



# CENTRAL BORDERS BUSINESS PARK TWEEDBANK

PART I: SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDANCE  
PART II: SIMPLIFIED PLANNING ZONE SCHEME

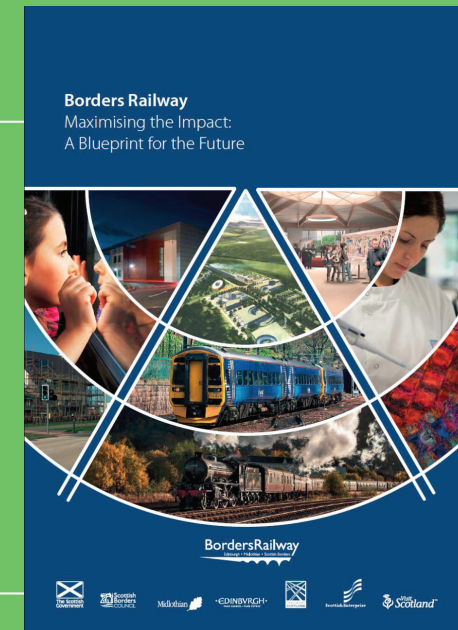


# CENTRAL BORDERS BUSINESS PARK TWEEDBANK

## INTRODUCTION

The Borders Railway 'Maximising the Impact: A Blueprint for the Future' states that the "Central Borders Business Park, located in Tweedbank, will be developed to respond to, and capitalise on, opportunities brought by the Borders Railway with the provision of new high quality office accommodation, suites and facilities. The current industrial park will be redeveloped with the refurbishment and reconfiguration of existing buildings which will provide modern manufacturing, office and other facilities to meet the needs of current and new businesses" (Scottish Government et al, November 2014).

Part I of this document is Supplementary Guidance (SG) which sets out the main opportunities and constraints of the business/industrial and mixed use land allocations at Tweedbank. It provides a framework vision for the future development of the sites which are allocated within the Local Development Plan (LDP).



Alongside the SG is a Simplified Planning Zone (SPZ) Scheme, forming Part II, which enables development to take place without the need for planning consent, provided the development complies with development parameters and conditions. It will create an employment led redevelopment, providing choice and quick delivery for businesses considering locating in this part of Scotland.

Both documents aim to encourage investment and an improved environment within the Business Park at Tweedbank, capitalising on the arrival of the Borders Railway.







# CENTRAL BORDERS BUSINESS PARK TWEEDBANK

## PART I SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDANCE

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# CENTRAL BORDERS BUSINESS PARK TWEEDBANK CURRENT PLANNING POLICY & GUIDANCE

## SCOTTISH PLANNING POLICY (SPP)

Scottish Planning Policy promotes business and industrial development that increases economic activity while safeguarding and enhancing the natural and built environments as national assets. The planning system should allocate sites that are flexible enough to accommodate changing circumstances and allow the realisation of new opportunities.

## STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN (SESplan)

SESplan is the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) for South East Scotland, including the Borders. It provides the strategic direction for regional land use policy for the period to 2032. The SESplan identifies a number of Strategic Development Areas (SDA), one of which is the Central Borders SDA, which includes Tweedbank. The SDP provides a means to support job creation through setting a Spatial Strategy for economic development with a focus on growing key sectors in a sustainable manner.



## LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LDP)

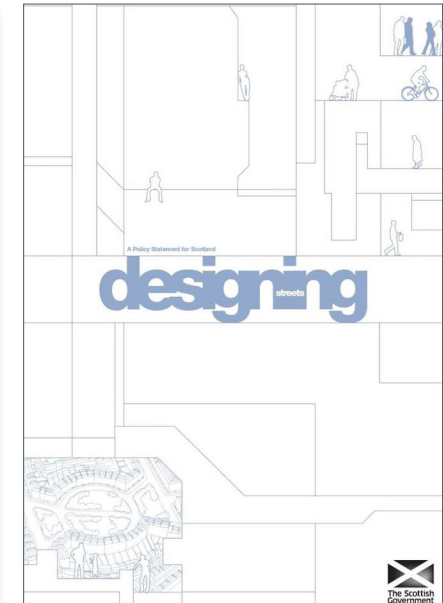
The Local Development Plan incorporates various land allocations in Tweedbank, including business and industrial safeguarding, mixed use, key greenspaces and the Railway Station allocation. The LDP highlights that whilst there is a supply of land for business and industrial land within the Central Borders there is a need to provide an improved product so as to take advantage from the arrival of the Borders Railway. Therefore it is proposed to enhance the quality of the existing supply of industrial and business land at Tweedbank to provide for the anticipated demand. A number of policies included in the Local Development Plan will be applicable to this site including: Policy PMD1—Sustainability, Policy PMD2—Quality Standards, Policy ED1—Protection of Business and Industrial Land and EP13—Trees, Woodlands and Hedgerows.

## CREATING PLACES AND DESIGNING STREETS

Creating Places is a policy statement on architecture and place for Scotland. Designing Streets changes the emphasis of guidance on street design towards placemaking and away from a focus on the dominance of motor vehicles. The policy states that street design must consider place before movement and puts an emphasis on the creation of successful places through the creation of good street design.

## PLACEMAKING & DESIGN SPG

The aim of the SPG is to ensure that the Scottish Borders will be a quality place in which to live, providing attractive, sustainable towns and villages that are distinct and diverse. The SPG provides guidance in relation to successful placemaking and design principles and the impact this can have on the social and economic wellbeing of communities and the environment at large.





# CENTRAL BORDERS BUSINESS PARK TWEEDBANK SITE CONTEXT AND DESCRIPTION

## SITE CONTEXT:

The LDP takes forward the restructuring of the existing industrial estate and mixed use site to the east of the railway terminal. The Central Borders Business Park incorporates Tweedbank Industrial Estate and Tweedside Park which have many advantages and attractive development features. They are well located in terms of roads and footway access and are ideally placed to capitalise on the recent arrival of the Borders Railway. The sites have a good internal road layout, are serviced and benefit from a mature landscaping and screening scheme. The industrial estate is, however, suffering from an ageing and increasingly substandard building stock and the size and layout of both the buildings and external yard areas are not consistent with modern development requirements. There are therefore significant opportunities in the estates to create a high quality business park which capitalises on the railway terminal and provides a supply of high quality business and industrial land for the Central Borders.

Tweedbank village is a residential conurbation that was planned as a new village in 1970, located between Galashiels to the west and Melrose to the east. The settlement was planned to provide for residential expansion in the area as well as a new business and employment opportunity.

## SITE DESCRIPTION:

Tweedside Business Park (north of Tweedbank Drive) and the Tweedbank Industrial Estate are located within the eastern edge of the village. These are allocated for Business and Industrial Safeguarding within the LDP and are referred to as zEL59 and zEL39 respectively (see SG Plan 1). The recent completion and opening of the Borders Railway terminating at Tweedbank provides renewed interest and growth opportunity for these business areas along with the Mixed Use allocation (MTWEE001) to the east of the railway terminal (see SG Plan 1).

Tweedside Business Park (zEL59) and Tweedbank Industrial Estate (zEL39) provide important business and industrial land to the wider area. The two adjacent business estates lie to the north of the A6091, with Tweedbank Drive bisecting the sites leading into the settlement centre.



## SG PLAN 1—LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2016 SETTLEMENT MAP—TWEEDBANK





## SITE CONTEXT & DESCRIPTION

Tweedside Business Park was developed in 1989 and lies between Tweedbank Drive and the River Tweed. There are two sites within the Business Park which remain undeveloped, one located to the north west of the site and the other to the north east. The access road serves the various developed sites, including that occupied by the Scottish Public Pensions Agency, and parking provision.

Tweedbank Industrial Estate, built in the mid 1970s, is bordered by the A6091 to the south and Tweedbank Drive to the north. The site comprises a number of industrial units and vacant sites set within a relatively well established landscape setting. A number of components make up the estate, a triangular grouping of buildings and service yards to the north, a rectangular block of units to the south and perimeter developments to the east. Buffer landscaping is present adjacent to the roundabout, A6091 and the western edge of the site adjacent to existing housing and the Tweedbank Sports Complex. A loop road access arrangement serves the various sites from Tweedbank Drive.

The mixed use allocation to the east of the Railway Terminal is the site of a former quarry and is currently undeveloped.



Scottish Public Pensions Agency Building,  
Tweedside Park.



View towards Business Park from Railway Terminus.



Borders Railway Terminus.



View from Business Park towards Eildon Hills.

