community Engagement

At that part of the Executive Committee meeting which is considering Education Authority business as a main theme, the Committee will be chaired by the Portfolio holder for Education and Lifelong Learning.

At that part of the Executive Committee meeting which is considering Economic Development business as a main theme, the Committee will be chaired by the Portfolio holder for Community and Business Development.

(c) Education Performance Sub-Committee

The Portfolio holder for Education & Lifelong Learning replaces the Executive Member for Children & Young People as member and Chair of the Sub-Committee.

(d) Planning and Building Standards Committee

The Portfolio holder for Estate Management & Planning replaces the Executive Member for Enhancing the Built Environment & Natural Heritage as member and Chair of the Committee.

- (e) Local Review Body
The Portfolio holder for Estate Management & Planning replaces the Executive Member for Enhancing the Built Environment & Natural Heritage as Chair of the Review Body.
- (f) Sustainable Development Committee
The Portfolio holder for Environment & Transport shall be a member and Chair of the Committee.
- (g) Joint Consultative Group for Staff
The Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation (responsible for HR) replaces the Convener as a member and Chair of the Group.
- (h) Joint Consultative Group for Teachers
The Portfolio holder for Education & Lifelong Learning replaces the Executive Member for Children & Young People as a member and Chair of the Group.
- (i) Employee Council
The Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation replaces the Convener as member and Chair of the Group.
- (j) Appointment Committee
The Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation replaces the Convener as member and Chair of the Committee.
- (k) Staffing Appeals Committee
The Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation replaces the Convener as Chair of the Staffing Appeals Panel
- (l) Education Appeals Committee
The Portfolio holder for Education & Lifelong Learning replaces the Executive Member for Children & Young People as a Vice-Chair of the Group.
- (m) Asset Transfer Appeals Committee
The Portfolio holder for Communities & Equalities replaces the Executive Member for Community Development & Localities as Chair of the Panel or in their absence, the Portfolio holder for Estate Management & Planning.
- (n) Police, Fire & Rescue, and Safer Communities Board
The Portfolio holder for Community & Culture replaces the Executive Member for Public Protection on the Board.
- (o) Scottish Borders Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board
The three members of the Executive to be appointed to the Board to include the Portfolio holder for Health & Wellbeing.

4.2 Councillors will wish to review the current committee structure and a report with further changes will be brought forward in due course. The opportunity will also be taken to tidy up the wording within the Interim Scheme of Administration to remove references to Chairman and he, as appropriate.

5 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial

There are no costs attached to any of the recommendations contained in this report.

5.2 Risk and Mitigations

There is a reputational risk to the Council if it does not review of its decision making structure. It is through committees that the decisions of Scottish Borders Council are made. These decisions affect the lives of every person in the Scottish Borders and it is therefore critical that the infrastructure around that decision making process is as effective as possible to ensure that the most informed and the best possible decisions are made.

5.3 Integrated Impact Assessment

No Integrated Impact Assessment has been carried out on the Interim Scheme of Administration although it is anticipated that there are no adverse equality issues.

5.4 Sustainable Development Goals

The changes to the Scheme of Administration will not have any direct impact on the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

5.5 Climate Change

The changes to the Scheme of Administration will not have any direct impact on climate change.

5.6 Rural Proofing

There is no specific impact on the rural area from the proposals contained in this report.

5.7 Data Protection Impact Statement

There are no personal data implications arising from the proposals contained in this report.

5.8 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation

Changes are needed to the Scheme of Administration and these are detailed in the report.

6 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 *The Monitoring Officer/Chief Legal Officer, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Director (People Performance & Change), and Corporate Communications are being consulted and any material comments received will be reported at the meeting.*

Approved by

Name **David Robertson**
Title **Director Finance & Corporate Governance**

Author(s)

Name	Designation and Contact Number
Jenny Wilkinson	Clerk to the Council Tel: 01835 825004

Background Papers: Nil

Previous Minute Reference: Scottish Borders Council, 22 February 2022

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Scottish Borders Code of Governance

Interim Scheme of Administration

Openness
Accountability
Responsiveness
Democracy

Scottish Borders Council
Approved - 28 September 2017

(Proposed amendments for Council – 26 May 2022)

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SECTION I

GENERAL Purpose

1. This Scheme of Administration:-
 - (a) regulates the constitution and membership of the Committees of the Council;
 - (b) the allocation of the functions of the Committees of the Council; and
 - (c) the delegation to Committees of authority to exercise the functions of the Council.

Amendment

2. This Scheme may be amended at any time by the Council by decision of a simple majority, or, for more minor changes arising from a decision of the Council or the Executive Committee, by the Clerk to the Council in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation.

Interpretation

3. In this Scheme the following expressions have the following meanings assigned to them:

"Act" in relation to the functions of the Council means an Act of Parliament or any amendment or variation of such, including Regulations made under an Act.

"The Local Government Acts" means the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the Local Government etc (Scotland) Act 1994, and any other relevant statute relating to committees

"Area" in relation to the geographical area of jurisdiction of the Council shall be the Scottish Borders as defined in column 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 1 to the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994.

"Council" means the Scottish Borders Council.

"Committee", also relates to Boards, and where the context permits, includes any Sub-Committee of that Committee.

"Convener" means the Civic Head of the Council appointed by the Council.

"Vice-Convener" means the Depute Civic Head of the Council appointed by the Council.

"Co-opted Member" means any member of a Committee who is not an Elected Member.

"Chief Executive" means the Chief Executive appointed by the Council.

"Assessor" means the Assessor appointed by the Council as valuation authority under Section 27(2) of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994, except in Section XV (Local Review Body) where its meaning is taken from the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006.

"Elected Member" or "Member" means a Councillor elected to the Council in terms of Chapter 1 of Part 1 of the Local Government etc (Scotland) Act 1994, as amended.

“Leader” means the Leader for the time being of the Council.

“Administration” in relation to the membership of the Council and Committees means the ruling group formed by an alliance of the majority of Members on the Council.

“Opposition” in relation to the membership of the Council and Committees means the registered group formed by an alliance of Members out-with the ruling group on the Council.

Committees, etc.

4. Subject to the provisions of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 and any other relevant statutes, the Council shall appoint and maintain the following Committees, and Sub-Committees:

Council Sub-Committees

Coldstream Common Good Fund
Duns Common Good Fund
Eyemouth Common Good Fund
Galashiels Common Good Fund
Hawick Common Good Fund
Innerleithen Common Good Fund
Jedburgh Common Good Fund
Kelso Common Good Fund
Lauder Common Good Fund
Melrose Common Good Fund
Peebles Common Good Fund
Selkirk Common Good Fund
William Hill Trust
Major Contracts Governance Group

Executive Committee

Education Performance Sub-Committee

Audit and Scrutiny Committee

Civic Government Licensing Committee

Pension Fund Committee

Pension Fund Investment and Performance Sub-Committee

Planning and Building Standards Committee

Local Review Body

Sustainable Development Committee

Joint Consultative Group – Staff

Joint Consultative Group – Teachers

Employee Council

Appointment Committee

Standards Committee

Staffing Appeals Committee

Education Appeals Committee

Asset Transfer Appeals Committee

Police, Fire & Rescue, and Safer Communities Board

Community Planning Strategic Board

Berwickshire Area Partnership
Cheviot Area Partnership
Eildon Area Partnership
Teviot & Liddesdale Area Partnership
Tweeddale Area Partnership

5. Under The Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005, the Council shall also appoint a **Scottish Borders Licensing Board**.
6. Under the Public Bodies (Joint Working)(Scotland) Act 2014, the Council shall also appoint members to the Scottish Borders Health & Social Care Integration Joint Board.
7. The respective Committees, etc., of the Council shall have the Constitution, Quorum, Terms of Reference and Delegated Powers, as detailed in the appropriate Section of this Scheme.
8. The Council may from time to time appoint such other Committees, Sub-Committees, etc., and/or Working Parties with such Constitution, Quorum, Terms of Reference and Delegated Powers as the Council may decide.
9. The Minutes of a meeting of a Sub-Committee will be submitted for approval as a correct record and signed by the person chairing the next meeting of the Sub-Committee and will be circulated to the next meeting of the parent Committee for approval of any recommendations.
10. The Minutes of parent Committees will be submitted for approval as a correct record and signed by the person chairing the next meeting of the Committee and will be circulated to the next meeting of the Council for approval of any recommendations.

Call-In Procedure

11. A decision of the Executive Committee can be called-in for review by the Audit and Scrutiny Committee in the following way subject to the terms detailed in (a) to (f) below:
 - (i) the Clerk to the Council must be informed, in writing, of the request;
 - (ii) the request must be made before 5 p.m. on the fourth working day following the Executive meeting, whether the Minute of that meeting has been issued or not; and
 - (iii) at least five named members of the Council must subscribe to the request.

(a) Decisions Not Subject to Call-in

Certain types of decision are exempted from Call-in and these are:

- (i) matters which require formal ratification by the full Council, such as the setting of the level of Council Tax;
- (ii) decisions taken under emergency powers;
- (iii) decisions where a delay would prejudice the best interests of the Council – for example if:

- (1) the decision is a formal response by the Council which has to be given within a prescribed deadline;
- (2) immediate action is needed in order to avoid possible legal proceedings against the Council; or where a delay would involve a breach of law (such as where a statutory or contractual timescale would be infringed by a delay);
- (3) deferral of an immediate implementation of the decision could result in financial detriment to the Council. If financial detriment is cited as a reason for refusal, then details of the actual costs and their composition will be included in the explanation.

(b) Terms for Calling-in Items

- (i) Requests for a call-in must contain a clear and specific reason for wishing the decision to be reviewed.
- (ii) It is acceptable for requests to be submitted to the Clerk to the Council by e-mail provided that an individual e-mail is received from each of the members identified as subscribing to the request giving their own individual endorsement to this.
- (iii) One of the five signatories to the request must be identified as the "lead member" for the purpose of processing the matter. The request will therefore need to stipulate which of the five wishes to be the designated "lead member".

(c) Timescale for Reviewing Decisions Called-in

It is important to ensure that Audit and Scrutiny has sufficient time to review a decision, whilst at the same time avoiding undue delay to the decision-making process of the Council. To this end, the Audit and Scrutiny Committee will review a decision called-in at the first available meeting or at a specially convened meeting after the due notice of call-in has been received by the Clerk to the Council and will provide a report for the meeting of the Executive Committee immediately following. Where the Audit and Scrutiny Committee is, for some reason, unable to provide a response within this timescale, it will notify the Executive Committee accordingly, together with the reason why it has been unable to complete its review, and advise of the expected completion date. Should any such delay lead to the best interests of the Council being prejudiced then the call-in will fall.

(d) Procedure for Reviewing Items Called-in

In order to carry out a review of decisions called-in, the Audit and Scrutiny Committee will require to interview Executive Committee members and/or officials. Where this is the case, and in order to ensure that all such interviews are fair and productive, it is suggested that to help provide information relating to the matter under review, the person or persons who are to be asked to attend the meeting will:

- (i) be given prior notice of this; and

- (ii) be provided with an indication of the nature of the issue under consideration or of the questions likely to be asked.

In terms of officials asked to attend, the procedure for the Audit and Scrutiny Committee will be to ask the relevant Director who will either attend in person or will nominate an appropriate representative. The designated "lead member" for the request (if he/she is not already a member of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee) will be extended the opportunity of attending the meeting of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee where the matter is to be discussed in order to explain in more detail the reasons for calling-in the decision.

(e) Procedure for Audit and Scrutiny Committee Recommendations being considered by the Executive Committee

Once the Audit and Scrutiny Committee has considered a Call-in and come to a conclusion, the Chairman of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee (or his representative) and the Lead Member of the Call-in, are required to attend the Executive Committee meeting where any Audit and Scrutiny Committee recommendations are being considered, to introduce the findings/recommendations of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee.

(f) Procedure in the Event of Continuing Differences between the Executive and Audit and Scrutiny Committees

If agreement cannot be reached between the Executive Committee and the Audit and Scrutiny Committee on the matter called in, then the matter will be referred to the full Council for a final resolution of the matter.

SECTION II

PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL COMMITTEES

Referred Functions

1. Subject to the provisions of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 and the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 and any other relevant statutes, and subject also to the provisions of the Council's Standing Orders, where any function of the Council is referred to a Committee, the Committee shall not have the power to exercise the function in like manner as the Council, but the Committee shall consider any matter relating to that function and report to the Council or Committee as the case may be and any recommendation by the Committee on any such matter shall be subject to the approval of the Council, or of any Committee to which that function may have been delegated.
2. There shall be excluded from reference to any Committee the following:
 - (a) any matter specifically referred to another Committee;
 - (b) any matter which the Council may decide is specifically excluded from reference to the Committee.
3. Notwithstanding the reference to one Committee of any class of functions, the Council shall have power to refer any one of those functions on any particular occasion specifically to another Committee when by reason of the nature of the matter and in the opinion of the Council, it should be so referred.
4. Where any question arises out of or in connection with the functions referred to two or more Committees, these Committees shall confer together and give all necessary assistance before reporting to the Council either jointly or separately.
5. In the event of any difference arising between two or more Committees, the matter shall be determined by the Council after receiving reports on the matter from each Committee concerned.

Delegated Functions

6. Subject to the provisions of the Local Government Acts and any other relevant statutes and subject also to the provisions of the Council's Standing Orders, where any function of the Council is delegated to a Committee (or Sub-Committee), that body shall have the power to exercise the function in like manner in all respects as the Council could have exercised it had there been no delegation; provided, however, that it shall be competent for such Committee (or Sub-Committee) in relation to any delegated matter, instead of taking a decision on the matter, to make a recommendation on the matter to the Council or Committee as the case may be, in which event the matter shall be decided by the Council or Committee as the case may be after consideration of that recommendation. Any recommendation which requires a final decision by full Council shall be identified in the Minute of the Committee marking the recommendation with an asterisk*, and any recommendation which requires a final decision by the Executive Committee shall be identified in the Minute of the Committee marking the recommendation with a hash#.

General

7. Subject to the provisions of the Local Government Acts and any other relevant statutes:
 - (a) Each Committee shall give effect to any instruction of the Council.
 - (b) The Council may at any time if they so determine deal with any matter included in the reference or delegation to a Committee although no report from such Committee is before them.
 - (c) The Council may, at any time, by decision recorded in the Minutes of the Council, vary, add to or restrict any reference or delegation to any Committee or Working Group.
 - (d) A Committee may at any time if they so determine deal with any matter included in the reference or delegation to a Working Group of that Committee although no report from such Working Group is before it.
8. The Council shall appoint all members of Committees and Sub-Committees unless otherwise provided in this Scheme. The appropriate Committee shall appoint all members of its Working Groups unless otherwise provided in this Scheme. The term of office of members of Committees shall be as decided by the Council. The Leader of the Council shall be entitled, in addition to their membership of the Executive Committee, to attend and speak at any Committee, Sub-Committee or Working Group of the Council – except Planning and Building Standards Committee, Licensing Board, and Civic Government Licensing Committee - but shall not be entitled to vote at these bodies unless as a duly appointed member of that body.
9. For the purpose of awarding Members' Allowances, including payments to Senior Councillors, and for the purpose of appointment of Members to Committees, the Council will apply the Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Regulations 2007, the Local Government (Allowances and Expenses) (Scotland) Regulations 2007 and the Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Allowances and Expenses) Regulations 2007, and any subsequent variation or amendment thereto. The Council shall only recognise a political group, its Leader, Depute Leader (where specified by any political group), and the membership of any political group, where appropriate notice is delivered to the Council's Chief Executive or Proper Officer.

Furthermore, the Council shall take account of the preferred nominations submitted by the various groups, by notice signed by the Leader or Depute Leader of the group concerned and delivered to the Chief Executive or other authorised officer, in the selection of persons to be appointed as members of Committees, always however within the overall number of members of each group entitled by the Council to have membership of each Committee. The Council will also take account of any subsequent variation in the preferred nomination or nominations submitted by any group, by notice signed and delivered as aforesaid, in relation to the membership of any Committee, always subject to the same consideration as immediately before specified.
10. Casual vacancies in the membership of any Committee, however arising, shall be filled as soon as reasonably possible, taking account of Clause 10 of Section II of this Scheme, and the term of office of members so appointed to fill casual vacancies shall be as decided by the Council; provided that in the event of a

casual vacancy arising within the period of three months immediately preceding the next ordinary statutory election of councillors, the Council in the case of a vacancy in the membership of a Committee may decide that the vacancy shall remain unfilled for the remainder of that period.

11. The Council shall appoint the Chairman and Vice-Chairman (if required) of each Committee (other than the Licensing Board), and unless otherwise specified in this Scheme, the persons appointed shall be Elected Members. Each Committee shall appoint the Chairman of any Working Group of that Committee and the person appointed shall already be a member of that Committee.
12. A Committee may delegate to an Officer of the Council, or to an Officer or Officers in consultation with an Elected Member or Members as appropriate, authority to undertake or discharge any function which is delegated to that Committee or Sub-Committee. Authority may not be delegated to an individual Councillor or Councillors unless as members of a particular Committee or Sub-Committee meeting formally.
13. An Elected Member may take part in the proceedings of, speak and vote (if appointed as a voting member) at any Committee (or Working Group) of which he or she is a member. An Elected Member may attend the proceedings of a Committee of which he or she is not a member but may not take part or vote and may only speak if, following a prior request to the Chairman, he or she is invited to address the Committee on the matter under consideration. Such a request may be granted where a specific Ward issue is involved, or otherwise in exceptional circumstances, at the Chairman's discretion.

A Co-opted Member may only attend, take part in, speak (and vote if the appointment is as a voting-member) at a meeting of a Committee of which he or she is a member.

14. Committee meetings are open for members of the public to attend except to the extent that they are excluded under Section 50(A)(2) and (4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973. Members of the public may not take part in Committee meetings and may only speak if, following a prior request to the Chairman, he or she is invited to address the Committee on the matter under consideration. The Chairman shall have sole discretion on whether to invite members of the public to address the Committee. No such right to speak will be granted where Committees are considering planning or licensing applications, other than under the public speaking protocols covering Planning and Building Standards Committee and Local Review Body or when a Licensing Hearing has been convened.

Items for Agendas and Reports to Committees

15. Only those reports which require a decision to be taken by a Committee of the Council, or are necessary to enable the Committee to discharge its business or exercise its statutory or monitoring role, will normally be included on the agenda of any Committee. It shall be delegated to the Chief Executive or the Clerk to the Council to make the final determination, in consultation with the Convener or appropriate Chairman, on whether or not an item of business should be included on an agenda. Any reports or other documents which are

for information only will be included in an Information Bulletin prepared by the Clerk to the Council for issue to all Members of the Council on a regular basis.

SECTION III SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

Constitution

All 34 Elected Members.

Chairman

The Convener shall be Chairman of the Council and the Vice-Convener Vice-Chairman.

Quorum

- (a) The complete number of Council members is thirty four. Subject to Standing Order No. 18, no business shall be transacted at a meeting of the Council unless at least one-fourth (i.e. nine members) of the complete number of Council members are present.
- (b) Where there are vacancies of more than one-third of the Council members (i.e. more than 12 members), then the quorum of the Council is determined as follows:-
- Until the number of members in office is increased to not less than two-thirds (i.e. 24 members) of the complete number of Council members, the quorum of the Council shall be determined by the actual number of Council members, instead of the complete number of Council members. The quorum, however, shall never be less than one-eighth (i.e. five members) of the complete number of members of the Council.

Decisions Excluded from Delegation to any Committee by Statute

1. The raising of money by Rates, Council Tax or borrowing.
2. The approval annually of the Revenue Financial Plan and the setting of the level of Council Tax for any year.
3. The approval annually of the Capital Financial Plan.
4. The approval annually of the Council's and Pension Fund's statutory accounts.
5. The approval annually of the Council's treasury management policy and strategy.
6. The approval of any new policies and strategies.
7. Approve the Community Plan.
8. Except as provided for in this Scheme of Administration, Financial Regulations, Scheme of Delegation and Standing Orders approved by the Council, in respect of the matters referred to the Committee:
 - (i) the incurring of any net new expenditure not provided for in the estimates of Capital or Revenue expenditure unless and until such expenditure is reported to and approved by the Council;
 - (ii) the amendment of the Financial Regulations for regulating the Council's financial procedures;

- (iii) the amendment of this Scheme of Administration regulating the constitution, membership, functions and powers of Committees of the Council;
 - (iv) the preparation, review and amendment of the Standing Orders for regulating the proceedings and business of the Council and Committees
 - (v) the preparation, review and amendment of the Scheme of Delegation detailing those functions delegated by the Council to its officers.
9. The making of an order for the compulsory acquisition of any land or buildings.
 10. Other than to a Committee specially appointed for the purpose, the appointment of the Chief Executive and the dismissal of the Chief Executive, the Assessor or any Director.
 11. All matters relating to elections of Councillors.
 12. Matters relating to any alteration in the boundaries of the area or electoral wards and the number of Councillors.
 13. The appointment of representatives of the Council on outside bodies.
 14. The decision to co-operate or combine with other local authorities in the provision of services, other than decisions relating to any arrangements under which the Council's Trading Organisations may co-operate or combine with other contracting units in the provision of services.
 15. The preparation and review of the Scheme for Community Councils and carrying out those powers and duties relative to facilitating and co-ordinating the Council's relationship with Community Councils.
 16. Consideration of Provisional Orders or Private Bills affecting the interests of the Council and approval of the terms of any Provisional Order or Private Bill to be promoted by the Council.
 17. Approval of the Strategic and Local Development Plans.
 18. The consideration of planning applications in respect of National Developments and Major developments which are significantly contrary to the local development plan as defined within Section 38A(1) of the Town and Country Planning Act (Scotland) Act 1997.
 19. The conducting of Pre-determination Hearings to consider representations from applicants and other interested parties in respect of National Developments and Major developments which are significantly contrary to the local development plan as defined within Section 38A(1) of the Town and Country Planning Act (Scotland) Act 1997.

Other Functions

20. Approve the Local Policing Plan.
21. Approve the Local Fire and Rescue Services Plan.

22. Approve items of expenditure for any Common Good Fund of a value greater than £20,000.
23. Approve the disposal or change of use of a Common Good asset of a value greater than £20,000, following due process in terms of Section 104 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.
24. Determine any matters affecting Common Good Funds, other than those delegated to Common Good Fund Sub-Committees.
25. Review the annual performance of investments and monitor the Charitable Trusts.
26. Ensure appropriate investment Management arrangements are in place for the monies invested by the Charitable Trust Funds.
27. Review the Common Good and Trust Fund Investment Strategy and ensure that it continues to meet the needs of the Charitable Trusts.
28. Consult such other parties as the Council considers appropriate prior to decision making, including Community Councils.
29. Determine any matters affecting the Charitable Trusts, other than those delegated to Charitable Trusts Sub-Committees.
30. Approve Local Bye-Laws and Management Rules, after consultation with the relevant local Members.
31. Consider applications to the Borders-wide Community Fund.
32. Determine, if required, any matter referred or delegated to any other Committee.
33. Approve the change of status, or closure, of any school. [*Note: Where a recommendation has not been received from the Executive Committee, the religious/teacher/parent council/pupil representatives on the Executive Committee shall be given the opportunity to contribute to the debate.*]
34. Note decisions taken under Emergency Powers in Standing Order No. 49(a)(i).

(COUNCIL SUB-COMMITTEES)

COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEES

Constitution

- (a) For each Common Good Fund Sub-Committee, the elected Scottish Borders Councillors representing the Ward(s) of:
For **Coldstream** – Mid Berwickshire
For **Duns** – Mid Berwickshire
For **Eyemouth** – East Berwickshire
For **Galashiels** – Galashiels and District
For **Hawick** – Hawick and Denholm; Hawick and Hermitage
For **Innerleithen** – Tweeddale East
For **Jedburgh** – Jedburgh and District
For **Kelso** – Kelso and District
For **Lauder** – Leaderdale and Melrose
For **Melrose** – Leaderdale and Melrose
For **Peebles** – Tweeddale East; Tweeddale West
For **Selkirk** – Selkirkshire
- (b) For each of the Common Good Fund Sub-Committee, a member of the following local Community Council(s) as a non-voting member:
For **Coldstream** – Coldstream & District Community Council
For **Duns** – Duns Community Council
For **Eyemouth** – Eyemouth Community Council
For **Galashiels** – Galashiels Community Council
For **Hawick** – Burnfoot Community Council; Hawick Community Council
For **Jedburgh** – Jedburgh Community Council
For **Kelso** – Kelso Community Council
For **Lauder** – Lauderdale Community Council
For **Melrose** – Melrose & District Community Council
For **Peebles** – Peebles Community Council
For **Selkirk** – Selkirk Community Council

Quorum

- (a) Two Scottish Borders Councillors, in relation to the Common Good Fund Sub-Committees of **Coldstream, Duns, Eyemouth, Galashiels, Innerleithen, Jedburgh, Kelso, Lauder, Melrose** and **Selkirk**.
- (b) Three Scottish Borders Councillors, with at least one from each Ward, in relation to the Common Good Fund Sub-Committees of **Hawick** and **Peebles**.

Chairman of each Sub-Committee

The Chairman of each Sub-Committee shall be a Scottish Borders Councillor.

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Council shall stand referred to each Sub-Committee:

1. The routine administration of the Common Good Fund.

2. Award of grants or loans of up to £20,000.
- *3. Make recommendations to Council in respect of grants or loans or major items of expenditure above £20,000.
4. Approve terms for hires, wayleaves, leases etc., and the sale or purchase of land and property up to a value of £20,000.
- *5. Make recommendations to Council in relation to the sale or lease or purchase of Common Good land or property of a value greater than £20,000.
6. Hold an annual meeting to consider:
 - (i) a budget for the year ahead;
 - (ii) a report reviewing the performance of investments and approval for the amount of funds to be invested, as per the Corporate Investment Policy;
 - (iii) a report on the factorage of property, as appropriate;

and otherwise to hold meetings on an ad hoc basis to deal with business as it arises.
7. Approve the amount of funds to be invested each year, as per the Corporate Investment Policy.
8. Consult such other parties as the Sub-Committee considers appropriate prior to decision making.
9. Ensure the implementation of decisions affecting the Common Good Fund and monitor their impact on the Common Good Fund.
10. Grant and confer Burgess Tickets (Lauder Common Good Fund only).
11. Approve the Common Good Fund Asset Register(s) as required in terms of Section 102 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, reviewing these at least every 5 years.
12. Approve the disposal or change of use of a Common Good asset up to the value of £20,000, following due process in terms of Section 104 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.
13. Make recommendations to Council regarding the disposal or change of use of a Common Good asset of a value greater than £20,000, following due process in terms of Section 104 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.
14. Determine any Community Asset Transfer Request made in respect of Common Good Property. For the avoidance of doubt, there is no financial value limit to the exercise of this function. However in the event that a Sub-Committee is minded to transfer property to a Community Transfer Body, the matter will require to be referred to the Community Asset Appeal Committee for ratification.

Functions Delegated

All functions above NOT marked *. Those functions marked * are referred to the Sub-Committee for consideration and recommendation only and must receive approval of Council.

(COUNCIL SUB-COMMITTEES)

WILLIAM HILL TRUST SUB-COMMITTEE

Constitution

- (a) The three elected Scottish Borders Councillors representing the Ward of Leaderdale and Melrose.
- (b) A member of Melrose Community Council as a non-voting member.

Chairman

The Chairman shall be a Scottish Borders Councillor.

Quorum

Two Scottish Borders Councillors.

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Council shall stand referred to the Sub-Committee:

1. The routine administration of the Trust Fund.
2. Award of grants or loans of up to £20,000 from the Trust Fund.
- *3. Make recommendations to Council in respect of grants or loans or major items of expenditure above £20,000.
4. Approve terms for hires, wayleaves, leases etc., and the sale or purchase of land and property up to a value of £20,000.
- *5. Make recommendations to Council in relation to the sale or lease or purchase of Trust Fund land or property of a value greater than £20,000.
6. Hold an annual meeting to consider a budget and to hear reports reviewing the performance of investments and on the factorage of property and otherwise to hold meetings on an ad hoc basis to deal with business as it arises.
7. Consult such other parties as the Sub-Committee considers appropriate prior to decision making, including Community Councils.
8. Ensure the implementation of decisions affecting the Trust Fund and monitor their impact on the Trust Fund.

Functions Delegated

All functions above NOT marked *. Those functions marked * are referred to the Sub-Committee for consideration and recommendation only and must receive approval of Council.

(COUNCIL SUB-COMMITTEES)

MAJOR CONTRACTS GOVERNANCE GROUP

Constitution

Seven Elected Members of Scottish Borders Council, including the ~~Executive Member for Finance & Budget Oversight~~ **Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation**.

Chairman

The Chairman shall be the ~~Executive Member for Finance & Budget Oversight~~ **Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation**.

Quorum

Three SBC Elected Members of the Sub-Committee shall constitute a quorum

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Council shall stand referred to the Sub-Committee:-

SB Contracts

1. The consideration of matters relative to business management of trading services including providing an appropriate level of scrutiny on the financial risk arising from trading operations.
2. The monitoring of the trading arrangements and operations in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 2003.
3. The evaluation of financial controls and the detailed monitoring of financial and performance levels for trading services.
4. The evaluation of Financial Plans for delivering required performance levels from trading services.
5. Consideration of the strategic model employed by trading services, and to contribute towards the long-term strategic development process.
6. Consideration of matters relative to tendering for internal and external contract works.
7. The determination of appropriate processes and practices, within overall Council policy, to support the efficient and effective development of trading powers.
8. To understand the trading risk exposure and to evaluate measures to manage the trading risk-reward balance.
9. The consideration of Joint Arrangements with suppliers or other parties to improve the effectiveness and/or efficiency of the trading organisation.

CGI

10. The consideration of any major proposed changes to the CGI contract, with recommendations to Council as necessary.

11. The regular consideration of performance information on the transformation being delivered with CGI, key performance information with respect to the contract and any key issues associated with contract management.
12. The scrutiny of the performance of the CGI contract to ensure value for money and the effective delivery of outcomes required by the Council.

Functions Delegated

All functions above NOT marked *. Those functions marked * are referred to the Sub-Committee for consideration and recommendation only and must receive approval of the Council.

SECTION IV

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Constitution

(a) ±2 13 Members of the Council, being:-

Leader of the Council

~~Executive Members~~ Portfolio holders for –

- ~~• Adult Wellbeing~~
- ~~• Finance & Budget Oversight~~
- ~~• Children & Young People~~
- ~~• Economic Development, Economic Regeneration, Tourism, Inward Investment and Broadband & Digital Connectivity~~
- ~~• Wellbeing, Sport & Culture~~
- ~~• Community Development & Localities~~
- ~~• Enhancing the Built Environment & Natural Heritage~~
- ~~• Infrastructure, Travel & Transport~~
- ~~• Public Protection~~
- ~~• Sustainable Development~~
- ~~• Homes and Housing~~
- Community and Culture
- Estate Management and Planning
- Social Work and Community Enhancement
- Health and Wellbeing
- Community and Business Development
- Service Delivery and Transformation
- Roads Development and Maintenance
- Developing our Children and Young People
- Education and Lifelong Learning
- Environment and Transport
- Communities and Equalities
- Community Engagement

- (b) At that part of an Executive meeting which is considering Education Authority business as a main theme, the Executive will include (for that part of the meeting only) the following additional members as voting members (to be made in accordance with Appendix 1 to this Scheme) – three persons interested in the promotion of religious education appointed in accordance with Section 124 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended by Section 31 of the Local Government Etc. (Scotland) Act 1994; and the following additional members as non-voting members – two teachers in the employment of the Council appointed as non-voting members by the Council from nominations to be made in accordance with Appendix 2 to this Scheme; two representatives from Parent Councils, one from the Primary Sector, and one from the Secondary Sector; and two pupil representatives.
- (c) At that part of an Executive meeting which is considering Economic Development business as a main theme, the Executive will include (for that part of the meeting only) two additional members appointed from an external source as non-voting members.

Chairman

- (a) The Leader of the Council shall be Chairman of the Executive.
- (b) At that part of an Executive Committee meeting which is considering Education Authority business as a main theme, the Committee will be chaired by the ~~Executive Member for Children & Young People~~ **Portfolio holder for Education and Lifelong Learning**.
- (c) At that part of an Executive Committee meeting which is considering Economic Development business as a main theme, the Committee will be chaired by the ~~Executive Member with responsibility for Economic Regeneration~~ **Portfolio holder for Community and Business Development**.

Quorum

Five SBC Elected Members of the Executive shall constitute a Quorum.

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Council shall stand referred to the Committee –

Policy and Performance

1. Review and alter from time to time, as may be considered necessary, any existing policies or strategies not specifically within the remit of any other Council Committee.
- *2. Consider the broad needs of the Council's Area and matters of comprehensive importance, including advising the Council on European Community matters, making recommendations to Council as necessary.
3. Consider regularly Council performance against:-
 - Corporate and Improvement Plans including policy objectives and priorities
 - Relevant Business Plan actions and initiatives
 - Statutory Performance Indicators and the Annual Public Performance Report
 - Key performance indicators and other relevant performance indicators
 - Business Transformation
 - Best Value
4. Identify the requirement for any in-depth policy or practice review work arising from the monitoring of performance and refer to the appropriate Committee and/or Director, as necessary.
5. Ensure the enactment of committee decisions and monitor their impact on Council services.
6. Monitor the performance of the Police Community Action Teams, with reporting on a quarterly basis.

Resources and Services

7. Consider matters relating to the organisation and administration of all Services of the Council.

8. Initiate or carry out reviews of strategic or corporate significance and such other reviews as the Executive deem appropriate.

Financial Management

9. Secure the co-ordination, control and proper management of the financial affairs of the Council.

10. Consider regularly the Council's performance against the revenue and capital budgets and associated financial statements.

11. Within the context of the approved Capital Financial Plan, approve proposals for capital expenditure.

12. Within the context of the approved Revenue Financial Plan, except where specifically delegated to another Committee, approve proposals for revenue expenditure, including proposals for virement in terms of Financial Regulation 7.9. For the avoidance of doubt, this means approval of all decisions relating to virements between Services, capital finance from current revenue, policy changes and the carry forward of earmarked balances.

*13. Consider requests to incur revenue expenditure not provided for in the approved Revenue Financial Plan and make recommendations to Council.

*14. Consider requests to incur capital expenditure not provided for in the approved Capital Financial Plan and make recommendations to Council.

15. Consider all matters (not delegated directly to Officers) related to:

- (i) Revenue and Capital budgets and funding approved by Council;
- (ii) banking;
- (iii) debt management and debt recovery, including the appointment of sheriff officers;
- (iv) Treasury Management;
- (v) procurement;
- (vi) investment;
- (vii) borrowing;
- (viii) income collection; and
- (ix) insurance arrangements of the Council.

16. Consider all matters related to the collection of Council Tax, Rates, (former) Community Charges, Water and Sewerage Charge (on behalf of Scottish Water) and acting as Collecting Authority therefore in terms of Section 79 of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994.

17. Approve applications for funding and authorise grants above the level not delegated directly to officers.

18. Approve grants from the SBC Welfare Trust and SBC Community Enhancement Trust in situations where grant applications exceed the limits specified in the Scheme of Delegation or less than 50% of the Members in the relevant Wards are in agreement.

19. Determine applications for financial assistance from outside bodies.

20. Establish an ad-hoc Procurement Appeals Committee, consisting of three Members, to consider and determine any appeals by suppliers against the disqualification of their tender by the Council for any reason.

Property, Land and Accommodation

21. Consider matters relating to land and buildings, including:
 - (i) asset management planning for the Council's estate;
 - (ii) the provision, management, furnishing, equipping, maintenance and facilities management of buildings;
 - (iii) negotiations relating to commercial developments and the acquisition and disposal of land and/or buildings; and
 - (iv) energy and carbon management.

Staffing

22. Consider the training, development and welfare of all staff, including the preparation and review of Council policies on staffing issues and Health and Safety at Work, and the promotion of good human resources management and employment practices.
23. Consider all matters relating to the conditions of service, remuneration, allowances, superannuation and pensions of all employees, including consultation and negotiation with the appropriate Trades Unions as necessary, and the ratification of National Agreements and significant Local Agreements.
24. Employer discretions under the Local Government Pension Scheme, within the terms of the relevant legislation.

Education

- *25. Consider the broad educational needs of the Council's area, making recommendations to Council as necessary.
26. Oversee the functions of the Council under the Education (Scotland) Acts, the Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004, and all other relevant legislation and regulations.
27. Consider all matters relating to education including pre-school education, primary education, secondary education and community learning and development.
- *28. Make recommendations on the change of status, or closure, of any school.
29. Consider all matters relating to Parent Councils.
30. Establish an ad-hoc Sub-Committee, as required, to deal with any parents who are failing to meet their responsibilities regarding a child's attendance at school, if a parent:-
 - (a) fails to provide a reasonable excuse for the child's absence from school; and/or
 - (b) provides dubious excuses for the child's absence; and/or
 - (c) does not effectively address the matter of the child's absence from school.

Economic Development

31. Provide strategic leadership and vision for Economic Development in the Scottish Borders, developing and overseeing the delivery of economic development plans.
 32. Ensure key changes are implemented by the Council to achieve improved services for businesses, encouraging a 'business positive' culture across the Council.
 33. Scrutinise and review the effectiveness of Council services, other agencies and organisations in promoting the economic development and well-being of the Scottish Borders.
- ### Live Borders
- *34. The consideration of the any proposed contractual changes to the Agreement with Live Borders.
 35. The regular consideration of performance against the Live Borders Business Plan actions and initiatives.
 36. The scrutiny of the financial performance of Live Borders in terms of the conditions of grant by Scottish Borders Council to ensure value for money and the effective delivery of outcomes required by the Council.
 - *37. Consideration of any future proposed changes to service provision by Live Borders, with recommendations to Council as necessary.

Miscellaneous

38. Consider new legislation and advise Council accordingly.
39. Approve all matters relating to street naming and numbering (where not already delegated to officers), after consultation with the relevant local Members.
40. Initiate or defend civil actions other than those relating to matters standing referred to other Committees.
41. Consider all matters not specifically referred to or delegated to any other Committee.
- *42. Make recommendations to Council regarding responses to statutory and other consultations.

Functions Delegated

All of the functions above NOT marked *. Those functions marked * are referred to the Committee for consideration and recommendation only and must receive approval of the Council.

(EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE)

EDUCATION PERFORMANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

Constitution

Three Elected Members, being the ~~Executive Member for Children & Young People~~ **Portfolio holder for Education & Lifelong Learning**, together with two other Members of the Executive Committee. The Teacher Representatives, Parent Council and Pupil representatives are excluded from membership of the Sub-Committee.

Chairman

The Chairman shall be the ~~Executive Member for Children & Young People~~ **Portfolio holder for Education & Lifelong Learning**.

Quorum

Two Members of the Sub-Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Committee shall stand referred to the Sub-Committee:-

1. To consider all published reports, action plans, and follow up reports on:
 - (i) pre-school, primary and secondary school by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE);
 - (ii) community learning and development (CLAD) and other community services by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE);
 - (iii) Care Inspectorate (on educational establishments in the Scottish Borders);
and
 - (iv) internal school reviews.
- #2. To request follow-up reports in respect of the implementation of any Action Plans, if required, for any of the above reports, and make recommendations to the Executive Committee, as necessary.

Functions Delegated

All functions above NOT marked #. Those functions marked # are referred to the Sub-Committee for consideration and recommendation only and must receive approval of the Executive Committee.

SECTION V

AUDIT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Constitution

- (a) Nine members of the Council, not on the Executive Committee;
- (b) At that part of an Audit and Scrutiny Committee meeting which is considering Audit matters, the Audit and Scrutiny Committee will include (for that part of the meeting only) two additional members appointed from an external source as non-voting members.

Chairman

The Chairman shall be a member of the Opposition. The Vice-Chairman shall be a member of the Administration.

Quorum

Four Elected Members of the Council shall constitute a quorum.

Functions Referred

The following Audit functions of the Council shall stand referred to the Committee:-

1. Assess the adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's systems of internal financial control and framework of internal control relating to the Council's service delivery models including partnership and collaboration to provide reasonable assurance of effective and efficient operations, and ensure the Council's ongoing resilience to the threats of fraud and corruption.
2. Assess the adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's risk management arrangements relating to the Council's service delivery models including partnership and collaboration.
3. Assess the adequacy and effectiveness of corporate governance arrangements and consider annual assurance reports relating to the Council's service delivery models including partnership and collaboration to ensure the highest standards of probity, public accountability and ethical standards are demonstrated to underpin the delivery of value for money or best value services.
- *4. Review the Council's audited Statement of Accounts and the Annual Report from the External Auditor to Members and the Controller of Audit, prior to submission to Council.
5. Approve the Terms of Reference for Internal Audit and the strategic and annual internal audit plans.
6. Monitor and review the performance of Internal Audit, conformance to the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards and code of ethics.
7. All matters relating to the implementation of recommendations contained within internal audit reports.

8. Review external audit plans and arrangements for effective liaison between external and internal audit.
9. Monitor responses to recommendations contained within external audit reports and the implementation of such recommendations.
10. The scrutiny of treasury management strategy and policies.
11. Assess the adequacy and effectiveness of the Pension Fund's systems of internal financial control, including counter fraud, theft or corruption and framework of internal control to provide reasonable assurance of effective and efficient operations.
- *12. Note the Pension Fund's audited Statement of Accounts and the Annual Report from the External Auditor to members and the Controller of Audit, prior to submission to Council.

The following Scrutiny functions of the Council shall stand referred to the Committee:-

- #13. Monitoring the performance of the Authority towards achieving its policy objectives and priorities in relation to all functions of the Council.
- #14. Reviewing the effectiveness of all the Council's work against agreed standards, targets and budgets for the levels of services provided.
- #15. Acting as a focus for value for money and service quality exercises.
- #16. Management of the "Call in" procedure for the examination of decisions of the Executive Committee.
- *17. Developing an annual programme for approval by Council (likely in April each year) on the basis of the scrutiny functions outlined from 13 to 15 above.
18. Any other matter referred to the Committee for consideration by Council or the Executive Committee.

The following petitions and deputations functions shall stand referred to the Committee:

19. Consider petitions submitted to the Council in accordance with the Council's approved petitions procedure and determine the appropriate action to be taken within the terms of the procedure.
20. Consider deputations to the Council in accordance with the Council's approved deputations procedure and determine the appropriate action to be taken within the terms of the procedure.

Functions Delegated

All functions above NOT marked # or *. Those functions marked # are referred to the Committee for consideration and any recommendations must receive approval of the Executive Committee. Those functions marked * are referred to the Committee for consideration and recommendation only and must receive approval of Council.

SECTION VI

CIVIC GOVERNMENT LICENSING COMMITTEE

Constitution

Nine Members of the Council.

Quorum

Five members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Council shall stand referred to the Committee:-

1. All matters relating to the Council's responsibilities for licensing under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, except those matters specifically delegated to the Chief Legal Officer.
2. All matters relating to the Council's responsibilities for the granting and revocation of miscellaneous licences, except those matters specifically delegated to the Chief Legal Officer.
3. Decide cases where Officers recommend that a private sector landlord is refused registration, or that a private sector landlord be removed from the Private Landlord Register.

Functions Delegated

All of the functions referred to the Committee.

SECTION VII

PENSION FUND COMMITTEE

Constitution

Seven Members of the Council comprising –

- (a) the Convener
- (b) one member of the Executive
- (c) three other Members of the Administration
- (d) two members from the Opposition

Chairman

The Chairman shall be the Convener.

Quorum

Four members of the Committee shall constitute a Quorum.

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Council shall stand referred to the Committee -

1. All matters relating to the Council's role as the Administering Authority for the Scottish Borders Council Pension Fund, within the terms of all relevant Local Government Pension Scheme legislation and the requirements of the Pension Regulator.
- *2. Review the Pension Fund's audited Statement of Accounts and the Annual Report from the External Auditor to members and the Controller of Audit, prior to submission to Council.

Functions Delegated

All of the functions not marked *. Those functions marked * are referred to the Committee for consideration and recommendation only and must receive approval of Council.

Joint Meeting with the Pension Board

While the statutory roles and function of the Pension Fund Committee and Pension Board are separate, the normal practice will be that both bodies will meet at the same time to consider the same agenda, with the Chair of the Pension Fund Committee chairing the concurrent meeting. The aim is to engender a positive and proactive partnership culture where in practice the two bodies act as one.

Dispute Resolution between Pension Board and Pension Fund Committee

Within the regulations there is a prescribed approach to dispute resolution between the Pension Board and the Pension Fund Committee.

1. At the joint meeting referred to above, if the Pension Fund Committee and Pension Board cannot reach joint agreement on any matter the process for resolving any differences between the two bodies is set out in 3) below.

2. Whilst this process is undertaken the decision of the Pension Fund Committee is still competent.
3. In the first instance, if at least half of the members of the Pension Board agree, then the Pension Board can refer back a decision of the Pension Fund Committee for further consideration if any of the following grounds are met:
 - (a) That there is evidence or information which the Pension Board considers needs re-evaluating or new evidence or data which the Pension Fund Committee did not access or was not aware of at the point of decision making and which is considered material to the decision taken;
 - (b) That the decision of the Pension Fund Committee could be considered illegal or contrary to regulations;
 - (c) That the decision of the Pension Fund Committee is contrary to a relevant Code of Practice published by the Pensions Regulator; or
 - (d) That the decision is not in the interest of the continued financial viability of the Scottish Borders Council Pension Fund or is against the principles of proper and responsible administration of the Scottish Borders Council Pension Fund.
4. This referral must be communicated to the Clerk to the Council within 10 working days of the joint meeting with the Pension Fund Committee which made the decision being required to be reconsidered.
5. If there is no agreement after the matter has been referred back to the Pensions Fund Committee, then the difference in view between the Pension Board and the Pension Fund Committee will be published in the form of a joint secretarial report from the Pension Board on the Pension Fund website and included in the Pension Fund's Annual Report.
6. The Scottish LGPS Scheme Advisory Board may also consider and take a view on the matter and, if considered appropriate, provide advice to Scottish Borders Council as the Scheme Manager or the Pension Board in relation to the matter.

(PENSION FUND COMMITTEE)

PENSION FUND INVESTMENT AND PERFORMANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

Constitution

Nine members, being:

- (a) the seven members of the Pension Fund Committee; and
- (b) two non-voting members nominated by the Pension Board.

Chairman

The Chairman shall be the Chairman of the Pension Fund Committee.

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Committee shall stand referred to the Sub-Committee -

1. Reviewing the Pension Fund's Statement of Investment Principles.
- #2. Where appropriate, recommending changes to the Pension Fund Committee in relation to the Statement of Investment Principles.
3. Ensuring appropriate investment management arrangements are in place for monies of the Pension Fund and to review investment manager performance.
4. Overseeing the contractual review of the fund managers and investment adviser(s) and custodian.
- #5. Where appropriate, making recommendations to the Pension Fund Committee in relation to the appointment or removal of a fund manager, investment adviser or custodian.
- #6. Overseeing the overall approach to investment risk management and where appropriate recommending changes to the Pension Fund's Risk Register.

Functions Delegated

All functions above NOT marked #. Those functions marked # are referred to the Sub-Committee for consideration and recommendation only and must receive approval of the Pension Fund Committee.

SECTION VIII

PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Constitution

Nine Members of the Council, including the Portfolio holder for Estate Management and Planning.

Quorum

Four members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Chairman

The Chairman of the Committee shall be the ~~Executive Member for Enhancing the Built Environment & Natural Heritage~~ Portfolio holder for Estate Management and Planning.

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Council shall stand referred to the Committee:-

1. All matters relating to Town and Country Planning except the following:-
 - (a) Strategic Development Plan and Local Development Plan
 - (b) Applications referred under Section 38(A)(1) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997
 - (c) Applications and other matters delegated to the Chief Planning Officer
2. All matters relating to the Council's responsibilities for Building Control except those delegated to the Chief Planning Officer.
3. Consideration and determination of appeals against the proposed refusal of applications for Building Warrants and Relaxations of the Building Regulations.
4. Consideration and determination of High Hedge Notices not dealt with under delegated powers by the Chief Planning Officer.

Functions Delegated

All of the functions referred to the Committee.

SECTION IX

LOCAL REVIEW BODY

Constitution

Nine Members of the Council, being the members of the Planning and Building Standards Committee.

Chairman

The Chairman of the Local Review Body shall be the ~~Chairman of the Planning and Building Standards Committee~~ **Portfolio holder for Estates Management & Planning** or in his absence the Vice-Chairman.

Quorum

Four Members shall constitute a quorum.

Assessor

The Review Body may appoint an Assessor to sit with the Local Review Body at any hearing session it elects to hold to advise on matters arising.

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Council shall stand referred to the Review Body:-

1. Conduct Reviews in accordance with Section 43A of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 where the appointed person has:-
 - (a) Refused an application for planning permission or for consent, agreement or approval;
 - (b) Granted it subject to conditions; or
 - (c) Not determined it within such period as may be prescribed by regulations or a development order.

Functions Delegated

All functions referred to the Review Body

Note

Where the Local Review Body considers that the review documents before them provide sufficient information to enable them to determine the review, they may determine the review without further procedure. (Regulation 12 of the Town and Country Planning (Schemes of Delegation and Local Review Procedure)(Scotland) Regulations 2008.)

Other than in circumstances where the Local Review Body considers the review documents provide sufficient information to enable them to determine the review without further procedure, the Local Review Body may consider the review:

- (a) by means of written submissions;
- (b) by holding one or more hearing sessions;
- (c) by means of a site inspection; or

(d) by a combination of procedures.

Functions Delegated

All functions detailed above.

SECTION X

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Constitution

Eleven Members of the Council, being 6 members of the Administration, including the Portfolio holder for Environment & Transport, and 5 members of the Opposition.

Chairman

The Chairman of the Sustainable Development Committee shall be the Portfolio holder for Environment & Transport.

Quorum

Four Members shall constitute a quorum.

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Council shall stand referred to the Committee:-

- *1. Review recent decisions and actions of the UK and Scottish Government, UK local authorities, and Borders wide voluntary sector initiatives, with a view to making recommendations as to how the Council can exercise leadership in tackling climate change.
2. Report annually to Council on progress.

Functions Delegated

All functions above NOT marked *. Those functions marked * are referred to the Committee for consideration and recommendation only and must receive approval of Council.

SECTION XI CONSULTATIVE GROUPS

JOINT CONSULTATIVE GROUP FOR STAFF

Constitution

Fourteen members comprising:-

- (a) The ~~Convener~~ **Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation** and five other Members of the Council;
- (b) Eight employee Trade Union Representatives, namely:-
 - (i) Three from Unison
 - (ii) Three from Unite
 - (iii) One from General Municipal and Boilermakers Union
 - (iv) One other to be agreed by the Trade Unions
 - (v) One from GMB: MPO (only to attend for items relating to Chief Officials)

Chairman

The ~~Convener~~ **Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation** shall be the Chairman of the Group.

Quorum

Three Members of the Council and four Trade Union representatives shall constitute a quorum.

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Council shall stand referred to the Group:-

1. Consultation on matters relating to terms and conditions of employment, health & safety and welfare of all Council employees except Teachers. (The pay grading, efficiency or disciplinary record of any individual employee is not within the scope of the Group)

Functions Delegated

All functions referred to the Consultative Group.

JOINT CONSULTATIVE GROUP FOR TEACHERS

Constitution

Fourteen members comprising:-

- (a) The ~~Executive Member for Children & Young People~~ **Portfolio holder for Education & Lifelong Learning** and five other Members of the Council, being three members from the Administration and two members from the Opposition.
- (b) Eight employee Trade Union Representatives, namely:-
 - (i) Four from E.I.S.
 - (ii) Two from S.S.T.A.
 - (iii) One from P.A.T.
 - (iv) One other to be agreed by the Trade Unions

Chairman

The ~~Executive Member for Children & Young People~~ **Portfolio holder for Education & Lifelong Learning** shall be the Chairman of the Group.

Quorum

Three Members of the Council and four Trade Union representatives shall constitute a quorum.

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Council shall stand referred to the Group:-

1. Consultation on matters relating to terms and conditions of employment, health & safety and welfare of all Teachers employed by the Council. (The pay grading, efficiency or disciplinary record of any individual teacher is not within the scope of the Group.)

Functions Delegated

All functions referred to the Consultative Group.

EMPLOYEE COUNCIL

Constitution

- (a) Five Elected Members of the Council, being the ~~Convener~~ **Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation**, the Leader, two other Executive Members, and the Leader of the Opposition.
- (b) Any Five members of the Corporate Management Team.
- (c) Employee representatives from across the Council.

Chairman

The ~~Convener~~ **Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation** shall be Chairman of the Employee Council.

Quorum

Two Elected Members of the Council, two of the Corporate Management Team, and two of the employee representatives shall constitute a quorum.

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Council shall stand referred to the Employee Council –

1. Share information and promote communication between Council management and staff.
2. Be informed and consulted on (but not as a negotiating body) issues affecting employment and the Council's plans, including:
 - Public sector reform and related issues
 - Information on recent or probable developments of the Council's activities, financial and economic situation
 - Organisational design and development
 - Budget development and implementation
 - Information and consultation on developments regarding employment arrangements, particularly where these may cause significant change to employment
 - Employee benefits
 - Council business issues.

Note: The Employee Council shall not affect the rights and responsibilities of Council management to make all business, financial, commercial, operational and technological decisions.

Functions Delegated

All functions referred to the Employee Council.

SECTION XII

AD-HOC COMMITTEES

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Constitution

Eight Members of the Council, being, five members from the Administration and three members from the Opposition.

Quorum

Three members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Council shall stand referred to the Committee:-

1. All matters relating to the Ethical Standards in Public Life etc. (Scotland) Act 2000.
2. The adoption and application of the Code of Conduct for Councillors.
3. The consideration, investigation and determination of all complaints made concerning the conduct of Councillors.
- *4. The consideration and revision from time to time of the list of sanctions available to the Council in the event of misconduct on the part of a Councillor.
5. The consideration of reports from the Monitoring Officer on matters relating to the Ethical Framework.

Functions Delegated

All functions above NOT marked *. Those functions marked * are referred to the Committee for consideration and recommendation only and must receive approval of Council.

APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE

Constitution

Minimum of Five Members of the Council comprising –

- (a) the ~~Convener~~ Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation
- (b) the Leader
- (c) the relevant Executive Member(s)
- (d) one other Member of the Administration
- (e) one Member from the Opposition

In this context, “relevant Executive Member(s)” means the Executive Member(s) for the Service(s) within which the appointment is being made.

Chairman

The ~~Convener~~ Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation shall be Chairman of the Committee.

Quorum

Three members of the Committee shall constitute a Quorum.

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Council shall stand referred to the Committee -

1. The recruitment of staff to posts at Director and above.

Functions Delegated

All of the functions referred to the Committee.

STAFFING APPEALS COMMITTEE

Constitution

All Members of the Council shall be Members of an Appeals Panel, from which three members of a Staffing Appeals Committee shall be drawn.

Chairman

The ~~Convener~~ **Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation** shall be the Chairman of the Staffing Appeals Panel or in his absence an Executive Member.

Selection of Appeal Committees

Each of the Staffing Appeals Committees shall be selected by the Clerk to the Council or her authorised representative in consultation with the Chairman of the Appeals Panel.

Chairman

The Chairman of the Appeals Panel shall chair the Committee or, in his absence, the Chairman shall be an Executive Member.

Quorum

Two Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Functions Referred

The following functions shall stand referred to the Committee:-

1. The consideration and determination of appeals by all employees against decisions in respect of discipline.
2. The consideration and determination of grievances by all employees.

Note: Grievances in respect of pay, gradings or conditions of service shall be dealt with through the relevant Council policies and procedures and not through the Staffing Appeals Committee.

Functions Delegated

All of the functions referred to the Committee.

EDUCATION APPEALS COMMITTEE

Constitution

The rules for the formal constitution and membership of the Education Appeal Sub-Committee are laid down in the Education (Scotland) Act 1980.

There may be up to three different categories of membership of the Appeal Sub-Committee as follows:-

- (a) Members of the Council who are not members of the Executive Committee.
- (b) Members of the Executive Committee (including non-elected members).
- (c) Lay members.

The following arrangements apply in respect of the selection of the Panel and individual Appeal Sub-Committees.

Appointment of Panel

A Panel from which members of Appeal Sub-Committees shall be drawn shall comprise 53 persons as follows:-

- (a) The Convener, who shall be Chairman of the Panel.
- (b) ~~The Executive Member for Children & Young People~~ **Portfolio holder for Education & Lifelong Learning**, who shall be Vice-Chairman of the Panel.
[Neither of these persons may chair an Appeal Committee.]
- (c) ~~Ten~~ **Twelve** other Members of the Executive Committee, which excludes the Teacher, Parent Council and Pupil representatives (none of whom may chair the Appeal Committee).
- (d) ~~Twenty three~~ Members of Council who are not members of the Executive Committee.
- (e) Eighteen persons who are not members of the Council or the Executive Committee and who are either parents of children of school age or persons having experience in education or persons acquainted with the educational conditions in the area, and who are members of the nominated Parent Councils – one to be nominated by each Secondary Parent Council and by the Parent Council for the largest primary school in each of the catchment areas for the nine secondary schools. In the event of any such primary or secondary school not having a Parent Council or of any Parent Council declining to provide a nominee, then a nomination will be sought from the Parent Council of the next largest primary school and so on.

Functions Referred

The following functions shall stand referred to the Sub-Committee:-

1. Appeals by parents against decisions of the Council acting as Education Authority as to the schools, excluding nursery schools or classes, which their child or children should attend.
2. Appeals by parents against decisions of the Council acting as Education Authority to exclude their child or children from school.
3. Various appeals by parents in connection with their child or children being recorded as having marked or continuing special education needs.

Functions Delegated

All of the functions referred to the Sub-Committee.

Duration of Appointment

The term of office of members of the Panel shall be:-

- (a) In the case of Members of the Executive Committee or of the Council, from the date of their appointment until the date of the next Council election.
- (b) In the case of persons nominated by Parent Councils, from the date of their appointment until the date when they are due to stand down.

Selection of Appeal Sub-Committees

- 5. (a) Each Appeal Sub-Committee shall be selected by the Clerk to the Council or his authorised representative in consultation with the Chairman of the Panel, or, in his absence, the Vice-Chairman of the Panel.
- (b) Each Appeal Committee shall comprise 5 persons being:-
 - 3 Members of the Executive Committee or of the Council from the Panel.
 - 2 other persons from the Panel.
- (c) In the event of all 5 persons not being in attendance at a hearing of an appeal, the Appeal Sub-Committee shall be reduced to 3 persons including not less than:-
 - 1 Member of the Executive Committee or of the Council from the Panel.
 - 1 other person from the Panel.
- (d) The Clerk to the Council or his authorised representative, in consultation with the Chairman or, in his absence, the Vice-Chairman of the Panel, shall appoint the Chairman of the Appeal Committee, who shall not be a Member of the Executive Committee.

Administrative Arrangements

- 6. The Clerk to the Council or his authorised representative shall act as Clerk to the Appeal Committee and the Director – Education & Lifelong Learning or his representative shall present the case for the Council at any Appeal Committee hearing.

ASSET TRANSFER APPEALS COMMITTEE

Constitution

All Members of the Council shall be Members of the Appeals Panel, from which five members for an Asset Transfer Appeals Committee shall be drawn. No Member may be a member of a Committee set up to hear an Appeal for an Asset Transfer request for land/buildings within their Ward.

Chairman

The ~~Executive Member for Community Development & Localities~~ Portfolio holder for **Communities & Equalities** shall be the Chairman of the Asset Transfer Appeals Panel or in his absence the ~~Executive Member for Infrastructure, Travel & Transport~~ Portfolio holder for **Estate Management and Planning**.

Selection of Appeal Committees

The membership of the Appeals Panel shall be selected by the Clerk to the Council or her authorised representative in consultation with the Chairman of the Appeals Panel.

Quorum

Three members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Functions Referred

The following functions shall stand referred to the Committee:-

1. The consideration and determination of appeals by any Community Transfer Body made under Section 86 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, where the Asset Transfer Officers Group has:
 - (i) refused the request; or
 - (ii) agreed to the request but the decision notice relating to the request specifies material terms or conditions which differ to a significant extent from those specified in the request; or
 - (iii) failed to issue a decision within the statutory period.
2. Determining whether to ratify the value at which a Community Asset Transfer is to be made, where the Asset Transfer Officer Group or a Common Good Sub-Committee has determined to agree to that transfer at a value less than market value.

Note: The Community Transfer Body has the right to attend and present their appeal to the Committee.

Functions Delegated

All of the functions referred to the Committee.

SECTION XIII

COMMUNITY AND PARTNERSHIP BODIES

General

1. The Council is required, or has agreed, to set up, lead and/or participate in a number of Community and Partnership Bodies. The aim is to work in partnership with other key public, voluntary and private bodies, together with communities and businesses to maintain and improve the quality of life and meet the needs of Borders residents and their communities through the delivery of high quality public services, projects, advocacy and other actions.
2. The principles for going forward are –
 - To provide effective structures for delivery/implementation;
 - To include partner buy-in and Member involvement;
 - To have meaningful community involvement and stakeholder engagement as appropriate;
 - To help prioritise services where most needed;
 - To comply with any statute and regulations governing those public, private and voluntary sector organisations involved.
4. Decisions at meetings of the Bodies in this Section shall be reached on a consensus basis where possible between the SBC Elected Members and other members of the Body. Should consensus between SBC Elected Members and other members not be reached on a decision, then the matter shall be raised at each individual organisation's governing body, except for Area Partnerships, whereby the Elected Members of Scottish Borders Council shall decide Council financial matters by vote.
5. Any delegated budgets shall operate as aligned budgets delegated to the Committee of Scottish Borders Council and the Committees or representatives of other partner organisations respectively, and this will mean that only Members of Scottish Borders Council may expend budgets delegated by Scottish Borders Council, and other organisations' budgets shall be expended in accordance with their own operating rules.

POLICE, FIRE & RESCUE, AND SAFER COMMUNITIES BOARD

Constitution

Ten members, being six Members of the Council, and four non-voting members appointed from an external source.

The Council Members shall comprise the ~~Executive Member for Public Protection~~ **Portfolio holder for Community & Culture**, and five other Members of the Council.

The non-voting members shall comprise a representative from each of NHS Borders, the Scottish Borders Housing Network, the voluntary sector, and the business sector.

Chairman

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Board shall be Elected Members of the Council.

Quorum

Three Elected Members of the Council shall constitute a quorum.

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Council shall stand referred to the Board:-

- *1. Assess the adequacy and effectiveness of the Scottish Borders Policing Plan in terms of priorities, community engagement and performance related measures to provide reasonable assurance of effective and efficient implementation and operation; and make recommendations on any aspect of these Plans in terms of issues or improvements.
- *2. Assess the adequacy and effectiveness of the Scottish Borders Fire and Rescue Plan in terms of priorities, community engagement and performance related measures to provide reasonable assurance of effective and efficient implementation and operation; and make recommendations on any aspect of these Plans in terms of issues or improvements.
- *3. Assess the adequacy and effectiveness of the Scottish Borders Safer Communities Plan in terms of priorities, community engagement and performance related measures to provide reasonable assurance of effective and efficient implementation and operation; and make recommendations on any aspect of these Plans in terms of issues or improvements.
4. Contribute to the delivery of the Scottish Borders Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) within the Scottish Borders Community Planning Transformation Plan, and in particular the local outcome indicators and programme in relation to the national outcome "We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger".
5. Monitor and keep under review progress and delivery of all Safer Communities projects and initiatives.
6. Consider statistical reports on complaints on policing, fire and rescue, and safer communities in the Scottish Borders.
- *7. Consider and draft responses to any consultation documents pertaining to policing, fire & rescue services, and safer communities.

Functions Delegated

All functions above NOT marked *. Those functions marked * are referred to the Board for consideration and recommendation only and must receive approval of the Council.

COMMUNITY PLANNING STRATEGIC BOARD

General

The Community Planning Strategic Board shall comprise Scottish Borders Council Elected Members meeting together with Statutory and other Community Planning Partner representatives.

Constitution

- (a) Any three from the following Elected Members of Scottish Borders Council being:-
- (i) 4 Executive Members;
 - (ii) the Leader of the Opposition
- (b) Representatives from each of the other statutory Community Planning Partners, being:-
- (i) NHS Borders – 2 representatives
 - (ii) South of Scotland Enterprise – 1 representative
 - (iii) Police Scotland – 1 representative
 - (iv) Scottish Fire and Rescue Service – 1 representative
- (c) Representatives from the following Community Planning Partners:
- (i) Registered Social Landlords – 1 representative;
 - (ii) Borders College – 1 representative;
 - (iii) Third Sector – 1 representative.

Chairman

The Board must be chaired by an Elected Member of the Council.

Quorum

Two Elected Members of the Council and one representative from each of 2 other statutory Community Planning Partners shall constitute a quorum.

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Council, within policy, budget and legislative requirements, and in compliance with any statute and regulations governing these public, private and voluntary sector organisations involved, shall stand referred to the Board -

1. Approve, monitor and evaluate progress on the Community Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan) and the individual Locality Plans.
2. Monitor the work of the Joint Delivery Team and Themed Delivery Groups.
3. Find consensus in reaching decisions on those issues that involve competing interests or are controversial or contentious.
- *4. Identify the ideal level of resources necessary to achieve the outcomes of the Plans and advise partners of these.

5. Work together to resolve any problems arising from significant issues.
- *6. Consider and make recommendations to the Community Planning Consultative Partnership and/or partner organisations on any aspects of community planning in terms of issues or improvements.
7. Provide the Community Planning Consultative Partnership with an annual assessment of community planning in the Scottish Borders.
8. Sign off the Annual Report on Community Planning, after consultation with the wider Community Planning Consultative Partnership.

Functions Delegated

All functions above NOT marked *. Those functions marked * are referred to the Board for consideration and recommendation only and must receive approval of the Council and other relevant Community Planning partner organisations.

AREA PARTNERSHIPS

Constitution

1. Each Area Partnership will comprise –

(a) Core Members:

- (i) The elected Scottish Borders Councillors representing –
 - **Berwickshire Area Partnership:** the six Elected Members for the Wards of East Berwickshire and Mid-Berwickshire;
 - **Cheviot Area Partnership:** the six Elected Members for the Wards of Kelso & District and Jedburgh and District;
 - **Eildon Area Partnership:** the ten Elected Members for the Wards of Galashiels & District, Leaderdale & Melrose, and Selkirkshire;
 - **Teviot & Liddesdale Area Partnership:** the six Elected Members for the Wards of Hawick & Denholm and Hawick & Hermitage;
 - **Tweeddale Area Partnership:** the six Elected Members for the Wards of Tweeddale East and Tweeddale West;
- (ii) One representative from each of four different Community Councils in the Area Partnership area as non-voting members;
- (iii) Any other non-voting member appointed by the Area Partnership up to a total core membership maximum of 20.

(b) Additional Invited members:

Invitations to attend and participate as non-voting members in meetings where there are relevant agenda items:

- (i) appropriate representative(s) from the Community Planning partners (NHS Borders, Scottish Police, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, Scottish Enterprise, Live Borders, RSLs, Borders College, Health & Social Care Integration Board, SEPA, SNH, Skills Development Scotland, SESTRAN, Third Sector, Visit Scotland);
- (ii) a representative from any other Community Group or Local body, as appropriate; and
- (iii) a representative from any other community of interest group, as appropriate.

Chairman/Vice Chairman

The Chairman and Vice Chairman of each Area Partnership shall be a Member of Scottish Borders Council.

Quorum

Three of the Scottish Borders Council Members of each Locality Committee, including at least one representative from each Ward, shall constitute a quorum, except for the Eildon Area Partnership where five shall constitute a Quorum.

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Council shall stand referred to each Area Partnership, in compliance with any statute and regulations governing those public, private and voluntary sector organisations involved:-

1. Champion/lead the preparation and publication of a Locality Plan for the area, while taking account of the Scottish Borders Community Plan.
2. Inform the Locality Plan, by involving local communities in establishing:
 - (a) a shared understanding of need in the area;
 - (b) the outcomes and priorities for the area;
 - (c) the proposed improvement(s) to be achieved.
3. Approve the Locality Plan and recommend final approval by the Community Planning Strategic Board.
- *4. Review and monitor the progress of the Locality Plan, including approval of an annual progress report for publication, and receive progress and performance reports on local services, making recommendations to the relevant body/committee, as appropriate.
- *5. Where there is a local dimension to a Borders-wide plan, or a specific locality plan, act as a community consultation body.
6. Consider applications for financial assistance from the Council from the Community Fund up to the value of £10,000 or in exceptional cases £30,000
Note: The decisions on the Fund applications at Area Partnerships shall be by consensus (i.e. widespread agreement) and where consensus is not possible, then only SBC Elected Members will make the final decision. The Chairman of the Area Partnership shall have a casting vote if required should there be an even split amongst SBC Elected Members.
7. The distribution of Pay Parking Income (where available).
Note: Only SBC Elected Members have decision making powers on the above Fund.
8. Promote and support the Localities Bid Fund, and encourage communities to get involved and participate.
9. Decide whether the funding for each Area Locality Bid Fund is to be allocated in a particular way (e.g. urban/rural split); if any themes are being applied to a particular release of funding; if there is to be any cap on the amount of grant for any project and whether a cash contribution will be required.

Functions Delegated

All functions above NOT marked *. Those functions marked * are referred to the Committee for consideration and recommendation only and must receive approval of the relevant other Council committee.

General

In addition to the functions referred and delegated to the Area Partnerships, the Council or other Organisations may from time to time seek the views of Area Partnerships on specific matters or applications out-with their normal remit.

REGULATIONS – RELIGIOUS REPRESENTATIVES

for Nominations of Persons interested in the Promotion of Religious Education to be Appointed to the Executive Committee (for that part of the meeting considering Education Authority matters)

1. The Council shall appoint three persons interested in the promotion of religious education to be members of the Executive Committee (for that part of the meeting considering Education Authority matters) in accordance with Section 124 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended by Section 31 of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994.
2. The appointments shall be made by the Council as soon as possible after the ordinary statutory election of Councillors in the month of May and, subject to Regulation 5(e), the persons will be appointed and hold office until the day of the next ordinary statutory election of Councillors.
3. One person interested in the promotion of religious education shall be nominated by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in terms of Section 124 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended. The Clerk to the Council shall, in a year of an election of Councillors, request the Principal Clerk of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland to submit to him a nomination of the person not later than the First day of May in that year.
4. One person interested in the promotion of religious education shall be nominated by the Roman Catholic Church, in such manner as may be determined by its Scottish Hierarchy in terms of Section 124 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended. The Clerk to the Council shall, in a year of an election of Councillors, request the Archbishop of Edinburgh and St. Andrews to submit to him a nomination of the person not later than the First day of May in that year.
5. One other person interested in the promotion of religious education shall be nominated in terms of Section 124 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended. The nomination shall be made in accordance with the following provisions:-
 - (a) Not later than the Fifteenth day of March in the year of an election of Councillors, the Clerk to the Council, by advertisement in one or more newspapers circulating in the Area, shall give notice that the Churches or denominational bodies (other than the Church of Scotland and the Roman Catholic Church) who claim to have duly constituted charges or other regularly appointed places of worship within the Area and to be entitled to be represented at the meeting for nomination of one person with a view to appointment as a member of the Executive Committee (for that part of the meeting considering Education Authority matters), may obtain copies of these Regulations on application to him; and that each of these Churches or denominational bodies who desire to be represented at the meeting for the nomination of one person with a view to appointment as a member of the Executive Committee (for that part of the meeting

considering Education Authority matters) must transmit to him prior to the Thirty first day of March -

- (i) A certified list of the names and situations of the duly constituted charges or other regularly appointed places of worship which such church or other denominational body claims to have within the Area;
- (ii) A certified statement of the number of representatives whom such church or denominational body claims to be entitled to have at the said meeting calculated in accordance with the following scale -

Number of duly constituted charges or other regularly appointed places of worship	Number of representatives at meeting
Not more than three	One
More than three and not more than six	Two
More than six and not more than ten	Three
More than ten and not more than fifteen	Four
More than fifteen and not more than twenty	Five
Each ten in excess of twenty	One additional

- (iii) The full names and postal addresses of the persons appointed to represent such Church or denominational body at the said meeting.
- (b) Not later than the Seventh day of April, the Clerk to the Council shall -
- (i) Prepare a list of the Churches or denominational bodies who have claimed to have duly constituted charges or other regularly appointed places of worship within the Area, which list shall, as regards each Church or denominational body included therein, show the total number of duly constituted charges or other regularly appointed places of worship and the number of representatives at the aforesaid meeting which such Church or denominational body has claimed.
 - (ii) Transmit a copy of such list to each of the Churches or denominational bodies included therein, and at the same time intimate to such Churches or denominational bodies that they may inspect at his office all the certified lists of the duly constituted charges or other regularly appointed places of worship and all the certified statements of the numbers of representatives claimed at the aforesaid meeting which he has received from Churches or denominational bodies in the Area; and that any Church or denominational body included in the list may, within seven days after the date of such intimation, lodge with him objections to any of the certified lists or certified statements on the ground that such list or statement is inaccurate.
- (c) If any objection to any such certified list or certified statement on the ground that it is inaccurate is received by the Clerk to the Council in accordance with the immediately preceding paragraph, he shall, as soon as reasonably may be, fix a time and place for the hearing and determination of such objection and send a copy of each such objection to each Church or denominational body included in the list and intimate

the time and place fixed for the hearing and determination of the objections, and each Church or denominational body included in the list may be represented at such hearing and determination by not more than two representatives. The Convener or a person nominated by him shall preside at such hearing and, after such procedure as he may prescribe, shall determine whether the objection is well founded and shall in accordance with the scale prescribed in paragraph (a)(ii) of this Regulation, fix the number of representatives whom each church or denominational body shall be entitled to have at the meeting for the nomination of a person in terms of this Regulation. The determination of the Convener or the person appointed by him shall be final and not subject to review.

- (d) If no such objections are received or upon the determination of any such objections, the Clerk to the Council shall call a meeting of the representatives appointed by the Churches or denominational bodies for the purpose of nominating a person with a view to such person being appointed a member of the Executive Committee (for that part of the meeting considering Education Authority matters). Such meeting shall be held in the Council's Headquarters, Newtown St. Boswells, not later than the Thirtieth day of April and shall be called by circular addressed and sent by post to each representative not less than six days prior to the date of the meeting. The Convener, or such other person appointed by him, shall preside and conduct and regulate the proceedings at the meeting, but he shall have only a casting vote. Each representative of a Church or denominational body present at the meeting shall have one vote only. The Clerk to the Council shall report the result of such meeting of representatives to the Council as soon as possible after the ordinary statutory election of Councillors.
- (e) In the event of a casual vacancy among the members of the Executive Committee appointed in accordance with this Regulation, the provisions contained in this Regulation shall apply to and govern the constitution and covering of the meeting of representatives of Churches or denominational bodies for the purpose of filling such vacancy. The Clerk to the Council shall determine the dates for taking the action required of him, allowing periods of time between events similar to those specified in the preceding sub-paragraphs.

REGULATIONS - TEACHERS

for Nominations of Teachers to be Appointed to the Executive Committee (for that part of the meeting considering Education Authority matters)

1. The Council shall appoint two Teachers in the employment of the Council as Teachers' Representatives to be members of the Executive Committee, for that part of the meeting considering Education Authority matters.
2. The appointments shall be made by the Council as soon as possible after the ordinary statutory election of Councillors in the month of May and, subject to Regulation 13, the Teachers' Representatives shall be appointed and hold office until the day of the next ordinary statutory election of Councillors.
3. Teachers entitled to nominate and vote for Teachers' Representatives and teachers entitled to be nominated as Teachers' Representatives shall be registered teachers holding full-time permanent appointments with the Council and engaged in Primary or Secondary Education as at the First day of March in the year of election.
4. A teacher shall be entitled to nominate and vote for not more than two Teachers' Representatives.
5. The Convener or a person nominated by him shall be the Supervising Officer to supervise the nominations of Teachers' Representatives and the decisions of the Supervising Officer on all matters relating to the nominations shall be final and not subject to review.
6. Not later than the Fifteenth day of March in the year of an election of Councillors, the Director – Education & Lifelong Learning shall send to all teachers entitled to nominate Teachers' Representatives a notice specifying the right of each teacher to nominate not more than two Teachers' Representatives and the arrangements for making nominations of Teachers' Representatives and for voting on the nominations if necessary.
7. Each nomination shall be on a form prescribed by the Director Education & Lifelong Learning and shall be signed by two teachers, one as proposer and one as seconder, and shall be counter-signed by the nominee to signify his or her consent to the nomination.
8. Candidates may provide a personal statement of not more than 250 words, which statement must either accompany the nomination form or be lodged with the Director Education & Lifelong Learning on the Seventh day of April in the year of the election at the latest. The statement will be reproduced and circulated by the Director Education & Lifelong Learning with the ballot papers. Statements must not be defamatory, offensive, obscene, likely to incite racial hatred or political in nature or designed to effect public support for a political party. If any part of the personal statement is not permitted by reason of being defamatory, offensive, obscene, likely to incite racial hatred or political in

nature, the circulation of it will be refused by the Supervising Officer unless suitably amended by the candidate or candidates concerned. The candidates remain responsible for their own personal statement

9. Nominations must be lodged with the Director Education & Lifelong Learning at Council Headquarters, Newtown St. Boswells, not later than 4 p.m. on the Thirty first day of March in the year of election.
10. Immediately after the closing date for the receipt of nominations, the Director Education & Lifelong Learning shall issue to each teacher who is validly nominated, a list of the names and addresses of all teachers who are validly nominated. A teacher may withdraw his or her nomination by written intimation to that effect lodged with the Director Education & Lifelong Learning not later than 4 p.m. on the Seventh day of April in the year of election.
11. Where more than two teachers remain validly nominated the Director Education & Lifelong Learning shall, not later than the Fifteenth day of April in the year of election, send ballot papers to all the teachers entitled to vote.
12. Ballot papers, duly completed, shall be lodged in sealed marked envelopes with the Director Education & Lifelong Learning not later than 4 p.m. on the Twenty fifth day of April in the year of election.
13. The Supervising Officer shall make arrangements for the ballot papers to be opened and the votes to be counted not later than the Thirtieth day of April in the year of election and shall forthwith notify the names of the persons duly nominated as Teachers' Representatives to the Chief Executive who shall report the names to the Council as soon as possible after the ordinary statutory election of Councillors.
14. In the event of a casual vacancy among the Teachers' Representatives on the Executive Committee, the provisions contained in these Regulations shall apply to and govern the nomination of a successor Teachers' Representative. The Director Education & Lifelong Learning shall determine the dates for taking the action required of him allowing periods of time between events similar to those specified in the preceding Regulations. The teachers entitled to nominate and vote for the Teachers' Representatives shall be registered teachers holding full-time permanent appointments with the council and engaged in Primary or Secondary Education all as at the Fifteenth day prior to the date fixed by the Director Education & Lifelong Learning for issuing the notice specified in Regulation 6 above.

POLITICAL GROUPS

Constitution of political groups

1. (1) A political group shall be treated as constituted in relation to a local authority when there is delivered to the proper officer of the local authority a notice in writing which -
 - (a) is signed by two or more members of the local authority who wish to be treated as a political group; and
 - (b) complies with the provisions of sub-paragraph (3).
- (2) A political group shall cease to be constituted if the number of persons who are to be treated as members of that group is less than two.
- (3) A notice under sub-paragraph (1) shall state -
 - (a) that the members of the local authority who have signed it wish to be treated as a political group;
 - (b) the name of the group; and
 - (c) the name of one member of the group who has signed the notice and who is to act as its leader.
- (4) A notice under sub-paragraph (1) may specify the name of one or other member of the group who has signed the notice and who is authorised to act in the place of the leader when he is unable to act ("the deputy leader").
- (5) The name of the group or the name of the person who is the leader or deputy leader may be changed by a further notice in writing delivered to the proper officer and signed -
 - (a) in the case of a change in the name of the group or the deputy leader, by the leader of the group or a majority of the members of the group;
 - (b) in the case of a change of the leader of the group, by a majority of the members of the group.

Membership of political groups

2. Subject to paragraph 4, a member of the local authority is to be treated as a member of a political group if -
 - (a) he has signed a notice in accordance with paragraph 1; or
 - (b) he has delivered to the proper officer a notice in writing which is signed by him and by the leader or deputy leader of the group or by a majority of the members of the group, stating that he wishes to join the group.

Cessation of membership

3. A person is to be treated as having ceased to be a member of a political group when -
- (a) he has ceased to be a member of the local authority;
 - (b) he has notified the proper officer in writing that he no longer wishes to be treated as a member of the group;
 - (c) there is delivered to the proper officer a notice under paragraph 1 or 2(b) signed by the person whereby a new political group is constituted or he joins another political group; or
 - (d) there is delivered to the proper officer a notice in writing signed by the majority of the members of the group stating that they no longer wish him to be treated as a member of it.

Restriction on membership

4. No person shall be treated as a member of more than one political group at any given time and, accordingly, if a person changes the political group of which he is a member by a notice under paragraph 1 or 2 he shall from the date of delivery of that notice be treated -
- (a) in the case of a notice under paragraph 1, as a member only of the new political group which is constituted in accordance with that paragraph; and
 - (b) in the case of a notice under paragraph 2(b) as a member only of the group named in the notice.

APPENDIX 4

OTHER COMMITTEES/BOARDS (NOT COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL)

Governed by the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005

LICENSING BOARD

There shall be constituted the Scottish Borders Licensing Board, "the Licensing Board", meeting as required and having the following constitution, quorum and functions.

Constitution

The Licensing Board shall consist of nine Members of the Council.

Convener

The Convener of the Licensing Board shall be appointed at the first meeting of the Licensing Board from among their number.

Quorum

Five Members of the Licensing Board shall constitute a quorum.

Functions Referred

The following functions stand referred to the Licensing Board in terms of the relevant Liquor Licensing and Betting & Gaming Legislation.

1. All matters relating to Liquor Licensing.
2. The approval of disciplinary or enforcement action relating to Licensees.
3. All matters relating to Bookmakers' Permits, Betting Office Licences, Bingo Licences and Amusement with Prizes Permits for Liquor Licensed Premises.

Note: All Members of the Licensing Board must complete satisfactorily the required training before taking any part in Licensing Board proceedings.

**SCOTTISH BORDERS HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD**

Constitution

- (a) Five Elected Members of Scottish Borders Council being:-
- (i) three members of the Executive to include the Portfolio holder for Health & Wellbeing
 - (ii) two other Elected Members
- (b) Five Members of NHS Borders
- (c) A number of advisory (non-voting) members as identified by the Integration Joint Board, including:
- (i) Health and Social Care representatives
 - (ii) Chief Social Work Officer
 - (iii) Chief Financial Officer of the Joint Integration Board
 - (iv) from the staff side
 - (v) from the third sector
 - (vi) from carers
 - (vii) from service users
 - (viii) Chief Officer of the Integration Joint Board

Chairman

The first Chairman of the Board shall be from the body not employing the Integration Board's Chief Officer, with the Vice-Chairman from the body employing the Chief Officer. The Chairman shall not have a casting vote.

Quorum

Three Elected Members from Scottish Borders Council and three members from NHS Borders shall constitute a Quorum

Budgets

Any delegated budgets shall operate as aligned budgets and shall require the final approval of Scottish Borders Council and NHS Borders respectively.

Functions Referred

The following functions of the Council and NHS Board, within policy, budget and legislative requirements, shall stand referred to the Board:

1. All arrangements relating to matters detailed in, and limited to, the Scheme of Integration concerning:
 - (a) Local Governance Arrangements
 - (b) The specific services delegated
 - (c) Local Operational Delivery Arrangements
 - (d) Clinical and Care Governance
 - (e) Chief Officer
 - (f) Workforce

- (g) Finance
- (h) Participation and Engagement
- (i) Information Sharing and Data Handling
- (j) Complaints
- (k) Claims Handling, Liability & Indemnity
- (l) Risk Management
- (m) Dispute Resolution.

Functions Delegated

Where detailed in the Scheme of Integration, functions are referred to the Board for consideration and recommendation only and must receive approval of the Council.

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MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND INTERNAL WORKING GROUPS

REQUIRED AS PER INTERIM SCHEME OF ADMINISTRATION

1. Note the membership of the following Common Good Fund and Trust Sub-Committees:

	SUB-COMMITTEE	MEMBERSHIP
1	Coldstream Common Good Fund	All Mid-Berwickshire Ward Members
2	Duns Common Good Fund	All Mid-Berwickshire Ward Members
3	Eyemouth Common Good Fund	All East Berwickshire Ward Members
4	Galashiels Common Good Fund	All Galashiels & District Ward members
5	Hawick Common Good Fund	All Hawick & Denholm and Hawick & Hermitage Ward Members
6	Innerleithen Common Good Fund	All Tweeddale East Ward Members
7	Jedburgh Common Good Fund	All Jedburgh & District Ward Members
8	Kelso Common Good Fund	All Kelso & District Ward Members
9	Lauder Common Good Fund	All Leaderdale & Melrose Ward Members
10	Melrose Common Good Fund	All Leaderdale & Melrose Ward Members
11	Peebles Common Good Fund	All Tweeddale West and Tweeddale East Ward Members
12	Selkirk Common Good Fund	All Selkirkshire Ward Members
13	William Hill Trust	All Leaderdale & Melrose Ward Members

- 2. (a) Note the appointment of the Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation to the Major Contracts Governance Group;**
- (b) Note the appointment of the Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation as Chair of the Major Contracts Governance Group;**
- (c) Appoint 6 Elected Members to the Major Contacts Governance Group:**

MAJOR CONTRACTS GOVERNANCE GROUP	MEMBERSHIP (7 in total)
Executive Member for Finance & Budget Oversight	1. (Chairman)
Six Elected Members	2.
	3.
	4.
	5.
	6.
	7.

3. (a) Appoint 13 members to the Executive Committee;

(b) Appoint a Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee from within the membership:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	MEMBERSHIP (13 in total)
Leader of the Council (Chair)	1.
<i>Vice Chair</i>	
Portfolio holder for Community & Culture	2.
Portfolio holder for Estate Management & Planning	3.
Portfolio holder for Social Work & Community Enhancement	4.
Portfolio holder for Health & Wellbeing	5.
Portfolio holder for Community & Business Development	6.
Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation	7.
Portfolio holder for Roads Development & Maintenance	8.
Portfolio holder for Developing Our Children & Young People	9.
Portfolio holder for Education & Lifelong Learning	10.
Portfolio holder for Environment & Transport	11.
Portfolio holder for Communities & Equalities	12.
Portfolio holder for Community Engagement	13.

- 4. (a) **Note the appointment of the Portfolio holder for Education & Lifelong Learning to the Education Performance Sub-Committee;**
- (b) **Note the appointment of the Portfolio holder for Education & Lifelong Learning as Chair of the Education Performance Sub-Committee;**
- (c) **Appoint two Members of the Executive to the Education Performance Sub-Committee:**

EDUCATION PERFORMANCE SUB-COMMITTEE	MEMBERSHIP (3 in total)
Portfolio holder for Education & Lifelong Learning	1. (Chairman)
Two Executive Members	2.
	3.

- 5. (a) **Appoint nine Members (not on the Executive Committee) to the Audit and Scrutiny Committee:**
- (b) **Appoint a Chair of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee from the Opposition members on the Committee;**
- (c) **Appoint a Vice Chair of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee from the Administration members on the Committee:**

AUDIT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	MEMBERSHIP (9 in total)
<i>Chair – member of the Opposition</i>	
<i>Vice Chair – member of the Administration</i>	
Nine members	1.
	2.
	3.
	4.

	5.
	6.
	7.
	8.
	9.

6. (a) **Appoint 9 members to the Civic Government Licensing Committee;**

(b) **Appoint a Chair of the Civic Government Licensing Committee from within the membership:**

CIVIC GOVERNMENT LICENSING COMMITTEE	MEMBERSHIP (9 in total)
<i>Chair</i>	
Nine Members	1.
	2.
	3.
	4.
	5.
	6.
	7.
	8.
	9.

7. (a) **Note the appointment of the Convener as a member and as Chair of the Pension Fund Committee;**

(b) **Appoint 1 Member of the Executive, 3 further members of the Administration and 2 members of the Opposition to the Pension Fund Committee:**

PENSION FUND COMMITTEE	MEMBERSHIP (7 in total)
Convener	1. (Chair)
One member of the Executive	2.
Three Administration members	3.

	4.
	5.
Two Opposition members	6.
	7.

8. (a) Note the appointment of the 7 members of the Pension Fund Committee to the Pension Fund Investment & Performance Sub-Committee;

(b) Note the Sub-Committee also has 2 non-voting members nominated by the Pension Board:

PENSION FUND INVESTMENT & PERFORMANCE SUB-COMMITTEE	MEMBERSHIP (9 in total to include 2 non-voting members from the Pension Board)
Convener	1. (Chair)
6 Members of the Pension Fund Committee	2.
	3.
	4.
	5.
	6.
	7.

9. (a) Note the appointment of the Portfolio holder for Estates Management & Planning as a member and Chair of the Planning and Building Standards Committee;

(b) Appoint a further 8 Members to the Planning and Building Standards Committee:

PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS COMMITTEE	MEMBERSHIP (9 in total)
Portfolio holder for Estates Management & Planning	1. (Chair)
Eight Members	2.
	3.
	4.

	5.
	6.
	7.
	8.
	9.

10. (a) Note the appointment of the 9 members of the Planning and Building Standards Committee as members of the Local Review Body;
- (b) Note the appointment of the Portfolio holder for Estates Management & Planning as the Chair of the Local Review Body;

LOCAL REVIEW BODY	MEMBERSHIP (9 in total)
Portfolio holder for Estates Management & Planning	1. (Chair)
Eight members	2.
	3.
	4.
	5.
	6.
	7.
	8.
	9.

11. (a) Note the appointment of the Portfolio holder for Environment & Transport as a member and Chair of the Sustainable Development Committee;
- (b) Appoint 5 members of the Administration and 5 members of the Opposition to the Sustainable Development Committee;
- (b) Appoint a Chair from within the membership of the Committee:

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE	MEMBERSHIP (11 in total)
Portfolio holder for Environment & Transport	1. Chair

Five Administration members	2.
	3.
	4.
	5.
	6.
Five Opposition members	7.
	8.
	9.
	10.
	11.

12. (a) Note the appointment of the Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation as a member and Chair of the Joint Consultative Group for Staff;

(b) Appoint a further 5 Members to the Group:

JCG: STAFF	MEMBERSHIP (14 in total including 8 Trade Union Representatives)
Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation	1. (Chair)
Five members	2.
	3.
	4.
	5.
	6.

13. (a) Note the appointment of the Portfolio holder for Education & Lifelong Learning as a member and Chair of the Joint Consultative Group for Teachers;

(b) Appoint 3 members of the Administration and 2 members of the Opposition to the Group:

JCG: TEACHERS	MEMBERSHIP (14 in total including 8 Trade Union Representatives)
Portfolio holder for Education & Lifelong Learning	1. (Chair)
Three Administration members	2.
	3.
	4.
Two Opposition members	5.
	6.

14. (a) **Note the appointment of the Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation as a member and Chair of the Employee Council;**
- (b) **Note the appointment of the Leader as a member of the Employee Council;**
- (c) **Appoint two other Executive Members and the Leader of the Opposition as members of the Employee Council:**

EMPLOYEE COUNCIL	MEMBERSHIP
Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation	1. (Chair)
Leader	2.
Two members of the Executive	3.
	4.
Leader of the Opposition	5.

15. (a) **Appoint 5 members of the Administration and 3 members of the Opposition to the Standards Committee;**
- (b) **Appoint a Chair from within the membership:**

STANDARDS COMMITTEE	MEMBERSHIP (8 in total)
<i>Chair</i>	
Five Administration members	1.
	2.
	3.
	4.
	5.
Three Opposition members	6.
	7.
	8.

16. (a) **Note the appointment of the Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation, the Leader, and the relevant Executive member(s) to the Appointment Committee;**
- (b) **Appoint one other Member of the Administration and one member of the Opposition to the Appointment Committee;**
- (b) **Note the appointment of the Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation as Chair of the Committee:**

APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE	MEMBERSHIP (a minimum of 5)
Portfolio holder for Service Delivery & Transformation	1. (Chair)
Leader	2.
Relevant Executive Member(s)	3. <i>As and when</i>
One other member of the Administration	4.
One member of the Opposition	5.

17. (a) **Note the appointment of the Portfolio holder for Community & Culture as a member and Chair of the Police, Fire & Rescue and Safer Communities Board;**

(b) Appoint 5 other Members to the Board:

POLICE, FIRE & RESCUE AND SAFER COMMUNITIES BOARD	MEMBERSHIP (11 in total including 5 non-voting members appointed from an external source)
Portfolio holder for Community & Culture	1. (Chair)
<i>Vice Chair</i>	
Five other Members	2.
	3.
	4.
	5.
	6.

18. (a) Note the appointment of the Leader of the Opposition to the Community Planning Strategic Board;

(b) Appoint 4 members of the Executive to the Board;

(c) Appoint the Chair of the Board from within the Scottish Borders Councillor membership;

(d) Note that only 3 of the 5 SBC Elected Members are required to be in attendance at any meeting of the Board:

COMMUNITY PLANNING STRATEGIC BOARD	MEMBERSHIP (11 in total [any 3 from the 5 SBC Councillors, 5 representatives from the Statutory Partners, and 3 representatives from other CP partners])
<i>Chair</i>	
Leader of the Opposition	1.
Four Executive members	2.
	3.
	4.
	5.

19. (a) Note the membership of each of the Area Partnerships;

(b) Appoint the Chairs of each Area Partnership:

AREA PARTNERSHIP	CORE MEMBERSHIP (also includes one representative from each of four different Community Councils in the area as non-voting members; any other non-voting members appointed by the Area Partnership up to a total core membership maximum of 20. Additional non-voting members may be invited to attend and participate in meetings where there are relevant agenda items)
Berwickshire	All East Berwickshire and Mid-Berwickshire Ward Members (Chair)
Cheviot	All Kelso & District and Jedburgh & District Ward Members (Chair)
Eildon	All Galashiels & District, Selkirkshire and Leaderdale & Melrose Ward Members (Chair)
Teviot & Liddesdale Area	All Hawick & Denholm and Hawick & Hermitage Ward Members (Chair)
Tweeddale Area	All Tweeddale West and Tweeddale East Ward Members (Chair)

20. (a) Appoint 9 members to the Scottish Borders Licensing Board;

(b) Note that the Chair shall be appointed from within the membership at the first meeting of the Licensing Board:

SCOTTISH BORDERS LICENSING BOARD	MEMBERSHIP (9 in total)
Nine members	1.
	2.

	3.
	4.
	5.
	6.
	7.
	8.
	9.

21. Appoint 3 members of the Executive, to include the Portfolio holder for Health & Wellbeing and 2 other elected Members to the membership of the Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board:

SCOTTISH BORDERS HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD	MEMBERSHIP (5 in total from SBC)
Portfolio holder for Health & Wellbeing	1.
Two other Executive members	2.
	3.
Two further elected members	4.
	5.

REQUIRED AS PER PREVIOUS DECISION OF COUNCIL –

- 22. (a) Note the appointment of the Portfolio holder for Community Engagement to the Community Council Scheme Review Working Group;**
- (b) Appoint one Elected Member from each of the five Area Partnerships to the Review Working Group;**
- (c) Note the appointment of the Portfolio holder Community Engagement as the Chair of the Working Group.**

SCOTTISH BORDERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL SCHEME REVIEW WORKING GROUP	MEMBERSHIP (11 in total, which includes a Community Council rep (+ sub) from each Area Partnership locality)
Chair	1. Portfolio holder for Community Engagement (Chair)
Berwickshire Area Partnership	2.
	3. Community Council rep
Cheviot Area Partnership	4.
	5. Community Council rep
Eildon Area Partnership	6.
	7. Community Council rep
Teviot & Liddesdale Area Partnership	8.
	9. Community Council rep
Tweeddale Area Partnership	10.
	11. Community Council rep

- 23. (a) Appoint seven Members of Council to the Anti-Poverty Members Reference Group (if possible, appointment to be on a non-political basis, ensuring a gender and membership to be is;**
- (b) Note that the Reference Group shall appoint the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Group.**

ANTI-POVERTY MEMBERS REFERENCE GROUP	MEMBERSHIP (7 in total)
Seven members	1.
	2.
	3.
	4.
	5.
	6.
	7.

- 24. Appoint one Member to the Internal Wellbeing and Safety Committee.**

25. (a) Appoint ten Members to the Living Wage Group;

(b) Appoint the Chair of the Living Wage Group.

LIVING WAGE GROUP	MEMBERSHIP (10 in total)
<i>Chair</i>	
Ten members	1.
	2.
	3.
	4.
	5.
	6.
	7.
	8.
	9.
	10.

REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES**2022-2027**

	Other Body	No. of Reps	Councillors
1	A Working Countryside (within Community Planning Partnership)	One	
2	A7 Action Group	One	
3	APSE (Association for Public Service Excellence)	One	
4	Berwickshire Association for Voluntary Service	One	
5	Borderlands Partnership Board	Three (Leader + 2 subs)	
6	Internal SBC Borderlands Members Reference Group	Six (Leader, Portfolio holder for Community & Business Development + 4 others incl a member of the Opposition)	
7	BREST (Berwickshire Recreation Educational Sports Trust)	One	
8	Central Borders Citizens Advice Bureau	One	
9	Chambers Institution Trust, Peebles	Six	All six Elected Members from Tweeddale East and Tweeddale West Wards
10	Edinburgh & South East Scotland City Deal Joint Committee	Two(Leader + Sub)	
11	Edinburgh & South East Scotland City Deal Elected Members Oversight Committee	Two	
12	Champions Armed Forces and Veterans	One	
13	Children & Young People	One	
14	Deaf Community	One	
15	Dementia Champion	One	
16	Energy Efficiency	One	
17	Equalities	One	
18	Wellbeing & Safety	One	
19	Learning & Physical Disabilities	One	
20	Older People	One	
21	Voluntary Sector	One	
22	Clubsport Berwickshire	Two	
23	Clubsport Ettrick & Lauderdale	Two	
24	Clubsport Roxburgh	Two	
25	Clubsport Tweeddale	Two	

	Community Centres: Live Borders		
26	Abbey Row	One	
27	Argus	One	
28	Eyemouth	One	
29	Focus	One	
30	Langlee	One	
31	Newcastleton No 8 Club	Two	
32	Newtown Community Wing	One	
33	Peebles Community Centre	One	
34	Southfield	One	
35	Tweedbank	One	
	Community Centres: Linked to the School		
36	Innerleithen	One	
37	Philiphaugh	One	
	Community Centres: Privately Managed		
38	Chirnside	One	
39	COSLA – Convention (representing party political balance within Council)	Four	
40	Health & Social Care Board	One	
41	Community Wellbeing Board	One	
42	Environment & Economy Board	One	
43	Children & Young People Board	One	
44	Disabled Soldiers and Sailors for Peeblesshire	One	
45	Drumelzier Hall	Three	All Tweeddale West Ward Elected Members
46	Eastern Borders Development Authority (EBDA)	Two	
47	Eastgate Theatre and Arts Centre	One	
48	EDF Energy Torness Power Station Liaison Committee	Two	
49	Edinburgh Airport Consultative Committee	One	
50	Edinburgh, Lothians, Borders & Fife Shadow Joint Committee for Roads Maintenance	One	
51	Eyemouth Museum Trust	Two	
52	Eyemouth Harbour Trust	One	
53	Galashiels Policies and Langlee Woods Management Committee	Four	All 4 Elected Members from the Galashiels & District Ward
54	Galashiels Local Relief Fund Committee	Four (Gala Members)	All 4 Elected Members from the Galashiels & District Ward
55	Jim Clark Memorial Trophy Room Trust	Two	
56	Live Borders Trust/Board	Three	
57	Live Borders Executive/Board Liaison Group (from Portfolio holders with responsibility for Culture, Sport, Youth, Communities, HR and Corporate Performance)	Two	

58	Live Borders Executive/Board Liaison Group (Two Portfolio holders from those with responsibility for Culture, Sport, Youth, Communities, HR and Corporate Performance)	Two	
59	Lowland Reserve Forces & Cadets Association	One	
60	Ormiston Institute Management Committee	Three	All 3 Elected Members from the Leaderdale & Melrose Ward
61	Peebles & District Citizens' Advice Bureau Board	One	
62	Peeblesshire Charitable Trust	Two (One each from Tweeddale East & West Wards)	
63	Pension Board	One	
64	Roxburgh & Berwickshire Citizens' Advice Bureau	One	
65	Roxburgh Federation of Village Halls	Two	
66	St Abbs & Eyemouth Voluntary Marine Reserve	One	
67	SBC appointment to NHS Board	One	
68	Scotland Excel	Two (1 + sub)	
69	Scottish Borders Disability Sports Group	One	
70	Scottish Local Government Forum Against Poverty.	One	
71	Scottish Councils Committee on Radioactive Substances (SCCORS)	One	
72	Selkirk Hill Management Group	One	
73	Selkirk Silver Band	One	
74	Selkirk Town Centre BID Board	One	
75	SESTRAN (South East of Scotland Transport Partnership)	Three (2 + sub)	
76	South of Scotland Convention	Three (Leader + Portfolio holder for Community & Business Development + 1 sub)	
77	South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership	Five (4 + sub)	
78	South East Scotland Area Support Team (Children's Hearings)	One	
79	Southern Upland Partnership	One	

80	Stobo Village Hall Trustee	One	
81	Teviotdale Indoor Bowling Club	One	
82	Trimontium Trust & Trimontium Museum Trust	One	
83	Tweeddale Access Panel	No limit	
84	Tweeddale Citizen of the Year Award Selection Committee	One	
85	Timber Transport Group	Four	

	Automatic Appointment or Required by Deed/Constitution
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PROPOSAL FOR BLENDED AND ONLINE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Report by the Chief Executive

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

26 May 2022

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 **This report proposes that, where the technology permits, formal meetings of Council will be held either in a blended way or wholly online. The purpose of this report is to give flexibility to Council, with Members being able to access meetings online using MS teams, or any alternative that is subsequently selected, or attending the meeting in person. The conduct of meetings in a blended way will be the default position. Meetings will only held fully in person if previously agreed with the Chair, and notified on the published committee agenda.**
- 1.2 Since April 2020 in response to the COVID pandemic, Scottish Borders Council has conducted formal committee meetings online by remote access. At its meeting on 26 March 2020, Council agreed to suspend formal meetings of the Council in a format whereby Members and officers previously gathered together in person, and to replace such formal face to face meetings with meetings held remotely using Microsoft Teams online technology. This step was taken to minimise the risk of infection from COVID19, with Council Standing Orders being amended accordingly. At its meeting on 30 July 2020, Council agreed that the holding of remote meetings would continue and this decision has not yet been formally revoked.
- 1.4 Officers, along with the Council's IT provider, CGI, have worked to identify the necessary technology to hold blended meetings. As a result of global shortages in IT equipment however that technology is only now in the process of being installed in the Council Chamber. It is proposed that, where the technology is available, blended meetings will going forward be the default and the norm for formal committee meetings. This will promote flexibility for both Members and officers, as well as helping to achieve our climate change ambitions of reducing carbon emissions, by reducing travel across the Borders. It will also make the best use of the technology currently available and will allow for the potential impact of any new or changing COVID or other restrictions moving forward.

- 1.5 Blended meetings can only currently take place in the Council Chamber. If meetings do not take place in the Council Chamber then full online meetings will be necessary due to the requirement to livestream proceedings for public viewing. In such circumstances meetings will then be held wholly online via Microsoft Teams, or any such alternative technology that may replace that in future. It is anticipated that committee meetings will only be called as wholly physical meetings with the approval of the Chair, and only normally where circumstances dictate that is the best option. This will be notified on the published agenda for the meeting in advance of the meeting being held.
- 1.6 Although the technology is now being installed in the Council Chamber, an interim continuation of meetings by remote access is still being proposed until full testing of the functionality and user awareness has been completed. During June, it is proposed to pilot and test the use of blended meetings and should this prove successful then meetings can move to blended meetings before the end of June 2022.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 I recommend that Scottish Borders Council agrees that:-

- (a) **once testing of the functionality of the technology in the Council Chamber has been completed successfully, that blended meetings of Council committees will become the default position;**
- (b) **in the event that blended meetings are not able to take place, then meetings will take place wholly online, and meetings will be called as physical meetings only where the Chair of the meeting agrees to this in advance of the agenda of the meeting being issued;**
- (c) **the following changes are made to Standing Orders to account for future blended meetings:**

Meetings of the Council

- (i) **Standing Order No. 8 – Addition “Where a meeting is being held in terms of Section 43 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 i.e. as a blended meeting, then public access to that meeting will either be in the meeting room with any Members present, or if no Members are present in a meeting room, or online through a livestream of the meeting.”;**

Duties of Chairman

- (ii) **Standing Order No. 16(b) – amend to read “ensuring that a fair opportunity is given to all Members to express their views on any item of business, whether they are present physically in a meeting room or through remote access, in accordance with the terms of the Standing Orders;**

(iii) Standing Order No. 16 – new addition (I) “taking reasonable steps to enable effective participation by Members, officers and members of the public whether they are present physically or by remote-access; failure of technology impacting on participation in a meeting by a Member may not necessarily require the meeting to be halted.”; and

Debate

(iv) Standing Order No. 30 – amend to “Every motion or amendment shall require to be moved and seconded, and, if required by the Chairman shall be in writing and shall be handed *or sent electronically* to the proper officer and read to the meeting...”

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Since April 2020 and in response to the COVID pandemic, Scottish Borders Council has conducted formal committee meetings by remote access, firstly through Webex and latterly Microsoft Teams. At its meeting on 26 March 2020, Scottish Borders Council recognised the need to take steps to reduce the risk to its Members, staff and residents of transmitting or contracting Coronavirus. It was therefore agreed to suspend formal meetings of the Council whereby Members and officers previously gathered together in person, and to replace such formal face to face meetings with meetings held remotely, with Standing Orders being amended accordingly.
- 3.2 A further report was considered by Council on 25 June 2020 which adapted Standing Orders to ensure they reflected the operational practice that had developed as a result of the experience gained in the operation of remote committees, with the technology now available to livestream meetings.
- 3.3 At its meeting on 30 July 2020, Council agreed that the holding of remote meetings should continue and a further report would be received from the Chief Executive in due course regarding the feasibility of using technology for holding blended meetings, whereby some Councillors would be able to join a meeting remotely, and the meeting itself could be livestreamed. That remit is discharged by this report. Officers, along with the Council's IT provider, CGI, have worked to identify the necessary technology to facilitate blended meetings.
- 3.4 At its meeting on 31 March 2022, Scottish Borders Council further agreed that public business of livestreamed Council committee meetings will be recorded and that recording will be available to view for 180 days after the meeting.

4 BLENDED AND ONLINE MEETINGS

- 4.1 Blended or hybrid meetings enable some or all Councillors to participate in meetings either by being physically present together in a meeting room or by taking part in the meeting online through remote MS Teams access. Standing Orders have already been amended to reflect the current operation of remote meetings using Microsoft Teams, with such meetings being livestreamed to the public from 10 August 2020. Further amendments are now needed to Standing Orders to reflect meetings being held as blended meetings. Section 43 of the Local Government in Scotland 2003 Act already allows for remote participation in formal Council committee meetings.
- 4.2 It is proposed that, where the technology is available, blended meetings will be the default and the norm for formal committee meetings. This will promote flexibility for both Members and officers, as well as helping alleviate avoidable vehicle journeys to and from meetings and possibility of reducing carbon emissions. It will also make the best use of the technology currently available and will allow for any future changing COVID or other restrictions. In effect, this will mean that those meetings being held in the Council Chamber at Council Headquarters will be capable of being held in a blended way. Such blended committee meetings, along with any wholly

online committee meetings being held via Microsoft Teams, will be livestreamed to the public and recorded. Where Elected Members are present in the Chamber, the public and press will also be allowed into the room to view the meeting. Should no Elected Members be present in the Chamber i.e. they are all accessing the meeting remotely, and if this meeting has been called as a blended meeting – appropriate arrangements will be made for the public and press to view the meeting, either online or in the Chamber.

- 4.3 Blended meetings can only currently take place in the Council Chamber. If meetings do not take place in the Council Chamber then full online meetings will be necessary due to the requirement to livestream. In such circumstances meetings will then be held wholly online via Microsoft Teams, or any such alternative technology may replace that in future. It is anticipated that committee meetings will only be called as wholly physical meetings where circumstances dictate that is the best option or where Members agree in advance of the agenda for such a meeting being called. Livestreaming and recording of committee meetings will happen whenever the facilities are available to do so, but their absence or a failure of technology will not themselves necessarily halt a meeting. In the same way, a failure of technology impacting on participation in a meeting by remote access will not necessarily halt a meeting.
- 4.4 Although the technology is now being installed in the Council Chamber, an interim continuation of meetings by remote access is still being proposed until full testing of the functionality and user awareness has been completed. During June, it is proposed to pilot and test the use of blended meetings and should this prove successful then meetings can move to blended meetings before the end of June.

5 AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS

- 5.1 The following changes are proposed to Standing Orders to take account of hybrid meetings:

Meetings of the Council

- (a) Standing Order No. 8 – Addition “*Where a meeting is being held in terms of Section 43 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 i.e. as a hybrid meeting, then public access to that meeting will either be in the meeting room with any Members present, or if no Members are present in a meeting room, or then online through a livestream of the meeting.*”

Duties of Chairman

- (b) Standing Order No. 16(b) – amend to read “ensuring that a fair opportunity is given to all members to express their views on any item of business, *whether they are present physically in a meeting room or through remote access*, in accordance with the terms of these Standing Orders
- (c) Standing Order No. 16 – new addition (l) “*taking reasonable steps to enable effective participation by Members, officers and members of the public whether they are present physically or by remote-access; failure*

of technology impacting on participation in a meeting by a Member may not necessarily require the meeting to be halted."

Debate

- (d) Standing Order No. 30 – amend to "Every motion or amendment shall require to be moved and seconded, and, if required by the Chairman shall be in writing and shall be handed *or sent electronically* to the proper officer and read to the meeting..."

5 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial

There are no costs attached to any of the recommendations contained in this report. The costs associated with the purchase and installation of the technology in the Council Chamber has been contained within existing budgets.

5.2 Risk and Mitigations

During and due to the pandemic the Council has conducted formal committee meetings wholly online via Microsoft Teams with meetings being livestreamed for the public. This use of technology has demonstrated that Council can conduct its business using appropriate online functionality, with Members, officers and the public able to access meetings without having to travel to Newtown St Boswells or other venues across the Borders. By recording Council meetings and making these available online for 180 days after the meeting, this will in turn broaden the transparency of Council business. Reverting wholly to physical meetings would likely be viewed as a retrograde step. The risk of failure of the technology is minimal, with very few Members and officers being unable to access meetings temporarily and on very few occasions for this reason over the last two years.

5.3 Integrated Impact Assessment

The Integrated Impact Assessment checklist completed for the Council report on 25 June 2020 entitled "Amendments to Standing Orders" still applies. It is felt that holding blended or wholly online meetings will allow members of the public greater opportunity to view the decision-making process of Council in operation either during a meeting via the livestream or by viewing a recording of a meeting.

5.4 Sustainable Development Goals

Having considered each of the UN Sustainable Goals, the impact on these is as follows:

- Goal 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls) – by holding blended or online meetings, women will be encouraged into elected office and to view/participate in the democratic process.
- Goal 10 (Reduce inequalities within and among countries) – it is anticipated that minority or under-represented groups may be more comfortable viewing meetings online or participating remotely in meetings.
- Goal 13 (Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts) – by holding blended or online meetings, the Council is

raising awareness of climate change at local level by reducing the need to travel for committee meetings.

- Goal 16 (Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels) – by livestreaming and recording committee meetings, Council will be increasing public access to information.

5.5 **Climate Change**

Holding blended or online meetings of the formal Council committees, will reduce Member and officer travel across the area and thus reduce unnecessary journeys and reduce carbon emissions.

5.6 **Rural Proofing**

Live streaming and recording blended and online meetings of formal Council committees will allow members of the public to view the Council's decision making process in operation either at the time or later, without the need to travel to a venue.

5.7 **Data Protection Impact Statement**

There are no personal data implications arising from the proposals contained in this report.

5.8 **Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation**

Changes are required to the Council's Standing Orders and these are detailed in the report. No changes are required to either the Scheme of Administration or the Scheme of Delegation as a result of the proposals in the report.

6 **CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 *The Director Finance & Corporate Governance, the Monitoring Officer/Chief Legal Officer, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Director (People Performance & Change), and Corporate Communications are being consulted and any material comments received will be reported at the meeting.*

Approved by

Name **Netta Meadows**

Title **Chief Executive**

Author(s)

Name	Designation and Contact Number
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Background Papers: Nil

Previous Minute Reference: Scottish Borders Council, 20 July 2020

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

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