

A BLENDED MEETING of the SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL will be held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, NEWTOWN ST. BOSWELLS AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS on THURSDAY, 29 JUNE, 2023 at 10.00 AM.

All Attendees, including members of the public, should note that the public business in this meeting will be livestreamed and video recorded and that recording will be available thereafter for public view for 180 days.

J. J. WILKINSON,
Clerk to the Council,
19 June 2023

BUSINESS																													
1.	Convener's Remarks.																												
2.	Apologies for Absence.																												
3.	Order of Business.																												
4.	Declarations of Interest.																												
5.	<p>Minute (Pages 7 - 20)</p> <p>Consider Minute of Scottish Borders Council held on 25 May 2023 for approval and signing by the Convener. (Copy attached.)</p>	2 mins																											
6.	<p>Committee Minutes</p> <p>Consider Minutes of the following Committees:-</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 5%;">(a)</td> <td style="width: 70%;">Berwickshire Area Partnership</td> <td style="width: 25%;">30 March 2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(b)</td> <td>Local Review Body</td> <td>17 April 2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(c)</td> <td>Teviot and Liddesdale Area Partnership</td> <td>18 April 2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(d)</td> <td>Peebles Common Good Fund</td> <td>19 April 2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(e)</td> <td>Planning and Building Standards</td> <td>24 April 2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(f)</td> <td>Chambers Institution Trust</td> <td>10 May 2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(g)</td> <td>Local Review Body</td> <td>15 May 2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(h)</td> <td>Gibson Trust</td> <td>15 May 2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(i)</td> <td>Executive</td> <td>16 May 2023</td> </tr> </table>	(a)	Berwickshire Area Partnership	30 March 2023	(b)	Local Review Body	17 April 2023	(c)	Teviot and Liddesdale Area Partnership	18 April 2023	(d)	Peebles Common Good Fund	19 April 2023	(e)	Planning and Building Standards	24 April 2023	(f)	Chambers Institution Trust	10 May 2023	(g)	Local Review Body	15 May 2023	(h)	Gibson Trust	15 May 2023	(i)	Executive	16 May 2023	5 mins
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	<p>(j) Jedburgh Common Good Fund 29 May 2023 (k) External Services Providers 30 May 2023 (l) Scrutiny and Petitions 1 June 2023 (m) Innerleithen Common Good Fund 1 June 2023 (n) Executive 13 June 2023 (o) Galashiels Common Good Fund 15 June 2023</p> <p>(Please see separate Supplement containing the public Committee Minutes.)</p>	
7.	<p>Committee Recommendation - Proposed Scrutiny Review Programme (Pages 21 - 32)</p> <p>Consider recommendation from Scrutiny & Petitions Committee. (Report and appendix attached.)</p>	10 mins
8.	<p>Galashiels Academy New Build Project (Pages 33 - 40)</p> <p>Consider update report by Director Infrastructure and Environment. (Copy attached.)</p>	20 mins
9.	<p>Scottish Borders Proposed Gaelic Language Plan (Pages 41 - 78)</p> <p>Consider report by Director Education and Lifelong Learning. (Copy attached.)</p>	15 mins
10.	<p>Anti-Poverty Strategy Progress Report (Pages 79 - 134)</p> <p>Consider report by Director Resilient Communities. (Copy attached.)</p>	10 mins
11.	<p>Scottish Borders Local Child Poverty Report 2022/23 and Action Plan 2023/24 (Pages 135 - 280)</p> <p>Consider report by Director Resilient Communities. (Copy attached.)</p>	15 mins
12.	<p>Update on Cost of Living Response (Pages 281 - 294)</p> <p>Consider report by Director Resilient Communities. (Copy attached.)</p>	15 mins
13.	<p>Integration Joint Board Directions May 2023 (Pages 295 - 308)</p> <p>Consider report by Chief Officer Health and Social Care. (Copy attached.)</p>	15 mins
14.	<p>Teviot Day Centre Re-provisioning (Pages 309 - 356)</p> <p>Consider report by Chief Officer Health and Social Care. (Copy attached.)</p>	15 mins
15.	<p>Mainstreaming Report and Equality Outcomes Progress Report 2021-23 (Pages 357 - 490)</p> <p>Consider report by Director People Performance and Change. (Copy attached.)</p>	15 mins
16.	<p>Strategic Transport Priorities (Pages 491 - 506)</p> <p>Consider joint report by Director Infrastructure and Environment and Director Resilient Communities. (Copy attached.)</p>	15 mins
17.	<p>Dog Fouling on Sports Pitches (Pages 507 - 524)</p> <p>Consider report by Acting Chief Officer Corporate Governance. (Copy attached.)</p>	15 mins

<p>18.</p>	<p>Motion by Councillor S. Hamilton</p> <p>Consider Motion by Councillor S. Hamilton in the following terms:</p> <p>“This Council expresses its strong opposition to the closure of Bank of Scotland branches in Duns, Eyemouth, Jedburgh, and Newcastleton, recognising the negative impact it will have on local residents and businesses.</p> <p>We request that the Leader writes to the Bank of Scotland on the following points.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emphasise the importance of maintaining access to in-person banking services, particularly for those individuals who do not currently have access to internet or phone banking facilities. 2. Our deep disappointment by the lack of understanding demonstrated by the Bank of Scotland towards our small towns and rural communities that rely on these branches for their banking needs in the Scottish Borders. 3. We call upon the Bank of Scotland to reconsider its decision and engage in meaningful dialogue with local stakeholders, including this Council, to explore alternative solutions that preserve essential banking services within the affected communities. 4. This Council requests the Bank of Scotland to provide satisfactory responses to all questions and concerns raised by the Council and affected residents, ensuring transparency and addressing each point of inquiry thoroughly. 5. Underline this Council's commitment to collaborating with relevant community groups, local stakeholders, parliamentarians, and other authorities to seek solutions that mitigate the adverse effects of branch closures and secure continued access to vital banking services in the Scottish Borders. <p>Conclusion: Scottish Borders Council in conjunction with Parliamentary representatives continue to strongly oppose the closure of Bank of Scotland branches in Duns, Eyemouth, Jedburgh, and Newcastleton, and affirms its commitment to supporting the affected communities. We urge the Bank of Scotland to reconsider its decision, engage in constructive discussions, and provide satisfactory responses to address the concerns raised by the Council and local residents. Together, we will strive to find alternatives that prioritise the banking needs of our communities and preserve vital local services.”</p>	
<p>19.</p>	<p>Motion by Councillor Thornton-Nicol</p> <p>Consider Motion by Councillor Thornton-Nicol in the following terms:</p> <p>“In the 1995 Pensions Act, the Government increased State Pension age for women from 60 to 65, with a further increase to 66 in the 2011 Pensions Act. The change was not properly communicated to 3.8m women born in the 1950s until 2012, giving some only one year's notice of a six year increase in their anticipated retirement age. 7100 of the affected women are in our own authority area.</p> <p>Council believes this injustice has not only had a profound effect on the individuals involved, but on the wider community in Scottish Borders. These women are impacted financially, which impacts on every aspect of their lives. It affects their mental well-being and physical health.</p>	<p>5 mins</p>

	<p>Women who had a planned retirement should have been able to make their own decisions. Some would have volunteered, some would have looked after older people as unpaid carers, some would have provided childcare for their families. All of these things that they cannot do have a knock on impact on local government and service provision.</p> <p>Our local economy is negatively affected by the reduced spending power and disposable income the uncommunicated State Pension Age changes has brought about among women born in the 1950s.</p> <p>Council therefore agrees with:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The conclusion of the All Party Parliamentary Group on State Pension Inequality that women born in the 1950s have suffered a gross injustice, affecting their emotional, physical and mental circumstances in addition to causing financial hardship 2. A swift resolution to this ongoing injustice before more and more women die waiting for compensation. 3. The WASPI campaign for an immediate one-off compensation payment of between £11,666 and £20,000 to those affected, with the most going to women who were given the shortest notice of the longest increase in their state pension age. <p>and asks that the Leader of the Council writes to local Members of Parliament, and to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions to outline the effects of the injustice to 1950s women on the community in Scottish Borders and to seek their support for an immediate compensation package.</p>	
20.	<p>Motion by Councillor Sinclair</p> <p>“Scottish Borders Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognises Scottish Breastfeeding Week, which took place between 5 and 11 June 2023, with the aim to celebrate the work being done to support, promote and protect breastfeeding, as well as raising awareness of the Breastfeeding Friendly Scotland Scheme; • Welcomes the fact that 52 organisations in the Scottish Borders have signed up to the Scottish-wide Breastfeeding Friendly Scotland Scheme which aims to ensure that babies can be breastfed in comfort and without interruption, reducing barriers for parents who breastfeed; and, • Recognises the benefits breastfeeding has for both baby and mother’s health, helping to protect children from a vast range of illnesses and to protect mothers from breast cancer, ovarian cancer and heart disease.” 	5 mins
21.	Open Questions	15 mins
22.	Any Other Items Previously Circulated	
23.	Any Other Items Which the Convener Decides Are Urgent	
24.	<p>Private Business</p> <p>Before proceeding with the private business, the following motion should be approved:-</p> <p>“That under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the aforementioned Act.”</p>	
25.	Committee Minutes	2 mins

	<p>Consider private Sections of the Minutes of the following Committees:-</p> <p>(a) Peebles Common Good Fund 19 April 2023 (b) Gibson Trust 15 May 2023 (c) Executive 16 May 2023 (d) External Services Providers 30 May 2023</p> <p>(Please see separate Supplement containing private Committee Minutes.)</p>	
26.	<p>Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal - Destination Tweed Outline Business Case (Pages 525 - 654)</p> <p>Consider report by Director Resilient Communities. (Copy attached.)</p>	15 mins

NOTES

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

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