

Public Document Pack

Eildon
Area Partnership

Our Scottish Borders
Your community

Meeting

Date: Thursday, 7 September 2023

Time: 6 p.m.

Location: Eildon Housing Headquarters, Selkirk

Please note that the meeting will be held in-person only and therefore the meeting will not be livestreamed and there is no option to join the meeting online.

AGENDA

1.	Welcome and Meeting Protocols
2.	Additional Information Document (Pages 3 - 6) Copy attached.
3.	Feedback from meeting of 22 June 2023 (Pages 7 - 12) Minute of Meeting held on 22 June 2023. (Copy attached.)
4.	Speed Introductions (10mins)
Section 1: Service and Partner Updates	
5.	Borders Community Action - Juliana Amaral Introduction, Future Plans, New Strategy, Funding (15-30mins)
Section 2: Local Priorities	
6.	The Eildon Map (20-30mins)
Section 3: Community Empowerment and Community Funding	
7.	Eildon Funding Table 2023/24 (Pages 13 - 14) Copy attached. (3mins)
8.	Neighbourhood Support Fund 2023/24 (Pages 15 - 20) Eildon Assessment Panel to present funding recommendations for the following NSF applications: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lauderdale Youth Football Club• Selkirk Bowling Club• Interest Link Borders

- Lauderdale Community and Leisure Centre
 - Lauderdale Initiative
 - TD1 Youth Hub (additional supplementary document attached.)
- (Copy attached.) (20mins)

Section 4: Other

9.	Meeting Evaluation via Menti
10.	Any Other Business
11.	Tweedbank Care Village - Drop-in Meeting
12.	Next Area Partnership Thursday, 16 November 2023. Agenda Issued: Thursday, 2 November.

Please direct any enquiries to Declan Hall Tel: 01835 826556
Email: Declan.Hall@scotborders.gov.uk

SBC Current Consultations**Shared Access Network 2023**

Linking to the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships that took place in the Scottish Borders and throughout Scotland in August, we are asking communities and members of the public to tell us where new shared access routes should be developed in the Scottish Borders and which routes should be given priority.

Read more: [Shared Access Network 2023 - Scottish Borders Council - Citizen Space](#)

Scottish Government Current Consultations**A Human Rights Bill for Scotland: Consultation**

Embedding international human rights in Scotland will further emphasise the importance of all people being treated with dignity and ensure that human rights play an even more central role in our strategies, policies and decision-making processes across all areas of government and the wider public sector. This consultation on the proposals for a Human Rights Bill to be introduced within this session of the Scottish Parliament seeks the views of everyone on that vision.

Read more: [A Human Rights Bill for Scotland: Consultation - Scottish Government - Citizen Space](#)

Salmon fishing: proposed river gradings for 2024 season

We are seeking views on the proposed river gradings for the 2024 salmon fishing season, which have been calculated from the annual assessment of the conservation status of wild Atlantic salmon populations in rivers across Scotland.

Read more: [Salmon fishing: proposed river gradings for 2024 season - Scottish Government - Citizen Space \(consult.gov.scot\)](#)

Building Warrant Fees: consultation

This consultation seeks to obtain the views on proposed increases to the building warrant fees required to deliver change to strengthen the building standards system and the development of a new building warrant fees model in Scotland.

Read more: [Building Warrant Fees: consultation - Scottish Government - Citizen Space](#)

Effective community engagement in local development planning guidance: consultation

This consultation is about guidance on effective community engagement in the local development planning process. It is for planning authorities and communities. The guidance forms part of the Government's work on reform of the planning system and implementation of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019. It supports the new approach to local development planning on which further new regulations and guidance are available.

Read more: [Effective community engagement in local development planning guidance: consultation - Scottish Government - Citizen Space](#)

Food Conversations

The Food Conversations meeting on 23 June 2023 had presentations on the Cash-First approach adopted by Scottish Government, supported by Citizens Advice Bureau, Good Food Nation Act and data gathering and evaluation techniques. The group agreed to a refresh of food flyers displaying food provision around the borders, as well as the development of a borders-wide consultation to address need.

The next Food Conversation meeting will take place on Friday, 8 September 2023. If you are interested in joining these meetings, please let us know.

Community Choices

There are no updates for Community Choices. Should this change, an update on the latest meeting will be provided at the Area Partnership.

Community Empowerment

Currently, there are no formal Participation Requests being considered within the Eildon locality.

For information about the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015: [Parts of the Act | Community Empowerment \(Scotland\) Act 2015 | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

Place Making

A place-based approach is about understanding the potential of a place and coordinating action to improve outcomes, with community participation at the heart of the process. For information, tools and resources on place-based approaches visit [Our Place](#)

Area Partnerships' Information Pack

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

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

Community Councils:

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

[Community Council News](#)

Scottish Borders Council Meetings

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

Cost of Living Support

[Financial support and advice | Cost of Living Crisis support | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

Debt Advice:

[Citizens Advice Bureau](#)



Download the NHS
Borders Money Worries
App here

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

Covid-19 vaccination programme

<https://www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/covid-19-vaccination-programme/>

NHS Borders website for current updates:

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

Business support

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

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

General Funding:

<https://fundingscotland.com/>

[Grants Online](#)

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

[Community grants and funding | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

[Neighbourhood Support Fund | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

[SBC Enhancement & Welfare Trust](#)

NHS Borders Wellbeing Service:

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

NHS Borders Wellbeing Point:

www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/wellbeingpoint

<https://www.rcot.co.uk/conserving-energy>

This includes pacing, fatigue management and some ideas about restarting gentle exercise

<https://www.yourcovidrecovery.nhs.uk/>

This covers most aspects, including information from physiotherapy and occupational therapy websites

<https://www.chss.org.uk/advice-line-nurses/>

Phone or email to access their support/advice

**Eildon
Area Partnership**



MINUTE of Meeting of the EILDON AREA PARTNERSHIP held remotely by Microsoft Teams on Thursday, 22 June 2023 at 6.00 pm

Present:- Councillors E. Thornton-Nicol (Chair), C. Cochrane, L. Douglas, E. Jardine, D. Parker, J. Paton Day and H. Steel together with 10 representatives of Partner Organisations, Community Councils, and members of the public.

Apologies:- Councillors J. Linehan, N. Mackinnon and F. Sinclair.

In Attendance:- Community Co-ordinator, Community Engagement Officer (E. Coltman), Democratic Services Officer (D. Hall)

1. **WELCOME**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Eildon Area Partnership held remotely via Microsoft teams, which included Elected Members, guests attending within the meeting and those watching via the Live Stream.

2. **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DOCUMENT**

There had been circulated copies of an additional information document with the agenda.

3. **FEEDBACK AND EVALUATION FROM MEETING OF 23 MARCH 2023**

The Minute of the meeting of the Eildon Area Partnership held on 23 March 2023 had been circulated and was noted.

3. **SCOTTISH BORDERS CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION NETWORK UPDATE**

The Chair welcomed Ms Louise Cox of Scottish Borders Council to meeting to provide an update on the Scottish Borders Climate Change Action Network. Ms Cox explained that work on climate change had been reviewed over the preceding years and that it had become clear that one of the elements lacking across the region when it came to climate change action was peer support and collaboration. It was hoped that by establishing an umbrella organisation a joined-up approach could be established across the region that would help interested parties and groups link up and get support. The Southern Uplands Partnership was already an established Group supporting communities, and it had been decided that setting up a new organisation would not be necessary. An application was expected to be submitted to the Scottish Government for support in the near future, which would allow the creation of dedicated posts to help undertake key work. It was expected that agreement for the Southern Uplands Partnership to host potential staff would take time. Discussions with the Scottish Government on community led climate change action were ongoing. As part of phase 1, mapping and evaluating current capacity would take place, and it was hoped that engagement activities would be undertaken with local communities, in particular young people. In response to a question regarding the timescales involved, Ms Cox explained that there would be lead time for approval, and then recruitment. Attendees welcomed that work was ongoing behind the scenes in addition to the public facing elements and encouraged the good work to continue.

4. **COMMUNITY PLAN PRIORITIES CONSULTATION – NILE ISTEPHEN**

4.1 The Chair welcomed Mr Nile Istephen of Eildon Housing Association to provide a presentation on the refreshed Community Plan Priorities. Community planning was the process by which councils and other public bodies such as Health Boards and Police Scotland worked with local communities, businesses, and community groups to plan and

deliver better services and improve the lives of people who live in Scotland. Community Planning Partnerships was the name given to the group of organisations who deliver community planning. Initially the responsibility for leading CPPs sat with LAs. The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 changed the responsibility to sit equally with five public sector bodies: LAs, NHS, Police Scotland, SFRS and Enterprise companies – in the Borders those lead partners were:

NHS Borders
Police Scotland
SBC
Scottish Fire & Rescue Service
South of Scotland Enterprise
Other partners include:
Borders College
Borders Community Action (Third Sector)
Health & Social Care Integration Joint Boards
Live Borders
Berwickshire Housing Association
Eildon Housing Association
Scottish Borders Community Councils' Network
Scottish Borders Housing Association
Waverley Housing

- 4.2 There was a CPP in each local authority area. It was further explained that under the Community Empowerment Act, Community Planning Partnerships were required to develop a ten-year Plan that set out the priorities for improving people's lives and reducing inequalities. A lot had changed over the last five years since the previous Community Plan was agreed in May 2018. There were new priorities, and it was important that the plan included those and like a lot of CPPs, there was an opportunity to completely review the plan to focus on what was most important for the area now. There would be a review of the new Plan at least twice in the next 10 years to ensure that it remained relevant. In putting together, the draft priorities for the new Plan, the data had been analysed to get an understanding of what was working well and what needed to be improved. The views of the public had been sought through other surveys and community-based meetings, including the Council's Community Conversations and 16 priority areas had been identified and arranged under the five themes; Economy, Skills, and Learning; Enjoying Good Health and Wellbeing; Good Place to Live, Grow Up and Enjoy a Full Life and Community Empowerment. Views were being sought on which priorities were the most important to those living in the Eildon Area Partnership and whether the themes were the right ones. The consultation was available online on SBC's website and available as a paper copy for those who would prefer to respond that way. The consultation would close on 16 July 2023. In response to a question regarding rural areas, Mr Istephan acknowledged that rural areas faced higher incidences of fuel poverty and stressed that digital connections were key to ensuring that people living in those areas were not disadvantaged. An effective public transport network would also be key to ensuring that people living in rural areas were not disadvantaged, and technology, through initiatives such as demand responsive transport, would be key in the future. Mr Istephan confirmed that the plan did not replace the Local Development Plan, which was focused on planning matters. The plan under discussion was focused on bringing partners together to approach broader issues and to co-ordinate action in a joined up and effective manner. Mr Harrow acknowledged that there were a considerable number of different plans under way, and that the plan under discussion was focused on avoiding duplication of work in very important sectors. The Chair encouraged attendees to fill out the consultation and ensure that their voices were heard.

5. **LOCAL HOUSING STRATEGY CONSULTATION PRESENTATION**

The Chair welcomed Ms Donna Bogdanovic to the meeting to provide a presentation on the Local Housing Strategy Consultation which was ongoing. Ms Bogdanovic explained

that the consultation on the Draft Local Housing Strategy 2023-28 was available online. The consultation was expected to conclude on 21 July 2023. It was stressed that this was the public's chance to express how they feel about housing in their area and to influence the provision of housing in future years. Ms Bogdanovic provided the link to the consultation and encouraged attendees to respond and to encourage others to complete the consultation. In response to a question regarding community buildings and spaces, Ms Bogdanovic explained that the Local Housing Strategy would be fed into the wider Local Development Plan and would form part of the wider picture of allowing communities to achieve their aspirations.

6. **EILDON AREA PARTNERSHIP ACTION TRACKER – UPDATE**

Mr Harrow explained that officers were keen to develop an action tracker that would be brought to future meetings of the Area Partnership. The action tracker would focus on ensuring that work was reported back to attendees following discussions and ensure that momentum was maintained in key areas. Members welcomed the idea.

7. **EILDON FUNDING TABLE 2023/24**

Copies of the Eildon Funding Table 2023/24 had been circulated with the agenda. The opening balance of the Neighbourhood Support Fund (NSF) had been £86k, and £1949 had been awarded since April 2023. Applications totalling £31.1k had been assessed and were awaiting decision. Mr Coltman explained that more detailed updates would be presented as awards were made and the year progressed.

8. **NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT FUND**

8.1 There had been circulated copies of the Eildon Assessment Panel's recommendations as a supplement to the agenda. The Chair welcomed Ms Jenny Mushlin of the Eildon Assessment Panel to provide an overview of each of the recommendations.

8.2 **Melrose in Bloom**

Melrose in Bloom had applied for £5.75k to replace a wooden fence between the Boat Brae footpath and Melrose Bowling Club. The fence would follow the line of, and replace, an extant fence which had fallen into disrepair. The Assessment Panel had expressed concerns regarding a lack of clarity on land ownership and future maintenance obligations. Melrose in Bloom additionally had financial reserves. The Panel recommended not to fund the project as a result of those concerns. Members unanimously agreed not to fund the project.

8.3 **Live, Learn, Earn**

The application from Live, Learn, Earn was for £3.8k for a project which would support eight individuals over a twelve week period. The project would involve attendees undertaking one metal work session per week. The Panel were concerned at an overall lack of clarity with the application. It was not clear where the sessions would take place, quotations were not fully detailed and the breakdown of overall project costs had also been deemed vague. The Panel recommended not to fund the project. Members unanimously agreed not to fund the project.

8.4 **Hike and Bike Hub**

A £6.1k application from the Hike and Bike Hub had been received to cover ongoing rental costs for 9 months. The Eildon Area Partnership had previously approved funding for a project which provided affordable bike hire, servicing and maintenance as well as led cycles and guided walks. The Panel felt that the project had delivered positive outcomes in the area, and that the applicants had established strong partnership working with local community groups and businesses. It was highlighted that income generation by the Hike and Bike Hub had increased month and month, and the Panel felt that the funding applied for would the group to continue to move towards sustainability. The Panel had recommended that the application be approved in full. The Chair invited the applicants to address the meeting. Mrs Angela Crow thanked the Area Partnership for its support and

explained that she was happy to provide progress reports in the future. Members unanimously agreed to fund the project in full.

8.5 **Go Wild Scotland**

Go Wild Scotland had applied for £9,992.78 to support the ongoing employment of one full-time member of staff, paid at the national living wage for 6 months. The role would be to develop the group's community engagement activities at Mauldsheugh Wood in Selkirk; continue its work with local schools; expand its volunteering programme; develop nature-based activities; and develop a programme of ranger-led walks and wildlife tours in the region. The Panel were supportive of work which Go-Wild had undertaken to date and acknowledged the excellent work they had done at local schools. However, the Panel were concerned that Go-Wild had received a Neighbourhood Support Fund grant for staff costs in the previous year and felt that Go-Wild should seek other sourcing of funding to help meet their staffing costs. The Panel had recommended not to fund the application. The Chair welcomed Mr Gethin Chamberlain of Go-Wild to the meeting to discuss his application. In response to a request to play a video prepared by Go-Wild, the Chair explained that in the interests of fairness, and in line with standard orders, a late submission could not be accepted. Mr Chamberlain explained that Go-Wild had delivered an excellent outdoor nature education service, with particular focus on 6 local schools. In the region of 250 pupils had taken part in nature activities. Discussions had been held with a business expert, who believed Go-Wild could become self-funding based on sales and other factors. Mr Chamberlain explained that the funding applied for would allow Go-Wild to survive until it reached a more secure position and highlighted that they were a social enterprise, not run for profit. Following extensive discussions regarding whether it was appropriate to provide repeat funding to a single group, in particular for salary costs, consensus could not be reached on the application. Councillor Parker, seconded by Councillor Thornton-Nicol proposed that the recommendation of the Assessment Panel be upheld, and the application for funding be rejected. Councillor Jardine, seconded by Councillor Cochrane proposed that the recommendation of the Assessment Panel be overturned, and the application for funding be granted.

VOTE

Councillor Parker, seconded by Councillor Thornton-Nicol moved that the application for funding be denied.

Councillor Jardine, seconded by Councillor Cochrane moved as an amendment that the application for funding be approved.

As the meeting was conducted by Microsoft Teams members were unable to vote by the normal show of hands and gave a verbal response as to how they wished to vote the result of which was as follows: -

Motion – 3 votes

Amendment – 4 votes

The amendment was accordingly carried, and the funding application for £9992.78 was approved.

8.6 **Galashiels Bowling Club**

Galashiels Bowling Club had applied for £10k to replace the existing felt covering on its pavilion roof. The Assessment Panel were unsure whether the Neighbourhood Support Fund was the most appropriate fund for the project and had recommended not to fund the application. Members unanimously agreed not to approve the application.

8.7 **Etrick and Yarrow Community Development Company**

The application from Etrick and Yarrow Community Development Company sought £10k for salary costs for a community forest ranger, so that the group could continue their work maintaining access and improving the Etrick Marshes. The outdoor nature area at the

old Ettrick school would also be improved. The group was including 12 days of additional ranger help to assist jobs where two people were required. There was no vehicle access to the marshes, so all materials needed to be carried. The Panel felt that the application was similar to the application discussed at paragraph 8.5, and in the interests of consistency they had recommended not to fund. Members unanimously agreed not to fund the application.

8.8 **Lauder Larder**

Lauder Larder had applied for £5.4k of funding to help purchase a freezer, laptop, shelving, cookery books, and a years' worth of core products. The purchase of the freezer would allow the group to freeze food for its customers. The laptop would allow recipes to be typed up and printed. The Panel had recommended to approve the application in full. Members welcomed the project and encouraged the group not to purchase cookbooks given the availability of free recipes.

9. **NEXT AREA PARTNERSHIP – 7 September 2023**

Attendees agreed to hold the next meeting of the Eildon Area Partnership in person at Eildon Housing Associations Headquarters. It was expected that the meeting would be blended to allow digital and physical attendees to take part.

The meeting concluded at 7.50 p.m.

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Eildon Funding 2023/24

7 September 2023

Neighbourhood Support Fund (NSF) 2023/24	
	£
Opening balance as of 01/04/2023	£ 86,073.00
Total available	£ 86,073.00
Less:	
NSF applications awarded since 01/04/2023	£ 24,434.15
NSF applications that are assessed and await decision	£ 56,369.54
Sub-total	£ 80,803.69
Funds remaining if assessed applications are successful	£ 5,269.31
NSF applications still to be assessed	£ -
Potential Overall Position	£ 5,269.31

Other sources of grant funding - Eildon			
Grant Type	Available	Awarded	Remaining
Local Festival Grants	£ 28,400.00	£ 9,750.00	£ 18,650.00
Annual Support Grants (Community Councils)	£ 10,525.00	£ 2,625.00	£ 7,900.00
Common Good (Galashiels)	£ 500.00	£ -	£ 500.00
Common Good (Lauder)	£ 5,900.00	£ 3,000.00	£ 2,900.00
Common Good (Selkirk)	£ 18,150.00	£ -	£ 18,150.00
William Hill Trust	£ 12,090.00	£ 1,290.00	£ 10,800.00
SBC Enhancement Trust	£ 3,686.11	£ 461.12	£ 3,224.99
SBC Welfare Trust	£ 11,497.69	£ 2,500.00	£ 8,997.69
	£ 90,748.80	£ 19,626.12	£ 71,122.68

Summary of applications						
No.	Date	Fund	Organisation Name	Amount	Project	Status
1	08/04/2023	NSF	Gala Cricket Club	£ 1,200.00	New mower	Awarded
2	03/05/2023	NSF	Selkirk Hill Management Group	£ 749.00	New mower	Awarded
3	11/05/2023	NSF	Hike and Bike Hub	£ 6,150.00	Rent costs	Awarded
4	13/05/2023	NSF	Go Wild Scotland	£ 9,992.78	Salary costs	Awarded
5	26/05/2023	NSF	Lauder Larder	£ 5,407.82	Food provision expansion	Awarded
6	30/05/2023	NSF	Trustees of Bowden Common	£ 934.55	Equipment for Common maintenance	Awarded
7	07/06/2023	NSF	Lauderdale Youth Football Club	£ 10,000.00	Pitch upgrade & warm space	Assessed
8	31/07/2023	NSF	Selkirk Bowling Club	£ 9,024.00	Roof replacement	Assessed
9	02/08/2023	NSF	Interest Link Borders	£ 10,000.00	Learning disabilities befriending project	Assessed
10	03/08/2023	NSF	Lauderdale Community & Leisure Centre	£ 7,985.54	One-off emergency support	Assessed
11	04/08/2023	NSF	Lauderdale Initiative	£ 10,000.00	Christmas lights 2023	Assessed
12	06/08/2023	NSF	TD1 Youth Hub	£ 9,360.00	TD1 Active	Assessed
Total				£ 80,803.69		

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Lauderdale Youth Football Club

£10,000.00

Lauderdale Youth Football Club is planning to upgrade the existing natural grass match pitches and training pitches. The pitches are currently in poor condition and the planned works will consist of secondary sand slit drainage, aeration, top-dressing, fertiliser, and over-seeding works. The land is currently owned by Lauder Common Good.

Panel thoughts:

- Concerns about the use of community funds for the renovation of pitches that would be required to undergo the same renovation in 10 years' time (estimate). This was coupled with the responsibility of ongoing maintenance being left with either Lauderdale YFC or Scottish Borders Council, neither of whom may have the funds in the future to ensure the condition of the pitches is maintained to an acceptable level for continued use by the club.
- There needed to be significantly more community engagement for this project evidenced, given that the application was for the maximum amount of £10,000 and that it was a community asset that was being renovated.
- The panel felt that Lauderdale YFC should continue to seek alternative sources of funding for its project and hoped that, alongside the £10,000 already in the club's bank account, the £10,000 from the Scottish Football Partnership & Trust, and the £10,000 SSE pending application would provide sufficient funds if topped-up by the Scottish Football Association.

The panel recommends not to fund this project.

Selkirk Bowling Club

£9,024.00

The project is to repair the roof of the club building where the facilities are housed, the repairs are essential so that the club can continue to offer and develop a safe space for members and volunteers. The club wants to build on the events that they have held which have been open and accessible to the community and continue to help with addressing loneliness and social isolation.

Panel thoughts:

- Uncertain whether the Neighbourhood Support Fund is the most appropriate fund for this project.
- The panel notes that the club engages with various community groups and allows them to utilise the clubhouse space but feels that the repair of the roof is not directly encouraging community use. It may be more suitable for a fund that has been created to support community groups improve their facilities.
- The panel also felt that the group may benefit greatly by exploring energy efficient upgrades to the roof, as opposed to the current planned repairs. This may open up opportunities for funding from external sources specifically focused on energy saving upgrades.

The panel recommends not to fund this project. The panel also recommends submitting an enquiry to the CARES Fund, administered by Local Energy Scotland.

Interest Link Borders

£10,000.00

Approximately 12 1:1 links will be for adult and long-term (often five years or more) members. Members and volunteers are matched based on age, interests, and location. They will meet fortnightly for 2-3 hours for community activities such as local events, walking, shopping, sightseeing, and coffee. There will often be telephone contact in between face-to-face meetings.

There will also be 10 befriending groups, with a total of 65 places. These will be six, fortnightly two-hour sessions and be aimed at children (8-15), young people (16-25) and adults. Activities will include drama, crafts, cooking, brunch. The youth groups will offer activities similar to mainstream youth clubs and will offer an overnight trip.

Panel thoughts:

- Funding would benefit a large group of people with learning disabilities, across a variety of ages and demographics, specifically in the Eildon locality.
- The panel also appreciates the significant efforts have been/are being made to source funding for the entire project and that there has been a considerable amount of consultation carried out, with feedback received from members, volunteers, carers, teachers, social workers, and professionals.

The panel recommends to fund this project in full.

Lauderdale Community and Leisure Centre

£7,985.54

This is a one-off, emergency application to ensure that the Lauderdale Community and Leisure Centre (LCLC) can cover all regular and one-off costs during lower income periods so that it can remain open into the winter period when usage is higher. Despite taking significant steps to reduce monthly costs (e.g. staffing costs) our balance continues to drop due to the significant increase in utility costs.

Panel thoughts:

- This application aligns with the criteria of the Neighbourhood Support Fund, in that it will provide one-off, emergency support to an organisation whose future is at serious risk.
- The panel felt very strongly that the conversation with SOSE should continue as a priority to ensure the continued running of the centre and that any and all appropriate funding opportunities should be explored, specifically funds that encourage modern, energy-saving technology to be installed.

There was significant discussion about the risk of recommending this level of funding.

The panel recommends to fund this project in full.

Lauderdale Initiative

£10,000.00

Lauderdale Initiative seeks to increase the number of lights installed along the A68 lampposts to enhance the visual impact of festival lighting by filling in gaps in existing lighting to have lighting from one end of the town to the other. The group also wishes to purchase marquee which will allow for craft stalls, food and drink vendors, and community groups to attend the annual switch on community event that Lauderdale Initiative have created and hope to boost.

Panel thoughts:

- Appreciative of the consultation work that has already been carried out to ascertain what the community of Lauder would like to see in their town.
- The funding would benefit the whole town of Lauder and indeed those who visit or pass through during the festive period.
- This investment would continue to directly increase the level of community engagement and the sense of pride in Lauder/ the Eildon locality.
- There was a concern around the purchase of the marquee as there have been a significant number of gazebos purchased in the past using SBC community funds.

The panel recommends to fund this project in full. The marquee must be made available to community groups throughout the Scottish Borders for no charge if requested (if available).

TD1 Youth Hub

£9,360.00

TD1 Active will provide a range of weekly activities for young people focusing on improving mental health and well-being through participation in active activities. These activities will be focused on those aged 10-14 year old to provide a positive and strong supported start to young people in their transition from late primary to early secondary school. By providing free activities using local assets or organisations, TD1 Youth Hub hopes to be able to build effective partnerships for the on-going development of the project, including looking at volunteering opportunities and sports leadership.

Panel thoughts:

- The panel are extremely grateful for the positive work that the organisation delivers to continually improve the lives of young people in the Eildon locality but feel that funding for this project would better sourced from elsewhere at this time.
- The primary concern is the amount of funding that previous SBC community funds have awarded to TD1 Youth Hub since 2019/20, totalling £30,233.

The panel recommends not to fund this project and suggests exploring other funding sources, such as Youth Scotland and Youth Link Scotland.

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Eildon West Youth Hub (TD1 Youth Hub)
TD1 Active
Supplementary Information

Taking on board feedback from the funding panel, we would like to clarify some aspects of our application to the Eildon Neighbourhood Support Fund.

TD1 Active would be a new project, borrowing on successful interventions using sport and active activities which has been done ad hoc and would bring it under a brand new project called TD1 Active. This project would be a stand alone development and would very much focus on engaging with those young people who don't typically engage in physical activity. We have seen the impact that covid has had on young people, especially in activity levels, however this consequently means less young people taking part in organised sports and activities.

There is a vision being developed for a broader street sports initiative in Galashiels being led by Live Borders, TD1 Active would sit beside this should it be successful, however relationships take time to build and time to maintain. If we want young people who don't typically engage in being active then we need to work at establishing relationships and maintaining them so that when other opportunities come along young people are willing and able to make the most of them.

Unfortunately there is a group of young people in the town at the moment who are causing anti social behaviour issues, we have an opportunity to positively engage these young people with whom we have a relationship into positive alternatives. Such as taking them a walk, woodland skills, developing garden, football, etc TD1 Active is not about strictly sports its about promoting a lifestyle change of being active.

TD1 Active is about establishing a project, showcasing its positive interventions which then allows us to go to other funding sources in 12 months time to fund the project, hopefully alongside a successful street sports initiative. Funding is particularly challenging at the moment, funding sources such as Cashback for Communities run by Youthlink Scotland now no longer offers a grants scheme in the Borders, funding from Youth Scotland is targeted at much smaller groups and for significantly less money available. We have come to the community fund after a break of 3 years as we believe this is a project which firmly fits into the development of our community and benefiting some of the most vulnerable in our community. We are also using our own funds to match fund the resources, transport, additional staffing costs that this project will have and we are only seeking the financial support for the development worker who has an essential role in building up the relationships with young people.

We hope the decision for funding can be reconsidered.

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