

**Meeting**

**Date:** Thursday, 30 November 2023  
**Time:** 6.30 pm  
**Location:** Hutton Village Hall, Hutton, TD15 1TS

**AGENDA**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1.  | <b>Welcome</b>  |
| 2.  | <b>Feedback from Meeting of 30 August 2023</b> (Pages 3 - 6)<br>Consider Minute of the Meeting held on 30 August 2023 for approval and signature by the Chair. (Copy attached.)   |
| <b>Section 1: Service and Partner Updates and Consultations</b> |   |
| 3.  | <b>Police Scotland Update</b>   |
| 4.  | <b>Time for Change, NHS Borders</b> (Pages 7 - 34)<br>Consider presentation by John McLaren and Carol Graham. Time for Change is a conversation with communities to share the challenges they are facing with workforce and finance, and the impact pressures are having on the services they provide. (Copy attached.) |
| <b>Section 2: Local Priorities</b>                              |   |
| 5.  | <b>ReTweed</b><br>Consider presentation by ReTweed.   |
| 6.  | <b>BAP Place Making Working Group</b><br>Consider update by Keith Dickinson.  |
| 7.  | <b>Capacity Building Lead Update</b><br>Consider update by Beth Landon.   |
| 8.  | <b>SBC Neighbourhood Services Grass Maintenance Pilot</b>   |
| <b>Section 3: Community Empowerment and Community Funding</b>   |   |
| 9.  | <b>Berwickshire Funding Table 2023-24</b> (Pages 35 - 36)<br>Consider overview of funding available in Berwickshire from SBC Communities and Partnership Team. (Copy attached.)   |

#### Section 4: Other

|     |  |
|-----|--|
| 10. | <b>Additional Information Document</b> (Pages 37 - 40)<br>(Copy attached.)   |
| 11. | <b>Next Meeting of the Berwickshire Area Partnership</b><br>Next meeting scheduled to be held on Thursday 8 February 2024. |
| 12. | <b>Any Other Business</b>  |

Please direct any enquiries to William Mohieddeen  
Tel: 01835 826504; Email: [william.mohieddeen@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:william.mohieddeen@scotborders.gov.uk)

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**SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL  
BERWICKSHIRE AREA PARTNERSHIP**

MINUTES of Meeting of the  
BERWICKSHIRE AREA PARTNERSHIP  
held in Eyemouth Community Centre (Hall 1),  
Albert Road, Eyemouth, TD14 5DE on  
Wednesday, 30 August 2023 at 6.30 pm

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Present:- Councillors J. Anderson, C. Hamilton, A. Orr and M. Rowley.

Other organisations attendees: Mr J. Aitchison, Ms L. Anderson and Mr W. Grant (Eyemouth CC); Ms F. Beal (BAVS), Mr J. Carnie and Mr A. Mitchell (Duns CC), Ms T. Collin (Allanton, Whitsome and Edrom CC), Mr K. Dickinson (Berwickshire NSF), Mr L. Inglis (Reston and Auchencrow CC), Ms P. Hood and Ms J. Sutton (Cockburnspath and Cove CC), Ms H. Laing and Mr N. McMurdo (Sea the Change), Ms B. Landon (Borders Community Action), Mr A. Manley (Foulden, Mordington and Lamberton CC), Mr D. Morgan (Hutton and Paxton CC), Mr K. Morton and Mr B. Purvis (Swinton and Ladykirk CC), Mr B. Neill (St Abbs CC), Mr G. Pearson (Leitholm, Eccles and Birgham CC).

Apologies:- Councillors J. Greenwell and D. Moffat

In Attendance:- Community Co-ordinator, Principal Transport Officer, Ms L. Drummond and Ms A. Forrest (Berwickshire Swap), Sgt A. Granger and PC C. McLeod (Police Scotland), and Democratic Services Officer (W. Mohieddeen).

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The Chair varied the order of business as shown on the agenda and the Minute reflects the order in which the items were considered at the meeting.

1. **WELCOME**

The Chair welcomed attendees to the Eyemouth Community Centre and thanked Giacomazzi's for providing attendees with complimentary ice-cream.

2. **FEEDBACK FROM MEETING OF 1 JUNE 2023**

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the Meeting held on 1 June 2023.

**DECISION**

**AGREED to approve the Minute for signature by the Chair.**

3. **POLICE SCOTLAND UPDATE**

The Chair introduced Sergeant Ali Grainger and PC Chris McLeod to deliver an update on policing matters in Berwickshire. Sergeant Grainger PC McLeod's work covered Mid Berwickshire while Sgt Suzanne Jacobs covered East Berwickshire. There were two Community Action Team (CAT) officers for Berwickshire that were funded and tasked by Scottish Borders Council (SBC) and the constables were Stuart Little and Luke Francois. There was policing activity for summer events in Berwickshire including the Eyemouth Herring Queen, Duns Summer Festival and the Coldstream Civic Week. The police noted that marshalling of the events were of a high standard that supported the work of the police. Response policing was supported when a backfill was required for reactive work. For August 2023, there were 175 mental health calls in the Scottish Borders, 20 missing persons enquiries and 81 domestic incidents. Community policing had worked with Berwickshire Housing Association to help residents, promote the Crimestoppers service and offering advice for communities. Work had been undertaken with Berwickshire and

Eyemouth high schools to support vulnerable children. An American football initiative was delivered at Eyemouth High School which received good feedback. Intelligence was required for action on drug dealing. To support this, attendees were provided with information cards for Crimestoppers. It was advised that a community traffic speeding pilot would be initiated in Allanton, Stow and Innerleithen for members of the community to support monitoring of the speed of vehicles. Information on speeding vehicles would be forwarded to Police Scotland who would send letters to drivers. In response to questions from attendees, it was advised that monitoring of parking was a major part of CAT tasking and that it would be directed to where there was a higher degree of danger. Incidents related to the junction on the A1 that served Reston were raised and that PC McLeod would follow-up with information related to the site. It was confirmed that cycling on pavements was not legal and that the police approach to cycling was that there had to be an approach that balanced road and pavement safety.

#### **DECISION**

**NOTED the update.**

#### **4. BERWICKSHIRE FUNDING TABLE 2023-24**

There had been circulated copies of the Berwickshire Funding Table which showed available funding in the Berwickshire Area. Gillian Jardine presented the table which included an overview of Neighbourhood Support Fund applications and other sources of funding in Berwickshire.

#### **DECISION**

**NOTED the update.**

#### **5. BERWICKSHIRE NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT FUND**

There had been circulated copies of a summary by the Berwickshire Neighbourhood Support Fund panel which detailed recent activity and recommendations for funding. Keith Dickinson presented the paper and advised that there was approximately £50,000 available to distribute and the panel assessed 25 applications. The panel welcomed two new members – Nicky Seed and Bob Hope – and advised that there were opportunities for additional members. While there were no restrictions on membership, it was noted that there were seven applicants for membership from the same community council area. The assessment panel agreed to distribute approximately £35,000 to ensure that approximately £15,000 would be available in the second round of applications.

#### **DECISION**

##### **(a) AGREED:**

- (i) To award Berwickshire Swap a grant of £3,131.72,**
- (ii) To award Abundant Borders a grant of £913.00,**
- (iii) To award ReTweed a grant of £4,941.00,**
- (iv) To award Leitholm, Eccles and Birgham Community Council a grant of £2,664.00,**
- (v) To award Swinton and Ladykirk Community Council a grant of £400.00,**
- (vi) To award Allanbank Arts Via Umbrella Group AHFD a grant of £2,250.00,**
- (vii) To award Cockburnspath After School Club a grant of £5,000.00,**

(viii) To award Foulden, Mordington and Lamberton Community Council a grant of £2,100.00,

(ix) To award Eyemouth Museum Trust a grant of £5,000.00,

(x) To award Eyemouth Harbour Trust a grant of £5,000.00,

(xi) To award Paxton House Trust £4,401.00; and,

(b) NOTED the update.

6. **BERWICKSHIRE SWAP**

The Chair welcomed Lianne Drummond and Anna Forrest to deliver a presentation on Berwickshire Swap. Berwickshire Swap is a charity that organised clothing swaps for children from birth to 12 years old. The charity was established in Reston and has subsequently moved to new premises in Eyemouth. There was recognition that there was not many accessible places for children's clothing in rural Berwickshire and demand was identified for swapping clothes and other children's items. When a family had a need, they would contact Berwickshire Swap to ask about availability. The organisation had grown and in 2021-22 it had obtained a van through National Lottery funding. The Neighbourhood Support Fund had previously awarded money towards the running of the van. Storage capacity of the organisation had increased while funding from SBC was important to ensure the running of the organisation to meet demand. The constitution of the organisation was recently changed to cover the whole of Scotland, and all 15 Scottish TD postcodes had received the services of Berwickshire Swap. Attendees were encouraged to challenge stigma on second hand clothes and to help promote Berwickshire Swap.

**DECISION**

**NOTED the update.**

7. **PUBLIC AND COMMUNITY TRANSPORT**

The Chair invited Mr Gordon Grant, Scottish Borders Council Principal Transport Officer, to present on public transport matters in Berwickshire. The work of Mr Grant incorporated school transport, community transport and the Pingo service. In Autumn 2022, it was noted that bus services had not reached pre-pandemic levels of service and so a network review was taken forward in September 2022. 80% of the bus services in the Scottish Borders were supported by SBC with the non-supported services included the 253 and 235, the X62 Gala-Peebles-Edinburgh service and the X95. Data had shown that the frequency of the Duns to Berwick service needed to be higher. Mr Grant answered attendees' questions on transport matters in Berwickshire covering disability access and affordability of Pingo.

**DECISION**

**NOTED the update.**

8. **PLACE MAKING UPDATE**

8.1 The Chair invited Beth Landon to introduce herself to attendees. Attendees were encouraged to attendees to ask any questions they had on Place Making matters in Berwickshire.

8.2 Helen Laing of Sea the change was invited to present their work to attendees. Ms Laing advised that Sea the Change encouraged people to think about sustainability, education and accessibility. The organisation runs a beach wheelchair project and there were 3 available at Coldingham beach; 2 wheelchairs for adults and one for a child. SBC funded the expansion of a boardwalk at Coldingham beach. The S3ea the Change hut at Coldingham bay was run by volunteers to supply the wheelchairs for those that had made bookings. A hoist was also available to support people to use the wheelchairs. Sea the

Change also ran community cleanups and had organised an electric vehicle information day at Ayton Castle.

**DECISION**

**NOTED the update.**

9. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Attendees asked about the shortage of drivers affecting SBC refuse collection services. It was advised that the issue of refuse vehicles being replaced was being resolved however there was a difficulty in recruiting drivers and getting them trained.

*The meeting concluded at 8.27 pm.*



# Time for Change



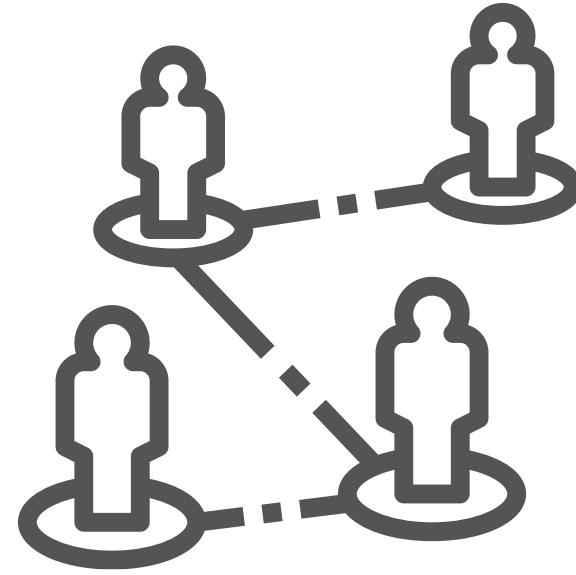
  
**Think  
Different**  
And help us make  
vital savings

  
**Think  
Different**  
And help us plan  
for the future

  
**Think  
Different**  
And help us change  
for the better



Developments in  
healthcare



Demographics

# Drivers for change



Workforce



Money





# Setting the scene

- The scale of the challenges faced in planning and delivering health services to meet need are unprecedented
- We must balance the delivery of safe, quality care within the financial and human resources available to us
- We have significant workforce challenges, with a smaller working age population (45% vs 65% nationally) operating across a large rural area and national shortages of specialist workforce in many areas
- Our financial deficit has continued to increase over the past few years due to growth in demand and changes in the cost of healthcare. We are projecting an overspend of £26 million by March 2024

# We need to start doing things differently



We cannot meet infinite demand with the resources available

This means we must consider options and make decisions about which services we do or do not provide, where from and who by

Page 10

We are committed to involving our staff and communities in the development of options and the decision making process

Sometimes developments are out of our control (e.g. independent contractor decisions)

It is important that we trust one another



# Social determinants of health & wellbeing

- The population of the Borders is 116,000
- Social determinants of health are the conditions in which we are born, grow, age, live and work
- They can be more important than healthcare or lifestyle choices in influencing our health outcomes, and often lead to health inequalities
- That's why it is important that people play their part in their own health and wellbeing

# Services you can access in the community



# Community Bed Based Services (e.g. Care homes, community hospitals)



# Acute Hospital Services



# Mental Health Services



# Services in the community | Where are we now?

- **Recruitment and Retention Challenges** with independent contractors; GPs Dentists, Pharmacists, Opticians
  - 15% of Community Pharmacists have no regular Pharmacist on a day-to-day basis
  - 10% GP vacancy rate
- **Demand for NHS dental services** continues to increase but there are significant national challenges in recruitment and retention of general dental practitioners
- Many **buildings in the community** are old and require upgrading and expansion
- **Primary Care Improvement Plan (PCIP)**: many services that used to be delivered by GPs are now provided by the Health Board (e.g. vaccinations and treatment rooms)
- **Pharmacy First** is an excellent service where you can receive treatment for a range of ailments direct from the community pharmacy
- **Diversified and upskilled workforce** – new roles, e.g. Advanced Nurse Practitioners mean you don't always need to see a GP
- **Health creating capacity** – what can you do to take responsibility for your own health?

# What you have already told us

- Access to local primary care is important to people
- When asked what the gaps in health and social care are, the second most common response was “access to a GP”
- In Berwickshire people said that GP recruitment and access to Dentists is an issue
- In Tweeddale feedback showed that GP communication has improved
- Carers reported needing more support from their GP in their caring role
- Post-diagnostic support for people with dementia is lacking
- Face to face appointments are important to many people

# Achievements and areas of focus

- **GP Fellowship scheme** to attract 'first five' GPs to the Borders
- **First Contact Practitioner:** Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy
- **Renew service:** a centralised service offering a 'see and treat' model for anxiety and depression
- **Urgent care pathway:** established in 2019, led by an Advanced Nurse Practitioner (ANP)
- **Service / Workforce Reviews:** operationally led reviews to forward plan safe, effective, equitable and both clinically and financially viable services
- **Primary Care Improvement Plan (PCIP):** continue to develop multi-disciplinary teams to support GPs, providing access to a range of healthcare professionals who support GPs providing comprehensive care to patients.
- **Increasing capacity of the dental service**

How you can look  
after your own  
health & social care  
needs



Value Based Health & Care  
Pharmacy First

Right place, right care

Oral Health care

Social Prescribing

Getting vaccinated

Self-Care; NHS Inform

Future Care Plans for the Frail

Connect with others

Live a healthy lifestyle





# What matters to you?

- How do you feel about what we have shared with you today?
- How does this reflect your own experiences?
- What matters to you?
  - What matters most?
  - What matters least?
- What steps have you taken to look after your own health?
  - What do you need from us to support that?



# Community Bed Based Services | Where are we now?

- Many people in Community Hospitals do not need acute nursing care
- People are remaining in Community Hospitals for longer than they need to
- Health & Social Care availability is very limited
- It is difficult to recruit care staff



# What you have already told us

- In Cheviot and Teviot & Liddesdale people said the Community Hospitals are good but have limitations in beds and what they can do
- The role of the community hospital seems to be unclear to the public– is it urgent care recovery, hospice, specialist?
- There are ideas about expanding what the community hospital does to reduce pressure on the BGH

# Achievements and areas of focus

- Joint working across the Health and Social Care Partnership
- Borders View (BGH)
- Care Villages and Extra Care Housing
- Technology Enabled Care
- Purpose and role of Community Hospitals
- Hospital at Home pilot
- Respiratory virtual ward
- Discharge without Delay
- Prevention and wellbeing

# How you can look after your own health & social care needs

Value Based Health & Care  
Power of Attorney  
Consider your home environment  
Have a network of support  
Look after elderly relatives (falls, isolation)  
NHS Inform for guidance  
Get vaccinated  
Move more



# What matters to you?

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- What steps have you taken to look after your own health?
  - What do you need from us to support that?



# Acute Hospital Services | Where are we now?

- All our beds are open all year round so we have no extra space when things get very busy
- Lots of beds are occupied by people who are ready to move to their next place of care. Hospital is not the safest place to be if you are medically fit to move on, especially if you are frail
- We have faced some significant staffing challenges, although this is improving but there are still national shortages of registered nursing and medical staff
- Our performance is not where we want it to be (e.g. A&E 4 hour target)
- Recovery following the Pandemic is difficult with lots of people waiting a very long time to get their treatment
- We need to consider how the Borders General Hospital operates over the next 10–20 years

# What you have already told us

- It was a common theme that we are generally good in a crisis but we need to ease pressure by reducing need for crisis response
- There was generally positive feedback about inpatient care
- The BGH is not easy to get to for everyone in the Borders, especially in an emergency





# Achievements and areas of focus

- Successful International recruitment: 60 Registered Nurses/Allied Health Professionals and 15 International Medical Graduates
- Virtual Ward pilot (respiratory)
- Hospital at Home pilot
- Near Me appointments
- 'Surge' planning process underway to free up beds for patients requiring planned treatment (e.g. surgical procedures)
- Service / Workforce Reviews: operationally led reviews to forward plan safe, effective, equitable and both clinically and financially viable services

# How you can look after your own health & social care needs



Value Based Health & Care

Waiting Well

Patient Initiated Review

Move More



Connect with others

Use NHS Inform for advice

Get vaccinated



# What matters to you?

- How do you feel about what we have shared with you today?
- How does this reflect your own experiences?
- What matters to you?
  - What matters most?
  - What matters least?
- What steps have you taken to look after your own health?
  - What do you need from us to support that?



# Mental Health Services | Where are we now?

- Significant staffing challenges e.g. Psychiatry Consultant staffing is 43% below establishment
- 'Safe staffing' levels are difficult to achieve across inpatient areas
- Performance is much lower than we would like (e.g. Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services)
- Recovery following the Pandemic is difficult with lots of people waiting a very long time to get their treatment
- Many buildings are old and require upgrading and expansion
- Health creating capacity – what can you do to take responsibility for your own health?



# What you have already told us

- Across localities it was perceived that there are challenges within Mental Health services
- The Mental Health Forum said that they had good experiences of multi-agency responses, Local Area Co-ordinators providing support and good co-production of service design and delivery
- Waiting times for mental health services are concerning
- Some people accessing mental health services said they had good experiences with their GPs but those in the LGBTQ+ community said that GPs could improve their support

# Achievements and areas of focus

- Renew service: a centralised service offering a 'see and treat' model for mild to moderate anxiety & depression
- Millar House: offering supported accommodation for patients with varying mental health disorders
- Mental Health Community based teams and services
- Dementia Transformation (Borders Specialist Dementia Unit, Extra Nursing Care)
- Service / Workforce Reviews: operationally led reviews to forward plan safe, effective, equitable and both clinically and financially viable services

# How you can look after your own health & social care needs

Have a network of support

Connect with others

Get vaccinated

If you are worried, speak to  
someone

Stay active & spend time  
outside if you can

Wellbeing Service

Breathing Space



# What matters to you?

- How do you feel about what we have shared with you today?
- How does this reflect your own experiences?
- What matters to you?
  - What matters most?
  - What matters least?
- What steps have you taken to look after your own health?
  - What do you need from us to support that?







THANK YOU



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## Berwickshire Funding 2023/24

14 November 2023

| Neighbourhood Support Fund (NSF) 2023/24                       |                    |
|--|--------------------|
|  | £                  |
| Opening balance as of 01/04/2023                               | £ 50,185.00        |
| Plus ring-fenced Horse Time carry forward from 2021/22         | £ 4,500.00         |
| <b>Total available</b>   | <b>£ 54,685.00</b> |
| <b>Less:</b>   |                    |
| NSF applications awarded since 01/04/2023                      | £ 35,801.00        |
| NSF applications that are assessed and await decision          | £ -                |
| <b>Sub-total</b>   | <b>£ 35,801.00</b> |
| <b>Funds remaining if assessed applications are successful</b> | <b>£ 18,884.00</b> |
| <b>NSF applications still to be assessed</b>                   | <b>£ -</b>         |
| <b>Potential Overall Position</b>                              | <b>£ 18,884.00</b> |

| Other sources of grant funding - Berwickshire |                    |                    |                    |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Grant Type                                    | Available          | Awarded            | Remaining          |
| Local Festival Grants                         | £ 14,060.00        | £ 6,550.00         | £ 7,510.00         |
| Annual Support Grants (Community Councils)    | £ 13,680.00        | £ 5,760.00         | £ 7,920.00         |
| SBC Small Schemes                             | £ -                | £ -                | £ -                |
| SBC Enhancement Trust                         | £ 2,494.23         | £ 1,500.00         | £ 994.23           |
| SBC Welfare Trust                             | £ 13,057.65        | £ 3,661.00         | £ 9,396.65         |
|   | <b>£ 43,291.88</b> | <b>£ 17,471.00</b> | <b>£ 25,820.88</b> |

| Summary of applications |            |      |  |                    |  |         |
|-------------------------|------------|------|--|--------------------|--|---------|
| No.                     | Date       | Fund | Organisation Name                            | Amount             | Project  | Status  |
| 1                       | 23/07/2023 | NSF  | Berwickshire Swap                            | £ 3,132.00         | Berwickshire Swap  | Awarded |
| 2                       | 18/07/2023 | NSF  | Abundant Borders                             | £ 913.00           | Berwickshire Garden Maintenance                              | Awarded |
| 3                       | 18/07/2023 | NSF  | ReTweed                                      | £ 4,941.00         | ReTweed Community Courses (Gavinton, Cranshaws & Coldstream) | Awarded |
| 4                       | 19/07/2023 | NSF  | Leitholm, Eccles & Birgham Community Council | £ 2,664.00         | Connecting Leitholm  | Awarded |
| 5                       | 21/07/2023 | NSF  | Swinton & Ladykirk Community Council         | £ 400.00           | Spring bulb planting & refurb of football goals on the Green | Awarded |
| 6                       | 23/07/2023 | NSF  | Allanbank Arts (A Heart For Duns)            | £ 2,250.00         | Creative Club  | Awarded |
| 7                       | 23/07/2023 | NSF  | Cockburnspath After School Club              | £ 5,000.00         | Cockburnspath After School Club                              | Awarded |
| 8                       | 18/07/2023 | NSF  | Foulden Mordington Lamberton CC              | £ 2,100.00         | AED for Lamberton in adopted phone box                       | Awarded |
| 9                       | 24/07/2023 | NSF  | Eyemouth Museum Trust Ltd                    | £ 5,000.00         | Maintenance of Eyemouth Museum's historic windows            | Awarded |
| 10                      | 20/07/2023 | NSF  | Eyemouth Harbour Trust                       | £ 5,000.00         | Sea Garden Project & Art Wall                                | Awarded |
| 11                      | 26/07/2023 | NSF  | Paxton House Trust                           | £ 4,401.00         | Paxton House Community Garden                                | Awarded |
|                         |            |      | <b>Total</b>                                 | <b>£ 35,801.00</b> |  |         |

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## 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:



- 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](#)

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## **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, 17 November 2023. An update will follow this meeting

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## **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 Berwickshire locality.

Scottish Borders Council is actively involved with two groups who are pursuing asset transfer requests for lease or sale.

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

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## **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](#)

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## **Area Partnerships Information Pack**

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

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

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## **Community Councils:**

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

[Community Council News](#)

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## **Scottish Borders Council Meetings**

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

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## **Cost of Living Support**

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

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## **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](http://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