

Scottish Borders

Eildon Locality Plan

March 2019 *Draft*

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Introduction

Welcome to the Eildon Locality Plan. This plan builds on the Scottish Borders Community Plan and sets out:

- The priorities for improving the area over the next five years
- The actions that will be carried out
- The commitment to work in partnership and use our shared resourcesⁱ in the most effective way to reduce inequality

ⁱ **Resources** – this could be: funding (e.g. budget or grants), people (e.g. staff of volunteers) or assets (e.g. land, buildings or equipment)

This plan will help those who are in greatest need, and focuses on what action can be taken to improve the quality of life for those who live in Eildon.

In bringing together this plan we have asked, and will continue to ask, local people across Eildon what would make the area better.

This plan is structured around four themes:

- Economy, Skills & Learning
- Health, Care & Wellbeing
- Safer Communities
- Environment & Place

ⁱ **Area Partnership** – bringing together organisations, groups, individuals and businesses from across the locality to collectively work together

Community planning partners – those organisations who are taking forward the Scottish Borders Community Plan

Local service providers – those organisations who are providing services locally (e.g. GPs, Community Nurses, Business Advisors, etc.)

From the Area Partnershipⁱ meetings to date we have gathered all the comments and feedback which you gave and prioritised what you told us is important to you and what will make a difference to the lives of people in the Eildon area.

Communities, community planning partnersⁱ and local service providersⁱ will need to work together in partnership to plan and deliver better services that meet the needs of the people who use them.

At a Borders-wide level this is done through the Scottish Borders Community Plan and the Community Planning Partnership. The key actions are detailed at the end of this plan.

At a Locality level this is done through the Eildon Locality Plan and the Eildon Area Partnership.

At a local level, services and communities continue to respond to their local community needs. Local plans, including local community action plans, are referenced at the end of this plan.

Eildon Locality Area Profile 2018 / 2019

>two pages to be inserted<

Engaging with our communities

In developing this plan, we have spoken with a number of people at the Eildon Area Partnership meetings over the past year. Going forward, our aim is to reach out to a wider range of people within the community as we recognise the importance of engaging with everyone in our community.

We will continue to build on this draft plan, and gain further understanding of the needs and ambitions of our communities.

A vital part of this will be ongoing engagement and communication with the people of Eildon, and to create further opportunities for people to talk to us in person, to take part in surveys or online. We want as many people as possible to be involved.

We have gathered the feedback that you gave us to help shape this plan, and it is really important that you continue to give us your views and thoughts as this plan will have an impact on the community that you live in.

We want the people in Eildon to get involved and help us deliver the actions in this plan, and we welcome your views on how we do this.

What contribution could you make to your community to make it a better place?

For information on how to get involved, join a local community group or community council, take part in local volunteering opportunities, please contact XXXXXX.

Eildon Wards



Galashiels & District
 Population - 14,957
 Galashiels - 12,603
 Stow - 711



Leaderdale & Melrose
 Population - 10,746
 Melrose - 2,464
 Tweedbank - 2,022
 Lauder - 1,790
 Earlston - 1,728



Selkirkshire
 Population - 9,627
 Selkirk - 5,560
 Newtown St Boswells - 1,331

Economy, Skills & Learning

Through the Area Partnership you told us your key priorities for Eildon are:

- Improve digital connectivity and the use of technology
- Improve the accessibility and reliability of transport services

Other priorities that are important to the Eildon community:

- Enhance career advice and career opportunities by promoting modern apprenticeships and vocational training
- Increase learning opportunities and skills development across a wide range of subjects and vocations
- Invest in local, sustainable employment opportunities
- Develop a business / community hub model for tech start ups, small businesses etc
- Encourage intergenerational activity and creation of learning hubs in schools, Borders College and community spaces
- Promote Eildon as a visitor destination, highlighting the heritage and unique selling points of the area

What would success look like, how can we work in partnership to achieve this and how do I get involved?

Health, Care & Wellbeing

Through the Area Partnership you told us your key priority for Eildon is:

- Increase the range and accessibility of community activities to encourage a reduction in drug and alcohol use in the Eildon locality

Other priorities that are important to the Eildon community:

- Increase the range of care and support options across the locality to enable people to remain in their own homes and communities
- Increase the availability of locally based rehabilitation services
- Improve the availability and accessibility of services for people living in rural areas
- Increase the range of housing options available across the locality and plan for future housing needs
- Reduce the number of people admitted to hospital with drug and alcohol related problems
- Reduce the number of people attending the Borders General Hospital on multiple occasions
- Support people to make informed health and lifestyle choices

What would success look like, how can we work in partnership to achieve this and how do I get involved?

Quality of Life

Through the Area Partnership you told us your key priority for Eildon is:

- Create safe areas for young people within local communities and provide leisure facilities that are accessible and affordable

Other priorities that are important to the Eildon community:

- Revise transport provision to improve connectivity and reduce rural isolation
- Strengthen partnership working between local services
- Improve communication of social and leisure opportunities to local residents
- Carry out more community mapping and consultations to identify what people want in their area

What would success look like, how can we work in partnership to achieve this and how do I get involved?

Environment & Place

Through the Area Partnership you told us your key priority for Eildon is:

- Create appropriately placed, affordable housing in the countryside and develop attractions within the countryside to encourage visitors to the area

Other priorities that are important to the Eildon community:

- Housing stock should reflect need in the local community, be affordable and be accessible for local services
- Reduce fuel poverty and mitigate for climate change when planning future builds

What would success look like, how can we work in partnership to achieve this and how do I get involved?

How we will measure success

The Eildon Area Partnership will feedback every year on the progress made in delivering the priorities within this plan. By monitoring the progress we make, we can measure the difference made to local people and communities. Progress and achievements will be shared with the Community Planning Partnership and other public bodies as well as being shared and celebrated with the wider community.

We will continue to ask the community their views and encourage more people to participate in the Area Partnership. As the needs of the locality change, we will ensure the priorities and actions within the plan reflect these changes.

Local Plans for Eildon

Local Community Action Plans

- Earlston Community Action Plan
- Ettrick and Yarrow Community Development Plan

Learning Community Partnership Plans

- Earlston Learning Community Partnership Plan
- Galashiels Learning Community Partnership Plan
- Selkirk Learning Community Partnership Plan

Strategic Action Plans

The key strategic action plans that have an impact on Eildon are:

- >list to be drafted<