

Scottish Borders Council

Common Good Funds

Charity Registration Number: SC031538

annual report and financial statements

for the year to 31 March 2019



Contents

	Page
Foreword	3
Trustees' Annual Report	4
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities for the Annual Report and Financial Statements	8
Financial Statements	
Statement of Financial Activities	9
Balance Sheet	10
Cash Flow Statement	11
Accounting Policies	12
Notes to the Financial Statements	14
Independent Auditors' Report	21
Additional Information	24

FOREWORD

The implementation of the audit and reporting requirements of the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) requires that full audited accounts for this Charity are prepared.

The Charity comprises of the twelve Common Good Funds within Scottish Borders Council, each holding property which it is responsible for maintaining, with many distributing grants to local causes which are eligible within its charitable purpose.

Each Common Good Fund within the charity has financial investments and / or property assets; the operational management of which is overseen by individual Sub-Committees of Elected Members from the relevant ward(s), supported by officers from the Council.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

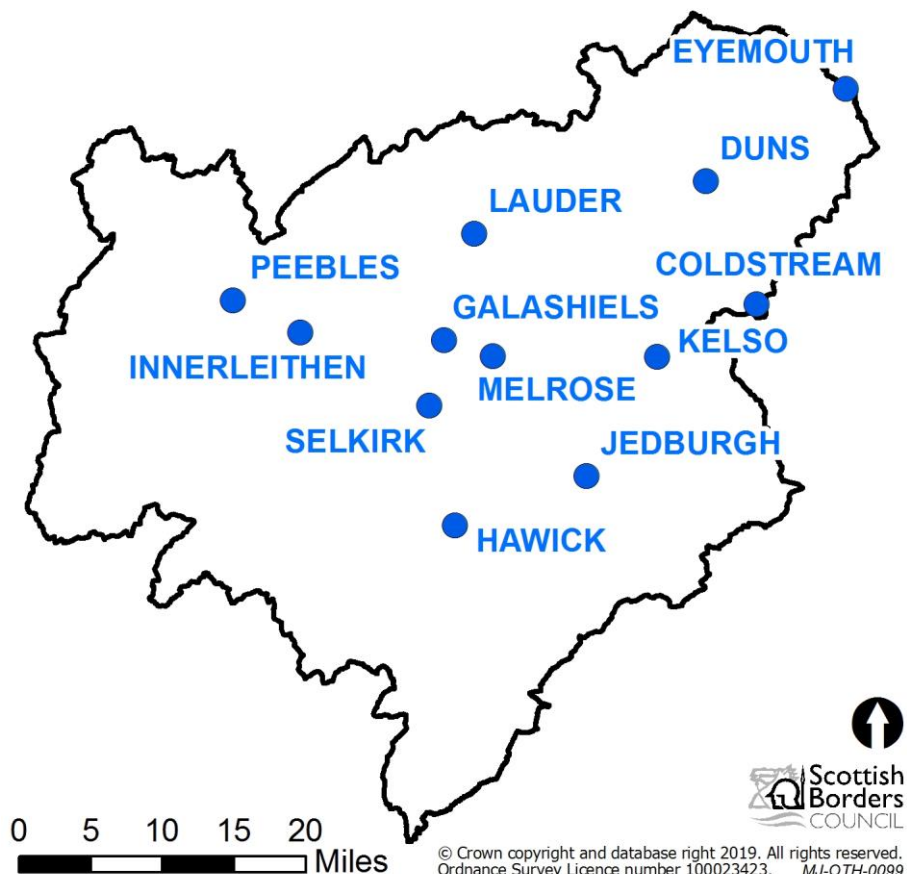
The Trustees present their Annual Report and the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2019.

Structure

a) The Charity comprises a number of separate funds for the former Burghs of:



In 2018/19 assets were recognised as Common Good Assets in both Coldstream and Eyemouth, thereby creating the Coldstream Common Good Fund and the Eyemouth Common Good Fund.



b) Each fund is administered by a Sub-Committee of Elected Members representing the Council wards in which each Burgh is situated.

Charitable Purpose

- The charitable purposes of the Common Good Funds are that, subject to their legal responsibilities in terms of any assets held by the charities, the **funds are operated for the common good of the residents** of the aforesaid former Burghs and may be used to **provide advancement of citizenship or community development**.
- In respect of those funds which have land and property, the Trustees recognise their obligations to ensure that these assets are maintained.

Summary of the Main Activities

- The Charity has taken steps to ensure that the **assets of the Funds are properly managed and accounted for**. Quarterly budget monitoring reports have been prepared for consideration by the Trustees forming the Working Group for each individual Burgh and the minutes of these meetings reported to the full Council in terms of the Code of Governance.
- Maintenance work has been approved and carried out on fixed assets and responses made to applications for financial assistance as detailed in the Notes to the Financial Statements on page 15.
- Most of the individual funds have made donations to eligible beneficiaries in their Burghs with a total of £100,902 being paid out in the year.

Plans for the Future

- The Common Good Funds will continue to **maintain their heritable assets and will look to maximise their income** from any of these assets which are let commercially. Where assets are used by third parties towards the Common Good of the Burgh then rental levels may reflect this aspect of the tenants' activity.
- Where funds permit, the Common Good Funds will look to make grants to organisations in their Burghs which will provide benefit to the Burgh residents, as approved by the individual Common Good Committees.

Governance and Management

Type of Governing Documents

- a) The overarching governance of the Charity is the principle of statute and common law. The statutory framework is the successive Acts from the Common Good Act 1491 through to the Local Government Scotland Act 1994, with the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 provisions still in force, and the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003. Cognisance is also to be taken of the various judicial opinions in case law governing the treatment of Common Goods.
- b) The funds are governed by Trustee's in line with the Local Code of Corporate Governance of Scottish Borders Council, consideration being given to:

Financial
Regulations

Code of
Corporate
Governance

Procedural
Standing
Orders

Scheme of
Administration

Scheme of
Delegation

- c) When considering any action in connection with the Common Good Funds the Trustees have regard to the interests of the inhabitants of the area to which the Common Good formerly related.
- d) The financial statements comply with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102), the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

There is no recruitment process. Appointment is by virtue of election to the Council and the relevant ward, i.e. those wards covering former Burgh areas and in terms of the Council's Code of Governance.

Financial Review

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with current statutory requirements and the charity's governing document.

The applications of the Funds are detailed in the Notes to the Accounts.

Reserves

The charity has considered the reserves required and have taken into account its current and future liabilities, ensuring reserves will be maintained at a level sufficient to respond to:

- all approved applications for grants
- all financial obligations in respect of properties owned by the charity, where relevant, and
- all support and governance costs.

At 31 March 2019, the reserves of the Common Good Funds amounted to:

- Restricted Income Funds - £3,683k
- Revaluation Reserves - £9,850k

Investments

Per the Council's Common Good and Trust Fund investment strategy the main balance of funds are invested in the Kames Capital Diversified Income Fund.

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name	Scottish Borders Council Common Good Funds
Charity registration number	SC031538
Business Address	Council HQ Newtown St Boswells Melrose Scottish Borders TD6 0SA

Trustees

The Trustees of this charity for the year to 31 March 2019 were the duly elected members of Scottish Borders Council (the Council), a local authority constituted under the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994, at that time. These were:

Sandy Aitchison	Andy Anderson	Heather Anderson
Stuart Bell	Jim Brown	Kris Chapman
Kevin Drum	Gordon Edgar	Jim Fullarton
John Greenwell	Carol Hamilton	Scott Hamilton
Shona Haslam	Euan Jardine	Helen Laing
Stuart Marshall	Watson McAteer	Tom Miers
Donald Moffat	Simon Mountford	David Parker
Caroline Penman	David Paterson	Clair Ramage
Neil Richards	Euan Robson	Mark Rowley
Harry Scott	Sandy Scott	Eric Small
Robin Tatler	Elaine Thornton-Nicol	George Turnbull
Tom Weatherston		

Chief Executive The Chief Executive of Scottish Borders Council is Tracey Logan.

Auditor Audit Scotland
102 West Port
Edinburgh
EH3 9DN

Professional support

The Council provides the Administrative, Legal and Financial support and advice to the Common Good Funds which is recognised within *Other: governance costs* in the financial statements. All financial transactions go through the Council's books of account and their Bankers are the Bank of Scotland, Galashiels.

Shona Haslam
Trustee
Scottish Borders Council Common Good Funds
26 September 2019

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Under charity law, the trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. The trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with FRS102, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the excess of income over expenditure for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, generally accepted accounting practice entails that the trustees:

- **Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;**
- **Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;**
- **State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;**
- **State where applicable, whether the financial statements comply with the trust deeds and rules, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements and**
- **Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.**

The trustees are required to act in accordance with the rules of the charity and within the framework of trust law. They are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, sufficient to disclose at any time, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the charity at that time, and to enable the trustees to ensure that, where any statements of accounts are prepared by them under the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, those statements of accounts comply with the requirements of regulations under that Act. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the financial and other information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31 March 2019

2017/18 £'000 RESTATED		2018/19 £'000	Notes
	Income from:		
39	Donations and legacies	4	1
75	Investments	154	2
216	Charitable activities	243	3
330	Total Income	401	
	Expenditure on:		
(513)	Raising funds	(431)	
(85)	Charitable activities	(101)	
(60)	Other: governance costs	(48)	5
(658)	Total Expenditure	(580)	4
(8)	(Losses) / gains on investment assets – unrealised	28	12
(336)	Net Income / (Expenditure)	(151)	
	Other Recognised Gains / (Losses)		
0	Recognition of Investments	1	
(336)	Net Movement in Funds	(150)	
	Reconciliation of Funds		
14,019	Total funds brought forward	13,683	
13,683	Total Funds Carried Forward	13,533	

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 March 2019

as at 31 March 2018 RESTATED			as at 31 March 2019		Notes
£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000	
		Long Term Assets			
		Tangible fixed assets:			6
10,740		- Land & buildings	10,465		
25		- Heritage assets	25		
2,659		Investments	2,780		7
35		Long term loan to third party	24		8
	13,459	Total Long Term Assets		13,294	
		Current Assets			
54		Debtors	99		9
259		Short term investment in SBC loans fund	155		10
	313	Total Current Assets		254	
		Current Liabilities			
		Creditors:			
	(89)	Amounts falling due within 1 year		(15)	11
	224	Net Current Assets		239	
	13,683	Total Net Assets		13,533	
		The Funds of the Charity			
	(3,560)	Restricted income funds		(3,683)	12
	(10,123)	Revaluation reserve		(9,850)	13
	(13,683)	Total Charity Funds		(13,533)	

All income and expenditure transactions derive from continuing activities.

The Accounting Policies on pages 12 and 13 and the Notes on pages 14 to 18 form part of these Financial Statements.

The unaudited accounts were issued on 25 June 2019 and the audited accounts were authorised for issue on 26 September 2019.

David Robertson CPFA
Chief Financial Officer
26 September 2019

Shona Haslam
Trustee
Scottish Borders Council Common Good Funds
26 September 2019

CASH FLOW STATEMENT as at 31 March 2019

The Cash Flow Statement shows how the Common Good Funds generate and use cash as classified into operating, investing and financing activities. The amount of cash held by Common Good Funds at the year-end is always nil, as all surplus cash is invested in the short term, in the SBC Loans Fund.

as at 31 March 2018 RESTATED			as at 31 March 2019		Notes
£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000	
		Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
	(5)	Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities		(176)	14
		Cash flows from Investing Activities			
75		Dividends and Interest	154		
(10)		(Purchase) of tangible fixed assets	0		
(67)		(Purchase) of investments	(93)		
(5)		Movement in short term investments	104		
	(7)	Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities		165	
		Cash flows from Financing Activities			
12		Cash Received from Loans	11		
	12	Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities		11	
	0	Net Movement in Cash		0	

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material to the financial statements.

Basis of Preparation

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the FRS102, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

Funds Structure

Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include the designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or trust deed.

Income Recognition

Under FRS102, income is recognised when its receipt is “probable”, rather than “virtually certain”, which was the case under the previous Charities SORP 2005.

Full recognition criteria are:

- Entitlement – control over the rights or other access to the economic benefit has passed to the charity
- Probable – it is more likely than not that the economic benefits will flow to the charity
- Measurement – the monetary value or amount of the income and the costs to complete the transactions can be measured reliably

Accruals of Income and Expenditure

Activity is accounted for in the year that it takes place, not simply when cash payments are made or received. In particular:

- Donations and grants are recorded as expenditure when the activity they relate to takes place, regardless of when applications are approved.
- Where income and expenditure have been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the balance sheet.
- Income and expenditure are credited and debited to the relevant revenue account, unless they properly represent capital receipts or capital expenditure.

Donations & Legacies

All donations and gifts are included within incoming resources under Restricted Funds. Donations and Gifts in Kind are brought into the financial statements at their market value to the charity.

Resources Expended

Resources expended are analysed between charitable activities, costs of raising funds and governance costs. Charitable activities include all direct costs and other support costs.

Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Tangible fixed assets, comprising land & buildings and heritage assets, with a value greater than £5,000, having a value to the business greater than one year, other than those acquired for the purpose of specific projects, are capitalised.

Where purchased, Heritage assets are held at acquisition cost, and for donations the initial valuation is used as the deemed cost, removing the need for subsequent valuations. These Heritage assets are deemed to have indeterminable lives and accordingly depreciation is not charged.

Land is held at current valuation and is not depreciated. All land and buildings are subject to revaluation every five years, with the last revaluation being undertaken in 2014/15. Depreciation is charged on all tangible fixed assets other than land and heritage assets at a rate which will reduce the current value of the asset to its residual value over the remaining effective life of the asset.

Investments

Investments are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their market value as at the balance sheet date using closing quoted market price.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the difference between market value at the beginning and the end of the financial year, or if purchased in the year, the difference between cost and market value at the end of the financial year. Realised gains and losses represent the difference between the proceeds and cost.

Short Term Investments

Short Term Investments are current asset investments which are disposable without curtailing or disrupting the business and are either convertible into known amounts of cash at or close to their carrying values. Short Term Investments comprise of call deposits with the Council.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1 Donations and Legacies

2017/18 £'000 RESTATED		2018/19 £'000
0	Coldstream	0
1	Duns	0
0	Eyemouth	0
1	Galashiels	0
7	Hawick	1
0	Innerleithen	0
1	Jedburgh	1
1	Kelso	1
7	Lauder	0
0	Melrose	0
3	Peebles	0
18	Selkirk	1
39		4

2 Income from Investments

2017/18 £000		2018/19 £'000
2	Bank Interest Receivable from SBC Loans Fund	2
73	Income from Investment Portfolio	152
75		154

3 Analysis of Charitable Income

Charitable income is comprised of rental income for properties which are owned by Common Good Funds and let commercially.

2017/18 £'000		2018/19 £'000
0	Coldstream	0
0	Duns	0
0	Eyemouth	0
0	Galashiels	0
106	Hawick	115
0	Innerleithen	0
0	Jedburgh	0
0	Kelso	0
11	Lauder	11
0	Melrose	0
42	Peebles	56
57	Selkirk	61
216		243

4 Analysis of Charitable Expenditure

2017/18 Total RESTATED £'000		Activities Undertaken Directly £'000	Support and Governance Costs £'000	Property Cost & Depreciation £'000	2018/19 Total £'000
9	Coldstream	0	0	9	9
3	Duns	0	0	0	0
0	Eyemouth	0	0	0	0
45	Galashiels	3	2	34	39
196	Hawick	42	11	98	151
17	Innerleithen	0	0	17	17
66	Jedburgh	15	4	12	31
56	Kelso	2	2	43	47
45	Lauder	2	10	15	27
3	Melrose	0	0	3	3
100	Peebles	19	8	46	73
118	Selkirk	18	11	154	183
658		101	48	431	580

5 Governance Costs

Governance costs are comprised of a recharge from SBC and reflect the cost of the proportionate administration, finance, and legal time spent on Common Good funds. The fee for the external audit of the charity is charged against Scottish Borders Council General Fund and notionally recharged to the Common Good Funds, recognised under Governance Costs. This fee amounted to £3,500 in 2018/19. A notional grant from SBC to cover the full cost is recognised under Donations and legacies. No Trustee remuneration or other expenses were incurred.

6 Tangible Fixed Assets

The change in the value of tangible fixed assets has been driven by the following movements:

As at 31 March 2018 RESTATED Total £'000		as at 31 March 2019		
		Asset Additions £'000	Depreciation £'000	Total £'000
225	Coldstream	0	9	216
0	Duns	0	0	0
2	Eyemouth	0	0	2
552	Galashiels	0	34	518
3,558	Hawick	0	40	3,518
273	Innerleithen	0	17	256
454	Jedburgh	0	12	442
755	Kelso	0	42	713
995	Lauder	0	12	983
35	Melrose	0	3	32
803	Peebles	0	37	766
3,113	Selkirk	0	69	3,044
10,765		0	275	10,490

Tangible fixed assets are broken down between Land & buildings and Heritage assets as follows:

As at 31 March 2018 RESTATED		as at 31 March 2019		
		Land & Buildings at Net Book Value £'000	Heritage Assets £'000	Total Long Term Assets £'000
Total				
£'000				
225	Coldstream	216	0	216
0	Duns	0	0	0
2	Eyemouth	2	0	2
552	Galashiels	518	0	518
3,558	Hawick	3,515	3	3,518
273	Innerleithen	256	0	256
454	Jedburgh	442	0	442
755	Kelso	694	19	713
995	Lauder	983	0	983
35	Melrose	32	0	32
803	Peebles	764	2	766
3,113	Selkirk	3,043	1	3,044
10,765		10,465	25	10,490

7 Investments

All investments are through regulated funds or are traded on a recognised investment exchange.

At 31 March 2019 all investments were with the Kames Capital plc Diversified Monthly Income Fund. Investment amounts and unrealised gains on these investments at 31 March 2019, per Common Good Fund are detailed below:

As at 31 March 2018		as at 31 March 2019		
		Additional Investments £'000	Kames Unrealised Gain £'000	Total Investment £'000
Total Investment				
£'000				
0	Coldstream	0	0	0
17	Duns	0	0	17
0	Eyemouth	0	0	0
149	Galashiels	10	1	160
455	Hawick	0	5	460
0	Innerleithen	0	0	0
900	Jedburgh	0	10	910
243	Kelso	22	2	267
246	Lauder	1	3	250
0	Melrose	0	0	0
418	Peebles	25	4	447
231	Selkirk	35	3	269
2,659		93	28	2,780

8 Long Term Loan to Third Party

Balance at 31 March 2018 £'000		Repayments received £'000	Balance at 31 March 2019 £'000
29	Jedburgh	8	21
6	Lauder	3	3
35		11	24

9 Debtors

2017/18 £'000		2018/19 £'000
40	Trade debtors	30
12	Prepayments and accrued income	67
2	Other debtors	2
54		99

10 Short Term Investments in SBC Loans Fund

All surplus cash invested on behalf of the charity with Scottish Borders Council

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year

2017/18 £'000		2018/19 £'000
0	Grants payable	0
89	Accruals and deferred income	15
89		15

12 Restricted Income Funds

Balance at 31 March 2018 £'000 RESTATED		SOFA Surplus / (loss)	Unrealised movement on investment assets	Balance at 31 March 2019 £'000
122	Coldstream	0	0	122
17	Duns	1	0	18
1	Eyemouth	0	0	1
314	Galashiels	7	(1)	320
605	Hawick	38	(5)	638
135	Innerleithen	0	0	135
960	Jedburgh	52	(10)	1,002
284	Kelso	15	(2)	297
289	Lauder	16	(3)	302
18	Melrose	0	0	18
513	Peebles	53	(4)	562
302	Selkirk	(31)	(3)	268
3,560		151	(28)	3,683

13 Revaluation Reserve

Balance at 31 March 2018 £'000 RESTATED		SOFA Surplus / (loss)	Balance at 31 March 2019 £'000
103	Coldstream	(9)	94
0	Duns	0	0
1	Eyemouth	0	1
399	Galashiels	(34)	365
3,422	Hawick	(38)	3,384
138	Innerleithen	(17)	121
451	Jedburgh	(12)	439
756	Kelso	(43)	713
991	Lauder	(11)	980
17	Melrose	(3)	14
753	Peebles	(37)	716
3,092	Selkirk	(69)	3,023
10,123		(273)	9,850

14 Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from Operating Activities

2017/18 RESTATED £'000		2018/19 £'000
(336)	Net income/(expenditure) for the year ended 31 March	(150)
	<i>Adjustments for:</i>	
276	Depreciation charges	275
108	(Gains) / losses on Investments	(28)
(75)	Dividends and interest	(154)
(34)	(Increase) / decrease in debtors	(45)
66	Increase / (decrease) in creditors	(74)
(10)	Other non-cash item	0
(5)	Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	(176)

15 Contingent Assets

The charity granted a secured grant to Jedburgh Golf Club in 2004 to purchase land. The grant is to be written down over 20 years. If during this period the land is sold the balance of the remaining funds are to be returned to the charity.

16 Related Party Transactions

Due to the nature of the operations and composition of the Common Good Funds (Trustees are comprised of Elected Council Members of Scottish Borders Council), Scottish Borders Council is registered as a related party. Transactions with Scottish Borders Council for the year under review are listed below:

	£
Interest received on funds invested in SBC Loans Fund	1,695
Service Charge paid for central administrative support	(45,818)

17 Restatement of prior year balances

The published figures for 2017/18 have been restated to recognise new Common Good Funds for Melrose, Coldstream and Eyemouth; and to correct the balance between the restricted income funds and the revaluation reserve for Selkirk (£10k). The opening balances as at 1 April 2017 have increased by a total of £274k in recognition of assets and corresponding reserves belonging to Melrose £38k, Coldstream £234k and Eyemouth £2k.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	2017/18 published accounts £'000	2017/18 restated balances £'000
Income from:		
Donations and legacies	77	39
Investments	75	75
Charitable activities	216	216
Total Income	368	330
Expenditure on:		
Raising funds	(504)	(513)
Charitable activities	(85)	(85)
Other: governance costs	(60)	(60)
Total Expenditure	(649)	(658)
(Losses)/gains on investment assets -unrealised	(8)	(8)
Net Movement in Funds	(289)	(336)
Reconciliation of Funds		
Total funds brought forward	13,745	14,019
Total Funds Carried Forward	13,456	13,683

BALANCE SHEET	2017/18 published accounts £'000	2017/18 restated balances £'000
Long Term Assets		
Tangible fixed assets – Land & buildings	10,513	10,740
Tangible fixed assets – Heritage assets	25	25
Investments	2,659	2,659
Long term loan to third party	35	35
Total Long Term Assets	13,232	13,459
Current Assets		
Debtors	54	54
Short term investment in SBC loan fund	259	259
Total Current Assets	313	313
Current Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due within 1 year	(89)	(89)
Net Current Assets	224	224
Total Net Assets	13,456	13,683
The Funds of the Charity		
Restricted income funds	(3,464)	(3,560)
Revaluation reserve	(9,992)	(10,123)
Total Charity Funds	13,456	13,683

CASH FLOW STATEMENT	2017/18 published accounts £'000	2017/18 restated balances £'000
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	33	(5)
Cash flows from Investing Activities		
Dividends and Interest	75	75
(Purchase) of tangible fixed assets	(48)	(10)
(Purchase) of investments	(67)	(67)
Movement in short term investments	(5)	(5)
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	(45)	(7)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities		
Cash Received from Loans	12	12
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	12	12
Net Movement in Cash	0	0

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the trustees of Scottish Borders Council Common Good Funds and the Accounts Commission

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion on financial statements

I certify that I/ have audited the financial statements in the statement of accounts of Scottish Borders Council Common Good Funds for the year ended 31 March 2019 under Part VII of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. The financial statements comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, Accounting Policies and Notes to the Financial Statements. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In my opinion the accompanying financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at 31 March 2019 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, and regulation 8 of The Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)), as required by the [Code of Audit Practice](#) approved by the Accounts Commission for Scotland. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of my report. I am independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in the UK including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern basis of accounting

I have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require me to report to you where:

- the use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about ability of the charity to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Responsibilities of the trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with the financial reporting framework, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless deemed inappropriate.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of my auditor's report.

Other information in the statement of accounts

The trustees are responsible for the other information in the statement of accounts. The other information comprises the information other than the financial statements and my auditor's report thereon. My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon except on matters prescribed by the Accounts Commission or required by applicable law to the extent explicitly stated later in this report.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, my responsibility is to read all the other information in the statement of accounts and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If I identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, I am required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

Report on other requirements

Opinion on matter prescribed by the Accounts Commission

In my opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements and that report has been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

Matters on which I am required to report by exception

I am required by The Charity Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 to report to you if, in my opinion:

- proper accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- I have not received all the information and explanations I require for my audit.

I have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

Use of my report

This report is made solely to the parties to whom it is addressed in accordance with Part VII of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 and for no other purpose. In accordance with paragraph 120 of the Code of Audit Practice, I do not undertake to have responsibilities to members or officers, in their individual capacities, or to third parties.

Asif A Haseeb OBE
4th Floor
102 West Port
Edinburgh
EH3 9DN

September 2019

Asif A Haseeb OBE is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of Part VII of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Contact Details

For further information on the Common Good Funds, please contact:

Kirsty Robb	Telephone: 01835 825249
Pension & Investment Manager	E-mail: krobb@scotborders.gov.uk
Scottish Borders Council	Council Headquarters Newtown St Boswells MELROSE TD6 0SA

You can get this document on audio CD, in large print, and various other formats by contacting us at the address below. In addition, contact the address below for information on language translations, additional copies, or to arrange for an officer to meet with you to explain any areas of the publication that you would like clarified.

Contact us at Kirsty Robb, Pension & Investment Manager,
Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells Melrose TD6 0SA
Tel: 01835 825249 Fax: 01835 825011 or email: KRobb@scotborders.gov.uk