

Public Document Pack

Eildon
Area Partnership

Our Scottish Borders
Your community

Meeting

Date: Thursday, 16 November 2023

Time: 6 pm

Location: Via Microsoft Teams

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.

AGENDA

1.	Welcome and Meeting Protocols
2.	Additional Information Document (Pages 3 - 6) Copy attached.
3.	Feedback from Meeting of 7 September 2023 (Pages 7 - 10) Minute of Meeting held on 7 September 2023. (Copy attached.)
Section 1: Service and Partner Updates	
4.	Time For Change - NHS Borders Ralph Roberts (Chief Executive), Clare Oliver and Lainey Thomas (Communications and Engagement) <i>"Time for Change is a conversation with our communities. We will share with you the challenges we are facing with workforce and finance, and the impact pressures are having on the services we provide. We will consider a number of areas including Primary Care sustainability, bedded facilities in the Community such as Community Hospitals, acute services provided at the Borders General Hospital and mental health services. You choose which area you would like to have a conversation about so we can hear about what matters to you."</i>
Section 2: Local Priorities	
5.	Destination Tweed Marie Piper <i>"Destination Tweed will celebrate and share the nature, history and stories of the River Tweed, one of the UK's most highly designated and inspirational river corridors. A five-year, partnership-led investment beginning in 2022 will deliver a source to sea trail, which</i>

respects its special status and connects communities and attractions with sensitive, impactful, and innovative interpretation. The landscape and river habitats will be enhanced and better understood, new and existing audiences will be meaningfully and actively engaged, and we will create opportunities to celebrate, care for, enjoy and promote the river sustainably whilst achieving health, wellbeing, and economic development ambitions.”

Section 3: Community Empowerment and Community Funding

6. **Eildon Funding Table 2023/24** (Pages 11 - 12)

Copy attached.

7. **Neighbourhood Support Fund 2023/24** (Pages 13 - 14)

Eildon Assessment Panel to present funding recommendation for the Neighbourhood Support Fund application from Melrose Rugby Club. (Copy attached.)

Section 4: Other

8. **Meeting Evaluation via Menti**

9. **Any Other Business**

10. **Next Area Partnership: Thursday, 25 January 2024**

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

SBC Current Consultations

Daytime opportunities for older adults and those with complex needs



Closes: 26 November 2023

Engagement recently carried out by the Partnership in Teviot and Liddesdale showed that there are many social opportunities available such as lunch clubs, walking groups, men's sheds etc. but that many of these activities were not able to support those with more complex needs. The engagement also showed that there were barriers to taking part in these activities such as the requirement for transport or personal care.

The Scottish Borders Health and Social Care Partnership is now commencing a review of activities and services in the Eildon Locality. The review aims to identify any gaps in provision and, where gaps are found, identify and put in place a suitable solution.

Read more: [Daytime opportunities for older adults and those with complex needs - Eildon 2023 - Scottish Borders Council - Citizen Space](#)

Night Support Service



Closes: 3 December 2023

As you will have read in the national news, the pressure on care services nationally, is already taking its toll and this is likely to increase. Due to this unprecedented pressure, we need to consider new approaches to service delivery that will provide more efficient and effective care, whilst maintaining safe and good quality services.

Read more: [Night Support Service Consultation October 2023 - Scottish Borders Council - Citizen Space](#)

How we look after our Roads, Bridges and Lighting



Closes: 17 December 2023

The Roads Asset Management Team is looking to shape the future of the road service delivery through developing a set of objectives which it will use to influence the planning and delivery over the next 5 to 10 years.

The objectives will help us prioritise and allocate our spending of the road maintenance budgets we have allocated to us. As part of the development of the objectives, we want to understand what matters most to the people who rely on our road network, so we can consider this in our decision making and planning.

Read more: [How we look after our Roads, Bridges and Lighting - Scottish Borders Council - Citizen Space](#)

Have Your Say - Placemaking and Community Engagement Sign Up



Placemaking is a process of community engagement where the opinions and desires of the community are used to inform the future of the places we live, work and play - and by getting involved and telling us what matters to you, we can make sure the voices of all Scottish Borders residents are heard.

Read more: [Have Your Say - Placemaking and Community Engagement Sign Up - Scottish Borders Council - Citizen Space](#)

Scottish Government Current Consultations

There are currently 17 active Scottish Government consultations:



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

- Regulation of alkaline hydrolysis ('water cremation') in Scotland
- Management of burial grounds, application for burial, exhumation, private burial and restoration of lairs: regulation in Scotland
- Funeral director licensing scheme for Scotland
- Statutory inspection of burial authorities, cremation authorities and funeral directors
- Burial and cremation consultation collection
- Alcohol: Minimum Unit Pricing (MUP): Continuation and Future Pricing: Consultation
- Delivery of relationships, sexual health, and parenthood (RSHP) education in Scottish schools - draft statutory guidance
- Strategic environmental assessment of agricultural tenancies, small landholdings, and land use tenancy proposals – consultation
- Healthcare Improvement Scotland: independent healthcare fees consultation
- New build developments: delivering gigabit-capable connections
- Tackling the Nature Emergency: Consultation on Scotland's Strategic Framework for Biodiversity
- Plant Health Exports Audited Trader Scheme (PHEATS) - Scottish Membership
- Enhancing the accessibility, adaptability, and usability of Scotland's homes: consultation
- Scottish Social Services Council – proposed register changes
- Fish stocks: allocation of additional quota
- Building standards enforcement and sanctions: consultation
- Pension Age Winter Heating Payment
- Marketing of Organic Heterogeneous Material: consultation
- National specification for the care and treatment of eating disorders in Scotland
- Democracy Matters

Please see the Scottish Government website for more information: [Find activities - Scottish Government consultations - 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.

Scottish Borders Council is currently involved in initial Asset Transfer discussions with two community-based groups and advancing discussions with a third community-based group.

For information about the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015: [Community Empowerment \(Scotland\) Act: summary - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

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 at Eildon Housing Association Headquarters, Selkirk on Thursday, 7 September 2023 at 6.00 pm

Present:- Councillors E. Thornton-Nicol (Chair), C. Cochrane, J. Linehan, N. Mackinnon, D. Parker, J. PatonDay, and F. Sinclair together with 15 representatives of Partner Organisations, Community Councils, and members of the public.

Apologies:- Councillors L. Douglas, E. Jardine, and H. Steel

In Attendance:- 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 in person at Eildon Housing Association Headquarters. The Chair expressed her thanks to Mr Nile Istephen, Chief Executive of Eildon Housing Association, for hosting the meeting. Mr Istephen welcomed attendees and explained that future meetings of the Area Partnership could be held at Eildon Housing Headquarters.

2. **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DOCUMENT**

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

3. **FEEDBACK AND EVALUATION FROM MEETING OF 22 JUNE 2023**

The Minute of the meeting of the Eildon Area Partnership held on 22 June 2023 had been circulated and was noted.

4. **SPEED INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chair explained that attendees were invited to undertake a 10-minute speed introduction session. Attendees introduced themselves, discussed the capacity in which they were attending the meeting. Following the session, attendees shared one interesting fact they had learned about another attendee, which ranged from an interest in learning Italian to having written a TV series.

5. **BORDERS COMMUNITY ACTION**

5.1 The Chair welcomed Ms Juliana Amaral to the meeting to provide a presentation on the work of Borders Community Action (BCA). BCA were a newly formed organisation that was focused on co-ordinating the work of third sector partners in the Scottish Borders. A draft strategy which had been prepared was being consulted upon, the results of which would form a 3-year plan. Ms Amaral explained that third sector interfaces were commissioned by the Scottish Government and there were 32 across Scotland. Work was focused on grass roots positive changes, empowering communities to deliver projects by providing leadership and representation at local and strategic level. The National Outcomes Framework set by the Scottish Government stipulated what third sector interfaces such as BCA had to fulfil. Particular focus was on the capacity in the sector and fostering connections across the whole of the third sector. The regional shared outcomes, such as reducing poverty were linked in with Scottish Borders Council priorities. The 3-year plan had been presented to Scottish Government in June and was currently in its engagement phase. From January 2024 to March 2024 feedback would be captured and then the Plan presented in April 2024. Ms Amaral acknowledged that since

Covid-19 there had been a drop in the number of people volunteering, and that new ways of connecting with people needed to be put in place. It was important to acknowledge that people were the most important part of volunteering, and that respect and recognition underpinned all actions taken. Given the resource challenges it was key that work in the sector was not duplicated, and the efforts of BCA were focused on filling a gap. BCA were focused on capturing quantitative and qualitative data to assist them in their plans.

- 5.2 Attendees thanked Ms Amaral for her presentation. In response to a question regarding effective communication, Ms Amaral acknowledged that some communications may have been going straight to junk email folders and encouraged people to check if previous emails had not been received as a result. Ms Amaral confirmed that current staffing levels were 6 full-time equivalent staff members, and that a grant was received from the Scottish Government. In response to a question regarding how BCA would operate in what was a potentially cluttered landscape, Ms Amaral explained that conversations with SOSE were ongoing to try and avoid the duplication of work. Attendees expressed some concern that SBC and other organisations were yet to fully empower communities to take real action and derive real benefits. Concerns were expressed regarding the number of volunteers in communities, and Ms Amaral highlighted that it would be very important to engage young people to ensure that people continued to volunteer. The Chair highlighted that volunteers needed to be treated with respect and that those responsible for managing volunteers needed to be properly trained. Attendees thanked Ms Amaral for her presentation.

MEMBER

Councillor Linehan left the meeting during the discussion below.

6. THE EILDON MAP

The Chair explained that copies of a map of the Eildon locality were present in the room. Attendees were placed into groups and asked to identify third sector organisations that they were aware of that operated in the locality. Attendees were particularly encouraged to share the names of organisations that were not expected to be members of the Borders Community Action network. Following the task, the papers were collected by Mr Coltman and would be used to help and support BCA register groups across the locality.

7. EILDON FUNDING TABLE 2023/24

There had been circulated copies of the Eildon Funding Table 2023/24 with the agenda.

7. NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT FUND

- 7.1 There had been circulated copies of the Eildon Assessment Panel's recommendations with the agenda. The Chair welcomed Ms Jenny Mushlin of the Eildon Assessment Panel to provide an overview of each of the recommendations.

7.2 Lauderdale Youth Football Club

Lauderdale Youth Football Club had applied for £10k of funding to help upgrade the existing natural grass main pitches and training pitches. The pitches were in poor condition. The land was owned by the Lauder Common Good. Ms Mushlin explained that the Panel had expressed concerns regarding the use of community funding to deliver the project due to the need to renovate the pitches in 10 years' time. There also needed to be more community engagement for the project evidenced. The panel had recommended that Lauderdale YFC continued to seek alternative funding and had recommended not to fund the project. It was unanimously agreed not to fund the project.

7.3 Selkirk Bowling Club

The application from Selkirk Bowling Club had been for £9,024 which would be used to repair the roof of the club building. The repairs were essential so that the club continue to offer a safe space of members and volunteers. The Panel had felt that they were unsure whether the NSF was the most appropriate Fund for a project of this type. It had been recommended that the group consider exploring energy efficient upgrades to the roof

rather than undertake the planned repairs. The Panel had recommended not to fund the project and recommended that the Club consider submitting an enquiry to the CARES fund administered by Local Energy Scotland. Attendees discussed the application, unanimously agreed with the recommendation of the Panel not to fund and encouraged the Club to contact Local Energy Scotland.

7.4 Interest Link Borders

An application of £10k had been received from Interest Link Borders. The grant applied for would allow Interest Link to deliver 12 1:1 sessions for its members. There would be ten befriending groups which would benefit a large group of people with learning disabilities across a range of ages. The Panel acknowledged the efforts to secure funding for the whole project and had recommended to fund the project in full. Attendees welcomed the application, and it was unanimously approved.

7.5 Lauderdale Community and Leisure centre

Lauderdale Community and Leisure Centre (LCLC) had applied for £7985.54 to cover all regular and one-off costs during lower income periods so that it could remain open during winter when usage was higher. Significant steps had been taken to reduce monthly costs however significantly increased utility costs remained a problem. The Panel considered that the application aligned with the criteria of the NSF and would support an organisation whose future was at serious risk. Extensive discussions regarding the risk associated with providing the level of funding applied for had taken place, and the Panel had recommended to approve the application in full. It was agreed that should the application be granted that LCLC be required to speak to Borders Community Action regarding implementing a different management model. Attendees unanimously agreed to approve the application in full.

7.6 Lauderdale Initiative

The application from Lauder Initiative was for £10k to increase the number of lights installed alongside the A68 lampposts, to enhance the visual impact of festival lighting by filling the gaps in existing lighting. They would also purchase a marquee to be used for craft stalls, food and drink vendors and community groups to attend the annual switch on community event. The Panel was appreciative of the consultation work that had asked the community of Lauder what they would like to see in their town. The funding applied for would benefit the whole of Lauder and would increase the level of community engage and the sense of pride in Lauder. Concerns had been expressed regarding the purchase of a marquee as there had been a significant number of gazebos purchased using community funds in the past. The Panel recommended to fund the application in full. Attendees discussed the application, highlighting the importance of insuring the marquee. Any community group using the marquee would be able to do so free of charge but must assume responsibility for ensuring that no damages occurred in its use. It was unanimously agreed to fund the application in full. The award letter would stipulate that the marquee must be made available to Community Groups throughout the Scottish Borders for no charge.

7.7 TD1 Youth Hub

TD1 Youth Hub had applied for £9360 which would be used to provide a range of weekly activities for young people. The activities would be focused on improving mental health and well-being, primarily for those aged between 10-14 years old. The Panel had considered the application, and whilst they acknowledged the important work undertaken by TD1 Youth Hub, had recommended not to fund the application and recommend that the group consider exploring other funding sources. The Panel had noted that since 2019/20 the group had been in receipt of support from SBC community funds totalling £30,233. A document providing supplementary information had been circulated with the agenda. Douglas Ormston of TD1 Youth Hub was present at the meeting and was invited to provide a brief presentation on the work of his group. Mr Ormston acknowledged the difficult decisions being made by the Assessment Panel and explained that the two organisations suggested as other sources of funding were not available. It was

acknowledged that the group had received previous community funding in the past, however no community fund applications had been granted in the previous two years. The group has been in receipt of one-off funding from the Build Back a Better Borders Fund. Mr Ormston explained that there were ongoing concerns regarding anti-social behaviour at the transport interchange in Galashiels, and that the planned activities would be focused on trying to engage with local young people and improve that situation. Attendees discussed the application and whilst there was some apprehension regarding approving the application it was unanimously agreed to approve it in full. In response to a question regarding the number of days a week the activities would take place, Mr Ormston confirmed that the plans were in place for Friday and one other evening during the week. The Chair expressed her thanks to the Panel for their important work.

8. **MEETING EVALUATION VIA MENTI**

The link to the Menti evaluation of the meeting was provided on screen. The Chair encouraged attendees to share potential themes for future meetings of the Area Partnership.

9. **TWEEDBANK CARE VILLAGE – DROP-IN MEETING**

The Chair explained that plans for the Tweedbank Care Village were progressing, and that the proposed plans were groundbreaking and forward thinking. Drop-in sessions were being held, and attendees were encouraged to visit them if possible.

10. **NEXT AREA PARTNERSHIP – 16 November 2023**

The Chair advised that the next meeting would be held via Microsoft Teams.

The meeting concluded at 7.50 p.m.

Eildon Funding 2023/24

16 November 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	£ 61,779.69
NSF applications that are assessed and await decision	£ 11,192.46
Sub-total	£ 72,972.15
Funds remaining if assessed applications are successful	£ 13,100.85
NSF applications still to be assessed	£ -
Potential Overall Position	£ 13,100.85

Other sources of grant funding - Eildon			
Grant Type	Available	Awarded	Remaining
Local Festival Grants	£ 28,400.00	£ 22,350.00	£ 6,050.00
Annual Support Grants (Community Councils)	£ 10,525.00	£ 7,195.00	£ 3,330.00
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	£ 4,500.00	£ 6,997.69
	£ 90,748.80	£ 38,796.12	£ 51,952.68

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
9	02/08/2023	NSF	Interest Link Borders	£ 10,000.00	Learning disabilities befriending project	Awarded
10	03/08/2023	NSF	Lauderdale Community & Leisure Centre	£ 7,985.54	One-off emergency support	Awarded
11	04/08/2023	NSF	Lauderdale Initiative	£ 10,000.00	Christmas lights 2023	Awarded
12	06/08/2023	NSF	TD1 Youth Hub	£ 9,360.00	TD1 Active	Awarded
13	10/09/2023	NSF	Lilliesleaf Community Development Ltd	£ 1,192.46	Leaf Green Growing Area	Assessed
14	28/09/2023	NSF	Melrose FC	£ 10,000.00	Changing room upgrade	Assessed
Total				£ 72,972.15		

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Melrose Football Club

£10,000.00

Melrose Football Club is planning to refurbish the Engine Room on Gibson Park and construct an extension to provide a community hub and new changing rooms. This application to the Neighbourhood Support Fund is for funding to complete the appropriate RIAS* stages, as detailed in the project plan submitted alongside the application.

The new community sports facility will provide:

- Safe, secure, private changing facilities for players from Melrose FC and visiting clubs. This is particularly important for the girls teams
- A focal point on Gibson Park for Melrose Football Club with room to grow its service to the young people of the local area and improve physical and mental health
- A facility for use by the Melrose Primary School to grow their physical education offer to learners
- A new activity space for use by the Club, Melrose Primary School and the wider community that celebrates the town's heritage and history

Panel thoughts:

- The panel noted the significant number of positive comments by members of the public on the planning portal in relation to the planning application.
- The panel felt that there had been a lot of work put in by Melrose FC to plan this project and were impressed by the active work of the club to support this project using its own funds and by seeking additional funding from external sources.
- The panel were also pleased to see a strong community focus in the project, with plans to create a community hub from the space. The panel hoped that this would be strongly utilised by the local community in future years.

The panel recommends to fund this project.

* Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland

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